



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 17 MARCH 2023



St Mary's College is delighted to have been chosen as one of the final fifteen from over 1,500 entries across the UK to have their own illustrated bench created and displayed at the Tower of London during the Coronation celebrations in May. Taking inspiration from teaching resources developed by Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) – the charity that cares for the Tower of London – pupils at St Mary's College have designed their own colourful Coronation benches, around the theme of values for a new era. Children and young people from across the UK were invited to think about their hopes for the future, alongside the symbolism of the upcoming Coronation, and to create their own bench designs as a visual representation of these ideas.

Pupils at St Mary's College, who worked on the successful design, will have the chance to work with global public art producers Wild in Art to refine their illustrations, before their bench is brought to life and installed at the Tower of London during the Coronation celebrations. These students have been invited on a VIP class trip to the Tower of London as a reward for their efforts, where they will see the Crown Jewels, take part in themed activities, and have the opportunity to see their bench in situ.

Head of School, Maria Stead is understandably immensely proud of this accomplishment, "I had every faith that we would be able to win this most prestigious of awards due to our amazing, highly innovative and creative Art & Design Department not to mention the talent of our students. I am so excited that we have been awarded a Coronation Bench, a design focused on everything we believe in at our school and in the UK. Our Coronation Bench will have a place in history whilst being seen by millions across the world.

What an achievement!"

MRS STEAD
HEAD OF SCHOOL



SAVE THE DATES

2023

- Friday 31st March – school closes for the Easter holiday
- Monday 17th April – school re-opens after Easter
- Tuesday 18th April – SMC Awards Evening
- 27th April – Y7 visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- Monday 1st May – Bank Holiday – school closed
- Monday 8th May – Kings Coronation Bank Holiday – school closed
- 24th- 26th May SIX the musical
- Friday 26th May – school closes for the May Half Term holiday



Mooting Competition

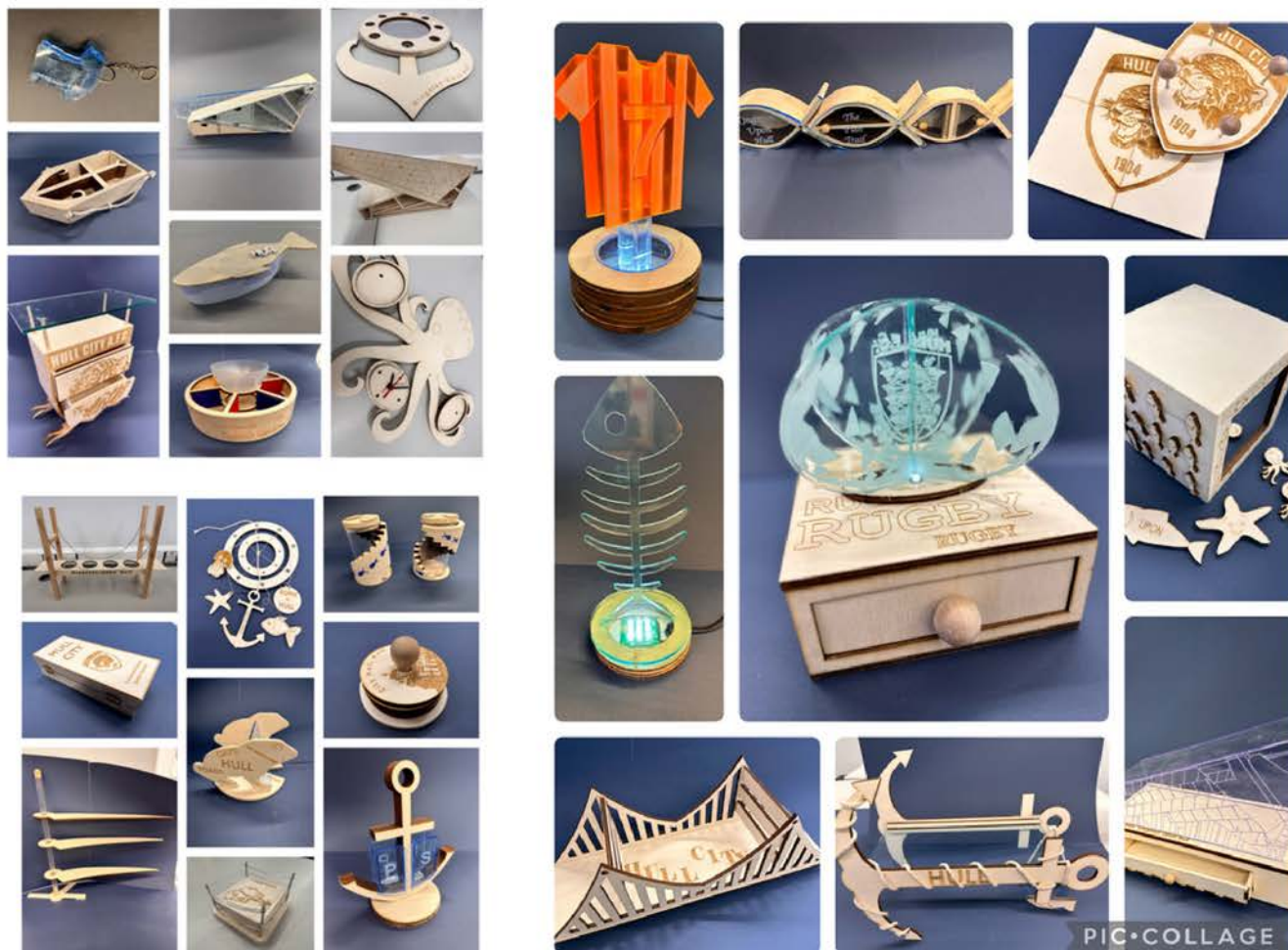
St Mary's Sixth Form Year 12 'Mooting Competition' teams were involved in a legal argument mooting competition against local schools and colleges. The competition took place on Friday 17th March at Hull University.

Two exceptionally strong teams of aspiring lawyers were entered and achieved a fantastic second place overall with two of our students receiving individual prizes for their outstanding performances.



Outstanding Design & Technology Work

Over 70 Year 10 and 11 students have been working on a project with a local culture theme and were asked to create a 'souvenir for a place of interest'. The students chose to look at Hull through its sport, culture and heritage. A small selection of their wonderful work is featured below.



NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK

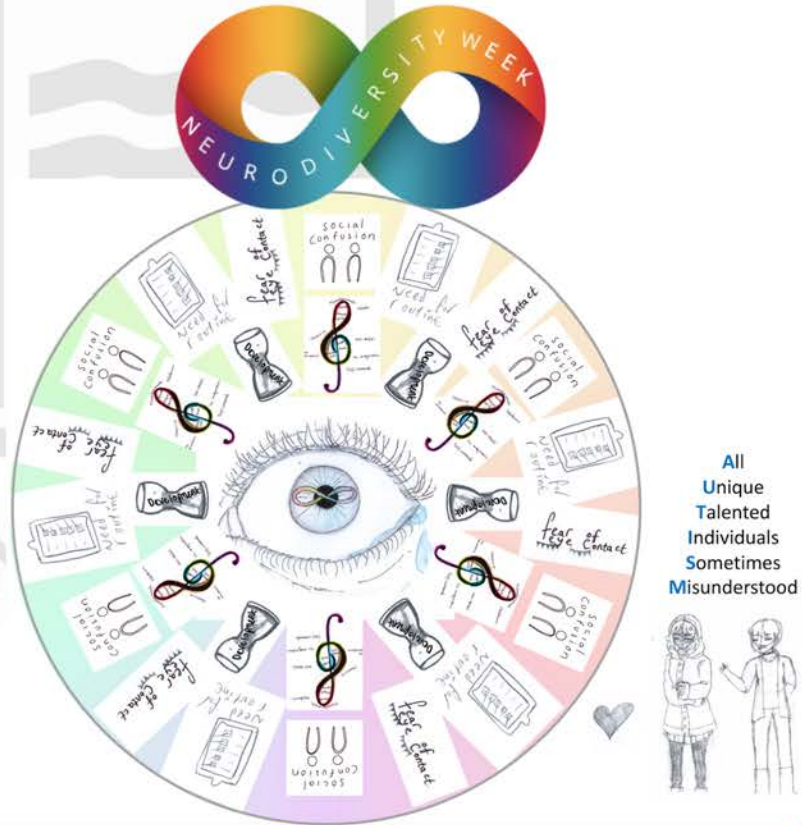
To mark Neurodiversity Celebration week (13th-19th March) we shared learning resources in form time with all year groups, which included information about what Neurodiversity is and short videos from children and young people with Neurodiverse conditions to raise awareness amongst our school community.

There are over 60 students at SMC with a diagnosis of a Neurodiverse condition so it is really important we recognise Neurodiversity Celebration week. Our Neurodiverse students enhance and enrich our school community - they see the world in different ways and add an inspiring dimension to the college.

Due to our Neurodiverse cohort being so important to us at SMC, all staff recently received training from the Northcott Outreach Team on how to engage and support students with ASD. This provided an excellent opportunity to reflect on our practice and implement additional support strategies for our Neurodiverse cohort.

It also provided some of our students with ASD with the opportunity to share their experiences of SMC - some of their reflections are here:

- "Autism makes me see and understand things differently"
- "Autism changes how you do things but I don't see it as a bad thing. I'm proud of my Autism. I want to share it with people not keep it to myself. I think it's important teachers know I have Autism as then they know how to help me."
- "My brain is wired differently so I think and process things differently"
- "Staff are good at understanding my difficulties with eye contact. They also let me work at my own pace"



Valentines Cooking Competition Entries



NATIONAL SHOWCASE



Earlier in March our SM6 dancers and Musical Theatre students entertained and wowed the audiences at the prestigious international MOVE IT exhibition at the Excel Arena in London.

Our performances spanned the full 3 days of the showcase event and consisted of a Commercial routine, a Musical Theatre performance of SIX the musical (tickets on sale now) and a vocal and lyrical piece to 'You will be found' from the hit musical Dear Evan Hansen.



Additionally, we were partnered with two clothing brands allowing our dancers to take over the Rhythm Runway stage to promote SM6 Performing Arts, whilst showcasing the dancewear of SQUAD DANCE WEAR and ATHLETICITY FITWEAR. The event was such a huge success for us, we are returning once again in March 2024.



FOOTBALL SUCCESS!

The Year 10 boys' Football Team reached the semi-final of both the National Football Cup competitions in the English Schools Football Association (ESFA) National U15 Cup AND the ESFA National U15 ELITE cup.

They went unbeaten from the start of the school year, totalling 14 wins and an impressive 40 goals. Every single player made their own impressive contribution to the team's success during this campaign. However, it is noteworthy to mention Ahmad and Lewis, who both sadly missed out on the semi-finals due to major injuries. Oskar also gets recognition for his 15 goals scored in just 7 appearances.

Both cup campaigns took the team far and wide, travelling to places as far as Grantham and Hartlepool (twice). The squad conducted themselves with honour and respect; they have been a credit to the school, themselves and their families. We are very proud of their achievement; of almost 3,500 participating secondary schools in the country, the team made it to the last 4, not just once, but twice, an indisputable way to affirm just how amazingly the team have performed this year.

Well done boys, the season is not finished yet, there are still local and regional cup competitions to play for and we are confident they will be contesting for these in the coming months!



ESFA SCHOOLS ELITE CUP
SEMI FINALISTS



ESFA SCHOOLS CUP
SEMI FINALISTS

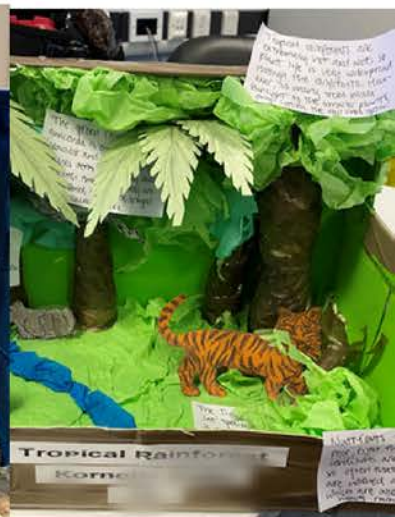


GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION WINNERS

Year 7 Weather & Climate Competition overall winner: Alisha Marlin

CONGRATULATIONS

The Year 8 Ecosystems competition ended up with four winners: Olivia B, Heidi R, Weronika B and Kornelia D



A RECIPE TO TRY FROM MRS FISHER

Herby Spring Chicken One Pot

Minimise your washing up with this delicious one pan chicken pie with spinach and herbs and topped with crispy filo pastry. It's ideal for busy week nights



Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil, plus a little extra for brushing over the pastry
- bunch spring onions, sliced into 3cm pieces
- 250g frozen spinach
- 6 ready-cooked chicken thighs (or see tip, below)
- 350ml hot chicken stock
- ½ tbsp wholegrain mustard
- 200g frozen peas
- 200ml half-fat crème fraîche
- ½ small bunch tarragon, leaves finely chopped
- small bunch parsley, finely chopped
- 270g pack filo pastry

Method

- **STEP 1** - Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Heat the oil in a large, shallow casserole dish on a medium heat. Add the spring onions and fry for 3 mins, then stir through the frozen spinach and cook for 2 mins or until it's starting to wilt. Remove the skin from the chicken and discard. Shred the chicken off the bone and into the pan, and discard the bones. Stir through the stock and mustard. Bring to a simmer and cook, uncovered, for 5-10 mins.
- **STEP 2** - Stir in the peas, crème fraîche and herbs, then remove from the heat. Scrunch the filo pastry sheets over the mixture, brush with a little oil and bake for 15-20 mins or until golden brown.

A SYMPHONY FOR SCHOOLS...

Years 7, 8 and 9 were treated to a spectacular concert at Hull City Hall in March, thanks to a collaboration between St Mary's College, Hull Music Hub and the East Riding Concert Orchestra. The orchestra performed a range of pieces covering different styles of music, showcasing to the students what a fantastic and versatile ensemble an orchestra can be.

For many students it was the first time they'd heard a symphony orchestra live and what a brilliant occasion it was – hopefully it is the first of many concert-going experiences that the students will have over the coming years!



VISITA DE ESTUDIANTES ALICANTINOS...

On 6th February our friends from Alicante in Spain arrived to spend the week with us at St Mary's College to experience life in a British school. They spent time with the Year 10s and Year 12s in lessons and also assisted with all of the Year 8 Spanish classes.

We enjoyed welcoming them here and lifelong friendships were established. Our students enjoyed practising their Spanish in a real context and we learned a lot about Spanish culture and way of life.

We miss having them around the school!



CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS...



Congratulations to our Year 9 student who is now the Female Junior Cadet National Boxing Champion in the under 52kg category !




Congratulations to all of the students who passed their Trinity Music Exams this term. Particular mention must go to Duggie Lowe in Year 12 for passing his Grade 8 Cornet, the highest grade! Well done all.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

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Please note-we are unable to reply to comments on our social media accounts. Please do not reply to text messages sent by the school and instead use the email address here to contact us.

www.smchull.org