



The Crimson Cross

AN AMAZING START TO THE AUTUMN TERM!

The new academic year always feels like a fresh start; new students nervously arriving to the unknown, new schemes of work to study and new targets to meet.

Unsurprisingly, it has been both a busy and rewarding term here at Saint George Catholic College.

With this, our 5th edition (and first of the new of academic year!), Miss Templeman and I just want to take the opportunity to thank all of the incredible young journalists who have created a variety of informative and entertaining articles for your reading pleasure. It was great to see some familiar faces back at the news desk, as well as some new faces keen to take on a new challenge.

We wish you all an enjoyable October half term when it arrives.

Mr J Scott , Miss J Templeman

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PUPIL SHOUT OUT



Pupil Shout out is a way to celebrate the kindness of other pupils and the way they use their talents to benefit others. This pupil particularly impressed the Crimson Cross Shout Out Team with their exemplary attitude towards others and their can-do attitude when faced with difficult challenges. This is why they win the half terms Pupil Shout Out.

This pupil of the term winner is.... Zara Qasemi! (7 DL)

Zara moves through her school life with a quiet grace that often goes unseen. She's the kind of person who instinctively holds the door open, remembers birthdays without reminders, and leaves thoughtful notes that no one realizes came from her. Her kindness is subtle - woven into small, everyday moments that rarely draw attention. While others shine in the spotlight, Zara is content in the background, offering comfort and care without expectation. Though few may notice her presence, those who do often find themselves deeply touched by the gentle strength she carries.

Her favourite subject is Drama, and she does extremely well in it.

By Arianne-Isabel Rabang and Natasha D'Mello

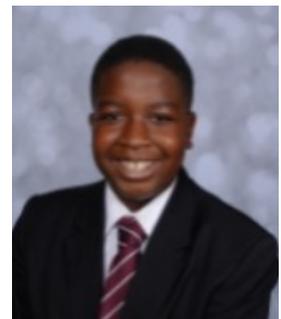
STUDENT COUNCIL—WHAT IS IT?

Former Student Councillor Cayden Chituh shares his experience of the role....

Being a member of Student Council is an important way to get involved in the school and have your say in school issues. In this role, you are not only responsible for your views, but for the students and if they have any suggestions, you can tell the Head of Student Council, Ms Sira.

What do You do?

In student council, you meet up twice every half term and discuss key issues benefiting the school. You write letters to many people across both the school and Southampton. Last year, Student Council wrote letters to City Catering, Teachers and many others. You also get to meet people in politics in the city. At the end of the year, you get to go to Westminster and have a tour of the Houses Of Parliament and meet Caroline Nokes who is the deputy Speaker.



Final Thoughts

Overall, Student Council is a great thing to do. Whether you're confident or not. It may seem a bit nervous but trust me, it's a really great experience that benefits you in the future. Good luck to all those running for the council—with results being announced this week!

INTRODUCING YEAR 7

As we welcome a new intake of Year 7, we here at the Crimson Cross decided to catch up and ask two students about their experience at Saint George so far!

Name: Freddie Garlick

What's new for you? I need to move to different classes unlike in primary. It's good because I'm not stuck in one place. It is very different to primary school but it's good because there's new people.

What's a challenge for you? Making new friends and the amount of people at the new school.

What's fun for you? My favourite subject here is P.E because it is so different from my primary.

SHOUT OUT: TO THE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM!



Name: Diya Jose

What's new for you? It's a new experience and I have met a lot of friendly people.

What's a challenge for you? Maths - especially algebra!

What's fun for you? My favourite subject here is P.E because of how fun it is and the teachers are so nice and helpful. Also, it is fun to learn with friends, old ones and new.

SHOUT OUT: HOPE EVERYONE IS HAVING A GOOD YEAR!

By Hanna Kraska and Luna Johnson

A PRAYER FOR THE FIRST ACADEMIC TERM



Dear Lord,

We thank you for the first amazing half-term of the school year, the opportunities that are already introduced to us and the privilege to be in the Saint George community. We stand proudly in your name, our education inspiring us not only to think, but to care for our classmates and the world around us.

We pray for the rest of the school year to be just as good, for pupils from Year 7 all the way to Year 11 to flourish in their studies and excel in their passions. Please grant your spirit upon us Lord, so that we can follow your teachings and lift one another so that we all have something to look forward to at our time here.

Amen.

Written by Zuzanna Tylec

SPORTS TRIALS



There are a huge range of different sports you can try out for in all years at St George. In years 7-11, there is the boys and girls football teams. There are also a boys basketball team and a girls netball team. In the summer months, there is also the opportunity to get involved and try out for the cricket and athletics teams.

In recent weeks, some lucky Year 7 and 8's took part in a Table tennis tournament at Woodlands College and performed really well.

Look out for notices on Teams for any upcoming trials throughout the year!

Who knows – your performance could earn you an invite to the Sports Presentation evening at the end of the year!

By Adam Miell

BACK TO SCHOOL TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

As the seasons begin to change and the leaves on trees start to turn fiery orange, students world-wide are returning to school after a brilliant summer break ready for the start of a new academic year but how do different schools welcome their students to a fresh start?

Germany:

Starting primary school in Germany is a big deal, so to mark this rite of passage, they give the child a special cone called a “Schuluten”, which translates to “School Bag”, which is filled with gifts and treats, such as books, stationary, sweets and toys to celebrate the child starting school. How fun!

Russia:

1st September is celebrated each year as the Day of knowledge in Russia, marking the beginning of the school year. The day is so important that families will attend it on Saturday if it falls on that day! It includes families and teachers gathering at their schools for inspirational speeches and special performances of poetry and songs. Students dress smartly for the occasion, with schoolgirls wearing white ribbons in their hair or fastened to their clothes. How sweet!

Finland:

Finland does back to school in a cozy way! Before kids participate in their first day, they walk with their parents to school, enjoying the calm Finnish countryside. They also get a leisurely breakfast before school, usually featuring rye-bread, berries and milk, ensuring they start the day with a full stomach and calm mind!



Poland:

Poland, like Russia, gather on September 1 for a ceremonial assembly. Those who just started Year 1 will pledge to study diligently and receive a bell or book as a welcoming gesture. The Polish national anthem is often performed, and speeches from a headteacher and the teachers set a respectful and festive tone. Parents also commonly bring teachers flowers and say “Wszystkiego najlepszego w nowym roku szkolnym!” (All the best in the new school year!).

Malaysia:

Malaysian children will watch cultural performances such as Zapin, Ngajat or Sumazau dances, showcasing different ethnic traditions. A lot of community events and local fairs happen in celebration of the new school year. They welcome children warmly to learn in school!

India:

In India, kids get special gifts on the first day of school, or praveshanotshavan, Admission Day as it's called there. As the first day of school coincides with the beginning of the monsoon season, the gifts often include a brand-new umbrella!

Kazakhstan:

On the first day of school, students bring one single flower for the teacher. The teacher then gathers all the flowers together to make a bouquet. Kids also get presents, such as sweets, a pencil and a candle. How lovely!

Back to school around the world is slightly different for everyone so learning about how different countries celebrate a fresh year helps people to have a new-found appreciation for different cultures!

Written by Ry-lee Jones and Zuzanna Tylec



FOOD TECH RECIPE

Who doesn't like the taste of a juicy and sweet fruit salad?

The taste depends all on how much time we dedicate to do it. It's not usually that easy to make it with less amount of time, but with my tips you can make it within five minutes. The Tropical Salad includes sweet banana, juicy red apple, a plum with rich shaded purple and finally with a sweet floral taste of the pear. To prevent the sliced fruits turning brown (and to add a bit of flavour to it) add 2 teaspoons of honey, a drop of orange juice, lemon juice and a few pieces of mint leaf to add to presentation.



The result is a fresh and sweet piece.

Tested and tasted by Adaline Prakash

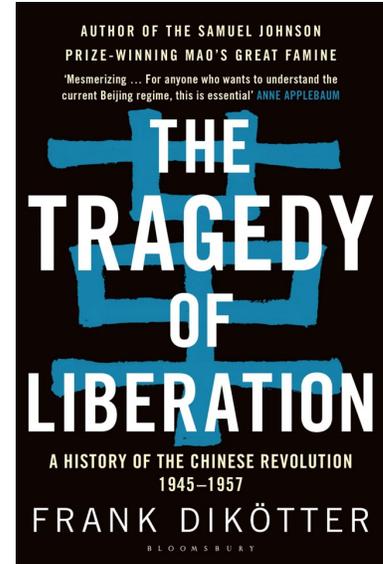
BOOK REVIEW

Frank Dikötter's 'The Tragedy of Liberation: A History of the Chinese Revolution 1945–1957' is a powerful and eye-opening account of the early years of Communist rule in China. It focuses on the time just before and after Mao Zedong and the Communist Party took control of the country, showing that instead of bringing peace and equality, the revolution brought terror, violence, and suffering to millions. Dikötter uses newly available documents from Chinese archives to reveal what really happened during this period, challenging the idea that this was a time of hopeful transformation.

What stood out to me most was how detailed and shocking the evidence is. Dikötter doesn't just write about leaders and political changes—he shows how everyday people were affected. Ordinary citizens were arrested, tortured, and even executed simply for being labelled "counter-revolutionaries." The book also explains how the government took control of everything, including land, food, and speech, creating a climate of fear where people turned on each other to survive. Some of the stories are hard to read, but they're important because they show the true cost of dictatorship.

Overall, *The Tragedy of Liberation* is a serious and important read for anyone interested in history or politics. While it can be a bit heavy and complex at times, it's worth the effort because it gives a clearer picture of a period that is often misunderstood or forgotten. It made me think about how power can be used to harm, and how important it is to question what we're told about the past. I would recommend it to older students who are interested in learning about real-world history beyond the textbook.

Read and reviewed by Maciej Lulek



A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT

The Crimson Cross wanted to give a special shout out to Miss Templeman, who is sadly stepping away from her role as Editor for the school newspaper. Miss Templeman was the driving force behind the successful relaunch of the newspaper last Christmas, and has been a key factor in ensuring everything was pieced perfectly together. Miss Templeman is extremely busy with a range of roles, from teaching English, to looking after the library and all things literacy. The team here will miss her, and we all wanted to say a collective massive THANK YOU for all her time and effort in making The Crimson Cross happen.



CLUBS AT SAINT GEORGE

Are you interested in joining a club? Or are you just looking for something fun and new?

Here at Saint George, our school offers a vast number of fun activities and clubs to join, even if you just wanted to give something a try.

Participating in at least one club is a great opportunity to get involved, have fun and broaden your interests. There are a variety of games clubs, and a chance to go into the multigym but there are limited spaces for this club. Contact the teachers to find out more!

Monday lunchtime: This year, there are some new clubs like **Science club** on a Monday lunchtime in G9 for years 7 and 8. One of the popular clubs is **History club** in L8 with Ms Lefeuvre where you have the chance to present your own PowerPoints on anything historical. This year there is also the chance to meet some History Professors from Southampton University.

Tuesday after school: Drama club runs from the end of the school day till 4 pm, if you are interested in drama then you have hit the jackpot! This is a fun and friendly environment. This is a place where you do acting, theatre games and make new friends! Occasionally, you do a show/play which hold auditions and also provides an opportunity to also get involved behind the scenes! This year will be the Wizard of Oz! How fun does that sound?

Wednesday after school: Football club. It starts right after the end of the school day and finishes 4:15pm. Whether you are a football pro, or just fancy trying something new, this club is perfect for anyone who enjoys doing some physical activities and having a good time with friends

Sound fun!

Friday lunchtime: Philosophy club is a place where you answer out of the box questions and answer them as if you were a philosopher! Philosophy club is all about exploring interesting questions and sharing your ideas in a friendly environment



You could even join the **Newspaper club** and practice your journalist skills. Mr Scott is always on the lookout for new writers!

These clubs are open to everyone, and you make such cool and fun friends along the way. Who knows, maybe one of the friends you meet here could be someone you stay close with for years! Further information about clubs can be found on the school website via the [Clubs & Activities](#) page.

Have fun and get clubbing!

Written by Adam Miell and Leo Ascensao

INTRODUCTORY INTERVIEWS WITH TWO NEW TEACHERS!

- *Jonah Tomy* was the given the opportunity to interview our school's new Art teacher Miss Pilcher

What inspired you to become an art teacher?

Well I worked as an art technician for 3 years and because of that I liked the idea of progressing my career, so I did my teacher training

Where did you teach before coming here?

I didn't teach anywhere before I worked at St Annes as a technician and trained at Cantell.

How do you encourage students who think they can't draw?

I always tell my students "I don't care if you're good at art or not just try your best." Also, I try to help them if they are stuck on something.

What's one rule or value that's important in your classroom?

Mutual respect!

How do you think art connects to other subjects like history or science?

It links to history because there's so much history reflected in pieces of art. Also, I tell my students if they want to become a doctor, they need good motor skills and art helps with that

If you weren't an art teacher, what job do you think you'd have?

Maybe police or detective work

What's one thing you hope your students will take away from classes beyond art skills?

That perseverance is key to practicing skills and getting good at something



- *Sameer Kassamali* interviewed our school's new Science teacher Miss Cullum

Why did you want to teach at our school ?

Saint George has a really good reputation, nice science team and is very close to my home near Southampton

Describe your best or ideal lesson? Any lesson where a lot of learning is taking place also when children are challenging themselves.

What aspired you to became a teacher?

I worked for a charity for 5 years for young people, I also worked in some colleges and love science. I also thought it would be more beneficial to work at a school.

Why did you choose science as a subject to teach?

It was my background—I was interested in the study of biology and LOVED science!



The Crimson Cross

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PUPILS FOR ALL THEIR HARD-
WORK IN THIS EDITION.

- Leo Ascensao
- Caydan Chituh
- Natasha D'Mello
- Luna Johnson
- Ry-Lee Jones
- Sameer Kassamali
- Hanna Kraska
- Maciej Lulek
- Adam Miell
- Adaline Prakash
- Arianne-Isabel Rabang
- Jonah Tomy
- Zuzanna Tylec



PINK DAY NON UNIFORM
DAY THIS FRIDAY 24th
OCTOBER £1.00.

WEAR SOMETHING PINK
AND FIGHT BREAST
CANCER !!!



**SAINT GEORGE
CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

Leaside Way, Southampton, SO16 3DQ
Tel: 02380 322603 www.stgcc.co.uk

*"There is a highly aspirational culture where
pupils want to work hard and achieve well"*

*"Expectations for behaviour
are extremely high and pupils
live up to these"*

"The school is 'one big family'"

*"This is a truly inclusive and
welcoming school"*



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At St George we Aspire to become all that God created us to be