The Crimson Cross

WELCOME BACK

It has been a busy start back for all staff and students, with lots of exciting things to report.

I want to take my usual opportunity to thank all of the incredible young journalists who have created a variety of informative and entertaining articles for your reading pleasure whist juggling many responsibilities during the first academic term.

We hope that you all enjoy the October half term that is now approaching. It will soon be the countdown to Christmas before you all know it!

Best wishes,

Mr J Scott

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STUDENT SHOUT OUT

Pupil Shout out is a way to reward and celebrate people's good works and deeds around the school. This pupil is long overdue an acknowledgement.

This Terms Pupil Shout Out is... Zuzanna Tylec (9RO)

Since Year 7, Zuzanna has been a role model to both students and teachers at St George as she always goes above and beyond in all that she does especially in the Performing Arts department. From being a serving member of ASPIRE Voices, to being a part of the School show and even writing scripts for Drama Club. Not only is she helpful in the performing arts, she also helps the school out by doing tours, helping out at open evenings and school events too. Zuzanna is also one of the roving reporters here at The Crimson Cross.

Zuzanna is never afraid to stand up for what is right as she is also running for student council and a member of the Student Equality Advocate. Zuzanna always encourages others to make positive choices. Her attitude and leadership have had a great impact on those around her, and I believe we can all learn from the example that she sets every day. Congrats Zuzanna and keep up all the work you do

STAFF SHOUT OUT



Our young writers here at the Crimson Cross decided that it would be nice if some of the staff at Saint George also got a special mention! Staff Shout Out is here to cele-brate the effort that goes in to supporting the pupils in school.

This teacher has particularly impressed the Crimson Cross with their ability to both mentor and motivate fellow staff and students.

This terms Staff Shout Out is..... Mrs Zanoletti!

Most of you will already know Mrs Zanoletti. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the dedication, patience, and encouragement shown to every student. Mrs Zanoletti has inspired many students to be the best that they can be. She has helped us students out a lot whether it's the current pupils that are in the school or the ones that have left. As a school, we are very grateful to have a teacher like Mrs Zanoletti who makes learning more enjoyable and exciting. The team at the Crimson Cross would like to say thank you for her passion to teaching and commitment in helping us succeed.

Shouted out by Caydan Chituh

HARRY POTTER STUDIO TRIP

Students from Saint Geroge experienced the magic behind the movies during a memorable educational outing to the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter in Leavesden, Watford.



Credit: London info Guide

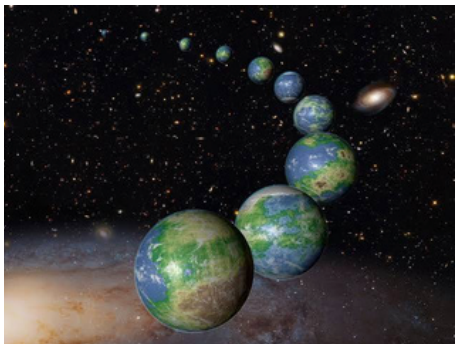
The group of students from years 7-9, accompanied by 4 members of staff, departed bright and early on Monday 5th of October. Travelling by coach, the excitement was palpable as the young film enthusiasts made their way to Hertfordshire.

Upon arrival in Watford, the students stepped through the doors into the iconic Great Hall, kicking off an immersive journey through the actual sets, props, and costumes used in the world-famous film franchise. Highlights of the day included walking through Diagon Alley, stepping onto Platform 9¾ beside the Hogwarts Express, and exploring the intricate detail of the Forbidden Forest.

In addition to seeing the spectacular artistry on display, the pupils participated in an educational workshop, and students got a chance to see everything used in the process of filming the worldwide famous franchise, gaining a fascinating insight into creative industries and behind-the-scenes filmmaking.

By Leo Ascensao

SCIENCE CORNER



Credit: NASA Science

Jonah Tomy discusses exactly what Exoplanets are.

What is an exoplanet ?

An exoplanet is a planet that exists outside our solar system. Most exoplanets orbit around other stars however some "rogue" planets move through space without any stellar anchor. A stellar anchor is a parent star that holds the galaxy in place.

How did humans discover exoplanets?

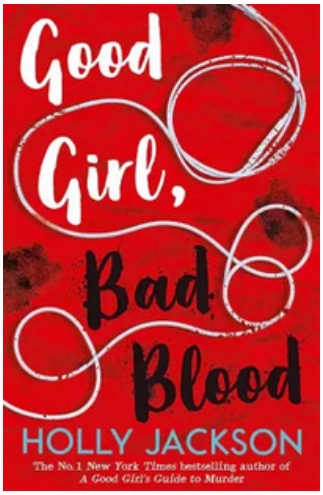
The transit method was the most successful way in which astronomers discovered exoplanets. This method helped the Nasa's kepler and K2 missions. It consists of using powerful space telescopes to stare at a thousand stars simultaneously measuring their brightness with precision. When an exoplanet crosses directly between earth and its host star it blocks a tiny fraction of light. This results in a dip in the stars brightness and by measuring how deeply the light drops and how frequently it happens scientists can calculate the planets exact size and how quickly it is orbiting the sun

Fun fact

Did you know that some exoplanets are so close to their stars that a year there can last just a few earth days or even less?

BOOK REVIEW

Book: Good Girl, Bad Blood
Author: Holly Jackson



After the explosive events of A Good Girls Guide to Murder (which I highly recommend reading if you haven't already), Holly Jackson is back with a second, thrilling book! Having already reviewed the first book, I was beyond excited to dive back into the world of deception, mystery and suspense but nothing could have prepared me for the new twisted, dark turns that were about to unfold. If you thought Pip-Fitz Amobi's detective days were over, think again...

In Good Girl Bad Blood, Pip launches a true-crime podcast about the case she and her partner, Ravi Singh, solved the previous year but insists that her sleuthing days are over. All she wants is to leave the past behind and pursue a relatively normal life where her loved ones will never be put in harm's way again. However, it's never that simple. Everything changes when someone close to Pip goes missing and the police refuse to look, leaving her no choice but to investigate. Pip follows a trail of clues, uncovering more of her town's dark secrets along the way... and this time, no one is talking but everyone is listening. Pip must battle against fierce online backlash, bitter figures from her past case and meet new, unexpected rivals whilst keeping her life from falling apart. The further she travels down the rabbit hole, the higher the stakes and the more she has to question what's truly important to her, because this time, someone might not make it out alive...

What makes this sequel so thrilling is how utterly unpredictable this book was. The pacing was incredible, keeping me hooked until the very end. Each time you thought you knew everything, Holly Jackson throws a spanner in the works and changes everything once more, leaving you intrigued and always on the edge of your seat, waiting to be caught by surprise with the next twist. Good Girl Bad Blood explores profound themes of inner conflict and struggles, significant personal growth and her role as a public figure and as a friend.

Overall, Good Girl Bad blood is a masterpiece in YA mystery that surpassed my standards completely and left me stunned. I'd highly recommend it if you've read the first novel and want to continue seeing where Pips journey takes her!

Read and reviewed by Ry-Lee Jones



Friday 23rd October is Non Uniform day -pupils to wear Pink if possible. £1 cash - proceeds go to charity.

SPORTS INTERVIEW

This term at Saint George Catholic College, the Year 7 football team has been announced!

However, they have not begun with the greatest of starts with a 5-0 loss to Mount Battan school. Even though they have had a tough set - back , hopefully they can get a win soon.

I have had the opportunity to interview *Natan Serafin* , a new player on the team.

Natan, how do you feel about having the opportunity to play for Saint George?
I feel very special and lucky to be a member of the team and I feel like a celebrity.



What do you think about the loss to Mount Batton?
I feel we will be fine since it is only our first match.

Do you feel hopeful for the future?
Yes I do, and also I hope we win the Hampshire cup.

Is there anything you would like to say?
Yes for all year 7 students we as a team will give 110% to bring this cup home!

Thank you to Natan Serafin For letting me interview him. Thank you for reading , if you would like YOUR sport to be in the next copy of our newspaper or to be interviewed please let us know.

Teddy Smith

A PRAYER FOR OUR FIRST ACADEMIC TERM



Dear God,

The strength of my life, the light in the darkness. As we enter this new school year, we ask you to bless all the students and staff at St George, so they can seize the opportunities you give them and overcome the challenges that they may face. Send your spirit upon us so that we may start on a clean slate and make the right choices, even when it's difficult. Provide us with strength to be our best selves every day, no matter what happens. We ask you to keep our community safe, in the name of Jesus Christ,

Amen.

Zuzanna Tylec

TEACHER FAREWELL... FOR NOW

This term one of Saint George's teachers left for maternity leave, so this article will be dedicated to... Miss Gillings!

On behalf of all of us at The Crimson Cross, thank you so much for the incredible care, patience, and energy you have brought to the classroom during your time at St George. You're such an amazing teacher and you make learning so much fun! I believe that a lot of us can agree when we say that we have all grown so much under your guidance, and we are incredibly grateful for the safe, inspiring environment you created every day.

As you step away to prepare for this wonderful new chapter, please know how much you will be missed. You are going to be the absolute best Mum. Good luck, we wish you all the joy, love, and sweet moments in the world and hope you get plenty of rest before the big arrival! May this next chapter be filled with happiness and wonderful new memories.

Keira Chanell

RECIPE

The school is buzzing with the frantic energy of a new term. The alarm clock is now your worst enemy, your backpack weighs more than a small vehicle, a time for fresh notebooks, high ambitions, and the immediate, crushing realization It's into the final week of the term already. You need a little pick me up.

THE FROZEN CHAI - SCREAM

You want the comforting, spicy vibes of autumn, but your internal thermostat is screaming for a pool party.

This seasonal crossover recipe bridges the gap between two seasons perfectly. By taking concentrated, heavily spiced autumn chai tea and pouring it directly over a massive, ice-cold scoop of summer vanilla bean ice cream. It is a beautiful, chaotic collision of worlds.

The cinnamon, cardamom, and clove notes satisfy your deep craving for cozy autumn comfort, while the freezing, melting ice cream keeps you completely refreshed under the unexpected September heatwave.



THE INGREDIENTS:

· 1 CHAI TEA BAG (OR 2 TABLESPOONS OF CHAI CONCENTRATE)
· 1/2 CUP BOILING WATER
· 1 SCOOP OF VANILLA ICE CREAM
· CARDAMOM
· CLOVE
· A DASH OF CINNAMON FOR DUSTING

THE STEPS:

1) Brew the chai tea bag in the boiling water for 4 minutes to make it extra strong
2) Add whole cardamom and cloves for a hint of spice taste
3) Let it cool slightly
4) Drop the scoop of vanilla ice cream into a tall glass
5) Pour the warm chai directly over it, and watch the seasons collide
6) Dust with cinnamon and serve immediately (don't let the ice cream melt completely)

ONE GIANT LEAP INTO HISTORY

Natan Serafin steps back in time to 1969.

Something outstanding happened then. The first time ever that humankind walked on the moon! It took them only 3 days just to fly there. But while everyone was celebrating, some were weeping with tears, not with happiness but sadness. This was because some of the astronauts before the Apollo 11 mission died in testing with different parts for the rockets.

July 16 1969 and Apollo 11 is ready to launch. It was 01:32 PM in England. The launch was broadcast live across 33 countries, reaching an estimated 25 million viewers. An estimated 1 million people watched the Apollo 11 launch live from the beaches, roads, and areas surrounding Florida's Kennedy Space Centre on July 16, 1969.

Before it all happened, the president of the USA said that we will land a rocket on the moon and bring it back before the decade ends. The countdown went" Five! Four! Three! Two! One! Lift off!" and the rocket began its journey to the moon. The rocket flew through the atmosphere, then in two minutes it reached space.

Now all the astronauts had to do was think about was:

- Sleep
- Eat
- Workout
- Fix parts
- Steering the rocket



Credit: BBC

Two days later. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were busy steering the Lunar Module to the moon while Michael Collins flew around the moon in the spacecraft called Columbia. One day later, Buzz and Neil were 5000 meters from the moon. When they came closer, around 40 meters away, an alarm went off. The alarm was called 1202 which meant that the computer had too many tasks to do. Neil Armstrong took manual control and landed the Lunar Module. At 3:17 PM CDT, NASA announced that the Lunar Module landed safely on the moon.

At 9:56 PM CDT, Neil Armstrong started climbing down the ladder saying the now infamous quote “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

One giant leap indeed.

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

A Lifetime of Friendship: Remembering Where It All Began at St. George
By Adam Miell

I was delighted to be in touch this half-term with Lorraine Barry, a former pupil at St. George!

Lorraine and her friends were in the Class of '66 at St George, the final intake of girls before the school became boys-only. Girls did not return to St George until 2013. Lorraine and her friends recently got together to celebrate an amazing 60 years of friendship, having first met at our school.

I'd like to send a huge thank you to Lorraine for answering my questions and giving such incredible insight into their time at our school.

What years were you at St George?
We were at St George's from 1966 to 1971. A couple of the girls left in 1970, we all had jobs to go too as we left school.

Do you still stay in touch with friends from St George?
We do all stay in touch and have done so since we left school. We decided when we were all 60 to go away together and have now been doing this for the last 11 years and are planning our next trip to Swanage May 2027. Unfortunately over the years we have lost two very close friends and they are always remembered by us.

What was school life like when you were at St. George?
When we were at St George we had so much fun! The teachers were always very good. Obviously we had our favourites, but we looked forward to every day, coming to school and getting on with our lessons, some more than others!!!

What did a normal school day look like?
A normal day was either meeting in the playground standing in line in our groups, ready for classes to begin, or Assembly in the main hall where one of the teachers or the Head Master would tell us about different events that might be taking place. At lunch we would all sit together after queuing up for our food which was usually very good.



Friendships formed for a lifetime: Lorraine and her pals still regularly meet up - they even all went away for their 60ths. We love to see it!

What were your favourite memories from life at St. George?
I think our favourite memories were the joking whilst we all talked about the day ahead and which class we were in that day. We had a good laugh with the boys and we loved PE and seeing everyone do well in their different sports.

What was it like being the final intake of girls before the school became boys only?
It was strange each September when only boys arrived!! And by the final year I believe there were only 28 of us and around 450 boys! One teacher joking that 'you 28 are more trouble than all the boys put together' but he was smiling when he said it.

What were your thoughts when St. George came a mixed-sex school again in 2013?
We were all thrilled when we knew St. George was reverting back to a mixed school because we had such good memories of our time there and never knew why it was changed.

How was your reunion when you met to celebrate 60 years having met your friends at St George?
Our reunion was one of many things we have done together this year but was made even more special by the fact it marked 60 years of friendship.



Cheers to fond memories: Lorraine and the girls on one of their recent reunions.

This has been such a heartwarming story to report. If YOU know of anyone that attended Saint George in the past and would like to get in touch, then do let us know. We would love to hear from anyone to find out how they are now getting on!



The Crimson Cross

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

LEO ASCENSAO

KEIRA CHANNELL

CAYDAN CHITUH

RY-LEE JONES

SAMEER KASSAMALI

ADAM MIELL

NATAN SERAFIN

TEDDY SMITH

JONAH TOMY

ZUZANNA TYLEC



