



24 November 2022

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I am very much looking forward to celebrating the many successes of our students in KS4 and KS5 later this evening and may see some of you there – this will include seeing a number of ex-students return to receive their awards. There will more of this in the next bulletin.

Winter safety:

As they days draw in and it is darker earlier, please make sure your child takes the necessary steps to stay safe on the way to and from school. They should not close themselves off from the world around them by listening to music on ear phones/pods/buds, and they need to take care crossing the roads.

With the hot summer and very mild autumn and winter we have had, it is difficult to imagine snow and ice. If we do get sudden freezing conditions, please ensure your child knows not to place on frozen open water, as this can be dangerous.

Parent/Carer Survey:

Thanks to the 240 or so who have answered this survey. We are still short of the number of responses last time so if you have not responded I would be grateful if you could here: [Parent/Carer Survey](#).

Reminder: School is closed tomorrow (Friday 25 November 2022)

cont over...

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354

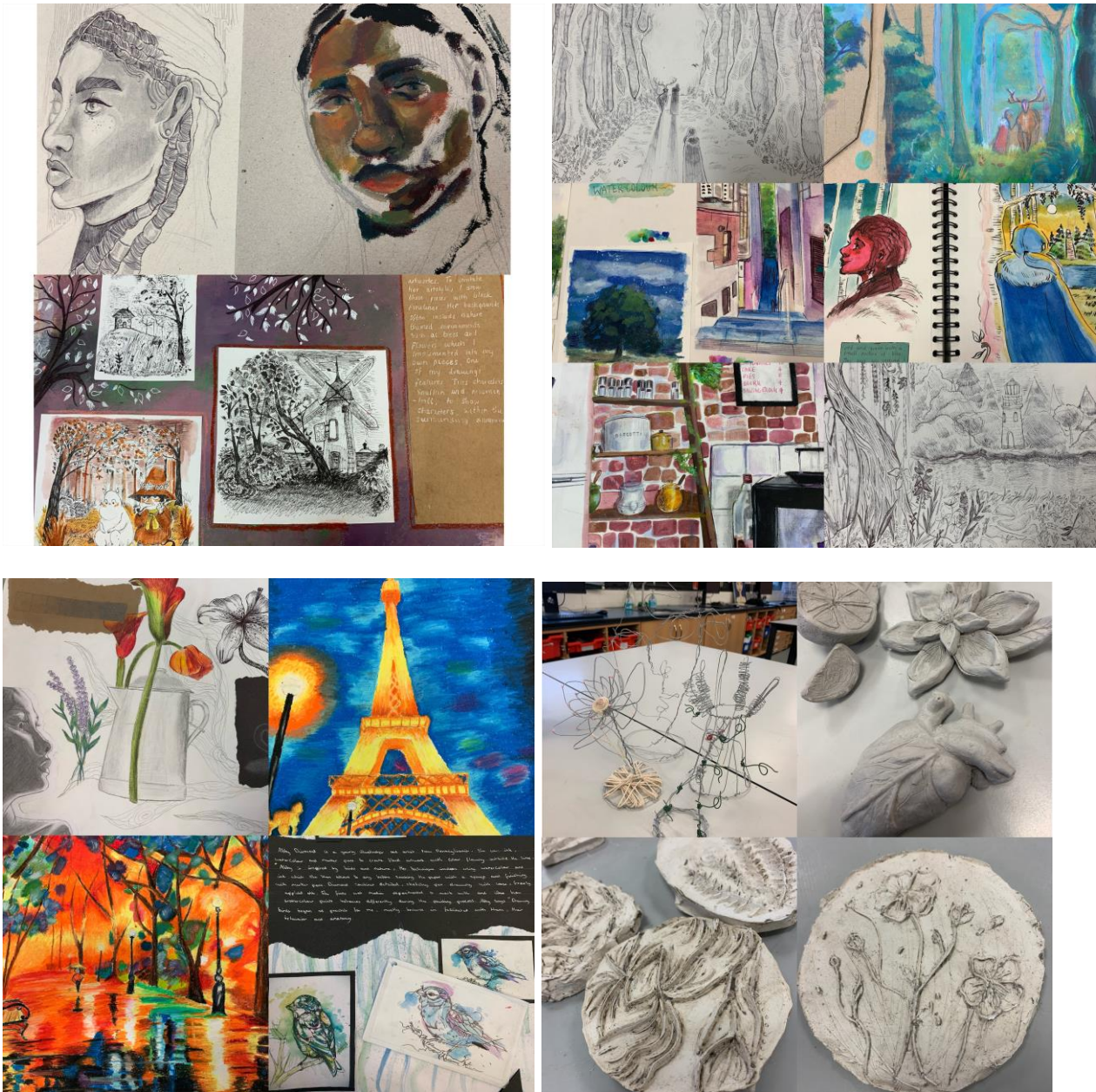
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Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

'Students feel happy and safe at school' OFSTED 2019

'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community' SIAMS Inspection 2020

Art
 Celebrating exceptional achievement across all key stages in Art. KS5 sketchbook development, KS4 exam work and KS3 pencil skills. Here are some examples of our art students' exceptional pieces this half term.

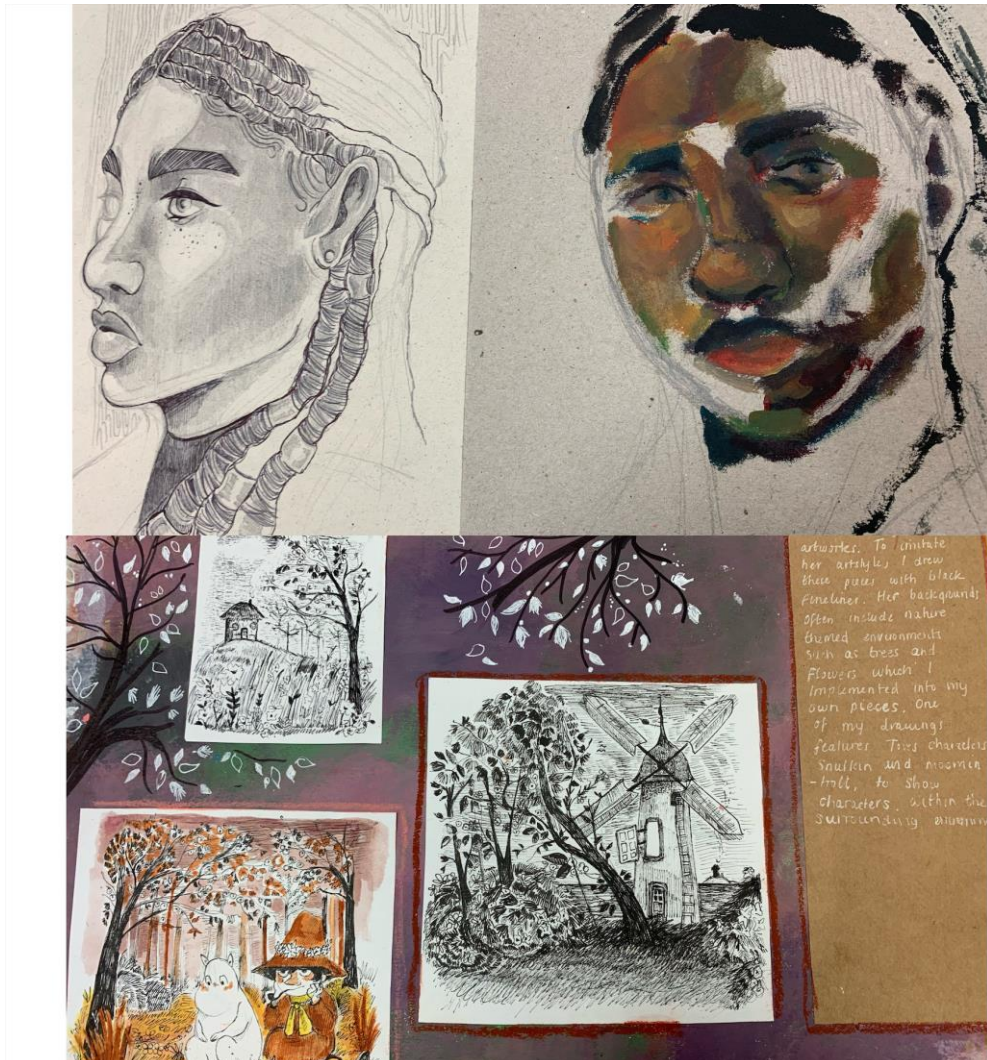


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Geography

On Wednesday 23 November the Year 7 Humanities Club 9 students went to Enfield Cineworld for the 'Into Film Festival'. They saw *The Railway Children*, and very much enjoyed the experience. The aim was to give the students a broader understanding of UK landscapes and how they have changed and consider some issues around race and equality.

MFL

Twelve Year 9 students took part in the National Languages Competition run by GCHQ. Students were selected based on their exemplary conduct in MFL lessons and having the resilience to deal with some really challenging language problem solving tasks. The event saw students decoding words and phrases involving lesser known languages and even some made up languages! The challenges really got the students thinking and were very tough, which is why it was very pleasing that the group with Tiannah, Milena and Juste came 551st nationally out of 2046 teams, a highly commendable effort! The other participants were not far behind: Jason, Clara, Sophia, Rafael, Chris, Brian, Elvin, Antreas and Jakub. Congratulations to all participants!



Wellbeing

Anti-Bullying Week 14th – 18th November



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Anti-Bullying Week is co-ordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and this year's theme was Reach Out. The theme of Reach Out came about following consultation with teachers and pupils by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. Teachers and children wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

Anti-Bullying Week reminds everyone whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, to reach out and show each other the support we need.

The St Mary's Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, who have all received training from The Diana Award and wear bright blue lanyards so they are easily identified, presented the Act of Worship to all years. They reached out to all who have been bullied and also to all who were and are still practicing bullying, with the aim to embrace forgiveness. Forgiveness can lead to feelings of understanding, empathy and compassion. Forgiveness brings a kind of peace that helps you go on with life.

Activities took place throughout the week during form time, from simple discussions about how we can 'reach out' and offer support, to identifying the roles involved in bullying within various fictional scenarios.

As our school motto reminds us, **“Everyone is Equal and everyone deserves the best.”**

If you are concerned about any child being bullied (or for any safeguarding issue) REACH OUT to your child's Year Lead, Student Manager, or the Head Teacher on head@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk

Just Talk Week 21st – 25th November



Just Talk is a multi-agency campaign, steered by young people. Just Talk Week's theme for 2022 is to 'Look beneath the surface', to be patient with others, as we can't always know the challenges that someone may be facing. It's important to understand that if you see a friend, family member or someone else you know acting unusually or not their typical self, they may be having a bad day or going through a difficult time. That's why, more than ever, it's so important we don't jump to conclusions about people or judge them unkindly.

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In St Mary's, activities took place during form time, discussing and encouraging students to support each other in various ways and signposting students to support offered locally. Keeping emotions like sadness, fear or frustration locked up inside can sometimes cause them to come out in other ways, like outbursts of anger, being grumpy, or isolating yourself from people you care about. This Just Talk Week, explores the different ways to help - it's often as simple as just talking and listening. **"Talking shows strength, not weakness".**

I hope you have enjoyed reading this edition and wish you and your family a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully



Nicholas Simms
Head Teacher

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