



Newsletter

Autumn Term : September to December 2021

A message from the Principal

This has been a special term indeed. Moving into our new building was long overdue, but worth the wait. We have only been in for a few weeks, but so many positive memories have already been made and we look forward to making many more in the months and years to come.

A new building means new photographs for our prospectus and we were delighted to have wonderful weather on December 8, when the photographer joined us for a day. He was able to take some very impressive pictures with sunshine streaming through the windows, some of which you can see below and on the next page.

The breadth of the enrichment programme has been wonderful to see across the new site, and we have finally been able to host some 'home' fixtures for our sports teams. Work has started on the playing field site, and we hope that we will be able to use that for PE lessons and also host some 'home' football matches later in 2022.

The new building also gives us greater opportunities to develop links with local clubs and organisations who are looking to use the facility, and we hope to share some exciting news about those partnerships early in the new year.

The return to school in January is currently as planned, with staff returning on Tuesday 4 January 2022, and all pupils on Wednesday 5 January. We would like pupils to carry out a Lateral Flow Test before returning to school, and as requested by the government, pupils will have a Lateral Flow Test during the day on 5 January where we have parental consent.

I want to end by thanking staff, pupils, and families. Thank you for your patience and support while we were in our temporary accommodation, and I want to pay particular tribute to the staff whose inspiring dedication and hard work has meant that the whole process went as smoothly as possible.

Dr Stevens
Principal



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W: www.saracenshigh.org



Discipline

Hard Work

Honesty

Humility



Admissions Policy Consultation : Admissions 2023/2024

The Local Governing Body of Saracens High School is proposing a new Admissions Policy. It is a requirement that the School consults with the public on the contents of the new policy.

This consultation will run from Wednesday 15th December to Monday 31st January 2022.

Please read the proposed policy (link [here](#)) for further information. Comments can be sent to admin@saracenshigh.org or to school by post by Monday 31st January 2022.

Following the close of the consultation period, the Local Governing Body will consider comments, review the policy and publish the final version for Admissions in September 2023.



Pastoral Year Lead headlines

As we come to the end of the first term of the 2021-22 school year, we have once again experienced lots of change. At this time, it has thankfully not been due to a pandemic but through us changing our home. The journey we are all on has a new stop from which everyone has an opportunity to reset and evaluate themselves. With this in mind we are delighted to see so many of our students embracing this change in our wonderful new setting and continuing to live our values as well as exceeding our expectations.

The Year 10 cohort have been working hard this term towards assessments in pursuit of becoming outstanding key stage 4 students. There were some exceptional results in the last set of November assessments in Maths and design technology. In both the Btec Sport and Btec Health and social care pupils have completed controlled assessments that will count towards their final grade, with some pupils attaining the highest marks available!

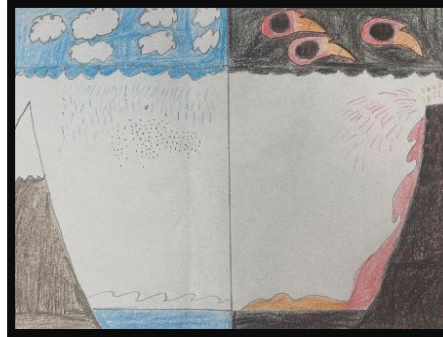
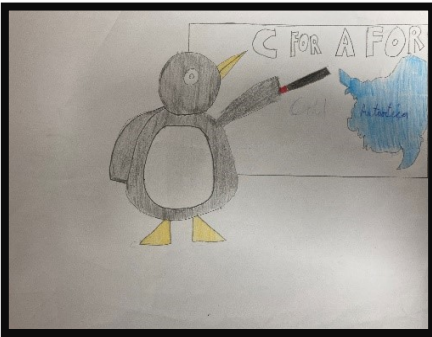
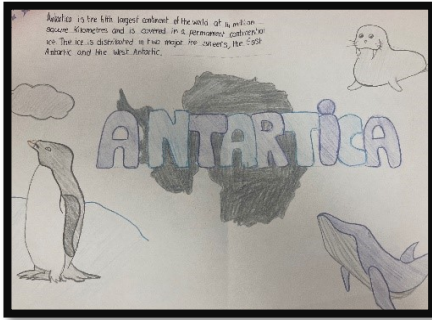


We have been really impressed with the way that many of our flagship cohort have matured into the honest, disciplined hard working pupils they have become. There have been many acts of kindness displayed by the pupils in Year 10 which have not gone unnoticed by staff! I am looking forward to seeing how they perform in the January assessments.

*Mr Mitman, Mrs Freeman-Holmes and Mr Rudd and Miss Smallwood
Year Leads*

Geography

Year 7 took part in the Antarctica flag competition. Here are some of the winning entries.



During the Autumn term the all the geographers learnt about the COP26 climate change conference in Glasgow and made their own promises and messages to our leaders, which were placed as leaves on our trees - **#PromiseToThePlanet**

The Saracens High School overall winner was **Ginni from 7Rimla** her flag is now on its way to Antarctica!



Year 7 have been studying microclimates and had the opportunity to use equipment to measure the weather around our school site to investigate the best locations to spend your lunchtime.



Science

In Science, Year 7 and 8 have been learning about matter and organisms, which includes separating mixtures, particle model, elements, periodic table, breathing, digestion, movement & cells.

In Year 9, the Combined Science groups have been studying cell structure, microscopy, transport & cell division, and have just completed their first chemistry unit on atomic structure. They have also completed their required practicals on microscopy, osmosis and chromatography.

The Single Science group have also completed some physics content on energy.

In Year 10, the combined science groups have completed work on communicable and non-communicable diseases, and preventing and treating disease. The Single Science class have also completed additional chemistry and physics content, including chemical calculations and titrations, and electricity.

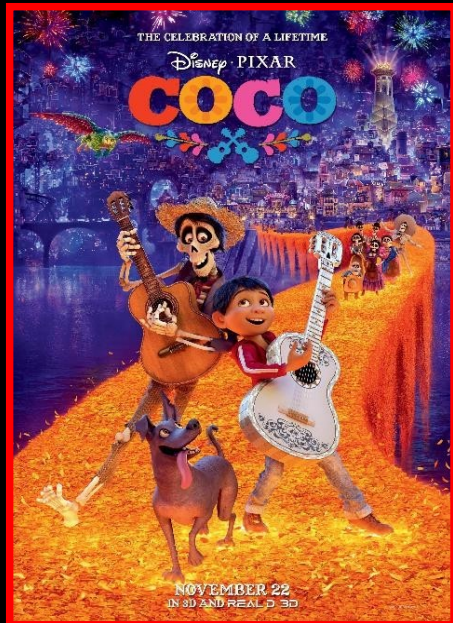
Since moving to the new building, we have been able to improve the practical science opportunities available to students.



*Mr Tester
Subject Lead*

LANGUAGES - Trip to the Cinema: COCO

To celebrate diversity, tradition and multiculturalism, on Thursday 21 October all Saracens Year 7 team and pupils went on an adventure to watch the Mexican film 'Coco' at Everyman cinema in Barnet. The film is based on the holiday of Día de Muertos, a 12-year-old boy named Miguel, and his journey to the Land of the Dead in search of his own heritage and history. We enjoyed watching the movie in Spanish with English subtitles and singing along to the song 'Un poco loco' which we had learnt in Spanish lessons. It was a great experience for all involved from watching the film and sharing a few tears in the last couple of minutes to the tube ride on the Northern Line as well as the comfy sofas and great facilities that Everyman cinema in Barnet had to offer.



Mr. Jimenez
Curriculum Lead—Lanugagues

Library

We now have an excellent Library space in the new building, with lots of new books, computers, and a wide variety of seating space. Pupils enjoy their visits to the Library during break and lunch, to either do some quiet reading or complete their home learning. Books in our Library are now arranged according to genres (Adventure, Mystery, Horror, Fantasy, etc), which has been hugely successful with pupils, as they now find it easier to choose a book they like. Our Pupil Library Monitors are responsible for scanning and shelving books during break and lunch times. We also have a display rack advertising newly arrived books. This term, in addition to Library Monitors, we have formed a Library Champions Team, who are a group of pupils passionate about promoting the Library. The Library Champions have worked very hard this term to promote reading by creating displays and posters in addition to running reading-related competitions and activities. They have also started a blog to share news about the School Library, as well as book reviews and recommendations. Furthermore, we are also planning to host an author visit in the spring term which will be an enriching opportunity for our pupils to interact with a famous author and learn valuable lessons about the importance of reading.



Miss Pathiyath
Librarian

Lessons in the Library

With the year 9 assessments coming to an end, the Health and Social Care class got to experience some practical skills by providing 'professional' care to some year 7 students at the end of this term. The students were able to apply their knowledge and understanding of their current topic, language development, in supporting the year 7 students with reading in the library. It was lovely to see the students being so proactive and positive about their role as a reading buddy!



*Miss Pathiyath
Librarian*

COVID-19 Lateral Flow testing

If your child has been using the Covid19 Lateral Flow test kits, please make sure they continue to test at home on Mondays and Thursdays during the holidays.

Please see the link below for how to do the home testing, the guidance is available in several languages: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>

Please report your child's test results on NHS test and trace: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Please also report your child's results to the school directly: <https://forms.gle/B37MgUZtPM7Rm6nV7>

On Wednesday 5th January only pupils who have consented via Arbor will take a Covid-19 lateral flow test on arrival to school. Any pupils with a positive result we will contact parents and the pupil will be sent home to book a PCR test.

Catering and breakfast club

We are delighted to have brought the catering in house and hope that the children are enjoying the fresh, seasonal food provided for them as much as the staff are. Our catering team is led by Cristi Ilioi who will soon be working with the Pupil Leadership Team to discuss the meals and their preferences, for future menus.

If you have been sent a form to complete in relation to your child's allergies, please send it back as soon as possible so we can be certain to provide the best food for your child.

Please could you clear all amounts outstanding for school meals or contact Mrs Edwards tbm@saracensmat.org if you are having trouble making payment. If you believe you may be eligible for Free School Meals, please follow this link on our website: <https://www.saracenshigh.org/Parents/Free-School-Meals/> or contact the school office if you need support with this.

We have successfully applied to become part of the National School Breakfast Programme and will be receiving free bagels and cereals for the breakfast club from January. There is no charge for the breakfast club, which is run by our Stepping Stones Mentor, Mr Murray-Bruce. It is open from 7.45 to 8.15am. We hope to see more children coming along to the club next term.

*Mrs Edwards
Trust Business Manager*

ART



It has been a great start to the year and welcoming out new year 7s. It was made even better in November when we were able to move into our brand new building and have endless possibilities in art. KS3 Pupils have been extremely creative making clay tiles and coiled pots. KS4 pupils have been busy undertaking workshops as well as being creative and finding unusual spots to create their portraits! Keep up the amazing work artists!

Miss Frankham
Subject Lead

Grow and Thrive

Other Ability Month

Diabetes Awareness



At the end of November, to mark 100 years since the discovery of insulin, Bradley (9 Wilberforce) planned and delivered a presentation on diabetes awareness to all students and staff. The Loom presentation outlined details regarding diabetes, signs and treatment, but also included things not to say to a diabetic and ruled out some myths that people believe are true. Thanks to the kind generosity of students, staff and families, nearly £100 has been raised for Diabetes UK, on the page created by Bradley. Well done and thank you for raising awareness about diabetes.

Pupils in year 9 Wilberforce have created blue ribbons that staff and pupils were on the day. Members of staff as well have been wearing blue items of clothing.

Blindfold football

Pupils at Saracens High School had the opportunity at lunch time to play blind football in small teams. The ball with the bell inside guided the players towards the goal. "At first I thought it will be strange, and by the end of the game I realised how hard it was for the people to play. You have to listen a lot more and pay attention to everyone and every sound you hear" said Caitlin in Year 9 Alphonso. "This experience made us think a lot about what we take for granted. I did not realise how hard it is not to be able to do simple things like walking and touching things".



Jodie Ounsley - "My deafness is a super power"

On Wednesday 15 December 2021, rugby player, Jodie Ounsley, attended a Question & Answer session. Pupils were able to ask her questions on how she managed to overcome physical barriers in her life.

Jodie, who is profoundly deaf, continues to break down barriers within women's sport both on and off the pitch. Being only 20-years old, Jodie has built a reputation as one of rugby's most exciting new stars. "When I was 14-months old, my Mum and Dad were encouraged to get me fitted with a cochlear implant. I only had one fitted because at the time, it wasn't common to have two. Nowadays though, it's a lot more common for children to be fitted with two. I prefer one so I can play rugby" said Jodie. Her presentation inspired a lot of the pupils and reiterated the message that with hard work and discipline, all is possible.

Miss Alexa
SEND Coordinator

Food preparation and nutrition

All years made a great start in our second brand new food room! We have gas and electric cookers installed to encourage pupils to be confident in using both types.

Year 7 have learned basic knife skills and cooking skills, making dishes such as banana flapjacks, apple crumble, Macaroni cheese, savoury scones and decorated biscuits.



Year 8 have learned how to make pastry and bread dishes, such as pasties, apple pies and pizza. They have also made sweet and savoury muffins and pasta bake.



Year 9 have started their GCSE course and are learning about nutrition and food safety as well as improving their practical skills. Dishes they have made so far include chicken stir fry, vegan Bolognese, Macaroni cheese with leeks, pavlova and Victoria sandwich cake.



Year 10 have been perfecting their cooking skills and practicing their presentation skills. They have made dishes using short crust, sweet and rough puff pastry this term, as well as high skilled dairy dishes such as Panna Cotta (pictured) and Eclairs.

They have also had the opportunity to cook with and sample fresh mussels, kindly provided by the Fish Heroes, schools programme.



*Mrs Cenci
Subject Lead*

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics trip to Westminster Abbey

On 8 October, the GCSE Religious Studies classes from Years 9 and 10 went to Westminster Abbey. They presented themselves in a manner that led to a retired Head teacher emailing us to say that, 'I just wanted to get in touch to say how impressed I was with your students today, when they were on a visit to Westminster Abbey...It was lovely to see the relationship between your staff and the students—they are a credit to you.'

The students were able to experience one of the most famous places in the world and also learn about the way Christians worship.



*Miss Wilson
Subject Lead*



Jack Petchey Achievement Award Winners Autumn term 2021

September



Monjola

October



Mason

November



Zahra

Term Dates 2021 / 2022



Autumn Term

Wednesday 22 to Friday 31 December

Autumn holiday

Spring Term

Monday 3 January

Bank holiday

Tuesday 4 January

Inset day (staff training)

Wednesday 5 January

Spring term begins

Monday 14 to Friday 18 February

Spring half term holiday

Friday 1 April

Last day of Spring term

Monday 4 to Thursday 14 April

Spring term holiday

Friday 15 and Monday 18 April

Easter bank holiday

Summer Term

Tuesday 19 April

Summer term begins

Monday 2 May

Bank holiday

Wednesday 11 May

Inset day (staff training)

Monday 30 May to Wednesday 1 June

Summer half term holiday

Thursday 2 and Friday 3 June

Bank holidays

Monday 6 June

Second half summer term begins

Friday 22 July

Last day of summer term and school year

Academic Calendar: 2021/2022

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Term time	Holiday	Bank holiday	INSET
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