



SIR JOHN CASS & RED COAT CofE SCHOOL

CASS NEWS

Autumn Term Newsletter 2019



Head Boy, Tufael and Head Girl Blessing, with the Bishop of London, Dame Sarah Mullally, at our Prize Giving Evening 2019.



Sir John Cass & Red Coat
Sir John Cass's Foundation & Red Coat CofE
Secondary School and Sixth Form

IN THIS EDITION;

Prize Giving 2019	
Results Day 2019	P2
Alumni Visit	
Attendance Update	
My RIG Placement	
Debate Club	P3
Westminster Abbey	
Year 12 Enrichment - Cass Futures	
#CassAgainstBullying	
UCAS Update	
Speak Out Workshop	P4
National Poetry Day 2019	
Performing Arts Updates	P5-6
Erasmus+	
Macmillan Coffee Morning	P6
Alumni Update	
Medical Notice	
Parent Governors	
Thank you Note	P7
Goodbye & Good Luck	
Calendar	

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Prize Giving 2019

Prize Giving 2019 took place in November, and we were honoured to have the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally as our Guest of Honour.

A special thank you to Dame Sarah and also to The Cass Foundation for their generous scholarship and foundation prizes.

A huge congratulations to all of the award winners, and thank you to all of the students and staff who contributed towards making the evening a great success!



Results Day 2019



We are so proud of our students who achieved fantastic GCSE and A Level results over the summer.

This includes a Progress 8 score of +0.7, and an Attainment 8 score of 53.9.

Alumni Visit



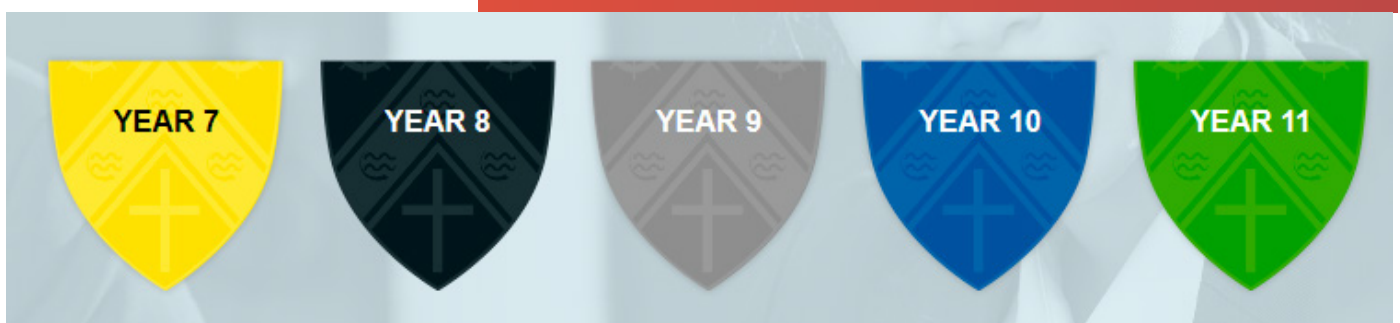
We were very pleased to welcome back a former student, Jahangir Alom, this term. Now a Junior Doctor in Leicester, Jahangir offered an inspirational talk and some words of wisdom to our current students.

Attendance Updates

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. Talking to your child and their teachers can help solve any difficulties you may have in getting your child to go to school and there are other forms of support available if you still have problems. The law requires parents to make sure their children receive full-time education suitable to their needs.

Good attendance at school is essential for academic progress, social interaction with peers and the opportunity to participate in clubs and try new activities. At Sir John Cass Red Coat we have a clear expectation that students should aim for 100% attendance every year.

You may have noticed the new Attendance Bar (image below) on our school website, or have heard about the 100% Half Term Attendance Reward. From September-October we had a total of 576 students achieve 100% half term attendance.

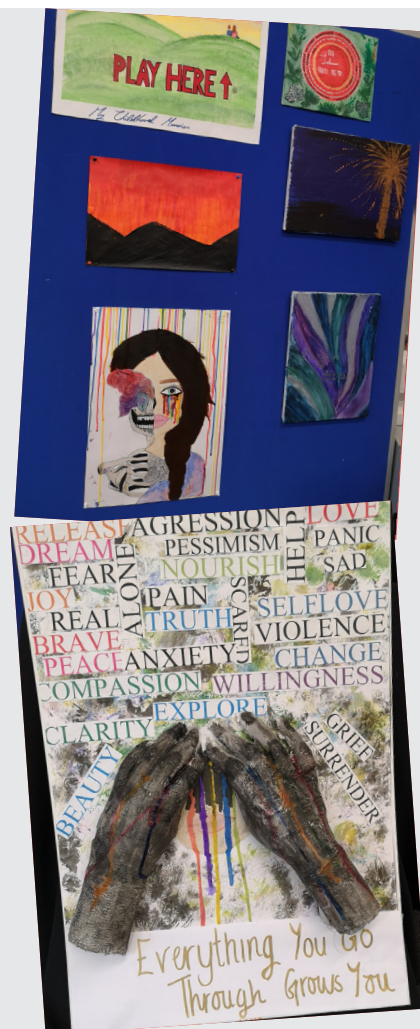
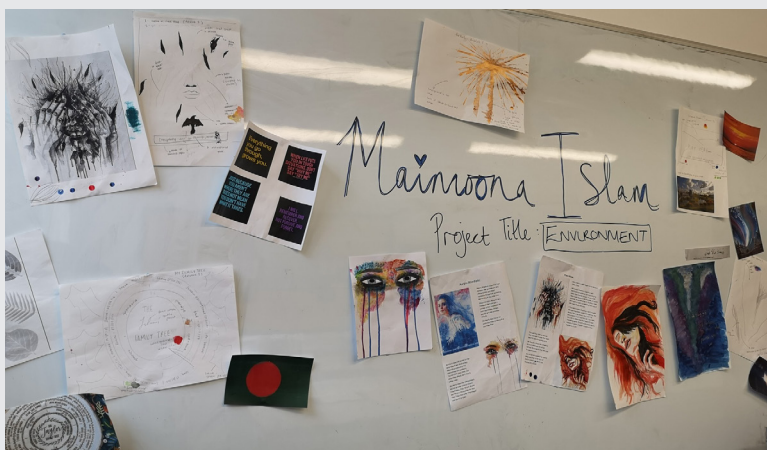


My RIG Placement

By: Maimoona Islam, 11A

I undertook a RIG Programme in the Cass Learning Centre.

The programme ran for five weeks and required me to research and develop my art skills. I have always loved being able to use different colours and experiment with textures. During my placement, I was asked to complete a journal to log and plan my project. This helped me reflect on my personal feelings and also helped me to improve my final pieces for my exhibition. I was supported by my friends whilst I made my artwork, it was fun being able to draw and paint different pieces which had a personal message. This RIG program has helped me to become a better person and see how my actions can affect others, and consequently affect my future. I have learnt to prioritise my studies. It has also made me love art even more, and I now see art somewhere in my future. Overall, this project has had a huge impact on me alongside all the other support I have been given previously. I'm very proud of my work and what I have achieved.



Debate Club - Xmas Special

By: Ms Chhoangalia and Ms H Begum



'This house would ban the commercialisation of Christmas!'

The Debate Club's Xmas special last week, with Mr Woods as Judge. Teams explored the pros and cons of tinsel, trees and Santa's gifts!

Is the financial strain on buying presents worth it? Should Christmas be redefined?

Westminster Abbey

By: Mr Rothern, KS5 BPO

Our Year 12 Government & Politics group went to Westminster Abbey for the Youth Question Time Event. The debate was chaired by BBC journalist and broadcaster, Samira Ahmed. The panel featured religious and community leaders including: Imam Qari Asim MBE, The Reverend Laura Jørgensen, Agamemnon Otero MBE and The Rt Hon. Lord Willetts FRS.



Year 12 Enrichment - Cass Futures

By: Mr Iqbal, Head of Year 12

Wednesdays Period 5 in the Great Hall is fast becoming the place to be at SJCR!

The Year 12 pupils have their weekly Cass Futures enrichment workshops, lectures and seminars. These include a wide range of activities, from university lectures, careers talks, high profile speakers, and trips. In the autumn term the Year 12 pupils were involved in the following inspiring opportunities:

- Leading academics and professors delivering lectures in order to prepare the Year 12 pupils for university life. We have had academics from the universities of Durham, Kings College London and SOAS this term.
- Careers workshops and lectures led by Mr Uddin and external organisations such as the NHS. Pupils have had workshops on CV skills and the A to Z of apprenticeship opportunities.
- The entire Year 12 cohort went to Queen Mary University for a trip which included a talk on UCAS applications and a tour.
- 30 Year 12 pupils participated in the Samosa Project, working on their debating skills, in order to present a live Question Time session for the rest of the year group.

We have lots of other interesting opportunities planned in spring term and beyond, including talks from the University of Cambridge, the London School of Economics, and Imperial College as well as further university visits.

#CassAgainstBullying

Following on from our anti-bullying campaign at the end of the summer term, SJCR supported National Anti-Bullying Week in November

A number of workshops and lessons took place with students, and posters designed by students went up around the school.

Congratulations to the winner of the Anti-Bullying Poster Competition, Reeya Muhed.



UCAS Update

By: Ms Rowley-Conwy, Assistant Headteacher

We have a record number of Year 13 students invited to interview at Oxford or Cambridge this year. Well done to all those who applied!

We wish all students the best of luck in their interviews.

We also have a number of students who have already received offers from all five of their university choices, including Abed Karim (Computer Science), Simadul Rahman (Biomedical Science), Shabnom Islam (Criminology) and Blessing Brobbey (Chemical Engineering). Very well done to these students!



Speak Out Workshop



This term, some of our students attended a workshop to help them to prepare for the Speak Out Challenge in which they will participate in 2020. We wish them the best of luck for the upcoming competition, and would like to thank Ms Higgins for organising the workshop.

National Poetry Day 2019



As part of National Poetry Day 2019, we welcomed poet, writer and spoken word theatre creator Justin Coe for an assembly and workshop with some of our students.

Updates

By:
Ms Hall, Head of Performing Arts
and
Mr Holder, Head of Music



Sir John Cass Steel Orchestra (SJCSO) have been very active this term and have performed at a number of school and external events, some of which are mentioned. Thank you to Mr Akal for your dedication in leading the SJCSO.

In addition to the SJCSO, there have also been a number of workshops and musical opportunities that our students have taken part in this term. The Drama Department have also been involved in many exciting and enriching projects.



An outstanding performance, with the Mayor of Tower Hamlets commenting on SJCSO's exceptional performance. Students performed at the Eastwinter Garden in Canary Wharf.



Updates

By:
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Careers in Theatre at the Half Moon

Year 10 embarked on learning the process of theatre production from stage management, sound and set design, lighting design through to performance in one day!



THE CASS MUSICAL 2020 Aladdin

This term rehearsals have begun for Aladdin, with the exciting, immersive musical theatre extravaganza planned for summer. We would love for parents to get involved as we transform the Great Hall into an Arabic palace and the market streets of Baghdad, Parents and students can help with set design, costume making and sourcing fabrics, front of house and interval refreshments and more. If you are willing to support, please contact Head of Performing Arts, Ms Hall.



Theatre Projects with the Old Vic and Donmar

The John Cass's Foundation are sponsors of Take to The Stage at the Donmar Warehouse, Covent Gardens, and Richard Foley from the Cass Foundation invited Year 10 Drama students along to be a part of the audience.

The Drama Department are currently working with the Old Vic and Donmar theatre in schools theatre projects. Year 10 also went to see an Expensive Poison at the Old Vic.

Erasmus +



Following a successful application for funding, our school will be working with partners in Europe on joint projects, and will be visiting and welcoming partners from Sicily, Crete and the Basque Country.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Our staff raised a total of £280.43 following the Macmillan Coffee Morning in September.

Alumni Update

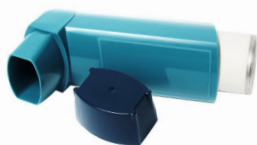


We are extremely proud of our alumni student Hammed Animashaun, who went on to follow his dream and is now starring in drama productions in the West End.

Medical Notice

By Ms Anderson, Medical Coordinator

IMPORTANT REMINDER



Cold air is a major trigger of asthma symptoms such as wheezing and shortness of breath. People with asthma should be especially careful in winter.

Be extra vigilant about taking your regular medications, and keep emergency reliever inhalers close by. Don't forget to send in your spare inhaler and spacer to school with a copy of your most recent care plan.

Some tips from the NHS to help deal with cold weather illnesses:
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/10-winter-illnesses/>

Parent Governors

Parents will remember that we recently held elections for two parent representatives for the school's Governing Body. The votes are now in and the count took place on 4th December and was conducted by Angela Hancock our Chair of Governors. The result is that Abzal Ali and Nurur Chowdhury have won the election and will now take up their positions on the Governing Body as parent representatives. We would like to congratulate them on their win and also thank Fatema Ahmed and Hanifa Said who have served on the Governing Body for the last four years. Thank you to both for their great contributions and support for the school.

Thank You

A huge thank you to the following three companies who supported our end of year leavers party last year by donating £200 each towards celebrating our students successes.

- M.D. Contracts London Ltd
- Teaching Recruitment Education Solutions Ltd
- Just Teachers Ltd

Goodbye & Good Luck

At this time of year, we say farewell to a small number of staff. We will be saying farewell to three members of staff at Christmas who are leaving for pastures new. These are Amy Higgins, Md Shabbir and Sarah Henry. We wish all of you the very best for the future and thank you for the magnificent contributions you have made to our school.



Calendar



January 2020

6th January - INSET Day
7th January - Academic Review Day and Year 11 Classes
8th January - First full day for all students
23rd January - Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day

February 2020

3rd February - Year 11 Sixth Form Admission Event
12th February - Year 9 Parents' Evening
17th-21st February - Spring Half Term

please view our website for more events and updates - www.sjcr.net