



PRIZEGIVING 2022

It was wonderful to come together as a school community for the final time in this academic year to celebrate the achievements of all our children in the Chapel at Mayfield. Music and song has been a consistently outstanding feature this year, so it was fitting that we began our celebrations with each class displaying their talents through song. I must pay tribute to Mrs Wibberley who leads our music with such passion and enthusiasm.

Musical programme: Whole School – ‘By our Love’ Reception/Y1 – ‘Father we Adore you’
Y2/Y3 – ‘Seek thee first’ Y4/Y5 – ‘King of Glory’
Year 6 and Choir - Scheherazade Medley
Whole School – ‘Sing it in the Valleys’

As I finish my first year as Headteacher of Sacred Heart School, I still feel honoured to be in this role. I feel privileged to work with such committed and talented teachers and staff. I feel lucky to have a dedicated Governing Body, parents who are supportive and invested in their child’s education and finally to spend every day with children who are happy, hardworking and who work hard to be the best they can be. With Gospel values at the core, Sacred Heart School is much more than a school; it is a family: a loving, caring and welcoming family where children thrive, are happy and leave adding value to the world around them.

This was confirmed in our recent ISI inspection, where we were awarded ‘Excellent’, the top rating in both the quality of pupils’ academic and other achievements and the quality of pupils’ personal development. Academically, we have continued to excel. We have placed again in the top 50 of The Sunday Times Top 100 Independent Prep Schools in the country, moving to number 45! Our SATS, as usual, are outstanding, more than 20% higher than the national expected standard in all areas and between 30-50% of pupils are working a greater depth in each area. Our Year 6s have gained places at a range of excellent schools: Tunbridge School, TOGs, TWGGS, Mayfield, Skinners, Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar School, Bennett Memorial School, Rose Hill, and Bethany.

The report noted that: ‘pupils demonstrate high levels of academic success in a wide variety of activities beyond the formal curriculum, they apply themselves exceptionally well in lessons and demonstrate an excellent attitude to learning and are well-prepared for the next stage of their education’. ‘Pupils have a clear sense of right and wrong and show a deep understanding of the values and virtues that help them to appreciate the non-material aspects of life’. One child commented to the inspectors: that ‘money and big houses’ were not the most important thing because everyone is equal in the eyes of God. Another commented that everyone is a gift from God, which means everyone is important and should be respected. When words like these come out of our pupils’ mouths, we know we are doing our job right. As much as academic success is important, and it is something we do well, being a good person- having the right morals, being the best versions of ourselves- is what we should strive to do and I think the children do this really well.

Despite still having some challenges from covid this year, we have managed to go ahead with everything we had hoped. A highlight was celebrating the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee with a whole school picnic and corgi hunt and we will be placing a time capsule with the current pupil’s diary entries in under a tree, which will be planted as part of the Queen’s canopy initiative. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the new kitchen and the delicious meals that have been provided and the MUGA has also been a much loved addition, allowing the children to take part in competitive matches at home and enabling us to have whole school playtimes all year round!

Music has continued to grow in the school. Year 3 and 4 performed ‘A Glint of Gold’ in the spring term and Year 5 and 6 performed Scheherazade at the end of the year. Both were outstanding, showcasing the talents of our children in singing, music and performance. The Summer Music Concert gave all of children learning individual instruments a chance to perform and again showed such talent.

We have had one of the most successful years ever in sport this year! The children have won a large number of matches and tournaments; highlights being our U11 7 aside football team ranking in the top 8 schools in the whole of Sussex and our 5 aside boys football team winning the ISA London South Football tournament meaning they were invited to play at St George’s Park in March where they went on to rank in the top 16 of schools in the country! As a small school of less than 150 students, it is an achievement we should feel very proud of.

This year we have raised £2,306 through fundraising with various charities benefitting including CAFOD, Red Cross to support Ukraine, Afghan Refugees and NSPCC. We have also sent food to the local food banks in Sea Haven and Tunbridge Wells and have sent items to support families arrived from Ukraine. A number of children have also individually challenged themselves, raising money for worthy causes. Well done to you all.

This year we have introduced a number of pupil voice groups: our Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) team, our CAFOD and Charities Club, Digital Leaders alongside our School Council. The children have made such an

impact in their roles, from promoting online safety, reading in our weekly liturgies, representing the school at the Good Shepherd mass, planning for a 'Laudato Si' outdoor learning area, creating a friendship bench to mark Children's Mental Health Week and creating memory boxes for residents at Wadhurst Care Home, supporting Dementia Action Week. Thank you to all our pupil voice groups for contributing positively to our school.

To our wonderful Governors, thank you so much for your time and interest in the school. You give up your own time, to help to develop the school and ensure it flourishes and your contributions are so appreciated. Thank you so much to all our parents who have continued to run PTA events this year; over £8,500 has been raised which will be spent on resources to further enhance the children's learning. Thank you to all our parent volunteers who come in to hear readers, help with sport fixtures and school outings. Your contribution really does make a difference; the children have appreciated your time and enthusiasm, as have the staff, and we hope that you have enjoyed the experience and will be encouraged to continue to offer your support next year.

To the wonderful staff: the senior leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, admin, finance and maintenance staff. Thank you for your professionalism, hard work, loyalty and passion. Your calm approach and unity as a team; the school wouldn't be what it is without you. Also to Mrs Donovan and Mrs Westwood for the time you spend running our school uniform shop; thank you so much for making it a success.

Finally to our pupils, we would like to acknowledge the achievements of all our pupils who we recognise throughout the year in a variety of ways, through Head teacher awards, sports colours and certificates. You are all wonderful and we are proud of each and every one of you. Just like our mission statement: Love, Learn, Grow, Worship- love unconditionally and show kindness in all that you do, learn to the best of your ability and be proud of what you achieve, grow to be the best version of yourself, and remember to follow in Jesus' footsteps, taking time to reflect when it is needed.

To all of you we say a sincere 'thank you' for your kind sentiments and gifts at the end of this academic year. Our success depends on the strong partnership we enjoy with all parents. Thank you once again for the loan of your lovely children and the trust you place in us. Wishing you the happiest of holidays and the precious gift of time to spend with your families. We look forward to welcoming you back at school on Monday 5th September!

BOOK PRIZES

	LOVE	LEARN	GROW	WORSHIP
Reception		Andrew	Meg	Lorenzo
Year 1	Juliette	Tabitha	Florence	Edie
Year 2	Annemieke Evan	Rowland	Barnaby	Joey
Year 3	Octavia	Iris	Elsie	Liam
Year 4	Pip	Susie	Mae	Eloise
Year 5	Thomas	Jenna	Rafferty	Harry
THE SPIRIT OF SACRED HEART AWARD <i>is for someone who the class teacher feels has particularly embodied the aims of our Mission Statement, living out the Gospel values in their everyday lives.</i>				Rose (Y2) Tabitha (Y2)
KINDNESS PLATE <i>In memory of Katharine Monk former head of Nursery, this plate is awarded at the end of Foundation Stage to a pupil who has been a member of the school since Nursery</i>				Lucia (Reception)



YEAR 6 AWARDS

GIRLS HOCKEY PLAQUE	Olivia	<i>The netball prize is given this year to Olivia who has shown a real determination to succeed. She has been a valuable member of the netball team.</i>
FOOTBALL PLAQUE	Rupert	<i>This is awarded for excellence this year. Rupert is an outstanding attacking player who is able to pass the ball quickly and shoot with precision. He gained a place in the PUMA squad that will be competing in Sweden next week.</i>
Most improved HOCKEY	Mariella	<i>This is awarded to Mariella who has mastered many new skills this year and has great positioning on the field. She has been a valuable member of the hockey team as a great defender.</i>
RUGBY	Oscar	<i>This prize is awarded to Oscar who has become a skilful player and who has led the rugby team. Now, others look to him for advice and support.</i>
Cricket (boy)	Michael	<i>This prize award is for Michael, who is a very talented cricketer, who has a strong bowl and who bats tactically with a maturity beyond his years.</i>
Cricket (girl)	Valentina	<i>This award is for Valentina who is a very talented cricketer, who has a strong bowl and who bats with power and direction.</i>
SPORTSMANSHIP	Charlie	<i>A definition of sportsmanship is an understanding of and commitment to fair play, ethical behaviour and integrity, and general goodwill toward an opponent. It is an affirmation that an athlete is disciplined enough to have perspective, maintain poise and do what is best for his teammates. Charlie embodies this definition.</i>
Most Improved Sportsman	Felix H	<i>This award is for Felix who has a real passion for sport and who always gives his very best in competitive situations.</i>
P.E. CUP	Baxter	<i>The Sports Player of the year is awarded to Baxter who shows excellence in football, rugby, hockey, pop lacrosse, cricket and fitness. He has been a most valuable member of all these sports teams and has also been a member of the West Kent Football Academy. He is an excellent role model and a fantastic team player.</i>
	Lorraine	<i>The Sports Player of the year is awarded to Lorraine who shows excellence in netball, hockey, swimming, cricket and fitness. She is a fantastic team player who always gives everything to every match she plays in and is a fantastic role model</i>
LOVE & GROW	Valentina	<i>Valentina can often be spotted around school showing loving kindness wherever she goes. This child has made fantastic progress this year and so she is awarded both the LOVE and GROW book prize.</i>
LEARN	Mariella	<i>Mariella works so hard in every subject to produce work of an excellent standard across the curriculum.</i>
WORSHIP	Beatriz	<i>Bea Bea makes thoughtful and valuable contributions to class discussions during RE in which she displays her knowledge and understanding of the subject and she is able to in accordance with her faith. She has served at the altar and she is a valued member of the CAFOD and Charities Club.</i>
ART PLATE	Lily	<i>The Art Plate is awarded to Lily who has demonstrated a clear talent and a passion for Art all the way through the school. Her pieces are always original and well-crafted.</i>





DRAMA CUP	Beatriz	<i>The cup is awarded this year to Beatriz whom the staff agree is fully deserving of the prize for her outstanding performance in the title role in this year's musical, Scheherazade.</i>
CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE PLACE	Aaron	<i>Since Nursery, Aaron has always shown commitment to all aspects of school life, whether it be in the classroom, on the sports field or performing on stage. He volunteers help in every situation and his enthusiasm is palpable. We are so proud of his progress and achievements over the years.</i>
PERSEVERANCE CUP	Michael	<i>The recipient of the cup this year goes to Mihael who the staff unanimously feel has consistently given his best particularly in the classroom but also in other aspects of school life, especially this year in the musical.</i>
MUSIC CUP	Lettie	<i>A committed member of the choir, Lettie is a very talented vocalist with a very mature range for her age. She has recently taken her Grade 4 examination in singing. She also plays the piano to a high standard which she started teach herself during lockdown. She has developed a very mature style of playing which involves rubato and legato pedalling. Most recently she was a soloist in Scheherazade where she captured the hearts of the audience. This pupil is able to play by ear and she has wonderful intonation.</i>
GK PLATE Awarded by the Griffiths Family	Lettie	<i>Lettie has a thirst for knowledge and an enquiring mind.</i>
HISTORY CUP Awarded by the Griffiths Family	Laila	<i>Laila has a passion of History and a thirst for knowledge and her work in History this year has been outstanding whether it be about democracy in Ancient Greece or the role of women in World War II.</i>
GEOGRAPHIC CUP	Oscar	<i>Oscar has been actively engaged in Geography topics this year and is a thoroughly enthusiastic geographer. His project on Argentina was excellent and he is very able to explain trade and industry in South America!</i>
MODERN LANGUAGES CUP Donated by Mrs Collins to most promising Linguist	Laila	<i>I did not hesitate for a moment when considering the recipient of this award. An enthusiastic linguist, she should go far in her language learning.</i>
CREATIVE WRITING PRIZE	Liberty	<i>The creative writing cup this year is awarded to Liberty who has wonderful imagination, a passion for storytelling and a talent for weaving words. She has written some fabulous stories this year and her talent for poetry has really developed too.</i>
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT	Anabel Felix MC	<i>Anabel and Felix are both extraordinarily able pupils who excel in all areas of the curriculum. They are both creative learners.</i>
SPIRIT OF SACRED HEART 	Charlie	<i>This Plate is awarded to someone that the whole staff feels has embodied the aims of our mission statement, consistently living out the Gospel values. Charlie has approached everything this year with a huge smile, he is gentle, kind and he is a friend to everyone. He always has sense of duty and puts the needs of others before himself. He brings joy to the school and to the younger children in particular. We are delighted to award the Spirit of Sacred Heart to Charlie.</i>