



Newsletter

September 2022

Principal's Welcome

Our Aquinas community has had a restorative summer, catching up with friends and family. We rounded off the academic year with a fantastic staff retreat to Minster Abbey and Ramsgate Sands, where we were able to pray and take stock of what 'brings us joy'.

We also had a fantastic results day celebrating with our Year 13's. We are so proud of all of the students who overcame the challenges of the pandemic to achieve brilliant grades. Our students who were holding offers at Oxford and Cambridge successfully met their offer and many others are going on to study prestigious degrees such as Medicine, Law and Accounting. You can read more of their stories [here](#) and on our social media pages:

Twitter: @ctksfc
IG: christthekingsfc
fb: @christthekingsfc

We are looking forward to welcoming our new students this week and starting their CTK journey. In faith, hope and love.

Ms Power
CTK Aquinas, Principal

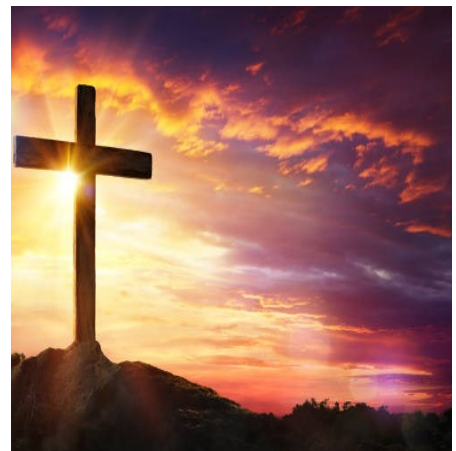


Chaplaincy Thought

We begin the new year with faith, hope and love as we seek to live out our mission to bring the life of Christ to all in our sixth form community. The Chaplaincy team consists of Deacon Elderfield at Emmanuel, Mrs O'Sullivan at Aquinas and Miss Katama at St Mary's. Together under the leadership of Mr Oladimeji, the Director of Catholic Education and Community, we work to build the Catholic ethos by providing opportunities for meeting, reflection and prayer.

Each site's Chaplaincy base consists of a Chaplaincy common room, a Chapel and multi-faith prayer room. A center for spiritual care, the team accompany students and staff by offering a listening ear, collaborating on charitable activities and organising the weekly mass and other services or celebrations throughout the year.

Last academic year included the successful Christmas toy appeals, and at Easter, the Easter egg appeal. All items donated were distributed through partners in the local communities for children and families in need. Celebrations to mark the patronal feast of Christ the King involved our students in the Gospel Choir. In support of our diverse community, we marked Eid with our Muslim community in the Chaplaincy.



Moments for special prayer included praying for the people of Ukraine, remembering the passing of students and staff and giving blessings during the exam period. Finally, opportunities for retreat included a staff away day to visit the Benedictine community of Sisters, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate.

We look forward to what the new academic year will bring us. We continue moving forward rooted in Christ the King of the Universe, trusting in His constant care and presence amongst us.

God bless you this coming academic year!

Results Day

Almost 1000 students at Christ the King Sixth Forms (CTK) are celebrating record successes in both A Level and BTEC qualifications with another great year of results and prestigious university destinations.

Despite the challenges created by the COVID pandemic, students have shown resilience and determination to land top grades and university places.

In the first set of exams taken in the UK since COVID, students at CTK Aquinas have achieved record results, with a 99.2% A Level pass rate and 20 A Level subjects achieving a 100% pass rate. Many of these students have achieved places at highly competitive universities.



Daniela | BTEC D*/D/D Health and Social Care
Criminology at the University of East London

Lisandro | BTEC D*/D/D
Aeronautical Engineering at the Engineering City
University London

Chief | B - Physics / B - Chemistry / B - Maths
(EPQ – C)
Foundation year Mechanical Engineering at
Queen Mary's University

Heritage | A - Maths / B - Physics / C - Graphics

Adeola | A - Sociology / A - Religious Studies / C
- Psychology

Lina | BTEC D / D / D Business

Precious A | BTEC D*/D*/D*
Health & Social Care

Tony | A* - Maths / A - Further Maths / A* - Physics / B - Art
Engineering at Oxford University

Bradley | A* - Chemistry / A* - Maths / A* - Physics
Physics at Nottingham University

Owen | A - Psychology / A - Maths / B - Biology
Psychology at Royal Holloway University

Emmanuella | A - Psychology / A - French / B - Maths
Accounting & Finance at Loughborough University

Lauren | A - Sociology / A - Business / B - Psychology
Accounting & Finance at Birmingham University

Roisin | A - Politics / A - Sociology / B - History
Law with a year in industry at Royal Holloway University

Amal | BTEC D*/D*/D* Applied Science
Biomedical Science at Queen Mary's University

Hasina | BTEC D*/D*/D*
Midwifery at the City University of London

Somkelechi | BTEC D* / D* / D
Business and Management at Birmingham University

Sheinz | BTEC D* / D / D Art
University Art Camberwell London



**Well done to all of our students on their
fantastic results!**



**HRH Queen
Elizabeth II
1926-2022**



Following the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II, our students have been paying tribute and signing a book of condolence.

We think of HRH Queen Elizabeth and her long period of selfless service, fulfilling her duty with excellence for 70 years. Similarly, we give thanks for King Charles III and his time to reign in these days.

Margaret Nunes Retirement

Margaret Nunes, a long-standing and much-loved member of our local Catholic community retired after 47 years of service at Christ the King Sixth Forms. As Senior Lead for ALS, Catering, Estates and Security, Margaret will be remembered by many staff, students and the wider community as a warm, happy and reassuring member of staff. Margaret worked at St Theresa's Convent School in, Lewisham for 17 years and remained on the staff when the school transformed into Christ the King Sixth Form College in 1992. Over 100 people including family, friends and staff (both present and past) attended her retirement celebrations, held at CTK Emmanuel.



In a service that was led by Father Doug Ball, Executive Principal Shireen Razey thanked Margaret for her long-standing commitment to the CTK Community, saying "Margaret has served CTK since its creation in 1992. Margaret's love for our community, our staff and our students shines brightly in all she does and is evident to everyone she meets. Margaret's legacy is woven deeply into the fabric of CTK."

Annual Staff Conference



CTK was delighted to welcome experts from the field of technology to lead and facilitate our annual staff conference which focussed on our digital strategy and how digital working has the potential to positively impact on the way we work at CTK.

Andrew Grill - Futurist Speaker, Technology Trends Expert, and Strategic Board Level Advisor, **Dr Martin Compton**, SFHEA - Associate Professor (Teaching UCL), **Dr Joanna Stroud** - Head of Online Learning UCL, and **Andrew McFadyen** - FE skills senior consultant, gave a broad view of the digital world, an outline of the impact of technology and how digital ways of working can improve teaching and learning.

Staff have developed creative and innovative approaches to using technology through the pandemic and the conference provided an opportunity for them to share and develop ideas on how to benefit all members of the CTK community moving forward. The conference provided a fantastic opportunity for our staff to work with experts and take part in a range of activities and breakout sessions. We are looking forward to putting our learning and ideas into practice in the coming year.

Simon Spearman Centre Principal, CTK Emmanuel said "It was wonderful to invite technology and pedagogy experts to speak at our staff digital conference this week. We are excited by the opportunities the digital world offers our students, and we want to build our expertise, so that CTK students' progress onto university and the job market with



Kenneth White Award



CTK Emmanuel successfully applied for a Kenneth White Award for a small project with a focus on bees. The College has already set up of two beehives on site with a view to establishing a colony of bees and enabling students to connect with the natural world and promoting sustainability and biodiversity.

The next step is to involve more students in this project, enabling them to discover the life cycle of the bees, and their role in the wider ecosystem. The funding received will enable us to purchase six bee suits for students to wear when they are taking part in the project. We hope to encompass many other areas of the curriculum with this project as it gets more established.

Open Days

Find out more about CTK at one of our upcoming Open Events [here](#)

9.30am – 1.00pm

CTK Aquinas -
5th November

CTK St. Marys -
12th November

CTK Emmanuel -
19th November

College Prayer



As members of the Christ the King Sixth Forms family we ask for your continued blessing upon our work and study.

You are the source of all truth and wisdom.

May we experience in full the Life that you offer us each day, to become the best that we can be.

Let no distractions or fears prevent us from trusting in your endless care for us.

Shine your Light into our lives that we may become brighter beacons of faith, hope and love in our community.

We make this prayer through Christ the Lord.

Amen.

Eco-Schools Green Flag Award

Christ the King has earned an international accreditation recognising their amazing work in making their college more environmentally friendly and raising eco-awareness. The work led by Alison Murphy, Assistant Principal with strategic responsibility for environment and sustainability, involved students in conducting an environmental review, assessing the college's recycling practices, energy usage, and how environmental themes are covered in classrooms. Building on their findings, the students planned a year of activities to improve the colleges green credentials focussing on clean water, bio-diversity and school grounds.



Eco-Schools is an international education programme that involves young people in taking action to improve sustainability and climate change. The Award was also supported by Thames Water who provided teacher training and funds towards the application process.

Students completed their planned activities including recording and publishing our carbon emissions data quarterly, boiler replacement, with educational talks for our learners and SMART water visits from Thames Water that enabled us to save 11,700 litres of water a day.



Students also continued with environmental initiatives to increase biodiversity, creating a wild meadow, planting to increase habitats for pollinators and foragers, maintaining our living roof system, and installation of bat boxes, nest boxes and insect houses. At the Emmanuel site students established a small apiary and next year we will run a project with the students called the 'Wonder of Bees'. Students also created a community garden and our Gardening Club run "sensory sessions" for our students and our local nursery school. The College works closely with the Lewisham Biodiversity Board who also supported us.

