



# Education in Focus at John's Michaelmas Term 19

## Key Michaelmas Term Events

- **Education Forum:** 'Admissions 2020 - Promoting Outreach and Access' 7 November, 12:30 – 14:00, Lightfoot Room.
- **Admission of Scholars Ceremony:** 16 November
- **Congregations:** 30 November (deadline to apply 4 November), 25 January (deadline to apply 30 December).

## Key deadlines coming up

- **Lady Margaret Beaufort Intellectual Connections Competition** Deadline is 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
Last year's winners noted how the competition had "*allowed us to think outside our disciplines and meet other students across the College.*" This year's event will take place on Friday 14 February 2020.  
<https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/lady-margaret-beaufort-intellectual-connections-competition>
- **Exchange Schemes** will be advertised in November (deadline for applications will be early December).  
*Students should look out for announcements made on the College website for these, and other opportunities.*  
<https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/exchange-programmes>
- **Douglas Adams Prize:** Entries will be invited from November (deadline to apply in January). Douglas Adams was a student of St John's and is best known for writing *The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*. Candidates are required to submit a piece of humorous writing on a subject of their own choosing, in prose or verse, published or unpublished. <https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/douglas-adams-prize>

## Update on recent events / initiatives

**Studienstiftung Summer Academy:** 30<sup>th</sup> August - 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019: This was the second year that the Studienstiftung Summer Academy took place at St John's College. The interdisciplinary summer academy, which is co-organised with the largest scholarship organisation in Germany, brought a group of 100 German students to St John's to explore the big issues facing the future of society, including climate change, health, migration and artificial intelligence. A number of students from St John's also participated in the academy and academics from universities across Europe were involved in the discussions. For more information please see <https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/climate-change-migration-and-ai-explored-international-summer-school>

**Maths Summer Camp for Girls:** 12<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019: The inaugural Maths Summer Camp for Girls took place at St John's College this summer. Twenty-four Year-12 girls, came from the UK and international regions including Malaysia, Africa and Japan, They spent 12 days at St John's attending lectures, solving problems and receiving guidance for the STEP exams. Dr Matthias Dörrzapf commented on how fantastic and inspirational the Summer Camp had been. It was fully funded by St John's College to encourage more girls to consider applying to study Maths at the University of Cambridge. For more information please see <https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/mathematics-summer-camp-girls-launches-st-johns>



## Summer Fieldwork Trips (Student Voices)

**Ignacio Mañá Mesas (Yr 3 Music):** *"Over the summer I participated in an exchange programme at Georgetown University (Washington, DC). It was a fascinating and highly rewarding experience that allowed me to interact with other fellow students from many different cultures and backgrounds, undertaking numerous collective projects where we mutually influenced each other and questioned some personal beliefs we had always taken for granted. The courses I took will be hugely beneficial for my academic commitments, upcoming postgraduate applications, and future job interviews. I will always remember this exchange programme, the people I met, and the numerous experiences we shared, as one of the most special and meaningful episodes of my education".*



**Aïda Lahlou (Yr 2 Music):** *"Thanks to a generous bursary from the Mozarteum Foundation, the Austrian government and St John's College's Parsons Fund, I was able to attend this year's Mozarteum Summerakademie in Salzburg, one of the world's leading classical music summer courses. The precious insights and revelatory moments that happened in the lessons were as unforgettable as the sights, views and sounds I experienced in the beautiful and very musical city of Salzburg"*

### Pre-Admissions Prizes

Fifteen new undergraduate students have been awarded a total of £81,000 in Pre-Admissions Prizes, designed to broaden access to St John's for students with excellent academic records and significant potential. On the first day they arrived at St John's Prize winners and their families attended a ceremony where they received their awards from the Director of Education & Senior Tutor.



### Undergraduate Matriculation Ceremony

Student Services did a wonderful job of welcoming all our new undergraduate Freshers during Orientation week. Here they are pictured with Dr Timpson following a very successful Matriculation Ceremony.

## Recent Prize Winners

### For Research

Many congratulations to Professor Usha Goswami for winning the 2019 Yidan Prize awarded to researchers who have made an outstanding contribution to Education and whose research will have a long-lasting global impact. Professor Goswami is the founding director of the world's first Centre for Neuroscience in Education here in Cambridge. Her research is designed to support children's early reading acquisition across languages as well as to ameliorate developmental dyslexia.



### For Teaching

We would like to congratulate Dr Ruth Abbott (Fellow in English) for winning the Pilkington Prize for Teaching Excellence. Students have attested to the life-changing experience of being taught by Dr Abbott. She is committed to diversity and equality in all she does and has been at the forefront of the University's campaign to make our teaching spaces safe and enabling.

<https://www.cctl.cam.ac.uk/pilkington-prize/2019>

### For Instrumental Performance

Five undergraduates at St John's have been admitted to the intercollegiate Instrumental Awards Scheme in 2019-20: Tristan Bromley on oboe, and Leo Appel, Yao-Chih Kuo, Alex Semple and Emily Trubshaw on violin. The College extends warm congratulations to the five recipients of these prestigious awards, which enable students to work in groups as chamber musicians with individual lessons and group coaching.








## Admissions Events

We are pleased to announce the following events in Michaelmas Term:

- Residential School Visit with Thomas Telford School took place on 16 and 17 October.
- Schools Visits from Ely College and St Martins in the Fields are taking place in November.
- Visits to schools in the North West will be held in December.

## New Colleagues

We welcome new colleagues to the College:

Dr Jack Smith – Fellow in Mathematics	
Dr Morag Morrison-Helme – Fellow in Education	
Dr Alex Wong – College Teaching Associate in English	
Mr Thomas Prayer - College Teaching Associate in Economics	
Mr Weilun Zhou - College Teaching Associate in Economics	
Ms Jenny Hopkins - Student Services Officer	
Ms Karen Morris – Academic Administrator (Maternity Cover)	
Ms Gaia Lambert - Schools Liaison Officer	