

450th Anniversary

ST. OLAVE'S
LONDON
FOUNDED 1571



On 13th April 1560, Henry Leeke, a Southwark brewer, left a will which gave £8 a year towards the founding and maintenance of a new free school. If the parish of St Olave's failed to create such a school within two years, St Saviour's parish was to have the money.

In November 1560, notice to quit was given to tenants of the rooms which were to be used for the school, and in July 1561 the church wardens of St Olave's were ordered to receive Leeke's legacy, and "prepare" a schoolmaster by Michaelmas Day. There is some confusion arising from the wording on the school crest 'Founded in 1571'. Although this was the date when the school was incorporated as a Grammar School by Charter of Queen Elizabeth, St Olave's as an elementary school began on Michaelmas Day 1561. **This means that St Olave's is 450 years old this academic year**

We shall be celebrating this extraordinary anniversary and are putting together a small Steering Group of individuals who would like to help put together a plan of events for the year. If you are interested to be involved, please contact my PA, Tereska Taylor, by email at ttaylor@saintolaves.net

For your information, a number of events, outlined below, are already taking shape, or are at the discussion stage. Links to further information regarding specific events will be added as this becomes available

- A special Commemoration Service at Southwark Cathedral on Thursday 26th April 2012 with a possibility of attendance by members of the Royal Family
- An Anniversary Concert, now to take place in the Great Hall on Wednesday 25th April at 7pm [<CLICK HERE>](#)
- A special Commemorative Foundation Dinner
- A special service/concert in the Queen's Chapel to celebrate the chorister tradition
- 450 Parent Choir [<CLICK HERE>](#)
- Sport
 - A special rugby 7s tournament
 - A 'Celebrity Cricket Match' with dinner and auction, linked to fund-raising for an All-Weather pitch
- Drama – a Shakespeare play (as his birthday was within 2 years of our anniversary)
- Art/Library – an exhibition of paintings and manuscripts belonging to the school 27th, 28th June [<CLICK HERE>](#)
- A 'Find the missing name plate' competition from the St Olave's Schools' Class steam engine
- Technology – A set of commemorative chess sets to be crafted with the new laser cutter and auctioned; some commemorative mugs to be produced
- Latin – to create words for a new school anthem
- English – a 450 character poem competition
- Art – design a poster/logo competition [<CLICK HERE>](#)
- Joint events with St Saviour's
- A series of Anniversary Lectures given by parents and Old Olavians
- Old Olavians
 - Music from each era/century/decade
 - Links with The Dulwich Estate and Edward Alleyn
 - The Harvard connection
- Student ideas, led by the School Captain and Vice Captains

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T. Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.