

St John Fisher Catholic High School



Newsletter 10 3 February 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

Revised GCSEs

We are in the middle of a great deal of change at GCSE. As you are aware, current Year 11 have a new system of grading on a 9 to 1 scale in English Language, English Literature and mathematics. Then for Year 10 the vast majority (but not all) of other subjects have the same system. No doubt this will cause a great deal of confusion for employers when students start to present them with numbers and not grades with the 'threshold' changing. At the moment a grade C is seen as a good grade at GCSE. This will be equivalent to a new grade 4. In the future a grade 5 will be seen as a new threshold which is currently equivalent to a top grade C and grade B. However, the threshold to resit English and mathematics in 6th Form is still a grade 4! Science will change from Core and Additional to a double award with 17 combinations of grades from a 1-1, 1-2 etc. to a 9-9.

I expect some people will be confused and concerned about this as this will have implications on access to post 16 courses both here and in other institutions. Over the coming months we will keep you in touch with these changes and their impact. I have attached a link below if you want to know more about the grades. Subjects will be in touch to give you more information about their area. Please be aware that these are changes by the Department for Education. I recently received an email from a parent asking me why I "was making such a radical change to GCSEs". I am not, the government and the examination boards are making the changes and we have to sit within this structure. Many private schools will keep the iGCSEs where they can choose to have the old grading system A* to G or the new 9 to 1 scale, so we will really have a mixed accountability system for some time to come.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/537147/Postcard_-_Grading_New_GCSEs.pdf

Extra-Curricular Events

The junior musicians are going to York this weekend, I wish them well. This week we have had a number of sporting events with 6 teams playing on Monday night. Thank you to all of the parents who collect their children at all times of the day to enable these events to take place.

All Weather Pitch

Everything is going well for the delivery of the pitch next term. It still looks like a building site at the moment, but I am assured everything is on track. The other news is that we are starting to refurbish the changing rooms on Monday 6 February. This will take 12 weeks and will cause a little disruption – but will be worth it in the end.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R Pritchard', written over a white background.

Mr R Pritchard
Headteacher



INFORMATION

Dates for Your Diary

Please see below for forthcoming events; all other events are detailed on the school website.

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/>

Personal Belongings

Just a reminder that It is the student's responsibility to look after all of their own personal belongings whilst at school. There are lockers available and a key can be purchased from the Premises Office for a deposit of £5.

Tuesday 7 February - Year 12 Parents' Evening Surnames L-Z, Main Hall, St Aidan's

Your son/daughter has been given an appointment sheet in order to make appointments with their subject teachers.

Mrs Joy
Head of Sixth Form, St John Fisher

Wednesday 8 February – PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting will be held in the Conference Room at 7pm. New members are welcome.

Wednesday 15 February – Wellbeing Information Session

As part of our continued drive to support and promote the mental wellbeing of our young people our next parent information session will take place on Wed 15/2/17 at 7.00pm focusing on 'Resilience and self-esteem'. We have had a superb response thus far, in terms of the evenings we ran last term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents that have attended. In an age of celebrity, instagram and selfies it is becoming increasingly difficult for young people to have the confidence to 'be themselves'. At the start of term our staff training day focused on aspects of resilience and how we as a school can help to create 'resilient youngsters.' If you are interested in attending, please email myself directly at elambden@sjfchs.org.uk

Emma Lambden – Pastoral Deputy

Thursday 16 February – Sixth Form Information Evening

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Information evening on the 16th February. The event commences at 6.15pm at St Aidan's School, where you can talk to the subject teachers and this is followed by a talk in Constance Green Hall at 7.30pm.

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/sixth-form-information-evening-for-sept-2017-entry/>

GCSE Summer Entries

This week Year 11 students have been given a list of entries for their GCSE exams. All details on this must be checked thoroughly and the second page signed by student and parent and **both pages** returned to Mrs Haley, Exams Officer by Friday 17 February. If we do not receive the signed confirmation, students will not be given their individual exam timetable.

Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Award

Congratulations to Robert White (Y11) who has been awarded the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh by John Ibison, Head of Physics and D of E Co-ordinator for the school. Hopefully this will encourage the other candidates to complete their award in the near future.



Library Update Scholastic Book Club

The latest Teen Book Club leaflet is available to your child from the Library or form tutor. This month's leaflet is just a taster of the wider range available in the online version Order your books here cheaply and help us earn free books for the School Library. Orders can be placed online or manually via the back page of the leaflet. **View the full selection and place your order online at <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-john-fisher-rc-hg2> by Friday 17 February** following these instructions:

1. Visit www.clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/st-john-fisher-rc-hg2 & register.
2. Select the books that you'd like to order and add them to your basket.
3. Checkout and choose the 'school delivery' option for FREE DELIVERY.

World Book Day

Literacy Week, 28th February to 3rd March, will incorporate World Book Day and the popular Scholastic Book Fair. Students in Years 7 and 8 should each receive a £1 World Book Day voucher with a limited number of spares being held in the Library for keen readers from Year 9 up. The Book Fair will be open at lunchtimes and during library lessons so please send some money in with your child that week. As with the Teen Book Club the Library earns free books on the number of books sold.

Easter Chicks for Charity

Once again the Library is raising money for charity by knitting Easter chicks to contain a crème egg. These will be sold to staff and students before the Easter break for £2 each, £2.50 for limited edition special colours! Could you help us with the knitting, donating yellow wool (any shade) or provide some crème eggs? Easy to follow patterns are available from the Library and each chick takes about half an hour to knit. This year we are supporting Marie Curie nurses. Thank you for your help!

Sports Results

Girls Football – U16



The U16 Girls Football team are through to the North Yorkshire Cup Final, after a fantastic 6-0 win against Scalby School.

St John Fisher dominated play in the first half but failed to convert the majority of their chances. Molly Bridson opened the scoring after an exquisite through ball from captain, Olivia Cook. This ensured that SJF went in to the half time break with a 1-0 lead.

The second half saw St John Fisher dominate possession and play some fluid football, creating several opportunities.

This kick started a truly brilliant second half performance full of passion, desire and team work. A composed Fisher's team played some great football and began to break down a very resilient Scalby side.

The Scalby defenders couldn't handle the creativity and ability in the final third, which saw Charlotte Rice, Molly Bridson and Olivia Cook all add to the scoresheet.

The robust trio of Anna Broadhurst, Hollie Higgins and Mary Windle nullified any Scalby threat and ensured goalkeeper Christy Davidson had a quiet afternoon.

The pace and work ethic of Jess Walker, Lydia Lawson and Teresa Pili, combined with the brilliance of Olivia Cook, Charlotte Rice and Molly Bridson saw St John Fisher cruise to victory after a clinical second half performance.

Overall, a fantastic, disciplined performance against a tough side resulted in a St John Fisher victory which puts them into the North Yorkshire Cup Final.

The Cup Final will take place on Friday 5th May at Bootham Crescent, York. Timings to be confirmed.



Girls Football – U13

The U13 Girls Football Team won 2-0 against Richmond

A fantastic team performance resulted in a St John Fisher victory, on a cold and windy evening in Richmond.

All 16 St John Fisher students gained some valuable minutes on the pitch. They all worked tremendously hard, displaying a great attitude to ensure they finished on the winning side. It was a great opportunity to play against a resilient and skilful Richmond team, with both sides competing in a positive environment which enabled them to develop further as a team.

Well done to everyone involved.

Players of the Match:

Superstar striker - Robyn McKendrick, (Year 7)

Midfield Maestro - Grace Della Rovere (Year 7)



Table Tennis

Harrogate and District Table Tennis Association - Charity Cup Competition

Both Fishers teams were successful in their quarter final matches, qualifying for the semi-finals to be played in early March.

The A Team of Dale Gibson, George Gibson and Sammy Kelly (Division 2) defeated Division 5 team Boston Spa in a really close match by 376-372. Dale winning the final game 21-13 to ensure the win.

Boston Spa had a 166 Handicap start, but excellent results in matches 2,3 and 4 and then in matches 6,7 and 8 allowed Fishers A to close the gap.

George ended with a +12 overall score, Dale -1 and Sammy -7. (Boston Spa No 1 ending on +20)

The B Team of Tom Hudson, George Asbury and Matthew Lynch had a more comfortable win.

They played at Burn Bridge C (Division 5). Fishers B in Division 4.

Burn Bridge had a 68 point start, and 2 good players.

Fishers took the lead in match 7 and pulled away to win by 29 points - 362-333.

George had an excellent evening, finishing with an overall score of +47, Tom on +4 and Matthew (who has a tough handicap) on -22.

Both teams await the draw for the semi-finals along with Sharow B (Div.5) or Wetherby A (Div 2) and Racquets A (Division 1) or Racquets E (Div 2).

The School Cadet Team of Sammy and Theo Kelly were joined by Aman Joshua replacing the injured Luke Furlong, in the 3rd of 4 League events. Played again at Wath-on-Deerne.

Aman found the standard high, but improved as the day progressed, taking games off good players.

Rotherham Scorpions were defeated 5-4 in the 1st match. Sammy winning all his 3 matches, and Theo 2.

Haworth Hawks were beaten by the same score, again Sammy winning all 3 and Theo 2.

In the final game—against Colin Deaton from Chesterfield, our closest rivals, Sammy again won all 3 to maintain his 100% record in the competition and Theo did brilliantly to win all his 3, to give the team a 6-3 win.

In a close competition, Fishers are a couple of points ahead of Colin Deaton and Haworth in 3rd place and Rotherham in 4th, but not far behind.

The final Sunday is on 24th March.



Sports Fixtures

Monday 6 February

Y7 A & B Netball v Harrogate Grammar School @ SJF, 15:30-17:30

Wednesday 8 February

Y7A Boys Football 9-a-side @ Rossett, 16:00-17:30

Y7-9 Girls Football Tournament @ York High School, 13:30-18:00

Thursday 9 February

U13 Girls Football v St Aidan's @ St Aidan's, 14:30-16:45

Y10 Boys Football v Harrogate Grammar School @ HGs, 14:00-17:00

Monday 13 February

Y9 Boys Football v King James @ King James, 14:00-16:30

Tuesday 14 February

Y7B Boys Football v Wright Robinson @ Wright Robinson, Manchester, 11:30-16:30

Wednesday 15 February

North Yorkshire Schools Table Tennis Competition @ Rossett, 09:00-12:30

Y9 Boys Football v Boroughbridge @ Boroughbridge, KO 15:45

Y7-9 Girls Football Tournament @ York High School, 13:30-18:00

PE Extra Curricular Timetable

Please see below for PE Extra Curricular Timetable.



Year 7

Science club is up and running again on Thursday lunchtimes, offering pupils in Year 7 further aspects of Science, and enjoyable and informative practicals. P. We will be introducing the new KS3 performance level terms over the course of the beginning of this year, to allow parents to see how pupils are performing through the key stage. Parents will now have met their Science teachers, please feel free to use the planner to communicate with them, or contact the school should you have any questions. A short reminder that the revision resources below are still available to Y7.

Year 8

A short reminder that the revision resources below are still open to Y7 and Y8. Y8 will find these increasingly useful as they experience the more complicated topics that they encounter. Both years will find these particularly useful when they come to prepare for end of unit and end of year tests.

Revision Material for Year 7 and 8

Collins KS3 Revision Science ISBN 978-0-00-756282-4

CGP Key Stage Three Science - The Workbook ISBN 978-1-84146-239-4

The two books above can be obtained for a combined price of £7.50 from the Science prep room, and will allow pupils to consolidate their understanding in addition to the support material and worksheets for the whole key stage in the KS3 area of the VLE. We have now put these on parent pay also, should you choose this option, please print out the relevant screen and send in with your son/daughter to collect the books.

The VLE does NOT require a log in, please follow the links that are open to all members of the public from the school website.

Year 9

Revision Guides and Workbook together for Combined Science (£10), and Revision Guide and Workbook for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (£4 each) are now available. If you are unsure as to which is the most suitable then the class teacher will be able to advise accordingly.

We will continue to assess Y9 over the year, but there will be no wholesale changes of set, until pupils sit an end of year test in the summer, which will give us an indication of those who should pursue separate science and those for whom combined science is more appropriate.

Year 10

We hope you had the opportunity of talking to your son/daughter's Science teacher at parents' evening. The next important date is the whole year mocks in April. In Science this will consist of 1hr examinations in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, testing pupils on both Y9 work and Y10 work. We will tier these to Separates/Higher Combines to allow movement between these sets and Foundation Combined. If in doubt pupils will sit the higher tier to allow us to assess their comprehension of the harder style questions.

We would like all pupils to reach their full potential and to achieve the highest grade of which they are capable, and thus make every attempt to ensure that pupils are on the most appropriate course for them. The new specification is of increased rigour, requires deeper levels of knowledge (including some A-level standard concepts), and requires the ability to remember and rearrange a number of equations.

We have identified suitable revision guides and work books for the new curriculum. We will carry a rolling stock of books that are suitable for Revision Guide and Workbook together for Combined Science (£10), and Revision Guide and Workbook for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (£4 each). If you are unsure as to which is the most suitable then the class teacher will be able to advise accordingly.



Pupils will continue to have access to Kerboodle which will provide on-line text books supporting the new specification together with a suite of further resources which are very useful if accessed.

Year 11

The next batch of ISAs are now being covered in class, with Separates undertaking their Biology ISA over before half term. Dual Science pupils should now have completed ISAs for their Core Science and Additional and will be given the opportunity of doing at least one more in each, the higher mark in each being the one put forward to the examination board.

Science revision sessions are now open to all interested pupils, and other pupils by 'invitation'. We hope that pupils will take advantage of the staff giving up their time at lunch (Monday, Thursday and Friday. Sessions are also taking place after school each day of the week (Monday –Thursday inclusive), and we will be run by some of our sixth form students to small groups, the pace and content will be dictated by the individual requirements of those attending.

The resources and support that we are able to offer provide pupils with an excellent opportunity to gain the grades that their own hard work and efforts warrant. Pupils will retain their access to Kerboodle, and can utilise the VLE to consolidate and stretch their learning, as well as access to past papers and mark schemes.

Students are able to purchase the appropriate revision guides from the Science prep room at £2.50 per book, and can ask their classroom teacher as to which would be the most appropriate to obtain.

Should pupils wish hard copies of the existing specification text books we have a limited supply of these that we can supply for £10 for all three books, on a first come first served basis.

rtanner-smith@sjfchs.org.uk

Mr Tanner-Smith
Head of Science

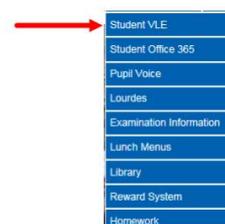
VLE

On the KS3 area of the VLE are support materials, the first of the support materials is an interactive booklet and requires students to log on using their school log on, and a password of 'password' until changed, the second of which provides summary/revision sheets for the appropriate topics.



1. Click on either of these two tabs on the school website.

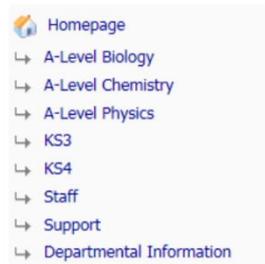
2. Scroll down and click on Student VLE:



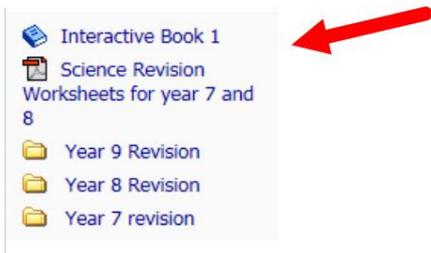
3.Scroll down to Science



4.Click on the subject area that you would like to explore.



5.The KS3 area has two large resources supporting the whole of Y7 and Y8.



The interactive book requires a log in which is the same as students' email address (Year of start at SJF, first 5 surname letters, initial – e.g. 09TanneR), with password set as password until changed. There have been some technical issues with some PC software issues for this resource, so if there are any problems do use the 2nd resource.

The Science revision sheets **do not** require a login, and can be printed out, with the answers at the end of the resource.

6.The GCSE area is now divided in to:

- Dual Science
- GCSE Physics
- GCSE Biology
- GCSE Chemistry
- GCSE Astronomy
- ISA



7.From here you can access the material relevant to the area of study, as well as the link to Kerboodle (for Y9, Y10 and Y11)

To log on:

Username: Initial followed by surname (e.g. rtannersmith)

Password: Initial followed by surname again (you will be prompted to change this once logged on).

Centre no: qjq1 (QJQ1 –in lower case)



Revision Apps

In this day of portable devices, you may like to explore the following revision applications:

Test and Learn Science GCSE AQA.

AQA Core Science GCSE textbook.

Getrevising.co.uk

Make an exam revision timetable

Install exam dates

Exam board, unit and topics

How many hours wanting to be dedicated

Links to exam board specific revision materials such as flash cards and mind maps.

We have had very positive responses from those pupils and parents who have utilised this resource thus far.



PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2016 -2017 (SEPT - EASTER)

Day	LUNCH TIME – 12:30 – 1.15PM		AFTER SCHOOL – 3.45- 5PM	
	SPORT	TEACHER	SPORT	TEACHER
MON	YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL GCSE PE PRACTICAL VOLLEYBALL YEAR 11 & 6 TH FORM BOYS RUGBY ALL YEARS GIRLS RUGBY	MR KNOWLES MR PASS MR FOX MISS HUEGETT	YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL YEAR 7 NETBALL YEAR 8 BOYS RUGBY YEAR 9 NETBALL	MR KNOWLES MISS THOMAS MR PRITCHARD MRS CRICHTON
TUES	YEAR 7 NETBALL	MRS PALMA & MISS THOMAS	YEAR 11 & 6 TH FORM NETBALL	EXTERNAL COACH
WEDS	6 TH FORM BOYS FOOTBALL	MR PASS	ALL YEARS GIRLS FOOTBALL YEAR 8 NETBALL YEAR 10 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS GIRLS & BOYS TABLE TENNIS	MISS HUEGETT MISS THOMAS MR OWEN MR MILLS
THURS	YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS GIRLS FOOTBALL	MR KNOWLES MISS HUEGETT	YEAR 10 NETBALL YEAR 9 BOYS FOOTBALL YEAR 7, 9 & 10 BOYS RUGBY	MRS NIGHTINGALE MR PASS MR FOX & MR CRAIG
FRI	ALL YEARS BOYS & GIRLS X COUNTRY YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL	MR KNOWLES & MISS THOMAS MR HUSSEY	BADMINTON CLUB	EXTERNAL COACH

PLEASE NOTE: THE FITNESS SUITE IS AVAILABLE FOR USE EVERY LUNCH TIME AND AFTER SCHOOL UNTIL 5PM

