

St John Fisher Catholic High School



Newsletter 2 23 September 2016

Presentation Evening

On Thursday evening of this week we welcomed students back into school to accept a number of prizes in the subject areas and in sport. Eddie Gray was the guest speaker and gave out the awards. He has been associated with the school for many years as a parent and still has grandchildren at the school. He spoke about his career and also about attributes such as resilience and responsibility. These are two of the themes we are focusing on this year, and want to develop in our community.

Well done to everyone who received a prize or was nominated for an award.

Open Evening and Open Day

It is that time of year when parents are looking at the destination of their Year 6 children. Next Thursday 29th September at 7pm we have an evening for parents to listen to a presentation about the school. Then on Saturday 1st October the school will be open from 11am to 2pm.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R A Pritchard
Headmaster



INFORMATION

Request for Leave of Absence During Term-Time

Requests for exceptional leave of absence during term-time must be approved by the Headteacher, such requests including medical appointments, funerals, out of school activities etc. should be made in writing to Mr Pritchard at office@sjfchs.org.uk or given by hand to Mrs Deacon (please do not give to Form Tutors).

Personal Changes

Any changes to addresses, telephone numbers, emails etc. please email changes to: office@sjfchs.org.uk

Dates for Your Diary

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

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

Coffee Morning and Bake Off Competition KS3 – 24 September

There is a Coffee Morning and Bake Off Competition in the Old School Hall at St Mary's Church, Knaresborough from 10:30am to 12noon.

Year 11 GCSE Information Evenings

Year 11 Parent Information Evenings will take place on Thursday 15 September from 6pm for parents of students in 11A, 11B, 11C and 11F and on Thursday 6 October from 6pm for parents of students in 11H, 11M, 11P and 11W. Students are not to attend as they will be receiving this information in school. If there are any queries please contact Mr Sharpe or Miss Lewis at school.

Open Evening and Open Day

There is an Open Evening on Thursday 29 September for prospective parents between 7pm and 9pm.

This year's Open Day is on Saturday 1 October between 10am and 2pm. All parents and children are welcome to visit the school to see what it can offer for their child's secondary education.

Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions to Nidderdale

24 to 25 September
15 to 16 October

There are only these two opportunities due to the requirements of assessment. Please sign up ASAP especially for the September weekend. Any queries, please contact Mr Ibison.

jibison@sjfchs.org.uk

Years 9 – 13 Dance Trip

On Wednesday 28th Sept, there is a trip to the Alvin Ailey Dance Co. at the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford, from 6pm to 11pm. The trip will return to St Aidan's at 11.00pm.



Year 7 Welcome Mass and Refreshments

The Year 7 Welcome Mass **will take place on Friday 7 October from 6pm.**

Following on from the great start our year 7 pupils have made to the year, we will be gathering in the School Chapel for Mass and celebration. The invitation is open to all Parents and Carers to attend the Welcome Mass where we will mark the beginning of our journey together as part of the School Community, building on some of the themes explored while on form retreats. Following the Mass there will also be refreshments and the opportunity to meet staff, parishioners and families from primary schools whom have been invited to join us and pray for the journey ahead. It is sure to be a great evening socialising and an opportunity for you to meet your child's new friends and their families!

MUSICAL THEATRE

Musical Theatre Workshop Tuesday 4th October (3:45-5:15pm)

This workshop is reserved for all pupils who attended the Dance/Drama trip to London last June. However, if there are places available they will be given on a first-come-first-served basis to students of GCSE Dance and Drama.

To express your interest, and sign up to attend the workshop please attend a short meeting Friday break in G18.

Thanks, Mrs Noonan and Miss Booth

Pastoral Parents Information Evening - 2 November

Dear Parents

As you know, at St John Fishers we are committed to academic achievements and educating students for their time after school. We have two main themes we are looking at this year, one of these is responsibility and the other is resilience.

We are also hoping to champion a very important charity, 'young minds', and focus on raising awareness of mental wellbeing as a whole. As parents and teachers, we are aware of how tricky it can be to support our young people as they navigate those challenging teenage years.

In my role as Pastoral Deputy in charge of welfare and wellbeing I have had conversations with parents of young people who are working with a variety of issues. A recurring comment that features in these discussions is *'I wish I had known more information'*. With that in mind, this year we would like to run some Pastoral Parent Information Evenings covering issues such as anxiety, eating disorders, low mood etc. These are open to all parents/carers whether you find yourselves currently dealing with some of the issues mentioned or merely want to feel better informed, and, although you will have the opportunity to ask questions, similarly please be reassured that these are information sessions, with no obligation to discuss any of the issues talked about should you not wish to. The first session will be regarding *'anxiety, low mood and obsessions'* on Wednesday the 2/11/16 at 7.00pm, *with future sessions regarding 'eating disorders' and 'self-harm' later in the year.*

Please email myself, elambden@sifchs.org.uk should you wish to attend.

We look forward to seeing you there.
Emma Lambden - Pastoral Deputy



Student Medical Information

A reminder to all parents to speak to a member of staff before arranging to pick up their children on the grounds of ill health. Pupils should be seeking support and advice from staff members before contacting parents to be collected. Staff will then contact parents.

Uniform

A reminder to all parents, please can you ensure that **ALL** items of uniform are clearly labelled to avoid the start of the lost property mountain.

New 2 You

We all understand the frustration of children losing uniform, so to assist with replacing these items, we are pleased to launch **New 2 You** which is a supply of second hand uniform, in good condition available for parents to purchase at a reasonable cost. Cash only to be brought on the day of purchase from the Goldfish Bowl.

Price List	
Socks - £2	Polo Shirt - £5
Skort - £10	PE Tops - £5
Shorts - £5	Kilts - £10
Hoodies - £15	Blazers - £10
Rugby Shirt - £5	Trousers - £5
Shirts – £2	Ties (new) - £4

If you have any old uniform in good condition that you would like to donate to the school, please bring this to the Goldfish Bowl.

Car Access on Site

This is a reminder that cars are **NOT** allowed onto site between the following times:

8.30am to 8.50am

3.15pm to 4.00pm

Borrowed Cottas from St Wilfred's Church

Plea for missing cottas – St Wilfrid's Church Ripon loaned some to a parent over the summer, if you have them please could you return to either church or school.

Examination Information

Please find below link for:

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/curriculum/examination-arrangements/>

Year 11 Mock GCSE Exam Timetable

GCSE Exam Timetable

GCSE Examinations Booklet 2017

St John Fisher PTA Vacancies

There are now vacancies on the PTA for a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. After many years involved in the PTA Josi Mackinnon, Julie Tunnicliffe and Ann Stephenson will be stepping down. If you are interested in any of these roles please come to the PTA AGM on Wednesday 12 October at 7pm in the Conference Room at St John Fisher. Josi, Julie and Ann will provide assistance with the handover of the roles. If you would like further information prior to the AGM please contact Josi Mackinnon at jmackinnon@sjfchs.org.uk



Ski Trips 2017

Sixth Form Trip - Feb Half Term 2017 (Cost £960)

Final payments are due by 11th November

There is a form to collect from Miss Burton next week (week beginning 26th September with regards to height, shoe size etc.) this needs completing and returning asap to Miss Burton.

Year 9/10 Trip - Easter 2017 (Cost £860)

Final payments are due by 14th December

There will be a form in register folders next week (week beginning 26th September with regards to height, shoe size etc.) this needs completing and returning asap to Miss Burton.

If anyone else is interested in going on either ski trip there are still a few places available.

Library News

We have booked the **Scholastic Book Fair** to be available for Open Day on Saturday 1st October and also for students during their library lessons from 28th September to 3rd October. The book fair will be in the Sixth Form dining area so do drop by if you are coming to Open Day. Every purchase supports School.

Our usual online **Scholastic Book Club is up and running now for this half term!** Go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-john-fisher-rc-hg2> to register then browse the latest books for all ages and order online. Benefit from free delivery as books are delivered to school and passed on to your child. For **every £1 you spend** on this term's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards which is then used to buy new books for the School Library. Please place your **order online by October 21st, 2016**.

Year 7 students have all been issued with a zip top A4 wallet containing their library card, Accelerated Reader reading record and a bookmark. Please ensure your child keeps their library book in the wallet so that it does not get damaged by leaky water bottles, etc! Your child is allowed two books at a time or one book and an age suitable DVD, books can be kept on loan for up to three weeks and a DVD for one week. The date for return will be stamped on any items. If you have any queries about the library service please contact us on extension 428.

The Craft Club has started on its latest charity project, miniature hats for the Innocent Smoothie's Big Knit campaign, which you can join in with from home. Patterns for all kinds of little hats for all standards of knitter can be downloaded from the website www.thebigknit.co.uk and the charity Age UK benefits from the purchase of the special bottles with their little hats on top. Paper copies of the patterns are also available from the Library, just phone the school with your details and the request will be passed on. Completed hats can be sent into school for the attention of the Library and we will add them to our stash. If your child would like to take part but doesn't know how to knit then we can teach them during Craft Club which runs on a Tuesday lunchtime.

ParentPay

A reminder to **ALL** parents to activate your ParentPay account.

In an attempt to remove all cash and cheques from school we are asking all parents to use our e-payment method to pay for school dinners, trips, music lessons etc. This can be done online using a very secure website called

ParentPay

If you have not yet activated your account and do not have a username and password please contact the finance office on: finance@sifchs.org.uk or 01423 818409



Maths Items on Parent Pay Explained

The following items are optional.

Items purchased should be collected from F3 on Monday lunchtime between 12.30 and 12.45. Proof of purchase, either by printed receipt or a photo on a mobile, is required.

It is your child's responsibility to collect these items.

Maths KS3 Revision All-in-one

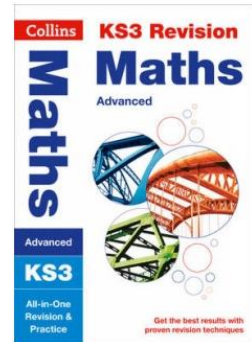
This revision guide and workbook is intended for students who will be in Year 7 or Year 8 in September 2016. Students currently in Year 8 will still be able to use this resource in Year 9 but it will not be specific to the scheme of work they are following.

There are 2 versions of this:

Advanced – intended for students in set 1

Standard – intended for all other students.

Your child's class teacher will be able to advise on which version will be most suitable.



Maths GCSE AQA Workbook and Revision Guide

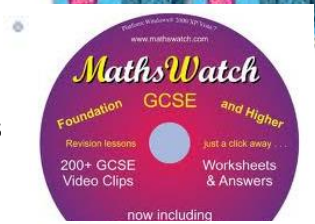
The workbook and revision guide are best used together, with the workbook providing exercise allowing students to practise sections from the revision guide. These both follow the GCSE scheme of work that your child will be following from Year 9 through to Year 11.

There are Higher and Foundation versions of each of these, and your child's teacher will be able to advise which will be most suitable.



MathsWatch Disc

This CD contains video examples of topics covered in the AQA GCSE and is therefore intended for Year 9 through to Year 11 students. The disc also contains additional worksheets that students can use for further practise. The disc contains both Higher and Foundation content.



Maths Scientific Calculator

This calculator is recommended and suitable for all students, and will be used in Year 7 through to Year 13.

Silver Dream Machine

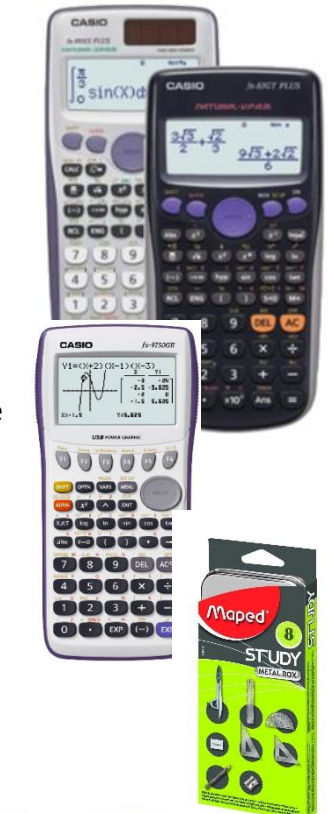
This calculator has additional features that will be useful for students studying A-Level Maths. If students are likely to study A-Level Maths then it may be a worthwhile investment in KS4.

Maths Graphical Calculator

This calculator will only be useful for those studying Maths or Further Maths at A-Level. It is not necessary that students have these, but they may be useful in some topics (more so in Further Maths A-Level).

8 Piece Maths Set

The 8 piece maths set contains a 15cm ruler, 180 degree protractor, 45 and 60 degree set squares, sharpener, eraser, pair of compasses and 3.5" pencil. It is expected that all students attend every lesson with correct maths equipment.



PE Extra Curricular Timetable

Please see below for PE Extra Curricular Timetable

News from the Science Desk – September 2016

Year 7

Welcome to your Science at St John Fisher, you will now have met your teacher(s) and have been introduced to safety and the early principles in your first topic. Topics that you will be encountering this year are: B7.1 Cells and Reproduction, C7.1 Safety and Particles, P7.1 Forces and Motion, B7.2 Classification and Variation, C7.2 Acids and Rocks, P7.2 Heating and Energy. You will find support material for each topic, revision material as well as worksheets and an interactive workbook (not supported by all PCs) for the whole key stage in the KS3 area of the VLE.

Year 8

Topics that you will encounter this year are: B8.1 Digestions and Respiration, C8.1 Elements, Compounds and Mixtures, P8.1 Light and Sound, B8.2 Causes of Disease, C8.2 Reactivity of Metals, P8.2 Magnetism and Electricity. You will find support material for each topic, revision material as well as worksheets and an interactive workbook (not supported by all PCs) for the whole key stage in the KS3 area of the VLE.

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.

Year 9

Your year group will be facing the new GCSE content from this September. Broadly this is very similar to the current specification, but we will seek to build a suite of new and adapted resources for you as you continue your studies. Current VLE content can be taken as a guide, but there are some differences. Once we have identified appropriate revision guides and work books for this new specification we will either source them/ guide towards these accordingly.

We will set up pupils with a Kerboodle account which will provide on-line text books supporting the new specification together with a suite of further resources which are very useful if accessed.

Students are streamed in Year 9 with the upper sets on each side of the year containing those students who may continue and pursue Separate Sciences, but pupils from other sets will also be considered where there is strong evidence to show that they will contend with the pace and content. Assessment will continue throughout Year 9, and we will continue to test and monitor students across the year, and make changes in setting where there is evidence to suggest that this is required, and in to the first term of Year 10, to ensure that students enter the most suitable pathway for these new, more challenging GCSEs.

This group will be the second cohort to go through the new GCSE in Science for examination in Year 11, 2018.

Summary of changes for all new GCSEs

- A new grading system will be introduced. Students will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest. Students will get a U where performance is below the minimum required to pass the GCSE.
- Tiering will only be used in subjects where un-tiered papers will not allow students at the lower end of the ability range to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, or will not stretch the most able. The tiered model used will be decided on a subject by subject basis. Science is expected to be tiered in to Higher and Foundation levels.
- All new GCSEs will be fully linear with assessment at the end of the course and content not divided into modules.
- Exams will be the default method of assessment, though there will be 16 required practicals to be undertaken.



- Combined Science is expected to consist of two, 1 hour and 15 min (70 marks), papers in each of: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Separate Sciences will consist of two, 1 hour 45min (100 marks) papers in each subject. There will be 8 required practicals per subject.

Year 10

There are 3 groups of separates, of around 25 students per class, which will allow additional setting after the first mock examinations in Science, at the end of this term, where there is evidence to suggest that this is advisable.

Alternatively students will pursue Combined Science as detailed above. There is no assessment through coursework, but pupils may be tested on their practical approach within the terminal examinations.

Once we have identified appropriate revision guides and work books for this new specification we will either source them/ guide towards these 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

Year 11 can be a tough year, as pupils come to the realisation of what the year culminates with. On their return pupils will receive some guidance around study skills, on their first day back, and I look forward to meeting parents at the next Y11 parents information evening on 6th October.

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.

Events and Clubs

KS3 Science Club (Y7)

Astronomy Club (Y10-11)

Microbiology Club (Y9)

Planetarium Visit (All years) 19th & 20th October

Stem Ambassadors (Y10-11)

Science Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park (Y7)

Space Centre Outreach

Bolton Lecture on Black Holes – University of Leeds 2nd November tickets available from Leeds University (we are hoping to take 30 pupils by minibus)

We will advise pupils and parents days, dates and signing up process as these approach.

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 '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.

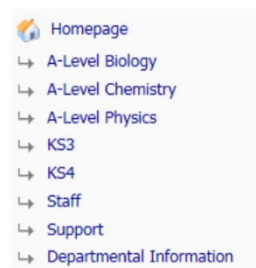
The image shows a screenshot of the school's website navigation bar. The header includes contact information: Main Office: 01423 887254, Sixth Form: 01423 818426, and a search bar. The navigation menu includes: INFORMATION, PARENTS, CURRICULUM, FAITH & STUDENT CARE, SIXTH FORM, and CONTACT. A dropdown menu is open under 'CURRICULUM', showing options: Student VLE, Student Office 365, Pupil Voice, Lourdes, and Examination Information. Red arrows highlight the 'CURRICULUM' tab and the 'Student VLE' option.

2.Scroll down and click on Student VLE:

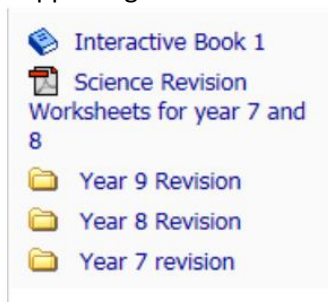
3.Scroll down to Science



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.

Staffing

We welcome three new members of staff from September in to the Science Department, Miss Hogg, Mr Palmer and Mr Robinson. Recruitment is increasingly an issue in some schools, and I am very pleased to welcome three teachers of such an excellent standard to join our team.

Finally

Thank you to all parents for your support over the year, and as ever should you have any questions or queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me, but please note the new email address of:

rtanner-smith@sjfchs.org.uk

Apologies if any emails have gone astray with our changes to Office 365

Mr Tanner-Smith

Head of Science



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

