

# St John Fisher Catholic High School



## Newsletter 3 7 October 2016

### Open Day

Thank you to all of you who came to the Open Day and to the students who helped and supported us. The students who came to help were a credit to the school and were the best advert for the school. A reminder to parents with children in Year 6, the deadline for the application is 31 October 2016. We need the preference form sent to the school and you need to fill in the form on the LA website.

### Year 7 Mass of Welcome

This is Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm. It would be great to see as many parents at the Mass to welcome you all into our community – and stay behind to have a chat and a drink.

### Buses

I thought I may get away with not mentioning buses for this week, however students on route 9 and route 10 are aware that Tower Travel have ceased trading. I received an email at 0443 on Monday 26 September from a parent who had forwarded it on from Tower Travel. It said that the school should be contacted to provide contingency arrangements. Thanks to the staff we were able to find transport from the following day. When I phoned the LA they were not willing to help, even though if students stopped coming to the schools they would have to transport them to other schools. I also phoned the Diocese who would not direct my enquiry to an appropriate person.

I attended a meeting at Barkston Ash on Monday of this week and the parents have arranged that from Monday, A&A Travel are running route 9. Details are on the web site. As for route 10, the current arrangements will continue and a meeting will be convened to discuss the arrangements. Details will follow next week. Be assured that we are determined to support all parents in this. I am a parent, and I am acutely aware of the impact changing schools would have and the detrimental effect on a young person. We always want to support and help parents.

There will be another meeting for parents of route 10 on 20 October 2016 at Arkendale. Further details to follow.

We have also had a kind offer of help from an insolvency practitioner. He is willing to act on your behalf to chase any remaining funds. Please forward your details to [pdeacon@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:pdeacon@sjfchs.org.uk) and he will pursue your interest.

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@sifchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sifchs.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@sifchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sifchs.org.uk)

### Dates for Your Diary

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

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

### Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to Nidderdale

15 to 16 October - This is the final opportunity to complete this assessment. Please sign up ASAP. Any queries, please contact Mr Ibison.

[jibison@sifchs.org.uk](mailto:jibison@sifchs.org.uk)

### 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!

### World Mental Health Day 10 October

Dear Parents

I am writing to you to ask for your support in helping to raise some money and awareness of young people's mental health issues, by allowing the students to add yellow to their uniform in return for a £1 donation to Young Minds.

#HelloYellow is being organised by Young Minds and will take place at St. John Fisher on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October, to coincide with World Mental Health Day.

With recent research suggesting that the numbers of young people, especially girls who have a common mental disorder is on the rise; there has never been a more important time to do what we can to address this growing need. The students will also be reminded in form time about the importance of looking after our mental health and given some tips to help do this.

In anticipation of your support on Monday 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks

Liz Wooldridge - PSHCE Co-ordinator



## Y13 Parents' Evening - Thursday 20 October from 5pm at St John Fisher

Y13 Parents Evening will take place on Thursday 20 October at St John Fisher from 5pm. Your son/daughter will be given an appointments schedule on Monday to make appointments for you to see their teachers.

## 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](mailto:elambden@sifchs.org.uk) should you wish to attend.

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

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the bakers who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning on 30 September. A total of £671 was raised on the day supplemented by Gift Aid and the school will be presenting a cheque to Michaela Ryder, Regional Macmillan Fund Raising Organiser next week.

## Harvest Tin Tower

This year's tin tower appeal will be launched on Monday 10 October and will close on Friday 21 October. No money is involved. Last year we collected approximately 1,000 cans of tinned food to distribute through the St Pio Priory in Bradford. Franciscan friars run a soup kitchen which is quite literally a Godsend for the homeless in the City. Our gifts also supported St Peter's Church in Harrogate which distributes food every day in the church at 5pm.

Tinned food is ideal and can supply these two centres for weeks to come. Beans, soup, preserves, pasta are all ideal. If every student in the school brings one tin of food we can smash last year's record.

"CAN we do it, yes we CAN"

## Student Medical Information

Please do not send your child to school if they are not well.

School is also only authorised to provide initial first aid treatment and cannot assess or treat existing injuries or medical conditions without the completion of the appropriate information and consent forms.



For Year 9 parents only. Consent forms will shortly be sent out for the Meningitis, Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus vaccinations which will take place on Jan 16th. Please return the forms as soon as possible.

## 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.

We have a new supplier of uniform:

Kool Kidz  
17 North Street  
Wetherby  
Tel: 01937 589422  
[www.koolkidzuniforms.com](http://www.koolkidzuniforms.com)

## 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

## 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@sifchs.org.uk](mailto:jmackinnon@sifchs.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 (from 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 is a form to collect from Miss Burton (from 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.



## Drama Department Update

We have a busy term with several theatre trips running, exams, and performances of two major productions. Please see below for details and if your child will be involved.

**Theatre Trip: Don't Wake the Damp, Harrogate Theatre** - Friday 7th October. Students to meet at the Theatre at 7.10pm. Please arrange suitable transport home from the theatre. This is for Year 11, 12 and 13 and places are now full.

**Theatre Trip: The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips, West Yorkshire Playhouse** - Wednesday 2nd November. Coach will depart SJF at 6.15pm and return approximately 10.30pm. This is for Year 11, 12 and 13 - some Y13 students still need to pay, please do so as soon as possible.

**Theatre Trip: Frankenstein, Harrogate Theatre** - Friday 3rd February. Students to meet at the Theatre at 7.10pm. Please arrange suitable transport home from the theatre. This is for Year 10, 12 and 13, please pay on Parent Pay by 16th December.

**Year 11 GCSE Drama Devised Performance Exam** - this is on 7th December at 7pm in G18. All Year 11 Drama students will be performing their final GCSE devised exam, which is worth 40% of their GCSE. Please come along and support your child.

**BILLY ELLIOT** - Rehearsals for our senior musical of Billy Elliot are well underway, and the cast are fantastic. Tickets will be available online, and the dates are 29th November - 2nd December. Please book early to avoid disappointment!

**MACBETH** - We are taking part again in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, and have a fantastic production of Macbeth directed by Miss Tinker which is currently in rehearsals. The performance is the 8th November at the Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds. The event is nearly sold out but last minute tickets are available via the Carriageworks website.

## Library News

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**.

**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](http://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](mailto:finance@sifchs.org.uk) or 01423 818409



## Sports Fixtures

### Monday 10 October

ESAA Cross Country - Ripon Grammar  
Y9A & B Boys Football v Rossett  
U14 Area Netball Tournament - Ashville

### Tuesday 11 October

Year 10 Netball v Boroughbridge - Away

### Wednesday 12 October

Senior Boys Tennis Fixture v Greenhead School, Huddersfield Tennis Club  
Y7B & Y8B Girls Netball Fixture vs. Ripon Outwood (Friendly),  
Y7 Girls Football 9-a-side v King James

### Thursday 13 October

U16 Girls Football English Schools National Cup Round 2 v Rossett  
U16 Area Netball Tournament - Ashville

### Saturday 15 October

U16 11-a-side Girls Football, English Schools National Cup

### Tuesday 18 October

U19 Area Netball Tournament – Ashville

### Wednesday 19 October

Year 9 Boys Football v Ripon Grammar - SJF

### Thursday 20 October

Year 9B Boys Football v Harrogate High - Away

## PE Extra Curricular Timetable

Please see below for PE Extra Curricular Timetable.

## News from the Science Desk – October 2016

### Year 7

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. Science club will be starting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, we will be looking for interested and motivated Scientists.

### 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.

## 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. The next big test for the Year elevens is their mock examinations. Mock exams in Science are 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November, pupils need to treat these as the real deal as they will give them an idea of what they do/don't know and how prepare and how to answer questions.

I have kindly been sent an interesting video, which I will be showing Y11, as to how to avoid 'the panic monster', which you may wish to watch.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/tim\\_urban\\_inside\\_the\\_mind\\_of\\_a\\_master\\_procrastinator?utm\\_source=tedcomshare&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=tedsread](https://www.ted.com/talks/tim_urban_inside_the_mind_of_a_master_procrastinator?utm_source=tedcomshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tedsread)

Intervention sessions have commenced Tues-Fri lunchtimes. As mentioned at the parents' information evenings, we have identified those that we feel would initially benefit from these sessions and have extended invitations accordingly. If these pupils fail to attend at least once session each week, we will seek to advise you in the first instance. Continued failure to attend will be passed to Ms Lewis and Mr Sharpe, and in ultimately a 'dis-invitation' due to the number of further pupils who wish to take us up on these sessions.

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) 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October

Stem Ambassadors (Y10-11)

Science Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park (Y7)

Space Centre Outreach



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

## 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@sifchs.org.uk](mailto:rtanner-smith@sifchs.org.uk)

**Mr Tanner-Smith**  
**Head of Science**

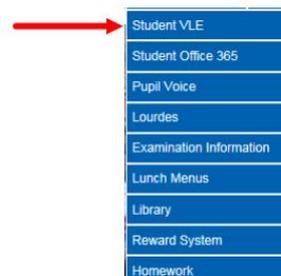
## VLE

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.



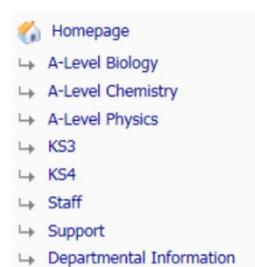
2. Scroll down and click on Student VLE:



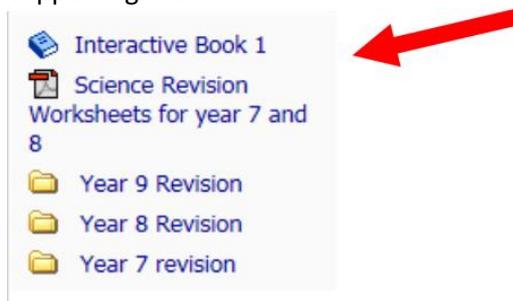
3. Scroll down to Science



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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)**

<b>Day</b>	<b>LUNCH TIME – 12:30 – 1.15PM</b>		<b>AFTER SCHOOL – 3.45- 5PM</b>	
	<b>SPORT</b>	<b>TEACHER</b>	<b>SPORT</b>	<b>TEACHER</b>
<b>MON</b>	YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL GCSE PE PRACTICAL VOLLEYBALL YEAR 11 & 6 <sup>TH</sup> 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
<b>TUES</b>	YEAR 7 NETBALL	MRS PALMA & MISS THOMAS	YEAR 11 & 6 <sup>TH</sup> FORM NETBALL	EXTERNAL COACH
<b>WEDS</b>	6 <sup>TH</sup> 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
<b>THURS</b>	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
<b>FRI</b>	ALL YEARS BOYS & GIRLS X COUNTRY YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL	MR KNOWLES & MISS THOMAS MR HUSSEY	BADMINTON CLUB	EXTERNAL COACH
<b>PLEASE NOTE: THE FITNESS SUITE IS AVAILABLE FOR USE EVERY LUNCH TIME AND AFTER SCHOOL UNTIL 5PM</b>				

