

St John Fisher Catholic High School



Newsletter 5 11 November 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome back to this half term. The last two weeks have flown by and the next five weeks are packed with activities that I hope you will be able to take part in.

As you are aware, we always talk about 'educating for life' and through the talks and visits we have on offer, we will give your child opportunities to explore in this changing world. Please make sure you keep up to date with the web site.

Year 11 Mocks

In the last newsletter I asked you to you 'encourage' your child to take the Year 11 mocks seriously and prepare for the exams so that they can have an authentic experience of real examinations. On the whole the Year 11 seem to have prepared themselves well. We will be using the information to focus our teaching and the results will be sent home with their target grade and forecast grade.

Research Project

No doubt parents in Y7 and Y8 will have received information from the University of Oxford. This project will explore resilience and well-being in adolescence and hopes to inform decisions on how to help prepare young people to manage their emotional health and improve resilience to the challenges of adolescence. This fits in with our aims this year to develop responsibility as well as resilience.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R A Pritchard
Headmaster



INFORMATION

Dates for Your Diary

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

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

Pastoral Parents' Information Evening - 2 November

A thank you to all parents who attended the mental wellbeing evening, it was a great success. There will be more to follow after Christmas.

Year 11 Careers

Careers interviews for year 11 begin next week. These are an opportunity for all pupils to discuss options with an independent careers advisor. Pupils can request an additional individual at any time and you are very welcome to attend these. To do so please contact Mrs Dukes- jdukes@sifchs.org.uk to arrange a convenient time.

Kind Regards

Mrs Dukes – Head of Careers

Children in Need Week - 14 to 18 November

We have a variety of fund raising activities throughout the week (see attached letter and summary of events below), please bring money to contribute to the activities.

<http://sifchs.org.uk/children-in-need-week/>

Monday 14 November - Bake Off - All students to take cakes to sixth form canteen in the morning. This will run during break and lunchtime.

Tuesday 15 November - Football - Weather permitting. Please buy a ticket for 50p
Staff v Students football. 12:40 - 1:20.

Wednesday 16 November - Auction

The Auction will take place during period 4. Items donated by local business and school staff.

Thursday 17 November - Lunchtime Quiz

Pointless - In Main Hall at lunchtime. Please put money in the bucket.

Friday 18 November - Panto and other form activities

Main Hall

Period 1 Panto - 9:30 to 10:30 (Approx) year 7 and 8

Period 3 Panto - year 9 and 10

Period 4 Pointless gameshow for sixth-form

Period 5 Pantomime for sixth-form

Form groups will also arrange fundraising within their own forms.

On the day, we will also run a tuck shop in the Collins entrance.

'State of Politics in 2016' Talk – 24 November

Hillary Benn MP, Member of Parliament for Leeds Central and Chair of the Brexit Select Committee, will visit St Aidan's School on Thursday 24 November.

He will be giving a talk, at 4.00pm in the Chapel, on the 'State of Politics in 2016' followed by a Q & A session. This will be of particular interest to Sixth Form students studying Government and Politics or History but all are welcome.



MYRIAD Project - My Resilience in Adolescence

As part of the Yorkshire Teaching School Alliance we are committed to using research and pedagogy to improve the student experience, and we are very fortunate to have been selected to take part in a large research project with the University of Oxford. This project will explore resilience and well-being in adolescence and hopes to inform decisions on how to help prepare young people to manage their emotional health and improve resilience to the challenges of adolescence.

This project is aimed at current Year 7 and 8 students, and will involve Oxford University coming into school to conduct surveys and questionnaires. Students will be given a pupil information sheet to tell them all about the project, and form tutors will be explaining this to them in form time. All students will need to sign a consent form if they are happy to take part. All data collected will be kept anonymous.

As a parent we want you to be fully informed about the project and the involvement of your child, and so please find attached a letter informing you of the project, a parent/carer information sheet, and an opt-out letter. You have the right to opt your child out of the research, and if you wish to do so please return this form back to school within seven days. Hard copies of these letters have been sent home to you via your child.

If you require any further information please contact Miss Booth, the school's Research Lead who is co-ordinating the project, or contact the MYRIAD team on the contact numbers found in the information sheets.

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/MYRIAD-3-RCT-Parent-Information-Sheet-V1-4-26-10-2016.pdf>

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/MYRIAD-RCT-Parent-Invite-Letter.pdf>

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/MYRIAD-RCT-Parent-Opt-Out.pdf>

Senior Citizen and Community Christmas Party – Friday 9 December

Year 8 pupils will be hosting the annual Senior Citizen and Community Christmas Party on Friday 9th December from 10am - Middy.

Hot drinks and mince pies, musical entertainment, carols and the warmest of welcomes will be provided by the young people. All are very welcome.

If you know of anyone who would welcome an invite, please contact Fran Taylor at the school on 01423 887254 or email ftaylor@sjfchs.org.uk

Donations of raffle prizes or gift and mince pies would be warmly appreciated and can be dropped into school w/c 5th December.

Year 8 Pupils – Ardèche Trip 2018

Letters have been given out to the students in year 8 for a PGL Watersports trip to the Ardeche and the French Mediterranean.

The trip takes place when the pupils are in year 9, the dates for the trip are 12th to 20th July 2018. Anyone interested please return the information form (attached to the letter) to Mrs Crichton and deposits to be paid on Parent pay.

Places are limited and will be confirmed by Monday 12th December 2016. Spare letters can be found in the Goldfish bowl office.

Any questions, please feel free to email me, ecrichton@sjfchs.org.uk



Ski Trips 2017

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 the Y9/10 ski trip there are still a few places available.

WheelPower's National Junior Games

In October 2016 we invited 10 St John Fishers students who have additional physical needs to the WheelPower's National Junior Games which is an annual event at Stoke Mandeville Stadium for children with disabilities aged between 11 and 18. The Games are open to young people with a physical or mild sensory disability and combine have-a-go sessions with coaching and competitions in a range of different age groups and over 120 participants each year benefit from the guidance of some of country's leading coaches in disability sport.

Paralympic stars Ade Adepitan, David Weir and Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson took part in the National Junior Games on their road to success and we know we had the privilege to meet some of the next generation of paralympians there.

We had a number of competition winners however, all the students were awarded a medal of participating because of the wonderful team spirit they brought to this extraordinary event.

The students took part in table tennis, snooker shooting, archery, badminton, Boccia and wheelchair basketball and all came back for from the games with increased confidence and improved fitness but they also they had great fun and made new friends.

The students have now set up their own Boccia club on a Tuesday lunch time, and with help from the PTA we have been able to purchase 2 Boccia sets. As sports leaders they intend to compete in various sports and are introducing Boccia to the whole school via a tournament to be held on Children in Need day.



Boccia (pronounced 'Bot-cha') is a sport designed for athletes with severe impairments and has no Olympic equivalent. It is a target ball sport similar in principle to bowels but is played indoors with soft leather balls. It is a sport of intriguing tactics, incredible skill and nail biting tension once you see it you will be hooked!

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: 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 are available online, and the dates are 29th Nov - 2nd Dec. Please book early to avoid disappointment! See below poster for more details and request for volunteers to help on the bar.

SJF Association is calling for volunteers - if anyone able to help serving refreshments, setting up or putting away on any of the days, could they please contact Ann at ann.stephenson1960@gmail.com

Urgent request for raffle prizes for Billy Elliot. We will be holding a raffle each night, so we need prizes to cover 4 raffles please, chocolates, smellies, wine, spirits, any unwanted gifts (new) would all be gratefully received. Please leave them at reception for the attention of Mr D Richardson.

LIBRARY NEWS

Christmas is approaching and the latest Teen Book Club leaflet is here! Order your books cheaply here and help us earn free books for the School Library. Orders can be placed online or manually via the order leaflets distributed in Year 7 and 8 class registers or from the library desk. Make it easier by **placing your order online at <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-john-fisher-rc-hg2>** (where you can browse books for all ages) **by Friday 2 December** and 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.

Manual orders: Please use the order form on the back of the leaflet. Orders & payment should be left at the Library desk by **Friday 2 December**, cash or cheque only please. Please make your cheque payable to St John Fisher Catholic High School. 20% of the value of your order turns into credit for the Library to purchase new books.

Thank you!
Library Staff

Sixth Form Guest Speaker

We were delighted to welcome Saleem Seedat to speak to Year 12 in one of their weekly EEP sessions. Saleem, a College Chaplain and a Lecturer in Islamic Studies in Blackburn, is a regular visitor to St John Fisher and brings with him a wealth of knowledge and wisdom about Islam. He is at pains to dispel common misunderstandings about the religion and, by drawing on the knowledge the students already possess, is able to gently add to or correct information represented by the group.

In a very interactive session, students came away much better informed about the core Muslim beliefs, attitudes to women, dress code, teachings regarding food along with how Islam regards war/terrorism.

It was a very informative session and we look forward to welcoming Saleem again next year.



The Attic Newsletter Issue 3

The latest termly edition is now available, click on the link below:

<http://sjfchs.org.uk/the-attic-news-issue-3/>



Our Lady of Kirkstall Parish Confirmation Preparation

As you maybe aware, the Bishop has announced that Confirmation preparation will eventually take place in primary schools. To accommodate this transition, this year any student in the Our Lady of Kirkstall Parish (Churches of Holy Name, Cookridge, St Mary's, Horsforth or The Assumption, Kirkstall) Year 8 or Year 9 (or over) is able and hereby invited to take part in this year's Programme. The course will begin on Sunday 4 December at 4pm in St Mary's Primary School hall with a meeting for candidates and parents. This will be followed by the first session on the same afternoon (for candidates only) from 4.30 to 5.30pm.

Subsequent sessions will be held in the New Year across all three Churches/Church Halls. If you wish to enrol for the Confirmation Programme, please complete an Application Form and hand it to the priest at the end of Mass or at one of the parish offices. The forms are available at the back of each church or can be downloaded from

<http://www.ourladyofkirkstall.org.uk/>

ParentPay

We have reduced the minimum payment for school meals to £5. Please activate your parentpay account to pay for your school meals - your username and password for parentpay are available from the finance department: finance@sifchs.org.uk 01423 818409

For information, the revaluation machine cannot accept the new polymer £5 and will not be upgraded until December.

Sports Results

Girls Football

The U16 Girls Football team are through to Round 2 of the North Yorkshire cup after beating Richmond 13-0. They had a fantastic experience playing at the newly refurbished CNG stadium, home of Harrogate Town AFC. The slick 3G surface suited their stylish football and from the first whistle they were ready for battle.

Sixteen outstanding performances resulted in a St John Fisher masterclass. The visitors were stunned with the high tempo, free-flowing football, with fantastic combination play all over the pitch that St John Fisher were displaying. The girls were well drilled and played with a real confidence and a big smile on their face.

St John Fisher rose to the occasion, putting on one of their best performances this year. They were dominant all over the pitch, united from one to eleven. A well deserved 13-0 victory and into Round 2 v King James on 22nd November.

Goalscorers: Molly Bridson (4), Olivia Cook (3), Katie Barlow (2), Charlotte Rice, Niamh Barker, Cassidy Lane, Hollie Higgins



In addition to this, the same football team are through to the last 32 schools in the Country in the English Schools National Cup after a 6-0 victory against Conyers School of Stockton.

Goalscorers: Molly Bridson (2), Charlotte Rice (2), Niamh Barker, Jess Walker
Players of the match: Anna Broadhurst (c) & Poppy Dunn



Boys Football

In the U12's Boys National Cup, 3rd round, Fishers defeated Rastrick Academy 5 - 0
Goals from Dom Jones 4, and Jude Sheriden Hawley

Sports Fixtures

Saturday 12 November

ESSA 2nd Round Cross Country, Stewart Park, Middleborough

Monday 14 November

Girls Badminton Competition @ SJF, 15:45-17:15

Y10A & B Boys Football v Rossett @ Rossett on 3G, 15:30-17:00

Tuesday 15 November

U14 Girls Football, North Yorkshire Cup v King James @ King James, KO 14:45-17:00

Wednesday 16 November

Area Cross Country Championships @ King James

U18 Boys Football v Bootham @ Bootham, 13:30-16:00

Thursday 17 November

Boys Badminton Competition @ SJF, 15:45-17:15

U13A & B Girls Football v St Aidan's @ St Aidan's, 14:35-17:00

U15 Girls Football v Rossett @ Harrogate Town, 12:00-14:00

Y9B Boys Football v Outwood Ripon @ Ripon, 14:00-16:30

Monday 21 November

Y7B Netball v Rossett @ Rossett, 15:30-17:30

Y7 Boys 5-a-side @ SJF/St Aidan's, 16:00-18:00

Y9 Netball v St Aidan's @ SJF, 16:00-17:30

Tuesday 22 November

U16 Girls Football North Yorkshire Cup v King James, KO 14:45-17:00

Wednesday 23 November

Y8B Netball v Rossett @ SJF, 16:00-18:00

U13 Girls Football North Yorkshire Cup v Richmond @ SJF, KO 14:45-16:40

Y7B Boys Football v Lightcliffe Academy @ Lightcliffe, KO 15:00-17:45

Thursday 24 November

Senior Boys Tennis v Canon Slade Bolton @ Bolton, 09:00-15:00

U13A & B v St Aidan's @ St Aidan's KO 15:00-17:00

PE Extra Curricular Timetable

Please see below for PE Extra Curricular Timetable.



DANCING INTO HARROGATE!

MUSIC BY
**ELTON
JOHN**

BOOK & LYRICS BY
**LEE
HALL**

ORIGINAL DIRECTOR BY
**STEPHEN
DALDRY**

BILLY ELLIOT

THE MUSICAL



The West End
Smash Hit

“Electrifying”

“Irresistable”

“Exhilarating”

St. John Fisher Catholic High School, Harrogate

29th November - 2nd December 2016

Tickets available from www.harrogateinternationalfestivals.com
or by calling the box office on (01423) 562303 Tickets £10-15



News from the Science Desk – November 2016

Year 7

I am pleased to announce that the Science club which started on the 3rd November, has been well attended, those that attend will experience a range of different fun Scientific activities and practicals, we are still looking for interested and motivated Scientists and I would encourage all those interested to sign up on the door of F18 as soon as possible.

Year 8

If we do not receive enough Y7 pupils to sign up for Science club then we will open up the opportunity to Y8, for those that attended last year and those who would like to explore Science further, please enquire at the Science prep room

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

I would encourage all Y9 pupils to activate their Kerboodle account over the half term. This will allow us to iron out any issues of usernames/passwords etc and track the content of the new, rigorous, 9-1 GCSE course.

I am pleased to announce that two of our year nines have been invited to the North East Challenge Final, having been part of the team that won the York Gifted and Talented Science and Technology Challenge Day. This event will take place in January 2017 at the University of Sheffield.

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, or the beginning of next 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.

We have had some requests to be considered for Separates and I would encourage those pupils to prepare and perform well to put themselves in the best position. Some other pupils are seeking to make the move in the opposite direction, due to the increased rigour of the new specification, the depth of knowledge required (including some A-level standard concepts), the need to remember and rearrange a number of equations and the breadth of the topics.

Once we have identified appropriate revision guides and work books for this new specification we will either source them/ guide towards these accordingly, our preferred provider OUP have sent us sample pages, and we look forward to hard copies in due course.

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 mocks are approaching their end. Each pupil will have sat 3 hours of examination in Science alone. We will mark these and in due course report a mock grade(s). Once we have done this we will help pupils analyse their areas of strength and weakness, which they will need to go over and work on.

A number of pupils have failed to attend the intervention sessions arranged for them, I have passed these details to Ms Lewis and Mr Sharpe, and will be emailing parents in the next week. Other pupils who are keen to attend these sessions, are now encouraged to do so. I hope to be able to offer after school sessions with motivated sixth formers from after Christmas.

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.

Black Holes and Spin offs lectures

Mr Ibison, Mr Rhodes and Mr Palmer took 30 pupils to a fascinating lecture at the University of Leeds on November 2nd. We will continue to look for other opportunities to offer pupils to nurture their interests in all aspects of Science.

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 email address of:

rtanner-smith@sjfchs.org.uk

Mr Tanner-Smith
Head of Science

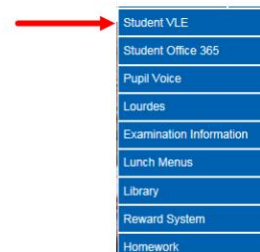
VLE

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.



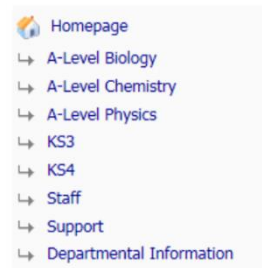
2. Scroll down and click on Student VLE:



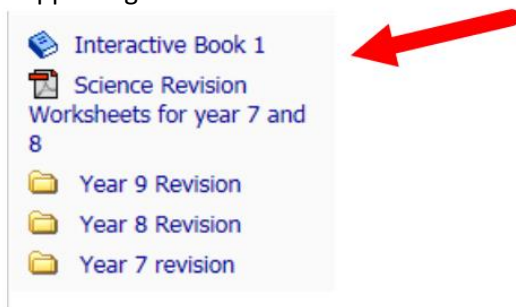
3.Scroll down to Science



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

