

# St John Fisher Catholic High School



## Newsletter 2 21 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been an exciting 19 days since my arrival at St John Fisher. I have been able to meet with many staff, students and parents and have been impressed by the dedication to the education of our students. We are a school that seeks to provide opportunities for all students to achieve their very best, both in the classroom and beyond.

Our Year 7 students have settled in well and many have spoken to me about their lessons and the feeling of belonging already to the whole school community. It has been lovely to see them settle in so well. My thanks go to the staff and older students for assisting them in this period of transition to secondary education.

We continue to challenge those basics of behaviour, effort in lessons and uniform. Most of students are wearing their uniform with pride and we thank them for demonstrating the best of St John Fisher. Some of our students continue however to struggle with these basic expectations and I have met with a number of parents who have been highly supportive of the standards that we are setting.

It was a real privilege this week to be involved in the Presentation Evening, both to recognise those students who excelled last year and to listen to our guest speaker Mr Stewart Regan. His comments on self-belief and challenging ourselves to do our very best were inspiring. My thanks again to him for the time he gave to us on Thursday evening.

We are currently in the process of applying for the Wellbeing Award. Thanks to all of you who have completed the survey upon which we will benchmark our current practice. The next steps are to establish a plan to improve our service to all our stakeholders in supporting their mental health and resilience.

Please keep an eye on the Facebook page/website for details of upcoming events, including the Open Day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 11am - 2pm and the production of Legally Blonde at the end of November.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Brockwell'.

**Mr P Brockwell**  
Headteacher



# INFORMATION

## School Communication

Please see below for forthcoming events; all other events and information are detailed on the school website or Facebook:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/SJFCHS/>

if you have any queries for teaching staff, please email:

[office@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sjfchs.org.uk)

## Appointments

All appointments must be put in writing and emailed to [office@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sjfchs.org.uk) and also written in your child's planner. If parents are not picking up their child from school for their appointment, this must also be put in writing and emailed to [office@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sjfchs.org.uk) or your child will not be allowed off site due to safeguarding issues.

## Year 13 Pastoral Parents' Evening - Monday 24 September, 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Parents of all Year 12 students are invited to a Year 12 Pastoral Parents' Evening on Monday 24 September from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in the Main Hall of St John Fisher School.

## Year 11 Parental Support Evenings – Wednesday 26 September and 3 October

Year 11 Parent Support Evenings will take place on Wednesday 26 September from 6.00pm for parents of students in 11A, 11B, 11C, 11F and EB and on Wednesday 3 October from 6.00pm for parents of students in 11H, 11M, 11P, 11W. Students are not to attend as they will be receiving this information in school. Please complete and return reply slips. If there are any queries, please contact Mr Sharpe or Mr Hussey at school.

## GCSE Review of Remark Requests and Access to Scripts Request

The deadline for access to scripts request is 9am Tuesday 25 September.

All requests should be completed and returned with the appropriate payment to Mrs Haley, Exams Officer. Any requests received after this deadline will not be actioned.

## Y11 Mock GCSE Exam Timetable

Please click on the link below for the exam timetable:

<https://sjfchs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Y11-Mock-GCSE-Exam-Timetable-2018.pdf>

## Year 7 Welcome Mass and Refreshments

The Year 7 Welcome Mass **will take place on Friday 28 September from 6pm** followed by refreshments.

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Saturday 29 September

We are pleased to announce that we will be taking a group of pupils to Walsingham later this month. This is a great opportunity for pupils to represent the school on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Walsingham is the National Shrine to Our Lady in Norfolk. This pilgrimage is open to students in Years 7 – 11. The group representing St John Fisher's will join other school and parish groups from across the Diocese of Leeds to celebrate our faith. There is a promise also of fish and chips by the sea on the journey home! The cost will be a voluntary donation of £20 made payable on Parentpay. See the trip letter for more information.



## Information Evenings for Parents of Boys

In October our Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator, Mrs O'Leary-Hall, is holding two information evenings for parents of boys as part of our initiative to raise boys' achievement. Both nationally and at St. John Fisher there is a significant gap between how well boys and girls achieve at GCSE. The evening will address some of the perceived problems which may cause the gap as well as information about how to help at home. We would like to encourage as many dads / male carers to attend the evening, either alone or with mums / female carers.

Thursday 11th October 2018 Parents of Boys in years 7 and 8  
Tuesday 16th October 2018 Parents of Boys in years 9, 10 and 11

## Drug Awareness Evening – Monday 15 October

This will take place in the Main Hall from 7.00pm to 8.45pm and will cover the following topics:

- Why young people use illegal drugs and take other risks
- The legal implications of the use of commonly used illegal drugs
- The health risks associated with the use of commonly used illegal drugs
- Other risks of illegal drug use including criminal exploitation
- The current legal situation regarding 'legal highs'
- Signs that may indicate a young person could be using illegal drugs
- How to reduce the risk of a young person using illegal drugs or being involved in other unsafe behaviour
- Where to go for support regarding a young person's drug use

## Sports Award Evening – Wednesday 17 October

Once again we are seeking help for our Sports Award Evening. If any parents/businesses would like to provide sponsorship or place an advert in the programme to support this evening which celebrates all of our students who have contributed to sport and extra-curricular PE at SJF. Please email [office@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:office@sjfchs.org.uk).

### A5 Programme

- Half page - £75
- Full Page - £100
- Two Pages - £175

## Wellbeing Award at School (WAS)

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the WAS evaluation survey which was emailed earlier this week. If you have not done so then there is still time and we urge you to do this as it is very important that we get as many views as possible. All of the responses from pupils, staff and parents are collated and digitally summarised for us. They will then be used to help us formulate a meaningful Action Plan to improve the way that we promote and protect the emotional well being and mental health of everyone in our school community.

The Award which is being jointly funded by the School and the PTA give us a framework for reviewing our current provision. We will be expected to demonstrate our commitment to the following:

- promoting mental health as a part of every day life
- improving the emotional well being of our pupils and staff
- ensuring mental health problems are identified early and appropriate support is provided
- offering provision and interventions that match the needs of pupils and staff
- raising awareness of the importance of mental health awareness

There will be a lot to do and it is estimated that securing the Award can take up to fifteen months. We aim to keep everyone informed of our progress via regular inserts in the school Newsletter, on the website and on Facebook. Students will be kept informed through assemblies, form noticeboards and special mental health awareness events.



## Y7 Lockers

Lockers are currently being allocated and will be issued to Y7 students who have paid a £5 deposit through ParentPay in the next couple of weeks.

## Drama Department Reminders

A reminder to parents that Y9, Y10, Y12 and Y13 Drama students have a trip to see **Othello** at the Harrogate Theatre on Wednesday 26th September. We will meet at the theatre at 7pm. This needs to be paid on Parent Pay.

Year 9 students are taking part in the **Shakespeare Schools Festival** this year - with Miss Booth's class performing Julius Caesar and Mrs Staunton's class performing The Tempest. A reminder to parents that tickets need to be booked directly via The Carriageworks Theatre on 0113 376 0318.

The students will go on a Cast Workshop on Friday 28th September, leaving school at 12.30pm and returning at 5pm. Just a reminder to pay for the coach on Parent Pay, and purchase your child's Drama Kit.

The performance is on 19th October and students need to be at the Carriageworks for 8.45am for a rehearsal. This will finish at 12.30pm and they will then have free time, before they need to be back at the theatre for 5pm. The performance will finish at 10pm (please see the letter sent home for more details).

## School Residential Trips 2018/19 Years 7-11

We want to give an overview of school residential trips in Years 7-11 to help decision making for parents as to whether their son/daughter goes on a trip.

Year Group	Location and Subject	Approximate Number of Students	Dates (Provisional)
7 and 8	York Music	50	Feb 2019
8	Sports Tour PE	72 Already full	13 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2019
8	Ford Castle Non Academic	120	28 <sup>th</sup> June - 1 <sup>st</sup> July
8	Normandy History	Hopefully 40/44 but may run with as few as 25	6 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
9	London Geography	40 Already full	26 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
9	Rome RE	Already full 28	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb (mostly H-T) 2019
9	Paris French	TBC	TBC July
9-13	Toronto Music	32 Already full	8 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
10	Germany History	25 (places still available)	22 <sup>nd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
10	Sorrento Geography	40	14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
10	Salamanca Spanish	20	6 or 7 - 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
10 and 12	Lourdes RE	40 maximum	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2019



# SJF Library News

## September 2018



### WELCOME BACK TO THE LIBRARY!

Good to see you all back after the summer break. If you have borrowed a book before the summer break please make sure you return it a.s.a.p. If you have lost or damaged your book, we still need to know!



This is a brand new festival at Broughton Hall just outside Skipton and will be running over the weekend of Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 Sept. **Discounted tickets** for author sessions are available at [www.childrensliteraturefestival.org](http://www.childrensliteraturefestival.org) Quote 'bananas' when prompted and get 20% off. Loads of great authors will be appearing including Chris Bradford, Robin Stevens and Clare Balding. **The Library has some free tickets going begging!** Call upstairs, first come first served! 2 tickets each for Marcus Alexander and Kathryn Evans, 1 ticket for manga artist Sonia Leong.

### COMING SOON....

World Slam Poetry Champion Harry Baker will be in school on Friday 28 Sept to give a performance for all of Year 8 in period 5. Selected Year 9 students will take part in a Workshop during period 4. Harry's book *The Sunshine Kid* is available to purchase at the special price of £7, let Library staff know if you would like to buy a copy. Harry is also appearing at the Children's Literature Festival detailed above.



### LUNCHTIME BLUES?

Join us for Connect 4, puzzles, Top Trumps, creative colouring, chess, and a spot of reading too!



## Diving Success

Well done to Year 8 student, Evie Jalland who came first place taking Gold in the girls Group C at the Hydro Novice Competition. She also won the City of Leeds Diving Club 2018 Skills Top Sportswoman at the awards night last weekend.

## Table Tennis New Season Update

The season has just begun with the Fishers Teams showing many changes after last season's excellent results. The A Team has seen Sammy Kelly move on to a higher level than we could offer him, and Ben Bown has given up for studies. So Andy Cousins and Dale Gibson have remained and have been joined by Theo Kelly, George Asbury and Luke Furlong and will play in Division 2 with Sammy playing in Division 1.

The B Team are now in Division 3, and have all moved up from Division 5, so a tough season ahead. Tom Hudson and Matthew Lynch have decided to not play this season, so Ben Collins, Aman Joshua, Tom Barlow and Gabriel Mead (Max Mills to help if needed) are the team.

The C Team in Division 4 (was the D Team last season) comprises of Jonathan Asbury, Andy Hull, Nick Kelly and Elliot Marks.

The D Team also in Division 4 is Vicky Hudson (last year D team) and Brook Sutton (C team)  
The new players are Maciej Cwiklinski, Charlie Lockett, Harry Hudson, Holly Shepherd and Michael Walker.

## Opening Results

A Team won 23-15 at North Stainley A. Andy Cousins and Theo Kelly getting 8 points each and George Asbury 4 points. Theo and George won the Doubles 3-0 against a strong pair.

B Team went down 8-26 to a strong Wetherby Methodists B Team in Wetherby.  
Ben Collins and Tom Barlow winning 3 points each and Gabriel Mead 2 points. Ben and Tom played really well in the doubles, but could not win a game off a strong pair.

Division 4 match between Fishers C and Fishers D.

The C Team were too strong, winning 30 points to 5. Jonathan Asbury, Andy Hull and Elliot Marks all gaining the maximum 9 points each. Andy and Elliot winning the doubles 3 games to 1. Maciej took Elliot to 5 games, going down 3-2, and took a game off Andy. Brook took a game off Andy to add to the point they won in the doubles. Charlie was the other player.

Max Mills

## Sports Fixtures

### Monday 24 September

PE Dept. - Y9 House Cross Country, P3

### Tuesday 25 September

Mr Nightingale – Y9 Rugby Festival, Rodillian, Leeds, 16:00-18:00

### Wednesday 26 September

Mr Pass – Y7 Boys 7-a-side Football Tournament v St Aidan's @ St Aidan's, 16:00-17:30

Mr Pass/Miss Huegett - All Years Cross Country v St Aidan's, Rossett, King James on The Stray, 13:30-15:30

Mr Nightingale - 6th Form Rugby v Ripon GS @ RGS, 13:00-16:00

### Thursday 27 September

Mr Howgate – Y8 Rugby Festival @ Horsforth School, 16:00-17:30

Miss Telfer – Y8/9A Netball v Ripon Outwood @ SJF, 15:00-17:00

Miss Telfer - Y10 Netball v St Aidan's @ SJF, 16:00



**Tuesday 2 October**

Mr Nightingale – Y9 Boys Football v Thirsk @ Thirsk, 15:00-18:00

**Wednesday 3 October**

Mr Nightingale – Y9 Boys Rugby v Bradford Grammar School, 15:00-17:00

**PE Extra Curricular Timetable**

Please see below the new PE Extra Curricular Timetable from September 2018 to April 2019.



## News from the Science Desk – September/October 2018

**‘The art and science of asking questions is the source of all knowledge.’**

**Thomas Berger - American Novelist (Little Big Man) 1924 – 2014**

### Year 7

We hope you are settling in to your new routines at school and in Science. You will now 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.

### Year 8

We hope that you have settled in to your new Science sets. The 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.

### 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 previous specification.

Pupils have now had their Kerboodle account activated, which provides on-line text books supporting the new specification together with a suite of further resources which are very useful when accessed.

Students are streamed in Year 9 (Sets 1 and 2 are parallel to one another, as 3 and 4) with the upper sets on each side of the year containing those students who may continue 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 into 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 cohort to go through the new GCSE in Science for examination in Year 11, 2021.

### 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.

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 Year 11 information evenings.

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.

We will commence Friday lunchtime intervention sessions from 12<sup>th</sup> October, there is a large number of staff who are willing to give up their time to support pupils. Each subject Biology, Chemistry and Physics is available at the appropriate level. All pupils are welcome, and we will prioritise those who have most need, which will be further identified from the results of the mock examinations.

I look forward to seeing parents of Y11 over the next few weeks at the presentation evenings on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September and 3<sup>rd</sup> of October.

**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.**

## Also try mygcse.co.uk and getrevising.co.uk

### Events and Clubs

KS3 Science Club (Y7)

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

### 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:** vsg7 (VSG7) –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.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me.

Yours with warm regards from the Science team

[rtanner-smith@sjfchs.org.uk](mailto:rtanner-smith@sjfchs.org.uk)

**Mr Tanner-Smith**

**Head of Science**

**Specialist Leader of Education**





DAY	LUNCHTIME: 12:35 -1.15PM			AFTER SCHOOL: 3:45 - 5PM		
	SPORT	WHERE	TEACHER	SPORT	WHERE	TEACHER
MON	YEAR 11 BOYS FOOTBALL 6 <sup>TH</sup> FORM BOYS FOOTBALL SPORTS LEADERS QUALIFICATION ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	ASTROTURF ASTROTURF SPORTS HALL FITNESS SUITE	MR HUSSEY MR HEATON MISS HUEGETT	YEAR 8 GIRLS NETBALL YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	SPORTS HALL ASTROTURF FITNESS SUITE	MRS CRICHTON MR PASS MR OWEN
TUES	YEAR 10 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS GIRLS RUGBY ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE YEAR 7 & 8 BADMINTON CLUB	ASTROTURF FIELD FITNESS SUITE SPORTS HALL	MR STANSFIELD MISS HUEGETT  MR NIGHTINGALE	YEAR 7 GIRLS NETBALL YEAR 10 GIRLS' NETBALL ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	SPORTS HALL SPORTS HALL FITNESS SUITE	MISS TELFER MRS NIGHTINGALE MR SCOTT
WEDS	ALL YEARS BOYS AND GIRLS RUNNING CLUB ALL YEARS TABLE TENNIS ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	OFF SITE  GYM FITNESS SUITE	MR PASS & MISS HUEGETT MR MILLS	YEAR 9 & 10 GIRLS NETBALL ALL YEARS GIRLS FOOTBALL YEAR 7 & 8 BOYS RUGBY YEAR 9 & 10 BOYS RUGBY YEAR 11 & 6 <sup>TH</sup> BOYS RUGBY ALL YEARS TABLE TENNIS ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	SPORTS HALL ASTROTURF FIELD FIELD FIELD GYM FITNESS SUITE	MISS TELFER MISS HUEGETT MR HOWGATE MR PASS MR NIGHTINGALE MR MILLS MR TANNER-SMITH
THU	ALL YEARS GIRLS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE YEAR 7 & 8 BOYS RUGBY	ASTROTURF FITNESS SUITE FIELD	MISS HUEGETT  MR NIGHTINGALE	Y11 & 6 <sup>TH</sup> FORM NETBALL YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL YEAR 9 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	SPORTS HALL ASTROTURF ASTROTURF FITNESS SUITE	MRS NIGHTINGALE MR OWEN / MR BLACK MR NIGHTINGALE
FRI	YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	ASTROTURF FITNESS SUITE	MR PASS	ALL YEARS BADMINTON ALL YEARS FITNESS SUITE	SPORTS HALL FITNESS SUITE	EXTERNAL COACH

