

St John Fisher Catholic High School



Newsletter 8 21 December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

This last couple of weeks at St John Fisher Catholic High School has been incredible. The school has come alive with the true spirit of Christmas. A group of our younger students recently visited St Vincent de Paul in Leeds to deliver donations given by our staff and students. St Vincent de Paul Society, with over 10,000 volunteers, supports communities in real hardship through practical faith in action, visiting them in their homes, in hospital and in care homes on a regular basis. They also offer additional practical support such as food, furniture or financial help where needed. In addition, they organise trips and events for older and isolated people. Our students were able to see how their faith support those less fortunate than themselves.

Our candlelit carol service was an outstanding success as always. We have incredibly talented students who have worked alongside our superb staff to provide a wonderful backdrop to this Christmas season where we remember the birth of the Saviour. My thanks go to all who made this event so special, including our PTA who work so hard to support each of our events at school. Most importantly, thank you to all parents and families who joined together with us to make it such a lovely evening.

The Associated 6th Form came together this week to give thanks and remember the true meaning of Christmas at a shared liturgy at St Aidan's. The band and choir gave us a fantastic performance while the readings and up to date messages helped us all to understand the message of Christmas and how it is still relevant. We have again been highly successful in sport this term with many of our teams progressing into the advanced stages of national competitions.

This is an incredible school and I have thoroughly enjoyed this first term working with such talented students and dedicated staff. I am truly looking forward to 2019 with excitement, enthused by the passion that we as a school hold for ensuring that your children achieve their full potential and become the rounded young adults we all wish them to be.

It only remains for me to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Kind regards

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

Please see the link below for the GCSE summer 2019 exam timetable. Personalised timetables will be issued to students after the February half-term. Any queries, please contact Mrs Haley, Exams Officer.

<https://sjfchs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GCSE-Exam-Timetable-Summer-2019.pdf>

Wellbeing Award at School (WAS)

We have a great term with lots of positive preparations and developments and we are really pleased with the response from the whole school community on the wellbeing work to date. We have lots more initiatives planned for 2019 which we will be launching in January.

Logo Competition

We had a fantastic response for this competition especially from 8B, we have chosen the winning logo and we will announce this next term.

The Wellbeing Change Team

Christmas Holidays – Monday 24 December 2018 to Tuesday 8 January 2019

School will finish at 14:30 on Friday 21 December and re-open Tuesday 8 January at 08:50.

Safeguarding - PE Fixtures at St John Fisher

Please be aware that no parents/ carers are allowed on site to watch sporting fixtures during school hours (up to 3.35pm).

If you have any further questions about the above, then please contact pstansfield@sjfchs.org.uk

Autumn Reports

These have been issued to the students in Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 on Wednesday, 19 December. Year 8 reports will be issued in January.

Y11 Retreat

On Monday 19th December saw a group of our Year 11 pupils join the Carmelite Nuns of Thicket Priory for a day of retreat and spiritual reflection. The theme of the retreat was 'Journey and Vocation'. The pupils received a warm welcome from the Sisters followed by a Question and Answer Session to find out more about the life of an enclosed Nun.



Fr David lead the group and the Nuns in Mass and pupils were then able to spend time in the beautiful surroundings of the monastery. The afternoon included workshops on spiritual exercises followed by afternoon prayer with the Nuns before saying our 'goodbyes'. Thanks again to Mother Prioress and all the nuns for their hospitality and kindness. A great day was had by all - Thanks be to God!



The Northern Echo Local Heroes Awards and visit to Hartlepool United Football Ground

The St John Fisher Year 8 Girls' Football team enjoyed a memorable day last Thursday as they were invited to spend the day at Hartlepool United Football Club, followed by an awards ceremony at The Northern Echo Local Heroes Awards.

The girls were treated like superstars as they visited Hartlepool United FC for an access all areas tour of the ground, experiencing life as a footballer, journalist, media officer and director. They even experienced a training session and football match on the sacred pitch provided by the Hartlepool FC staff.

We would like to thank everyone at Hartlepool FC for their hospitality and for creating more amazing memories for our students.



The girls then changed out of their football kits and into their frocks and headed for The Grand Marquee at Wynyard Hall, Hartlepool, to celebrate an evening of inspirational achievements. The St John Fisher team were selected as finalists for Northern Team / Club of the year. Out of the final three, the Under 13 Billingham Ice Hockey Team were crowned as winners for their achievements being crowned as Northern and National Champions.

To be selected as one of the final three teams, and to be recognised by The Northern Echo themselves is a fantastic achievement in itself.

We are extremely proud of what the girls achieved in the last academic year and this was the perfect way for the whole team to celebrate and get the recognition they deserve. To be crowned Area and North Yorkshire 5,7,9 and 11-a-side Champions as well as English Schools' National Champions and remain unbeaten all year is an outrageous achievement and we will be eternally proud of them.

Gymnastics

St John Fisher take great pride in recognising our students' many talents and this week we discovered another hidden gem.

Georgina Gibson of 7H has fully embraced life at St John Fisher, committing herself to her academic studies as well as the extra-curricular life of the school. Not only does she enjoy representing St John Fisher in the girls' football team but also dedicates her life outside of school to Gymnastics.

Georgina is part of Harrogate Gymnastics club and competes at national level in their elite pathway. She has trained since the age of 5 and currently spends 20 hours per week training at her club at Hornbeam Park.

Georgina recently came 1st on floor and 3rd on vault at the Yorkshire Level 4 competition in September, this is the big annual competition for her and she was delighted to be named Yorkshire floor champion and to receive a gold medal. She has subsequently competed at various invitational competitions; first overall at Diamonds (Halifax), first overall at Rotherham Gymnastics Club and 3rd overall at Newcastle Gymnastics Club.



Her next challenge is a Yorkshire Level 3 Team competition. This is the next level for Georgina as she will be competing new complicated skills for the first time. Her team won the Yorkshire Level 4 competition last year, another huge achievement, so she has been working very hard for this one!!!

Congratulations on all of your success Georgina, we are extremely proud of your dedication and we wish you all the best for your upcoming competitions.



Netball Achievements

We want to congratulate four girls who have been selected for the North Yorkshire Netball development squads (U13 & U15). The girls attended two extensive screening trials at Queen Ethelburgas College where over 100 girls from the county attended. These girls are:

Ursula Holland (Year 8)
Olivia Hostert (Year 8)
Grace Della Rovere (Year 9)
Chloe Peters (Year 10)
Well done girls!

Y11 Poetry Live Trip – Wednesday 30 January



We're making a list and we're checking it twice. Have you paid and given consent for your child to go on the English department's full year group trip to see their GCSE poetry performed and discussed by the poets themselves? We would like all payments to be made and consent to be given before Christmas as far as possible and certainly by the deadline of Thursday 10th January 2019.

Y7 History Castles Project

Dr Langstaff's Year 7 History classes produced some excellent work for their castles project. Some opted for sturdy materials such as wood whilst others chose to make castles of cake and biscuits which didn't last so long! The standard of work was excellent and the students had lots of fun. Our overall winners were Alex Lambert 7C and Henry King – well done boys!



KS3 Summer Musical Announcement

Mrs Staunton and Miss Murphy were thrilled to announce the Key Stage Three Summer Musical this year will be... Peter Pan!! All students in Year 7 and 8 are welcome to take part, auditions are only for those students wishing to take a principle role or be a principle dancer. Auditions will be in January - ensure you have seen Mrs Staunton for details of what to prepare and that you have signed up for an audition slot! Merry Christmas!



Y9 Trip to Paris – 14 to 17 July 2019

There are 44 places available.
Total cost - £437, (this might reduce if there are large numbers)
Instalments - 1st Feb - £150
1st April - £143.50
3rd June - £143.50

The cost of the trip includes:

All travel, including our own private coach whilst in Paris
All accommodation on a half board basis (bed and breakfast and evening meals)
All entries to attractions
Fully comprehensive insurance

Pupils have a full day sightseeing includes Cité des Sciences, Montparnasse Tower, Arc de Triomphe, a walk through the gardens of the Louvre and a boat trip down the Seine. Pupils will also visit the Asterix Theme Park.



Sports Results

Y10 Netball

On Thursday 13 December, 10 girls went across to Rossett school for a netball match. After having a slow start to the season with games being cancelled etc. it was great to take so many. There was some fantastic defence from Ellen Oultram, Georgie Windsor and Beth Whiley who barely let their shooters get the ball. The centre court was fantastic and supported the team down the court, it was quick and efficient play from Izzy Kennedy- McMahon, Fran Devine, Ava Garcia and Eleanor Birchall- Harte. Then some flawless shooting from our captain Chloe Peters, Josie Bridson and Rosie Goode. The girls played brilliantly as a team, some good sportsmanship and it was nice to see them enjoy the game and support each other as a team.



The final score was 23- 4 to St John Fishers.

Rowing Success

In their first competitive match – ‘Row Leeds Indoor Championship held at ‘South Leeds Stadium’, St John Fishers produced an amazing team performance to rival academy schools set up with full rowing programmes in place. It was an outstanding debut from a group of driven and highly motivated individuals. In this format each individual had to row for their set amount of time (Y7 2mins, Y8 3mins, Y9 4mins, Y10 5mins, Y11 6mins). The person with the furthest distance wins against individuals from other schools, then the blue ribbon event, the team relay worth double points. Chloe Kelly in the 6th Form did an amazing job coaching them – well done!

Several individuals stood out during the competition:

Y9 boys Dan Napper – 2nd position (also scouted by a GB talent ID)

Y9 girls Therese Tolan – 2nd position

Y8 boys Archie Wray – 3rd position (although joint 2nd on distance)

Y11 boys Jacob Millar – 3rd position

Team relay result: This is where each member of the team rows for 1 minute then swaps. After leading for most the way, an amazing 4th place was achieved.

The team finished an overall joint 3rd of 15 schools across Leeds, many of whom have been competing for years previously in this competition.

Team Sheet

Race Category	First Name	Last Name
Year 7 Girl	Lexie	Riely
Year 7 Boy	Archie	Hall
Year 8 Girl	Ursula	Holland
Year 8 Boy	Archie	Wray
Year 9 Girl	Therese	Tolan
Year 9 Boy	Dan	Knapper
Year 10 Girl	Beth	Whiley
Year 10 Boy	William	Heugil
Year 11 Girl	Eimer	Wyrill
Year 11 Boy	Jacob	Miller



A superb achievement, well done
PE department

6th Form Rugby

The first team have performed outstandingly well and have reached the semi-finals of the Yorkshire Cup, an amazing achievement. They will face Ripon Grammar as underdogs but are quietly confident to cause a major upset! Well done to Eion Harrison as Captain keeping the squad together and well informed.



Girls' Football

U13 Girls' Football Harrogate and District 5-a-side Champions

The U13 Girls were crowned Area champions on Monday night after winning all of their games. The competition showcased the talent there is in the local area, with all games being fiercely contested. It was extremely rewarding to see such high participation rates and all players playing with a smile on their face and in a positive manner. Well done to everyone who took part.

Results:

- 1st – St John Fisher
- 2nd – South Craven
- 3rd – Ripon Grammar
- 4th – St Aidan's
- 5th – Harrogate High
- 6th – Ripon Outwood

St John Fisher Squad:

Claudia Sandford, Ursula Holland, Frankie Moss, Ruby Watts, Rebecca Hugill, Maddie Durkin.

These girls scored 33 goals and conceded just 4. A brilliant team effort, well done on retaining the title of Harrogate and District 5-a-side champions.

Cassidy Lane



A huge thank you to Cassidy Lane who continues to be an incredible ambassador for St John Fisher. This term, Cassidy has given up numerous evenings each week to assist with Sports Leadership events and girls' football fixtures, where she has refereed numerous competitive fixtures. Many of those fixtures has meant that she has finished between 6 and 7pm but still continues to volunteer her time. We would like to thank Cassidy for her continued support, dedication and commitment to St John Fisher, she truly is a remarkable person and role model for our students. Well done, Cass!

Year 7 National Cup v King James

The Year 7 Girls' Football team are through to the next round of the National Cup after a 6-2 win versus King James. The game was another tough test for St John Fisher who are still adjusting to football at secondary school and learning game by game.

Maddie Durkin and Gabija Taraseviciute controlled the game in the midfield with Lois Reed being a constant threat down the wing. Captain Durkin grabbed the first couple of goals after some good team play. The second half SJF seemed to control the game and camp in the King James' half. Durkin, Reed, Jones and Bell scored to put the game out of reach despite King James grabbing a consolation goal from distance.

The players took many positives from the game and it was a great opportunity for them to improve individually and collectively. The girls also relished the opportunity to represent St John Fisher and most importantly played every minute with a smile on their face.



St John Fisher now go into round 3 of the National Cup and will face the winner of St Aidan's and Trinity College, Middlesbrough.

Squad: Amber Faulkes, Larissa Dorojan, Kate Whiley, Lily Bell, Lois Reed, Gabija Taraseviciute, Maddie Durkin, Natasha Santos, Molly Ann Gough, Katherine Jones, Madeline Jones, Jess Hourigan.



Year 7 Friendly Tournament v St Aidan's

28 of the Year 7 Girls' Football team competed against St Aidan's in a 7-a-side tournament last week. This was a great opportunity for the girls to make the step up from primary school football and enjoy putting into practice everything they had learned from their extra-curricular training in their first term at St John Fisher.

For many of the students, this was one of their first ever competitive matches after only taking up football since joining SJF in September. This was a brilliant evening against a great set of girls from St Aidan's. Both schools played exceptionally well and enjoyed the end to end contest.

SJF walked away with 2 wins and a 1-0 loss in 3 tightly contested games. But more importantly, they walked away with a new experience, many positive things to work on and a big smile on their face after an enjoyable evening of football.

U14 Girls' Football National Cup Success

Congratulations to the Under 14 Girls' Football team who are through to Round 6 of the National Cup and one of the last 16 schools in the country after a thrilling 6-4 victory against Whitburn School.

All of the St John Fisher Girls Football teams are renowned for their fighting spirit, never say die attitude, resilience and togetherness and this was needed in abundance from the minute they stepped off the bus.

In the freezing cold conditions, with sideways rain, hailstone and a bitter sea breeze, it set the scene for what turned out to be an epic National Cup encounter.

A very talented Whitburn side took the lead within a minute of kick off and stunned St John Fisher. Their pace, power and skill appeared to be too much for the girls and in the blink of an eye SJF conceded a second goal and found themselves 2-0 down after a second terrific strike into the top corner from Whitburn's talented striker.

St John Fisher had not found any rhythm in the first half and continued to try and play 'the perfect football' and walk the ball in to the oppositions net, which didn't suit the weather conditions.

Despite more pressure, SJF couldn't take the chances that they created. That was until Therese Tolan fed the ball into Harriet Robson's feet and she gracefully turned and unleashed a ferocious shot into the roof of the net. From kick off, SJF won the ball back and found an equaliser after Rebecca Hugill played an exquisitely timed ball through to Robson who slotted the ball home. A perfectly timed goal on the stroke of half time to keep the scores all level.

After half time, St John Fisher meant business and stepped up several gears. The tenacious Robyn McKendrick and Therese Tolan took control of the game and began to open up the Whitburn defence through their sheer persistence, work rate and desire to win the ball back. Natasha Cree was incredible and showed that size doesn't matter, putting in forceful tackle after tackle against girls twice her size.

Despite numerous chances, the Whitburn goalkeeper pulled off some fine saves to deny the surge of attacks. Whitburn continued to play on the counter and their pure pace and power was a threat. They got their reward against the run of play when the wind took a high ball towards the SJF 18 yard box and Pedersen - the sensational Whitburn striker powered through and drove the ball into the back of the net.

Whitburn then went 4-2 up after Claudia Sandford pulled off a sensational top class save, only for Whitburn to score from the resulting corner.

For many teams, 4-2 down with 15 minutes of play would seem like an uphill battle and a challenge too far. However, our girls have too much character and passion to ever give up. McKendrick and Tolan galvanised their team and set the tone. Tolan scored a deflected equaliser with 8 minutes to go, followed by a McKendrick header to see the game all square. St John Fisher were immense and continued to pile the pressure on and nullify any Whitburn's attacks. Hugill, Watts and Robson combined to release Robson who rounded the goalkeeper and put the girls in front for the first time in the game. 3 minutes to go and Frankie Moss played an intricate ball into Robyn McKendrick who switched play to allow the pacey Robson to drive the ball home in to the corner of the goal and secure St John Fisher's place in round 6 of the English Schools' National cup as one of the last 16 school's in the country.



Credit has to go to Whitburn who were an incredibly talented team from one to eleven. They really didn't deserve to be on the losing side. They were one of the strongest teams SJF have faced in recent years.

The efforts of St John Fisher to make an outstanding come back is an achievement that has to be acknowledged. A complete team effort and an incredibly proud moment to see what football means to each and every player. It truly was an inspirational performance showing why you should never give up, no matter how hard the battle appears to be.

Congratulations!

Squad: Claudia Sandford, Natasha Cree, Natasha Abbott, Frankie Moss, Ursula Holland, Milly Fieldhouse, Ruby Watts, Therese Tolan, Robyn McKendrick, Rebecca Hugill, Hattie Robson, Olivia Longley, Grace Della Rovere, Issy Parkin, Katie Scobbie, Ciara Streatfield.

U18 Girls Football

This team put in a magnificent display of passion, desire, togetherness and resilience in the last 16 of the English Schools' National Cup.

Despite it being a school competition, somehow to our disbelief, St John Fisher found themselves playing against Durham Sixth Form Centre who are a Football Academy. A team that train six times a week, featuring England players and a team of academy players.

Despite the challenge our St John Fisher team weren't phased by what was in front of them and put on a performance worthy of beating any team. Molly Bridson had the best three chances of the game and stunned the Durham defence as she rounded the keeper, but on each occasion the luck wasn't on our side. The ball trickled across the face of the goal on all three occasions and either hit the post or saw it narrowly evade the goal. Durham battled their way forward but whilst enjoying a good amount of possession, they couldn't breakdown our solid defence of Eimear Wyrill, Mary Windle, Jess Flynn and Jess Walker, which allowed our makeshift goal keeper, Niamh Barker, to become a spectator for most of the first half.

In the second half SJF once again restricted the Durham team into long distance shots or forced them into making errors. Olivia Cook who was the standout player on the pitch, retrieved the ball after good work from Anna Broadhurst and released Molly Bridson who rounded the goal keeper on the edge of the area, only to be clinically wiped out by the goalkeeper. The inevitable red card punishment didn't come and St John Fisher were left with a measly free kick after being denied a goal scoring opportunity.

The final ten minutes came and despite feeling fatigued, St. John Fisher never gave up. However, it was a scrappy deflected ball that skimmed off a St John Fisher heel and diverted the ball towards the back post and a Durham player tapped in from a couple of yards out to go 1-0 up. However, these girls epitomise resilience and they scored straight from kick off, a defence splitting pass allowed Bridson to coolly slot the ball home after rounding the keeper.

With 5 minutes to go, heartbreak happened. A slip on the edge of the 18 yard box allowed the England striker to pinch the ball and direct the ball into the back of the SJF goal. The final 4 minutes saw SJF push everybody upfront in search of an equaliser and it nearly came when Cass Lane hit the post. The ball was then cleared up field and Mary Windle was left 3 on 1 and Durham secured their victory with 60 seconds to spare.

Despite the loss, the St John Fisher Girls Football team were truly outstanding. They raised their game, fought for one another and in fairness - they had the chances to put the game to bed.

On paper, these girls should never have been in with a chance. But their amazing character, unity and passion to play for the badge put on a performance that we will be forever proud of. These girls are an inspiration to everyone. They typify our school values and are amazing ambassadors for our school. They are Fishers through and through and ultimately - Proud to be Fishers.



Squad: Niamh Barker, Eimear Wyrill, Mary Windle, Jess Flynn, Jess Walker, Cassidy Lane, Olivia Cook, Anna Broadhurst, Charlotte Rice, Katie Barlow, Molly Bridson.



Table Tennis

Well done to the D Team on reaching the quarter finals of the Charity Cup on Monday 17 December in a nail biting match which was not decided till the final game of the last but one match.

Playing Div.2 team North Stainley A at home, and all 3 getting good handicaps -16 in all matches but 1 (and 15 in that).

North Stainley A Handicaps (No 1 -12, No 2 - 9 and No 3 – 15)

The start was impressive.

Maciej v No 1 - 6-21 (22-21) 8-21 (24-21) Total = 46-42 (3 points)

Charlie v No 2 - 8-21 (24-21) 4-21 (20-21) Total = 44-42 (2 points)

Holly v No 3 - 13-21 (29-21) 9-21 (25-21) Total = 54-42 (3 points)

Maciej v No 2 - 5-21 (21-21) 5-21 (21-21) Total = 42-42 (3 points (3 draws))

Holly v No 1 - 9-21 (25-21) 3-21 (19-21) Total = 44-42 (2 points)

The score was 13-5, but then 2 losses and 14-11 looked awkward and a defeat a possibility

Charlie v No 3 - 2-21 (18-21) 5-21 (21-21) Total = 39-42 (1 point)

Holly v No 2 - 2-21 (18-21) 4-21 (20-21) Total = 38-42 (0 points)

Maciej v No 3 - 5-21 (20-21) Total = 14-12

But then 14-21 (29-21) 49-42 (2 points)

Charlie v No 1 - 9-21 (25-21) 4-21 (20-21) 45-42 (2 points)

Final Score = 18-13

Maciej gaining 8 points and a +11 final total

Charlie gaining 5 points and a +2 final total

Holly gaining 5 points and a +10 final total

Well done to all 3. The number of 1 point wins and 1 point losses was amazing.

The B team will join the D Team in the quarter finals of the Charity Cup, winning at Burn Bridge A, 20-9. The team, who until last week had been beaten in all their league matches this season in division 3 came close to winning even without their handicap start, against a team near the top of a division higher. Ben and Aman were superb in all their 3 matches and Tom in his final match showed what a talent he has for the game.

Handicaps (Ben 19, Aman 16 and Tom 15)

Burn Bridge A (No 1, 10, No 2, 8 and No 3, 9)

Results

Ben v No 1 - 18-21 (27-21) 9-21 (18-21) Total = 45-42 +3 (2 points)

v No 2 - 16-21 (27-21) 10-21 (21-21) Total = 48-42 +6 (3 points)

v No 3 - 11-21 (21-21) 17-21 (27-21) Total = 48-42 +6 (3 points)

+15 (8 points)

Aman v No 1 - 17-21 (23-21) 21-19 (27-19) Total = 50-40 +10 (3 points)

v No 2 - 21-14 (29-14) 19-21 (27-21) Total = 56-35 + 21 (3 points)

v No 3 - 20-21 (27-21) 16-21 (23-21) Total = 50-42 +8 (3 points)

+39 (9 points)

Tom v No 1 - 21-18 (26-18) 17-21 (22-21) Total = 48-39 +9 (3 points)

v No 2 - 11-21 (18-21) 11-21 (18-21) Total = 36-42 - 6 (0 points)

v No 3 - 10-21 (16-21) 6-21 (12-21) Total = 28-42 -14 (0 points)

-11 (3 points)

As Tom had been the top points scorer in the previous 2 rounds, it was good that the other 2 stepped up when needed. For Aman to get +39 points was amazing, but he played really well. So A and C Teams can you join the winning teams, and have 4 Fishers Teams in the last 8 of the competition.

Max Mills



Sports Fixtures

Wednesday 9 January

Mr Heaton – 6th Form Boys Football v Egglecliffe @ SJF, 14:00 KO

Thursday 10 January

Mr Rowlands – Y10B Boys Football v Boston Grammar School @ Boston, 09:00-18:00

Mr Black – Y8B Boys Football v King James @ SJF, 16:00-17:30

Monday 14 January

Miss Huegett – U15 Girls 5-a-side Football Competition @ Ripon Grammar School, 16:00-18:00

Wednesday 16 January

Miss Telfer – Y7A/B/C Netball v Harrogate Grammar School @ Harrogate Grammar School, 14:30-16:30

PE Extra Curricular Timetable

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



News from the Science Desk – December 2018

He went to the church, and walked about the streets, and watched the people hurrying to and for, and patted the children on the head, and questioned beggars, and looked down into the kitchens of homes, and up to the windows, and found that everything could yield him pleasure. He had never dreamed of any walk, that anything, could give him so much happiness..... And so, as Tiny Tim observed, "God bless Us, Every One!"

Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

Year 7

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Year 7 pupils and parents. You have completed your first term in Science at SJF. Watch out for notices about the lunchtime Science Club in the New Year. You will receive a short report after Christmas to indicate how Year 7 have approached this first term.

Year 8

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Year 8 pupils and parents. After Christmas we will be sending home a long report, including comments, to give you an indication as to how they have progressed in the beginning of Y8. I am looking to set up a Space Academy after Christmas with a view to investigating aspects of space exploration and observation. The aim is to develop a team of interested Space Scientists across Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12, by application, involving external experts and Universities. I'll look to launch the idea either before or after Christmas.

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

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Year 9 pupils and parents. Pupils should have completed their first topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics by Christmas, at which time we will be able to see who is thriving on the GCSE material, and those that are finding the step more of a challenge. I am looking to set up a Space Academy after Christmas with a view to investigating aspects of space exploration and observation. The aim is to develop a team of interested Space Scientists across Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12, by application, involving external experts and Universities. I'll look to launch the idea either before or after Christmas.

Year 10

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Year 10 pupils. Currently there are 3 groups of separates, of around 25 students per class, which will allow additional setting after the first mock examinations in Science, after the Christmas break, where there is evidence to suggest that this is advisable. We have provided pupils with a list of topics to revise in advance of the Christmas break.

I am looking to set up a Space Academy after Christmas with a view to investigating aspects of space exploration and observation. The aim is to develop a team of interested Space Scientists across Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12, by application, involving external experts and Universities. I'll look to launch the idea either before or after Christmas.

We have invited a number of ex-pupils to come in during the last week of term to talk to Year 10 pupils about their experiences of Science through GCSE and A-level, now that they are studying Science at University.

Year 11

This week Y11 have now received their mock examination results. We used questions from a range of papers from this year's GCSEs, and therefore have based the grade boundaries around these. This gave a fair reflection of the grade they could expect, with the same degree of preparation, in Summer.



We are aware that pupils may not have approached these 'mock' examination, with the appropriate self-motivation and determination, and so will use the results of these to inform our forecasts.

It is clear that some pupils are struggling with the content and pace of the Separates, and as there is an increased entry from the private sector from IGCSE, the competition is even more fierce than in previous years. Pupils struggling to achieve a grade 6 or above are likely to find themselves falling towards a grade 4 in separates, and may be best served through achieving two higher grades in Combined.

Pupils struggling to achieve a level 4 in Combined Higher, would be recommended by the examination board to be entered for the Foundation Tier.

Where pupils have performed particularly below their targets, I will be giving them, and forwarding on our recommendations for your consideration. The potential (or confirmation) of a move from Separates to Combined, a tier of entry of Foundation versus Higher, and/or the need to attend the sessions that we are offering.

We have started the lunchtime sessions on Fridays, there are 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. We are offering after school sessions, led by members of our sixth form, those who attended these last year, showed a marked improvement in performance, and enjoyed the tutorial style of these sessions.

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 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)

Y11 Intervention sessions

Why Science – talks from the experts as to why to choose a Science at A-level and beyond (Y10 & Y11) After the mock examinations

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: vs7 (VSG7) –in lower case)

Proof that Father Christmas is Magic!

Father Christmas has to visit 500,00,000 children.

Assuming that there are 3 children per household, this is 166,666,667 households.

If Father Christmas travels East to West and starts in the Western Pacific Ocean, he will have 31 hours of darkness.

This is 5,376,344 households per hour or 89,605 per minute, or 1493 per second. Each visit lasts 0.0007 seconds.

And I thought I could make a mince pie disappear quickly.

We hope that you have a happy and joyous Christmas break and pupils enjoy a well-deserved break after this long term.

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

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 TH 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 TH 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 TH 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

