



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

# SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation  
29 September 2023



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of September and that when we return to school on Monday, after the weekend, we will be into October already. The weeks really are flying by.

I am sure you are aware that we have continued to 'raise the bar' in our standards and expectations of students as we have returned from the Summer. We are very clear about 'holding the line' with students and making sure that we follow through with the required action in line with our new systems and procedures. The response from our students has, in the main, been excellent. Removals from lessons have reduced from (on average) 14 per day last year, to just 4 per day. The number of lates to school and to lessons are also falling. Some students will begin to hit the next threshold for 5+ removals and lates very soon, which will lead to more serious sanctions.

## Important upcoming dates

**4 October 2023** - Meet the Tutor Evening Y7 in school / Y8 – Y11 online

**12 October 2023** – Post16 career's event

**18 October 2023** - Year 11 Parent's Evening – in school

I had the absolute privilege to attend the Priory Catholic Academy's 60th Anniversary Mass on Monday and it was a real joy. 4 past pupils represented us in their uniforms and did us proud. I was also delighted to be joined by our newest member of staff, Mrs Chocholko who has supported the Priory previously.

Finally, this afternoon we will have our annual 'Blessing of Teams' in the school Hall. This is a tremendous event, where students who are going above and beyond for our school family through the various teams they have joined are recognised. These are students who are freely giving of themselves and their time to support others in our school and we are so grateful to them for all that they will do over the course of the academic year. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

I wish you all a peaceful and restful weekend, although if yours are anything like mine, that may be merely a hope, and we will see you on Monday, as we move into October.  
Garde ta Foi!

**Mr Brogan**  
Headteacher

*'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'*

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# School News



## **School vacancies:**

We are currently recruiting for a Cover Supervisor to join our school, please see below link for further details:

<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Cover%2520Supervisor&Advert=0Ti2JGarLXJFXKoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D&Region=SaintJohnHoughtonCatholicVoluntaryAcademy>

## **Lunchtime and afterschool clubs:**

Lunchtime and after school clubs and activities offer enrichment and learning support, as well as allowing students to enjoy spending time together, in a safe environment. The programme contains a wide range of activities including: sports, fitness music, study support and social activities.

Students will be notified of additional opportunities or changes in the programme during tutor time and parents will be notified through our weekly newsletter.

## **Extra-Curricular clubs Term 1 2023/24**

<b>Monday</b> 12.30-1.10pm  3.15-4.15pm	CAFOD Club – Room HU2 Games Club – Room M7  Girls Football – all years Year 9 Boys Football
<b>Tuesday</b> 3.15-4.15pm	Girls Netball – all years Year 10 Boys Football
<b>Thursday</b> 12.30-1.10pm 3.15-4.15pm	Oasis Team support – Room HU2 Years 7 & 8 Football
<b>Friday</b> 12.30-1.10pm 3.15-4.15pm	CST Catholic Social Teaching – Room HU2 Year 11 Boys Basketball



## **Secondary school admissions for September 2024:**

A reminder that if you have a child who is currently in year 6, the closing date to make applications for secondary school places is 31 October 2023, applications must be made through your Local Authority.

If you wish to apply on faith grounds, a supplementary form and evidence of faith must be sent directly to our school, the link to the supplementary form is below:

[https://www.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/01/Supplementary-Information-Form-24-25\\_St-Ralph-Sherwin-CMAT.pdf](https://www.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/01/Supplementary-Information-Form-24-25_St-Ralph-Sherwin-CMAT.pdf)

## **Year 9 boys football team:**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September the Year 9 boys football team played Holgate Academy at home. The boys won 7v3 with an excellent performance from the whole team. Goal scorers - Davidson A (Hatrick), James G, Harvey B (2 goals), Lewis P

## **Year 10 boys football team:**

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September the Year 10 boys football team played Queens Elizabeth Grammer school. It was a tight game until half time where the score was 2v2. The second half, the boys came out flying and eventually won the game 5v2. An excellent performance from all the boys. Goal scorers - Liam F (2 goals), George J, Oliver E, Rhys P

## **Boardgame donations:**

We would be very grateful for any donations of boardgames, including chessboards for a games club which we are hoping to set up for students. Any donations can be given into the school office.

## **Careers updates:**

Please see the latest addition of Careermap. This is a magazine which helps parents, carers and guardians to help their young adults to make decisions about their options and future career.

<https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-parents-carers-guardians/>




## Homework in English

We are moving to Microsoft Forms for most of the homework in English this year. To use it, students must be log onto their school email account beforehand. They both run off the same system.

**Forms** Sentence Practice -1 - Saved

Questions Responses 1 Preview Style Collect responses Present



### Sentence Practice -1

Using the following sentence structures, write a sentence about this picture.

Remember to suggest things are strange rather than tell the reader they are strange.

1. Abstract noun start sentence – Pain was the only thing I could feel.

This sentence starts with an abstract noun (something you cannot touch or see). Emotions tend to be a good abstract noun. It helps you to talk about bigger and more clever things when writing. Example abstract nouns: fear, joy, misery, chaos, childhood, death, patience.

Enter your answer

2. List start sentence – Pain, fear and anxiety was all I could feel.

Lists are great because you can put them any place in a sentence: the start; the middle; or the end. Don't just use them for shopping lists. Example types of lists to think about – colours, feelings, verbs, actions, similes. Don't just use lists for nouns! That's obvious.

Enter your answer

We have moved to this system to save on paper and avoid students panicking about missing sheets or booklets. All the work will now be collected electronically. Of course, the teacher might set the occasional homework differently.

Also, we would like to remind parents and carers that all students are expected to read for at least fifteen minutes a day, regardless of their age. Reading is vital to success in all subjects. A student who reads regularly at home is a student who succeeds in their GCSEs.

Thank you for your support,  
The English Department

# School News



## Attendance

Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential. Going to school is directly linked to improved exam performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop:

- Friendships
  - Social skills
  - Team values
  - Life skills
  - Cultural awareness
  - Career pathways

## **Absence from school**

All schools must record details of students' attendance and absence at school. They do this at the beginning of morning and afternoon sessions meaning that each day your child receives two half day marks.

If your child is going to be absent from school, (e.g. for an unavoidable appointment) then you should let the school know as soon as possible. If your child has been absent due to an unexpected event such as bereavement or illness then you must also let the school know on the first day of absence in line with the school's attendance policy. The school will then record the absence. If you fail to tell the school as to why your child has not been present then the school may record that period of absence as being unauthorised.

If a child misses	that equals...	which is...	and over 13 years of school that's...
1 day per fortnight (90% attendance)	19 days per year	≈ 4 weeks per year	Nearly 1½ years
1 day per week (80% attendance)	38 days per year	≈ 8 weeks per year	Over 2½ years
2 days per week (60% attendance)	76 days per year	≈ 16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week (40% attendance)	days per year	≈ 24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

## **Holidays During Term Time**

Please be aware that holidays during term time are not to be taken and it is extremely unlikely that they will be authorised. In many cases, when a holiday has been taken, the school will request that a fixed penalty notice will be issued by the local authority, which results in an additional fine. The school does have the right to challenge parents if there is evidence that a holiday has been taken. For example, if we try to call and we receive an international dialling tone.



# School News



## Chaplaincy:

### **Cathedral of St Barnabas Mass for Altar Servers - 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023:**



Thank you to all who made this day possible. A Special thank you to Josh, Sonny, Alfie and Jayden who were great ambassadors for Saint John Houghton CVA.



God is calling – are you listening?

Father Paul and Rachel are here to support you if you would like to join our Altar Servers. It was wonderful to see Luke and Alistair, our past students, still supporting Nottingham Diocese.

It was wonderful to be welcomed to St Barnabas, the Mother Church of our Diocese. Staff of SJH would like to extend the huge thanks to the families for their encouragement and for the time they give to help so many each week in Mass. The dedication we see is a wonderful example to all.

*We give you thanks, Lord for calling us to serve you. Strengthen our loyalty and keep us faithful to you, so that we may enjoy your friendship forever. Amen.*

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## Chaplaincy:

Please let Rachel know if you are an Altar Server! Father Paul, Altar Servers, Senior Altar Servers, parents and SJH Chaplain met last week to pray, reflect and plan a way forward to celebrate this wonderful service to our community. We would like to meet once a month to gather, pray, gain some training and do some service. Supporting the homeless was high on the list to put our faith into action. More information to follow.

Please pray for us, please join us and please thank our Servers who do a fabulous job.



## Mass:

All are welcome to our 8.00am Mass in our SJH Chapel. Our next mass will be on Friday 10 November 2023 at 8.00am with refreshments to follow.

Thank you to all the students, Alfie, Ava and Sonny who joined our Governor, Robert, and our Senior Leaders in school for Mass. We are blessed to have Fr Paul who supports us and teaches us well.



## Friends of SJH coffee morning:

**Friends of Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy**

**"Be still and know that I am God."**

**Psalm 46:10**

**We would love for you to join us for coffee and conversation on 20.10.23**

**11.30am-12.30pm**

**This is taking place at Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy, Abbot Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston DE7 4HX**

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## Chaplaincy:

### Beauvale Priory and Beauvale Pilgrimage.

Austino, SJH pupil, Parish Ambassador and Pilgrim, tells us that Beauvale Priory is where Saint John Houghton once lived and worked. Although it is a ruin these days, English Heritage do a great job at taking care of the Priory. Once a year the Bishop of Nottingham celebrates an outdoor Mass in the Priory Grounds in honour of the 40 English Martyrs who died for their faith. Because our Academy is named after Saint John Houghton we have a responsibility to 'guard our faith' and bring to mind Beauvale all year and not just on the 4<sup>th</sup> May.



### Beauvale Junior Membership

In the last Beauvale Society Meeting I was tasked with 'thinking about' a Junior Membership.

Please can you support Rachel with this task?

I would invite every pupil in SJH to become a member of the Beauvale Junior Society.

May I suggest: For £2.00 a year you will get a Beauvale Junior Membership Card, two newsletters a year and a Christmas Card.

I have given this suggestion to Fr Paul and the Beauvale Society to consider – I am asking for the Student Voice vote.

Please email [Rose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:Rose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk) or pop in and see me at break times and share your views.

With thanks,

Rachel



# School News



## Running for Beauvale:

Rachel would like to thank you all for the kind works and support as we raise prayers, money and awareness for Beauvale Priory and Pilgrimage – Sunday 5 May 2024.

Details to follow on our 'Just Giving page'. Let Rachel know of the Park Runs you take part in, the Derby 10 mile is next and we are on our way to The Edinburgh Full Marathon in May.



## Coffee Morning for Beauvale Society:

Please join us for refreshments after the 11.00am mass in Eastwood this Sunday as we raise prayers, money and awareness for the Beauvale Society.

All Welcome.

*Oasis Team, Team Chaplaincy and Student Leadership,*

*Please take this invitation seriously and why not make a cake and bring it along on Sunday morning.*

## Please continue with the Big SJH Poppy Knit:

A prize for the pupil who makes the most poppies for our November display. Get Grandparents, friends and neighbours on this task!

Collect a pattern from SJH Reception or Chaplain or see the details on SJH Twitter and FB United in Faith.



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## Other useful links:

Safeguarding concerns: please email [safeguarding@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)

## **Go4schools (homework):**

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/curriculum/homework/>

**School lunch menus:** <https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/students/school-meals/>

## **Free School Meals:**

Derbyshire - <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Nottinghamshire - <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

## **SJH School holiday dates and inset days 2023-2024**

October half term	Monday 30 October – Friday 3 November 2023
Christmas holidays	Monday 25 December 2023 – Friday 5 January 2024
Inset Day	Monday 8 January 2024
February half term	Monday 19 – Friday 23 February 2024
Trust Inset Day	Monday 26 February 2024
Easter holidays	Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April 2024
May half term	Monday 27 – Friday 31 May 2024
Inset Day	Friday 5 July 2024
Last day of term	Tuesday 23 July 2024

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