



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

# SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation  
Friday 13 September 2024



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the new academic year and issue 1 of our newsletter for 2024/2025. We have 'bounced' into the new year on the back of the best GCSE results the school has seen for many years, and we are so pleased that the changes we have been implementing in recent years have now come to fruition with an excellent set of GCSE results. We will share more detail about this once all of the figures are confirmed by the DfE.

It has been an excellent start to the academic year and the start to the year has been calm, purposeful and focussed. Our students have returned determined to be successful and the new timings of the school day appear to have had the positive impact we intended.

## Important upcoming dates

**Monday 16 September 2024 – Year 7**

**individual and tutor group photos**

**Thursday 26 September 2024 - Open Evening,  
school closing at 1.30pm**

**Friday 27 September 2024 - Inset Day**

We have also adopted a new pastoral structure in school with Miss Turgoose (Head of Key Stage 3) and Mr Ritchie (Head of Key Stage 4) being supported by Mrs Davies and Miss Burrows. We also hope to make another appointment to the Behaviour Support Team in the near future.

At the start of this year, we are delighted to formally welcome Mr Sanger (Teacher of Science) to our school. As a former student here at Saint John Houghton, he already understands the great culture and traditions of our school and we wish him well for the years ahead.

There is a real feeling of optimism in our school as we start the new academic year. Long may it remain! More next week...

Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!

**Mr S Brogan - Headteacher**

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

Telephone: 0115 9322896

email: [schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)

# School News



## Nut Allergies:

We have several students within school who have severe nut allergies. We aim to be a nut free school and kindly remind parents/carers and students that nuts and food containing nuts must not be brought into school.

## Year 7 individual and tutor group photographs – Monday 16 September 2024:

Year 7 will have their individual and tutor group photographs taken by on Monday 16 September 2024, please ensure that students attend in their full school uniform:

## Year 6 Open Evening – Thursday 26 September 2024 - Early Closure:

We shall be holding our annual Year 6 Open Evening on Thursday 26 September 2024 from 3.30pm, therefore, school will be **closing early on this day at 1.30pm. Lunch will be 12.30-1.15pm.**

The school buses have been informed and will collect students at 1.30pm. Students who use the number 11 bus that is shared with Kirk Hallam Academy will need to make alternative arrangements to get home on this day, apologies for any inconvenience caused.



**Saint John Houghton**  
Catholic Voluntary Academy

# OPEN EVENING

*Thursday, September 26th 2024*  
**3.30pm-7pm**

Headteacher's talks at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm  
No booking required



Scan the QR code to visit our website

 Abbot Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, DE7 4HX



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# School News



## **Inset day – Friday 27 September 2024:**

School will be closed on Friday 27 September 2024 to all students and will reopen on Monday 30 September 2024.

## **School vacancy:**

We are currently recruiting for a Cover Supervisor to join our school, further details about the post are on the below link:

<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Cover%2520Supervisor&Advert=2WID1nnOEU5FXKoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D&Region=SaintJohnHoughtonCatholicVoluntaryAcademy>

## **Parent Governor vacancies:**

Information about the two Parent Governor vacancies has been emailed out earlier in the week, please contact [schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk) if you require any further information.

## **After school clubs:**

Year 7 boys football, Friday 14 & 21 September, this will then move to Mondays – 3.15-4.15pm

Girls football all years – Mondays – 3.15-4.15pm

Girls netball all years – Tuesdays – 3.15-4.15pm

Year 8/9 boys football – Tuesdays – 3.15-4.15pm

Year 10 boys football – Tuesdays – 3.15-4.15pm

Girls basketball all years – Thursdays - 3.15-4.15pm

Year 11 boys football – Thursdays - 3.15-4.15pm

## **Year 11 Maths Clinic:**

From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September there will be a Maths Clinic for **Year 11** students who are needing additional support with their homework or classwork. It will be held on a week 1 in M1 with Mrs Smith and on a week 2 in M2 with Mrs Ellis. It will run from 3:15pm - 4:15pm.

Year 11 students have now been issued with homework booklets to complete on a weekly basis and to be brought into school for their lesson on a Wednesday. This information will be added to Arbor when it allows us to do so.

## **Parking near school:**

We kindly request that parents/carers do not park in the school car park when dropping off or collecting students from school. This can block access for the school buses and make it difficult for students to cross the car park.

We also ask that parking is considerate around school and that neighbours driveways are not blocked. We recommend that if you are picking your child up, you arrange to meet a short walk away from school to help ease congestion.

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# School News



## **Student planners:**

All students have now been given a school planner.

If they are lost or need replacing, they can be replaced at a cost of £5, please contact the school office – [schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)

# School News



## Safeguarding updates:

### **Protect your child from the hidden dangers of posting back to school photos on social media**

While social media is a way to keep *close family and friends* updated on your children's milestones—especially if they live far away—it's crucial to remember that social media profiles aren't just limited to those we know and trust.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when sharing back-to-school photos, or any other pictures of your children, on social media as precautionary measures:

#### **#1 Sharing Back-to-School Photos Can Reveal Personal Information**

Consider this: when you post a back-to-school picture, you might be revealing more than you intend, such as:

- Your child's age, appearance and other personal information
- Where you live or personal details about your home
- The school your child attends

If you haven't disabled location settings, you might unintentionally share your home address or the exact location where the photo was taken. Images contain visual information that can be directly seen, but they also include metadata—hidden data that can reveal GPS coordinates or other details about where and when the photo was taken.

#### **#2 Innocent Photos Can Become Data for Malicious Purposes**

In the age of Ai (artificial intelligence), even innocent photos can be exploited. Ai technology is already being used to create and share child sexual abuse material. [The Internet Watch Foundation \(IWF\) has identified a significant and growing threat where AI technology is being exploited to produce child sexual abuse material \(CSAM\).](#) In their July 2024 report they found that 'AI-generated child sexual abuse videos, primarily deepfakes, have started circulating, highlighting rapid technological advancements in AI models/generators. Increasingly, deepfake videos shared in dark web forums take adult pornographic videos and add a child or adult's face using AI tools. Images and videos are then shared and increasingly used to financially exploit young people.

#### **#3 Risks of Identity Theft and Cybercrime**

Personal data exposed through social media can be a gateway for identity theft and other cybercrimes. Cybercriminals can use details from photos—such as your child's name, age, or school—to gain access to sensitive information. This can lead to a range of damaging consequences, from hacked accounts to financial fraud or exploitation.



# School News



## **Safeguarding updates continued:**

### **#4 Increase in Cybercrime**

The implications of sharing personal data online extend beyond financial theft. Cybercriminals can use data they obtain to damage credit scores, engage in voice phishing scams via popular messaging apps, mimicking loved ones voices and even use information to manipulate or scam family members. This has now moved up a level where a video can even be sent with your loved ones face using deep fake technology asking desperately for money to be sent. In fact online fraud, hacking, exploitation and scams are operated on an industrial scale and are amongst the Top 3 rising crimes, as they are amongst the top rated profit making activities.

### **#5 Emotional Toll and Social Consequences**

Beyond financial and security risks, there's the emotional toll and social impact. Online bullying and public humiliation are real dangers, especially as children grow older and become more active online. Once images or videos are shared, they can be used to target, bully or exploit children and teenagers, leading to emotional distress, isolation and perhaps even self harm.

### **#6 Consent and Your Child's Digital Footprint**

As children grow up, they develop a digital footprint—often shaped initially by their parents. Children can't fully grasp the concept of consent or the long-term implications of their images being shared online. As parents, it's important to consider whether your child would want these images online when they get older. They might not appreciate what they see as embarrassing childhood photos – being accessible to peers or strangers.

### **#7 Set a Positive Example for Your Children**

Children learn by example. As parents, we need to demonstrate responsible behaviour with technology. Try to keep texting, checking and scrolling to a minimum at family times, balancing your screen time with device-free moments. Social media can tempt us into comparing our lives with others, but it's essential to remember that we're not missing out. Our kids notice how much time we spend on phones and they'll follow suit.

Finally, keep in mind that we are the first generation of parents raising children in the digital age. So we're going to make mistakes. But the standards we set now will shape how our kids and future generations interact with technology. Let's strive to raise well-balanced kids who understand the importance of privacy, consent and time away from tech as they grow up in an increasingly connected world.

While there is plenty of talk about 'responsible Ai', 'safety by design' and protecting children and young people in the news, it's increasingly apparent that talk is cheap and profit is winning out in the online world – so equipping families with the knowledge, skills and tools to protect themselves is essential.

Source: <https://www.waynedenner.com/protect-your-child-the-hidden-dangers-of-posting-back-to-school-photos-on-social-media/>

# School News



## Chaplaincy:

I was delighted to send Praise Postcards home to Lucy S, Summer B, Ava J, George J, Charlie B, Casey E, Filip S, Lexi-Mae H for positive attitudes, following instructions, marvellous manners and Parish support work. When we see our students living out our School Values we know they are practicing becoming the adults they want to be and this deserves to be noticed and praised in Catholic Education!



Here in SJH we have 'The Word of the Week' which has been 'Encounter'. Our Mission has been, 'Make time this week to look where you might encounter Jesus in those around you'. I was delighted to award a number of Virtue Points to our wonderful young people for helping me to make this possible.

I have noticed and rewarded many young people for living 'optimism' but would like to give: Lucy S, Thayonita, Aaron V and Charlie B special shout out.

Next week we will reflect and work on 'identity' and recognise when we are doing something that we love and says who we are.'

## Chaplaincy BookFace Sip and Swop

Several students have shown an interest in having BookFace. Please email Rachel, your Chaplain [rrose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:rrose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk), if you would be keen to meet others, read new reads, share favourite stories and swop books enjoying light refreshments. Would Thursday 3.15-4.15pm be a good time to meet? We will begin with: The Invisible Child and the Fir Tree, by Tove Jansson ISBN 978-1-908745-74-3 and move onto 'Stone Blind' Masusa's Story by Natalie Haynes ISBN

Why not make time this weekend to join your local library?

We will have time to read some of the book in SJH and continue at home, if you struggle reading, you are welcome, come along and learn how to share a good story and make a friend. I look forward to hearing from you, Rachel.

# School News



## Chaplaincy:

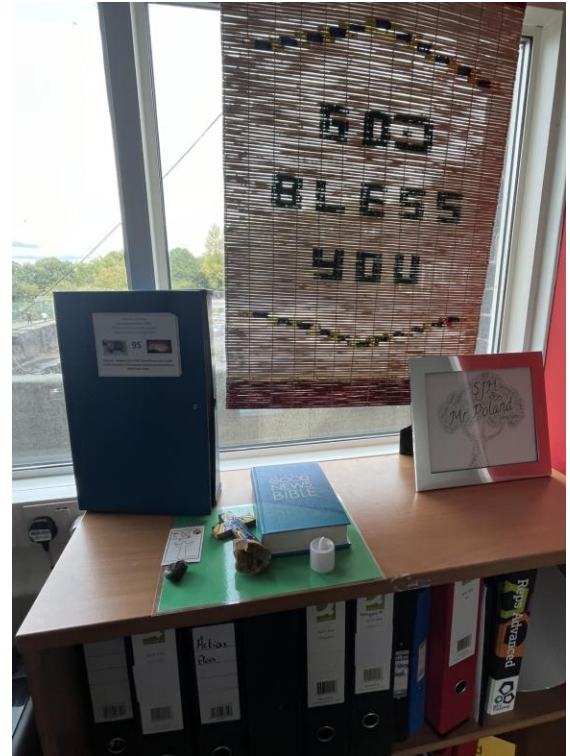
### **Encounter:**

Thank you to the parents and carers of : Tymoteusz G, Henry B, Oliver J, Oliver S, and Leo D - it was my pleasure to chat with these wonderful young students at lunch time, thank you for teaching them manners and smiles, I am sure you are really proud of them!

What you can see when you walk through SJH....Rachel ironing and preparing the Altar Linen in the D&T rooms and a special thanks to Mr Harris for sharing his room.

More thanks to Mr Poland who sets the standard high for his Prayer Corner in his classroom - thank you for keeping Christ at the Centre.

Thanks to Esmee D and Jessica H for sharing the load!



### **School Captains:**

Sincere thanks to George, Amber and Lexi-Mae for taking the time to give thanks and recognise we are a Team - thank you for contacting your Primary Schools to make them know you are SJH School Captains. More thanks for welcoming our Student Teachers, teaching them about the SJH Way and Guarding your Faith.

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# School News



## Chaplaincy:

We are in the Year of Prayer and in December 2024 we will become 'Pilgrims of Hope' in our Jubilee Year



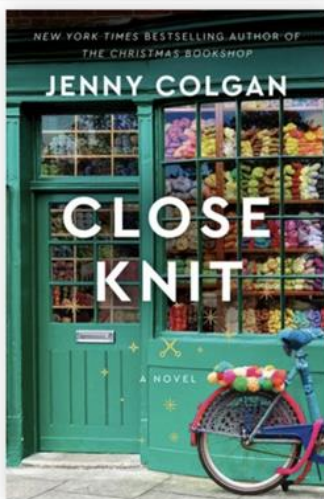
Pupils and parishioners in SJH have suggested we read Jenny Colgan's new read: 'Close Knit' over the summer holiday and gather in October 2024 to discuss the book. Perhaps this could be the beginnings of an SJH and Parish Book Club? Take a look at the bicycle on the book cover – we have a marvellous bicycle to 'yarn bomb' which could travel around SJH, St Thomas, The Priory and the parish during the Jubilee Year, collecting thoughts, reflections and prayers from our local community. Over the summer could you make a decoration to add to our, 'Pilgrim of Hope Bicycle'? Please give all donations to Rachel, School Chaplain.

### Close Knit

A Novel

By Jenny Colgan

On Sale: August 6, 2024



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# School News



## Chaplaincy:

### **SJH Team Chaplaincy**

Here in SJH we model Team Chaplaincy from the Scripture Matt 14 - Jesus feeds the 5,000. Jesus gathered the people, we gather the Year Group; Jesus divided them into groups, we divide them into Tutor Groups, and through giving with a good and generous heart miracles happen - here in SJH we expect miracles.

A Tutor Group from each Year will be Team Chaplaincy.

Rachel would like to thank George, Amber and Lexi-May, our School Captains for leading Team Chaplaincy. Rachel will be serving our School Captains homemade refreshments next

Wednesday. If you would like any questions passing onto the Team please email Rachel.

Rachel would like to thank 8A for their time and support this week. It was lovely to join 8A for Morning Prayer and 8A will be Team Chaplaincy 2024-5.

8S, you did a wonderful job last year and we do expect you to support and continue the good work - we are stronger together.

Rachel is looking forward to meeting 7H, 9A, and 10J who will form Team Chaplaincy 2024-5.

With special thanks to Mrs Eyres, Mr Harris and Mr Keogh for their time and efforts.

### **Faith in Action Awards.**

SJH will be taking part in this National Award Scheme for Bronze, Silver and Gold Levels. Rachel will set an evening meeting after half term to share thoughts and details.

Please do think and pray about joining this Award. Think of it like a Catholic D of E award.

### **FLAME 2025**

SJH will be attending Flame and letters will be sent out to Year 10 and 11. Save the date March 15<sup>th</sup> 2025.

**Briars Year 7** - we still have places available and Rachel is happy to support, encourage and help you to go. Please email Rachel if you would like to chat about attending Briars Year 7 2024. This is a wonderful opportunity!

### **Briars Team 2024-5**

With thanks to all Tutor Groups who have taken the time to make a 'Good Luck' card for the Team. Molly, a former pupil is on the Team this year and Rachel will deliver a goodie box to the team, please can you donate a bar of chocolate, some shower gel, a notebook, some sweets, anything to help the Team feel loved. Lewis and Lennon from the Sound Crew will deliver the gift box to Briars next Thursday with Rachel.

# School News



## Chaplaincy:

### **St Anne's Knitting Group:**

What happens when Mrs Calladine, an Ilkeston parishioner, tells Rachel, 'I'm handing on my knitting to you so you can make blankets for the new babies in the parish!', and Rachel cannot knit!

St Anne's Knitting Group is born, over a hundred hand knitted donations to Charity's all over the world, we meet once a week, in the school holidays we have an extra meeting, we share cake recipes. We include Grandchildren, staff, friends, and we even have a Faith in Action Silver Award Parishioner preparing our refreshments all because Fr Paul and Fr Joby allowed us to use the Church house. Members of St Anne's Knitting Group have supported each other, with knitting and conversations around life and we have had a guest speaker, Secret Santa and we are off on a jolly to see a lace making adventure in the next few weeks.

We try to promote Animal Friendly and Animal Certified yarn and then wonder what we can knit with it. I am delighted to share Mrs Alison Peck has made up this pattern for me - I was so thrilled that I wrote it up for all to see and share and Alison has given her permission for it to go on the Websites, Social Media, noticeboards etc. As part of the SYNOD we can say we are opening our doors, meeting new people and living life to the full.



# School News



## Chaplaincy:

### **The Alison Peck Scarf**

The Alison Peck Scarf – a delicate and eye-catching scarf will enhance your outfit whatever the weather!

The clever arrangement of colour changes over both knit and purl stitches to make this fabric look like it's been woven. The Alison Peck scarf by Alison Peck could be finished with a cheerful fringe.

#### Materials

A pair of 3.5mm (UK 11: US2) needles

A 4mm (UK8:US2/6) Crochet hook

Animal friendly 100% wool. Length to suit your needs.

Tension: Pray as you go. The Alison Peck Scarf has been matched to Mark 7:31-37

Jesus meets a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech. Jesus looked up to heaven she sighed; and he said, 'Ephphatha' that is, 'Be opened.' His ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened, and he spoke clearly.

The St Anne's Knitting Group chose this Scripture because Alison builds God's Kingdom here on earth, it was the Gospel reading for September 8th, 2024, Our Lady's birthday (Mary's mother was Saint Anne – the same St the knitting group is named after) and it matches Alison's chosen charity work.

The reading ends with the people saying, 'He has done all things well.' We hope you enjoy wearing The Alison Peck Scarf and know you are made well and feel proud!

#### Scarf

Cast on 56 stitches

Commence patt

Row 1: K10 P8 K12 P8 K12 P6

Row 2: K6 P12 K8 P12 K8 P10

Repeat X8

Row 9: P8 K12 P8 K12 P8 K8

Row 10: P8 K8 P12 K8 P12 K8

Repeat X8

Keep repeating. These rows form the pattern.

#### Finishing

Select the number of lengths of yarn you need for each tassel and fold them in half. Insert a crochet hook from the WS to the RS of the work where the fringe is to be and hook the folded yarn. Draw the yarn some of the way through the work. Now draw the cut ends through the loop to tighten. Trim ends.





## Friends of Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy:

### 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 **20.09.24,**  
**18.10.24, 6.12.24, 24.01.25, 2.05.25.**

**11.30am-12.30am**

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

Contact –  
**[schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)**



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# School News



## Other useful links:

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

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>

Link to School Calendar: <https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/news/calendar/>

## SJH School holiday dates and inset days 2024-2025:

Inset Day	Friday 27 September 2024
October half term	Monday 28 October 2024 – Friday 1 November 2024
Trust Inset Day	Friday 29 November 2024
Christmas holidays	Monday 23 December 2024 – Friday 3 January 2025
February half term	Monday 17 – Friday 21 February 2025
Trust Inset Day	Monday 24 February 2025
Easter holidays	Monday 7 – Monday 21 April 2025
May half term	Monday 26 – Friday 30 May 2025
Inset Day	Friday 4 July 2025
Last day of term	Thursday 24 July 2025

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