



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

# SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation  
Friday 27 September 2024



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading.

Last night was a huge evening for our school and we were delighted to welcome 200 families for our annual Year 6 Open Evening. It was a wonderful positive evening, where we were able to showcase the best that Saint John Houghton has to offer. As always, a huge 'thank you' to the students who helped us by acting as Tour Guides and Subject Experts. We had a huge number of comments about how brilliant they were and as always, they were the very best advert for our school. Huge credit and thanks also to the staff who pulled together to make the evening a great success.

## Important upcoming dates

**Wednesday 2 October 2024 – Meet the Tutor Event – Year 7 in school, Years 8-11 online**

Next week promises to be a really busy week. Please book onto meet our Meet the Tutor event where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's tutor and discuss any concerns you may have at the beginning of this academic year.

Next week, we will also be launching our Leadership Programme for our Year 10 students, who will have an opportunity to take on a more significant role in the leadership of our school.

Today (Friday) we are undertaking safeguarding training on our Inset Day, which is an extremely important aspect of our keeping your children safe agenda. Hopefully, our students enjoy their 3-day weekend, and we will see them all again bright and early on Monday morning. A bit of homework for you as parents, if you haven't already, please log into Arbor... More next week!

**Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!**  
**Mr S Brogan - Headteacher**

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

Telephone: 0115 9322896

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# 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.

## **School vacancy:**

We are currently recruiting for an Admin/Cover Assistant to join our school on a permanent basis, further details about the post are on the below link:

[https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Administration%2520\(School%2520based\)&Advert=Fl8k-MVWlRBFXKoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D&Region=SaintJohnHoughtonCatholicVoluntaryAcademy](https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Administration%2520(School%2520based)&Advert=Fl8k-MVWlRBFXKoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D&Region=SaintJohnHoughtonCatholicVoluntaryAcademy)

## **After school and lunchtime clubs:**

### **Sports clubs:**

Year 7 boys football - 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

**Homework club:** Mondays and Thursdays 3.15-4pm in Emmaus

**Lunchtime craft club:** Thursday lunchtimes – 1.30-2pm in Emmaus – everyone welcome and bring your lunch.

## **Book donations:**

The English department are creating a mini library in each classroom, if parents/carers have any suitable aged reading books you would like to donate, please hand them into reception.

## **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



## Year 7 Football:

On the 23rd of September, Year 7 played their first competitive football match as a team. It was a cup game against local rivals Kirk Hallam School.

After being 3-0 up and cruising, Kirk Hallam slowly came back into the match, and it ended 3-2. Goals were scored by Finlay W, Dexter B and Jasper McN. The boys worked hard, showed grit and determination and deserved the overall win.

They will play Repton School in the next round.







## Attendance update:

# Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### **Per Parent, Per Child**

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

### **5 consecutive days of term time leave**

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

### **10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period**

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

### **First Offence**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

### **Second Offence (within 3 years)**

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

### **Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)**

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

## **Can my child take a holiday in term time?**

The simple answer is NO – pupils can only take leave of absence during term time if this is approved in advance by the school. Leave taken without permission may result in a penalty notice and or prosecution.



## The Law and School Attendance:

In September 2013 the government introduced new regulations making it clear that Headteachers must not give approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Any requests for term time leave should be made on a Request for Leave form available from the school office and handed in at least 12 days before the first date of the requested absence whenever possible. You must have received written authorisation before your child can be absent from school.

Parent/carers may be issued with a penalty notice fine or prosecution should leave of 5 days or more be taken which is not authorised by the Headteacher, or where repeated incidents of leave in term time for less than 5 days occur or where the unauthorised absence contributes to wider poor attendance that meets the legal threshold. Absence deemed for the reason of unauthorised leave in term time will be marked in the register with the Attendance code G.

### Absence during Term Time

The Headteacher will only grant an **exceptional leave of absence** to a pupil during term time if the request meets the specific circumstances.

The school considers each application for term-time absence individually, taking into account the specific facts, circumstances and relevant background context behind the request.

Matters **NOT** considered 'exceptional circumstances' include:

- The family cannot afford to go on holiday in school holiday time, or have a special holiday offer for term time.
- To visit family members abroad (unless they are severely ill which may be considered).
- To spend time with a family member who is visiting from abroad in term time.
- Because you or your partner cannot get time off work during school holiday time.
- You have a family tradition of going at a certain time of year.
- Going away for a birthday celebration (including the child's birthday)

### Home visits where pupils don't attend school

When a pupil is absent from school, and no reason for absence is received, the school will contact parents/carers by text message or phone call. In the event we are unable to make contact regarding the absence, the school may try other contacts held on a child's record and/or reserve the right to make an unannounced home visit.

### Penalty Notices

Leave of absence that has not been approved will therefore be unauthorised and may lead to a referral being made to the Local Authority for action. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996



## Careers update:

### **A message to Year 11:**

Hi all, as you reach your last year here at SJH, it is now more important than ever that you start to consider your options for when you leave us. Over the course of this first term, you will have a talk from our Careers Advisor on your Post-16 options. There will also be a Post-16 event, detailed below, where representatives from local colleges and sixth forms will come into school and you can chat to them and get a feel for what is out there. In registers packs this week, you were given a list of all of the Open Evenings happening in the local area. Please have a look at this ASAP, keep an open mind, and visit as many places as you can, to really get a feel for what will be the right fit for you. One-to-one careers appointments will be happening for all Year 11s over the coming months too - keep an eye out in registers every Tuesday for when your appointment will be.

### **Post-16 Options Fair**

## **Post-16 Options Fair**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**3.15 – 5.15pm**

**YEAR 10 and YEAR 11 Students**

*Parents/Guardians are invited to accompany their child from 3.30pm onwards.*

*Location: School Hall*

Our Post-16 Options Fair will provide Year 10 and 11 students with the chance to chat with representatives from local colleges/training providers.

All of the following will be in attendance:

- Bilborough College
- Nottingham College
- Derby College
- Keele University
- St Benedict's Sixth Form
- The Kimberley School Sixth Form
- Born to Perform Academy
- Kirk Hallam School Sixth Form
- The Army
- Learning Curve Group
- George Spencer Sixth Form
- Aldercar High School
- G3A Football Academy
- Heanor Gate Sixth Form

# School News



## Upcoming college/sixth form open days/evenings:

Luminate Careers, our Careers Advice provider, have prepared a list of all local upcoming open days/evenings. Students, have been given a paper copy, parents, please see attachment for a copy of this. Please check websites to double check dates before attending.

Upcoming:

Kirk Hallam Sixth Form: 7<sup>th</sup> Oct

George Spencer Sixth Form: 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct

The Becket Sixth Form: 25<sup>th</sup> Sept

Bilborough College: 5<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Oct, 9<sup>th</sup> Nov - These require booking

via <https://bookwhen.com/bilboroughcollege#focus=ev-s0wt-20241005093000>

## Virtual Careers Days:

I have received an advert from the below company, who offer virtual careers days, at a cost, to students interested in a particular area. These have not been used by the school before and so I am unable to offer any advice on them, but please take a look if this is something that interests you as it could provide good experience for a future job role.

[www.careerdays.co.uk](http://www.careerdays.co.uk)

The schedule is as follows:

**Medicine Career Day** - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Dentistry Career Day** - Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Business Career Day** - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Psychology Career Day** - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Architect Career Day** - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Performing Arts Career Day** - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Law Career Day** - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

**Vet Career Day** - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Computer Science Career Day** - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024

**Engineering & Technology Career Day** - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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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



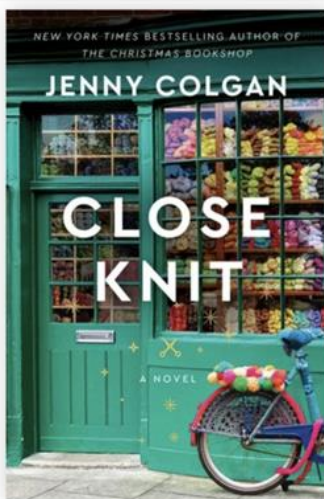
Pupils and parishioners in SJH have suggested we read Jenny Colgan's new read: 'Close Knit' over the summer holiday and gather in October 2024 to discuss the book. Perhaps this could be the beginnings of an SJH and Parish Book Club? Take a look at the bicycle on the book cover – we have a marvellous 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



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

**11.30am-12.30pm**

*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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## **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:**

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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