



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation
Friday 11 October 2024



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,
School life can be manic! It is very rare in school that there is a 'quiet week.' There is the odd week where I struggle for material and then some weeks come along, where three sides of A4 would not be enough to write about what happens during a school week. And yet, our school continues to feel calm, orderly and purposeful. There is always a 'honeymoon period' at the start of the academic year, where all students conform and do what is expected, before what feels like the wheels coming off in October or November. This is not the case this year and it feels like we have entered a new phase in the life of our school. I showed 5 prospective families around last week, we saw two children out of lessons in a whole hour. A true measure of our school.

Important upcoming dates

Half term holiday: 28 Oct – 1 Nov 2024

On Tuesday evening, approximately 80% of our Year 11 students and some Year 10s attended our annual Careers Evening. My sincere thanks to Mr Riley who coordinated the event and is raising the profile of Careers across our school. Our students have 'big choices' coming up. For our Year 11s, their Mock Exams kick-off next week with the GCSE Food Practicals. Good luck to all involved. Our Year 11 Health and Social Care students also presented to the staff on Wednesday evening this week. They were knowledgeable and insightful.

This morning, we had our annual visit from the Gideons who have made it their mission to ensure the Bible is accessible to all. The Bible is a great source of strength and inspiration to all, so I would encourage our Year 7s to treasure their gift of the Bible and use its guidance in their daily lives. 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.

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

Year 7/8/9 boys/girls rugby – 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.

Games club: Monday lunchtimes in HU2

Film club: Friday lunchtimes from 1.35pm in E3

Winter school meal menus:

Please see below link to the new winter school meals menu which begins 4 November 2024:

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2024/10/Secondary-AutumnWinter-24-25-Menu.pdf>

Secondary school admissions for Year 7 - September 2025:

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 2024, 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/3/2024/03/St-Ralph-Sherwin-Supplementary-information-Form-2025-26.pdf>

School News



2025-2026 School term dates and inset days:

Please see below link to next year's term dates, please note the additional inset days will be confirmed in due course:

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/parents/term-dates/>

Carousel in English:

We have had an excellent response to our Carousel study packs. Within fourteen days, we have had over 1200 questions answered about English. We plan to reveal the highest 'quizzers' at the end of each month. Plus, we will be reporting on a student's use of the system in all parents' evenings.

Our highest Carousel users so far are:

Year 7 = Emma S, Ben M, Ewan T

Year 8 = Ernest Y, Felix H, Abigail W

Year 9 = Jacob F

Year 10 = Natalia L, James G, Holly Ann P

Year 11 = Amber F, Amelia L, Lewis L

Please remind your child to use the study packs as part of their revision and ongoing work in English. We have included the links for all the groups below under the **English** curriculum.

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/curriculum/subjects/#1635862827369-e45bcc09-9559>

Thank you,
The English Department

School News



Derbyshire Golf School Competition:

Congratulations to Austino E who came 2nd place in the Derbyshire Schools Matchplay Championship. We are very proud of him and his achievements and will be watching his career in earnest moving forward!



U12s County Cup

On Thursday, the under 12s girls football team represented the school in the County Cup against Heanor Gate on home turf. It was a close game within the first 15 minutes, SJH battled through the challenges and defended their lines. Unfortunately, Heanor Gate played a ball down the right hand side, and had a shot from an angle which slotted in the near post. 1-0 down Heanor Gate dominated possession and had a shot from further out and scored. SJH were 2-0 down at half time. The team were determined to get a goal back, and came out fighting second half. Belle took the ball down the right wing, cut in and had a shot on target, the goalkeeper made a comfortable save. For 10 minutes, SJH dominated the play, and did not allow Heanor Gate through. Betsy kept the ball out the net by making a number of outstanding saves. Within the last 5 minutes, SJH battled through but unfortunately, Heanor Gate had a shot on target and went in, making it 3-0. The final whistle went and SJH exit from the County Cup. Player of the match, nominated by the opposition goes to Betsy and Rhaven. The team showed excellent sportsmanship throughout. I am proud of the team for not giving up and showing resilience. Superb role models



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Careers update:

Post-16 Roadshow

On Tuesday 8th October, we held a Post-16 Roadshow in school, where students and parents were invited in to chat with a range of different Post-16 providers from across the local area. In attendance there were:

Bilborough College, Heanor Gate Science College, George Spencer Academy, The Long Eaton School, Juniper Training, Prostart, Kirk Hallam Academy, Kimberley School, St Benedicts School, Army, Learning Curve group, Born to perform College, G3A Football, Keele University, YMCA, Ask Apprenticeships, Wilsthorpe School.

It was fantastic to see so many Year 10 and 11 students in attendance and eager to start considering their options for their future study. We hope this gave you a starting point and an idea of what lies ahead.

If you have any feedback or suggestions for next years event, please let us know.

Upcoming Open Days

The Long Eaton school have contacted us to ask to promote their Open Day which will take place on 17th October - please see their website for further details. There have been many students from St John Houghton who have had a successful time at the Long Eaton Sixth Form.

Other Open Days happening this week are:

Notts College - Highfields - 15th Oct
Notts College - Basford - 16th Oct
Bilborough College - 16th Oct
UTC Pride park - 12th Oct
JCB Academy - 15th Oct
Chellaston Sixth Form - 17th Oct
Derby Moor Sixth Form - 16th Oct
Littleover Sixth Form - 17th Oct
John Port Sixth Form - 17th Oct
The Long Eaton School Sixth Form - 17th Oct
Ripley Academy - 16th Oct
Trinity School - 17th Oct

School News



Arbor:

Your child should have received instructions on how to access Arbor. They will need to access Arbor to view their homework.

If your child can successfully log into Arbor, please ignore this message.

If your child has not yet been able to login to Arbor, please ask them to follow the instructions below.

Please note, there is no student Arbor App, so they will need to log into Arbor using a normal web browser such as Google Chrome or MS Edge.

Go to <https://login.arbor.sc>

Click **Forgot your password**

Enter your school email address and click **Reset Password**.

Log into your school email and then follow the instructions on the email. (Students can login to their email using [Microsoft 365 email](#) - If they are unable to login to their email, they need to speak to their form tutor).

Once you have set your password, you need to use your school email address and the new password to login to [Arbor](#).

If they are still not able to login, please ask them to speak to their form tutor or the school office.

Arbor update – Homework:

As we introduce Arbor to the student body we are beginning to set homework on the platform. In Arbor all Homework tasks are called 'Assignments'. Teaching staff are also asking students to write any homework into their Student Diary to support those who have not logged into Arbor yet.

Currently, most Homework set on Arbor allows the teacher to manually mark when a student submits a task. Until the Teacher has marked the homework as being submitted, it will still show as outstanding on the student and parent/carer Arbor information page.

All staff are working hard to learn the new systems that Arbor has. No student will be sanctioned for outstanding homework, that may still be showing on Arbor, when their teacher knows that they have submitted the work.

Thank you for your ongoing support with Arbor - any queries please direct to: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

Arbor attendance marks:

Please allow at least 24 hours before querying any discrepancies in attendance marks, if you have any queries regarding attendance marks, please email studentabsence@sjh.srscmat.co.uk



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 19th 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

School News



Chaplaincy:

Please support the 'fundies' Autumn Craft Fair at the Church Hall Ilkeston on 12th October 2024 11.00am - 2.00pm. An opportunity to purchase scrummy cakes and bakes and craft items to buy!

October Bingo

The Knights of Saint Columba invite us to 'Bingo Night' at the parish hall in Ilkeston on Saturday 12th October at 7.30pm

Mass intentions

Please consider having a mass celebrated in one of our churches by Fr Paul or Fr Joby. The diocese recommend a donation for a mass to be celebrated is £10.00 which goes directly into church funds. Rachel can support you with organizing this.

Children's Social Club

If you would like your child (ages 5-11) to be part of the new children's club, please contact Rachel Rose, who will contact the Youth Club Volunteers for you. We hope to host the first event at the parish hall in Ilkeston on Saturday 19th October.

Confirmation 2024

We have 20 candidates who have signed up for the Confirmation programme which begins on October 16th in Our Lady's Eastwood. Please can you pray for the candidates and catechists. Thank you.



Dear SJH Community,

This is a wonderful opportunity to support our local Parish. If you would like Rachel and Team to collect a ball of yarn for you to knit for Ukraine please email Rachel asap. Closing date 1st December 2024

School News



Chaplaincy:

Chaplaincy Lunchtime club:

Are you interested in going 'Plastic Free?' Come along and learn more on:

Monday lunchtimes - Monday 14th and 21st October

All lunchtime, you can pop in or stay a while.

Location: The Chapel - if the stairs are problematic we will move to a downstairs location.

Virtue Points will be earned and rewarded.

We are in The Year of Prayer:

Rachel is offering an 'After School Club' on the following dates:

Tuesday 15th October 24

Tuesday 22nd October 24

Please email Rachel if you would like to attend so she can prepare the resources.

Time: 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Location: The Chapel

Target: Rachel will teach you how to make a 'prayer banner'. Choose the word 'prayer' in a different language, then sew the lettering onto cloth and this will be taken to join craftwork of the Eastwood Parishioners to make a 'Prayer Banner' in church. Rachel will provide resources, if you would like to prepare you won't then please do bring what you have. No prior experience required.

School News



Chaplaincy:

Here in SJH we live our School Prayer and Virtues.

The following students have been noticed for:

'Empower me with the conviction to put my heart into all that I soul for the good of others.'

Virtue: Reconciliation

Lucas M, Ava M, Sasha E, Amelia-May D, Cara J, Orla B and Elisia T.

'Father, give me the courage to always do what is right.'

Virtue: Aspiration

Alfie L, Lennon P, Lewis G, Harley D and Miley S.

Provide me with the strength of mind to keep my faith.

Virtue: Faithfulness

'Amber F, George J and Lexi-Mae H

SJH meet The Briars Team 2024-5

Student Voice by Alfie L, Harley D and Lennon P

"On Monday Rachel drove us to Briars, it was the first time I had been to Crich and we met The Team: Molly, Eleanor, Elena, Jakob, JP, Mele, Annie, Elise, Issie and Sophie. Elena and Mele are from Germany and 'giving a year to God', their English was amazing and we were impressed with how friendly and positive they all were. They really encouraged us to visit again and think about joining Team when we are 18.

The building was in the countryside and it was really peaceful. Molly, gave us a tour of the Briars and it looked really smart. You can see a lot of good work goes on there and Year 7 will have a fun time. We delivered sweets, biscuits and hot chocolate and they gave us a Briars eraser, to get rid of your mistakes and start again and a Rosary Bead which has been blessed.

Whilst we were there, Bishop Patrick and the Priests of the Diocese were having a meeting and they joined us for a chat and we had a laugh together.

It was interesting listening to how the Team run, how the Briars is developing and how many young people have the opportunity to encounter Christ there. Maybe my Soundcrew role will support Briars when I leave SJH.

I do think this was a really good thing to do - it gave us the opportunity to chat to Rachel, to enjoy refreshments and we really well think about going to Briars when the time comes. Meeting the Team was really powerful. It was good to be in the chapel and just ask God for peace in the world".

School News



Chaplaincy:

Dear SJH, I do not have favourites! If you would like to visit Briars this Academic year or attend Saturday evening Mass at Briars then just email me and I will do my best to support this. Have a think about what maybe stopping you for taking full advantage and perhaps after taking some time to think and pray we can take small steps to be the person you were created to be.

Prayer in SJH:

Rachel would like to thank the staff and students who joined her in the Chapel on Monday to pray to the Rosary for peace. Please can the Year 7 Team who visited the Chapel pop into Rachel at break time or email her your names so she can award you a Virtue point - it was great to be with you all! More thanks to the Year 8 Team who led the Jimmy Mizzen handprints for peace.

It was my pleasure to lead Act of Worship this week in SJH on The Rosary. Many thanks to George, Amber and Lexi-Mae who shared their reflections on the Gospel reading and encouraged us to take a line from the Gospels, we read and dig a bit deeper to reflect what they may be saying to us today. Please know Rachel is always here to support your prayer life.

We do laugh at the water bottle, coat, bags and accessories but please do try and keep your Rosary Beads with your mobile phone, pray a Hail Mary when you can and it will never, ever be a waste of time!

FLAME 2025:

We have 5 students who have accepted the opportunity to attend Flame 2025. If you are Year 9 or above you can go on the 'Reserve or Waiting List'. and I would highly recommend you do this. Rachel will organise a parents Information Evening nearer the time, if you do require more information, please do not hesitate to contact school.

SRSCMAT Chaplains:

The SRSCMAT chaplains will be meeting on Friday 11th October 2024. Rachel will be attending, if you would like her to add any suggestion, ask any questions at this meeting she will take your thoughts to the meeting. Please pray for the Chaplains on Friday, thank you.

Planning and celebrating Prayer and Liturgy with Young People:

A practical and pastoral expression of the Prayer and Liturgy Directory of Nottingham Diocese. Rachel attended this Diocesan direction meeting on Wednesday and was delighted to be affirmed that SJH are in line with the Diocese in the way we plan, deliver and use the correct vocabulary in Collective Worship. We keep Christ at the Center, we know and understand what we do and why we do it and give the glory back to God and work to try to build His Kingdom here on Earth and not ours.

The Word of the Week next week is: Poverty and our Virtue is: Compassion. Year 11 and Year 9 will be leading our Acts of Worship. Parents and carers can always email Rachel if they would like to join our Collective Worship - please do email in advance.

Our mission will be: 'Make a donation.'

What will your donation look like? Rachel will be collecting coins for Mission, you could donate your time, the work of your hands...

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School News



Chaplaincy:

Birthday's

Don't be too busy you don't enjoy school life. It was lovely to be with pupils celebrating 15th birthday this week - Rachel made a cake and we had 5-10 minutes with friends wishing them well.

Rachel pops into Emmaus and Damascus most days and is always happy to chat - it is so important to have a 'good end of the day' and feel better about returning to SJH to start a new day.

Confirmation Programme begins on 16th October. Please keep these 27 young people in your prayers.

Friends of SJH - We have Talent! October 18th we will open our doors to parishioners and friends and they would love to hear you sing, play a musical instrument, solos or as a group welcome. Don't be shy and add your name to Rachel's list.

School Captains:

Rachel will be taking the School Captains to Beauvale Priory on Friday 18th this is the start of our preparation for the Beauvale Pilgrimage in May 2025.

From Monday 14th October you have the opportunity to join The Junior Beauvale Society 2024-25. Please pay £2.00, bring in the cash in a labeled envelope and you will receive a Membership Card, two newsletters a year and a Christmas Card. The money you donate (next week's word of the week) will go toward The Beauvale Pilgrimage.

Beauvale Planning Meeting: 22nd October 2024 7.30pm Rachel has given apologies for this meeting but has sent information via email. Are you giving your apologies or attending?

October 25th 2025 we need Student Voice. How do you want to celebrate SJH Day? John Houghton was beatified on 29th December 1886 by Pope Leo x111 and canonized by Pope Paul V1 on 25th October 1970. Please email Rachel with your suggestions. We will wear our uniform with pride.

Competition Time.: Thank you for the photographs, entries still open. Prize: Rachel will treat you to hot chocolate and a visit to Beauvale Tea Rooms and Priory.

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 –
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Other useful links:

Safeguarding concerns: please email 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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Inset day 1	Thursday 4 September 2025
Year 7 only in school	Friday 5 September 2025
All years return to school	Monday 8 September 2025
Inset day 2	Friday 26 September 2025
October half term	Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2025
Inset day	TBC
Christmas holidays	Monday 22 December 2025 – Friday 2 January 2026
February half term	Monday 16 – Friday 20 February 2026
Trust Inset Day	TBC
Easter holidays	Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April 2026
May half term	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026
Inset Day	TBC
Last day of term	Thursday 23 July 2026

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