



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation
Friday 18 October 2024



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,
Winter is coming! There has been a noticeable change in the weather this week as we move into the depths of Autumn and 'look forward' to the winter months.

It has been another exciting week in school. In the coming week, we will have appointed our Senior Students in Year 10, who will take a lead, along with the Student Captains in leading our student body and each tutor group, will also have a School Council representative. Student Voice really is crucial to us and Mrs Boddice (Assistant Headteacher), with the support of other staff in school are building this crucial team, who will ensure the voice of our students is heard loud and clear. We have also had 450+ responses to our Student Survey so far!

Important upcoming dates

Half term holiday: 28 Oct – 1 Nov 2024

Alongside this, we are also running our annual parent survey. Please do complete it before half term, so that we are able to gather your thoughts on our school. Your views are genuinely listened to and taken seriously so please do take the 5 minute it takes to complete it. I will share the results with you after half term. The survey can be found by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/s7SdbezVWr>

In 2023 we accrued 225 responses. So far this year we have 136. Please make your voice heard.

If you have a child in Year 6, please don't forget that applications need to be completed by 31 October 2024 on your local authority's website. We will also need a 'pink form' if you intend to apply on faith grounds.

Thank you as always for your continued support, 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

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



School vacancy:

We are currently recruiting for Exam Invigilator's to join our school on a casual basis, further details about the post are on the below link:

<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Exam%2520Invigilators&Advert=8iTsIbXMNDVFXXoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D&Region=SaintJohnHoughtonCatholicVoluntaryAcademy>

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/>

School Uniform Policy:

There have been a few changes to the school uniform policy, the updated policy is now on our website, the link is below:

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/parents/dress-code-and-equipment/>

Notable changes are that white polo tops will no longer be permitted during the summer term, white short or long sleeve shirts must continue to be worn throughout the school year.

The reason for the change is that we recognise that purchasing extra polo tops to be worn in the summer are an extra expense to parents/carers.

After listening to students' suggestions, black tailored shorts will be able to be worn in the summer term – after the Easter break. They must be **smart tailored shorts**, any other shorts including sports shorts will not be permitted.

Careers update:

Year 11 Post-16 Options Talk

On Monday 14th October, Year 11 students had a talk from our Careers Adviser, Amanda, about Post-16 options. Students were given an insight into what options lie ahead after they leave us at SJH. Please encourage your child to start thinking about their chosen pathway and to attend local events/open days. Thank you to Amanda for giving our students this important information.

School News



Year 10 Erewash Netball Tournament

Congratulations to the Year 10 netball team who finished in 2nd place at the area tournament. Losing in the final game to Wilsthorpe 1-0. A great effort from all who took part.

Results were

SJH v OIEA won 2-0

SJH v Kirk Hallam won 4-2

SJH v Wilsthorpe lost 1-0

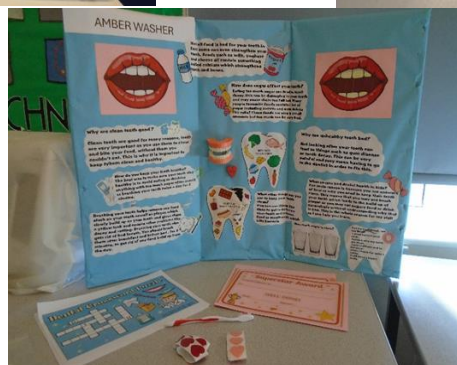
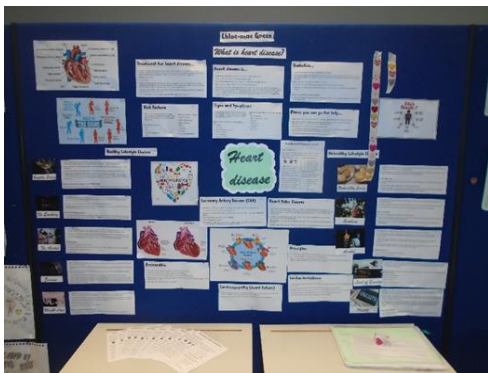
Well done girls

Mrs Joslin



Year 11 Health & Social Care Students:

As part of their course the Year 11 students have been learning about health promotion. They were given the topics of either child dental health or heart disease and stroke. The students then had to make their own health promotion campaign. The chosen audience was for child dental health Year 2 students at St Thomas and for heart disease and stroke it was adults, the staff at school. They could choose how to present their campaign so there was a selection of different methods which included, powerpoints, display, games, leaflets and even some interactive activities involving teeth. We held a road show after school for staff to learn about healthy lifestyle choices in order to prevent heart disease and stroke and 6 students went to St Thomas to promote their campaign on looking after your teeth. The photos show some of the displays that the students produced.



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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:

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.

Chaplaincy Amazing Donations from:

Thank you!! Honey P, Logan B, Lacie S, Anthony M.

Please follow SJH Chaplain on 'X' for updates on daily life in SJH. Thank you.

More Virtue Points and Praise Postcards going to: Kaiden J and Chloe P, SJH competition winners.

Sharewear

With thanks to all who donate to Sharewear. We collect clothes you would wear - and no longer require. Good quality clothing to go to a new home.

Please check out our second hand uniform before you buy new. Thank you all!

SJH family, parents, carers, pupils, Rachel will be in SJH all day on Thursday 24th October 2024 in Reception with Sharewear to give to all, to share conversation and to support before we enter half term. Just pop in and receive a warm welcome.



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

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School News



Chaplaincy:

Chaplaincy Lunchtime club:

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

Monday lunchtimes - 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 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 then please do bring what you have. No prior experience required.

School News



Chaplaincy:

Are you a Parish Ambassador? Please make Rachel Rose aware of the Parish you go to, if you serve, sing, welcome. Perhaps you are on the Reading Rota? Washing up rota? Perhaps you just go along, enjoy being in the presence of the Lord? A Parish Ambassador links the school and parish. We share dates, share invitations to gatherings such as the CAFOD Harvest lunch in Eastwood last week where Lucy and Donald were amazing examples of what a Parish Ambassador could look like!



With thanks to all who made this CAFOD Harvest Lunch possible, the prayer, the information, the wonderful food and service was a real gift and inspiration. Lucy and Donald will lead SJH in Eastwood's example of service with love in action during Lent 2025. Thank you Lucy, Donald and your families for the weekend support from everyone in our SJH family and CAFOD.



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Chaplaincy:

Rachel is preparing our 2024-25 Parish Ambassador information. Please pop in and chat to Rachel about what this entails. Please note if you were a Parish Ambassador last year you are not automatically 'rolled over' to this year. We do take this support seriously; it is a simple but very effective role.



FLAME 2025:

Delighted to send Prize Postcards home to Lucy S, Weluchi O, David B, Sasha E and Honey E who will be joining Rachel and Mr Brogan at Flame 2025 - fabulous ambassadors for SRSCMAT and our Diocese. Thank you for this support.

Act of Worship:

Here in SJH we gather, we have the time to hear the Word of the Lord, to reflect on the message and we are 'sent out' to make the world a better place. Mr Carr led a wonderful Act of Worship to our Year 10 and 11 students and shared their chosen Charity for 2024-5. Christ is at the center of SJH. Mr Brogan welcomes, prays with our young people, busy staff spend hours preparing inspirational Acts of Worship, prepared with care and deep reflection. And this time is given each day in SJH. If you would like to lead an Act of Worship, take part in any way at all, you are welcome, simply make Rachel aware. This is a warm invitation to all sent with a big, 'thank you.'



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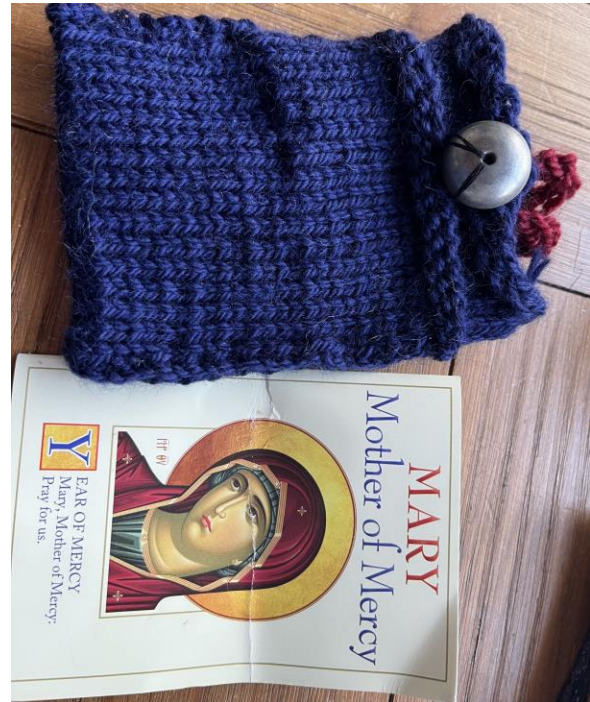


Chaplaincy:

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.

Thank you for the time to pray the Rosary in SJH.

Delighted to have made some Rosary bags with pupils this week! Well done all.



SJH Choir

Rachel would like to thank Mr Quenby, Mrs Artiss and the SJH Choir for 'thank you for the music, the songs you're singing, thanks for all the joy you're bringing ' to the 'Friends of SJH Coffee Morning' this Friday! It was fabulous to be with you on Tuesday lunchtime!

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Parish Preparation course for Confirmation. Bishop Patrick will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 6th December at 7.00pm at Our Lady and St Thomas' Church, Ilkeston. Our parish volunteers gathered on Saturday evening for and shared a meal, conversation and prayer.



With thanks to our young people who brought energy and power to our evening. All are invited to pray for our Confirmation candidates. The 'Dove Board' will be travelling around Ilkeston, Eastwood and Stapleford. With special thanks to Alistair, Chris, Rose and Andrew for their time and support. Our volunteers led Small Group discussions, gave a huge welcome and are very much appreciated!



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School News



What comes to mind when you read or hear the word Catholic, Christian? What do you think is the best image, symbol or sign of the 'Catholic Faith' and what does it teach us about how God communicates with us? Our guest speaker was Chris Fitzgerald who brought music, and his own faith story to share. With special thanks to Fr Paul for all the hard work, the welcome and all washing up!



We enjoyed an open fire with hot chocolate! Where can God find you this week? Let your heart be lifted up! There will be many, many times, you have given and caused love and caused joy. Let God smile upon you. See you all next week! With thanks, Rachel.



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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



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School News



Roll of honour in subject areas:

The following students have been identified by Curriculum Leaders for their hard work and effort in the following subjects. Well done to these students.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Maths	Joey A	Edan B	Lily P	Evie-Mai D	Ruby D
English	Jake A	Lily S	Charlie B	Isabella O	Casey M
Science	Penelope S	Santiago R	Isacc T	Natalia L	Lilly-Mae W
Theology Years 7 & 8 - Religious Education Years 7,9 & 10	William P-E	Rosa-May S-S	Ava F	Lottie L	Rhodina K
Geography	Summer B	Grace J	Oscar R	Kayla N	Taner G
History	Joshua R	Dominika P	Finlay L	Jamie M	Niamh W
Computing & Business	Farleigh S	Maisie J	George Q	Business: Joseph S IMedia: Violet R	Rebecca J Business: Emilia T IMedia: David O
Music	Leo M	Esmae D	Magdalena A	Nancy W	Lily H
French	Bathany R	Thayonita R	Sophie S	Julia H	Amelia L
Spanish	George Y	Amelia C	Imogen K	Bethany D-R	Brooke L
PE & Health & Social Care	Jack E	Phoebe S	Sami S	Brianna M GCSE: Cole B Sports studies: Ifi T H&S care: Emily L	Liam F GCSE: Oliver E Sports Studies: Olivia S H&S care: Chloe-Mae G
Design	Filip S	Jacob O	Alice C	DT: Oscar H Engineering: Ethan G Art: Hallie B Food: Joshua R	DT: William N Engineering: Harry V Art: Emily H Food: Francesca S

School News



Roll of honour from Year Leaders:

The following students have been recognised by their KS3 or KS4 Leader. Well done to these students.

Miss Turgoose:

Year 7: Bailey C for being a model student in year 7

Year 8: Ava-May H for her continued hard work

Year 9: William J for the most positive virtue points and working hard in all lessons

Mr Ritchie:

Year 10: Casey E for supporting the school community

Year 11: Rhodina K for always working hard

The Saint John Houghton Award:

Robyn R in year 9 has been nominated by staff for this week's St John Houghton Award, she has been nominated for guarding her faith and the respect she shows to the school community.

School News



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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SJH School holiday dates and inset days 2025-2026 – Additional inset days will be confirmed in due course:

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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