



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation
Friday 24 January 2025



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,

Many thanks for reading the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for your ongoing support for our school. The Monday just passed is often referred to as 'Blue Monday,' supposedly the most challenging day of the entire year! There was no sign of that in school and our School Captains led us in a terrific Act of Worship, providing us with a little fun too!

On Tuesday, all students also received a doughnut, provided by the PTA, as a thank you for all of their efforts in the 60th Anniversary Celebrations. It is important to remind ourselves that we work in a terrific school and our young people really are wonderful (the vast majority of the time)!

Important upcoming dates

17-21 February 2025 – half term holiday

Thanks to all of our Year 9 parents/carers who joined us on Wednesday. Our Year 9's are at a crucial stage of their education, considering their options choices and we wish them well with their decision-making in the coming months.

Yesterday, I had the great opportunity to meet our MP (Adam Thompson). I took the opportunity to discuss with him the challenges we face in education across the country, especially around SEND provision and funding. Adam has built a strong link with our school, and he even mentioned us in a debate in the House of Commons last week!

It will be great to welcome some visitors into school today for our usual half-termly coffee morning and we thank you all for your ongoing support for our school. 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.

Number 11 bus update:

From after the Easter holidays, we are pleased to inform students who use the number 11 bus that it has been agreed with Kirk Hallam Community Academy, that the bus will be able to collect our students at 3.25pm from the bus stop at the end of Abott Road, the later 4pm service will no longer run. There will be no change to the morning service. Just a reminder that the number 11 bus will only run when Kirk Hallam Community Academy is open.

Donations of PE equipment

We would be grateful for any donations of PE equipment to support our students, please contact the school office if you have anything you are able to donate.

School vacancies:

We are currently recruiting for three vacancies; the details are below:

Permanent Part-time/term time Science Technician:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2025-SJHCVA-12010>

Permanent Full time/term time Cover Supervisor:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2025-SJHCVA-52144>

Casual contract - Exam Invigilator:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2025-SJHCVA-48138>

5-star Food Hygiene Rating:

We are delighted to share that our school kitchen has been awarded a 5-star food hygiene rating following a recent inspection.



School News



Derbyshire schools cross country championships:

On Saturday a number of students from SJH ran at the Derbyshire Schools Championships. They had already competed in a district round and finished in the top 12 which meant that they were selected to represent Erewash at the County finals. Well done to Seb R, Fraser H-G, Oliver E, Caoimhe C, Niamh W, George J and Luke C.



Wakefield indoor series

Well done to Summer B who competed in the Wakefield indoor series at the weekend.

She got 2 big pbs in long jump (4.50m) and shot put 9.07m
She also won the 50m and 50m hurdles races!



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Chaplaincy

SJH Knitting Club

SJH are extending the Saint Anne's Knitting Group in the Parish to SJH.

You are welcome to join. Knitters, no-knitters, welcome. Why not bring your crocheting along too?

30.01.25, 06.02.25 and 13.02.25

In SJH Chapel

3.15pm - 4.15pm

Please bring your own needles and yarn.

If you are starting a new project, please bring Size 8 needles and DK yarn.

Please email Rachel for more details. Rose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

All welcome.

Dream Team Deliver Doughnuts to every student in SJH!

SJHPTA spoilt every student with a doughnut to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. Mrs Hartharn, Mrs McDermott, Miss Sanderson and Rachel managed the Doughnut Dash before break time - just what you need mid-January!



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Faith in Action

Lucy, Caitlin and Evie-Mae are going the extra mile and taking every opportunity offered to all in SJH! These marvellous students are making huge progress, collecting Positive Points, receiving Praise Postcards and making the world a better place.

Please do contact Rachel if you would like to join in some or all of the opportunities offered to you in SJH.

As part of the Faith in Action Gold Award, Lucy has learnt why we are having new Bibles in School, Caitlin and Evie-Mae can give tours of our Chapel with great understanding and knowledge. Lucy, Caitlin and Evie-Mae are putting service before self and supporting 'Circle of Friends', teaching and learning new skills.

Can you spot some new calendars in SJH with the Word of The Week, Mission and CST and Virtue link?

More thanks to the Faith in Action Team who will lead Act of Worship on Monday and Tuesday next week.



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Act of Worship

Well done and thank you to our School Captains who led our Act of Worship on Monday and Tuesday this week. What a brilliant idea to add a little bit of magic to the beginning of the week! I was really impressed that George, Amber and Lexi knew they could improve the delivery and the following day the Act of Worship was polished, clear and received well by yrs 7,8 and 9. Fabulous attitude from School Leaders who are in their final year, support students daily and still have time to not settle for second best. Thank you.



Pilgrims of Hope

The Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of HOPE

Nottingham Diocese has provided every student in SJH with a Jubilee Prayer Card and these cards should be valued and used. Why not ask a friend, or make an opportunity to make a new prayer buddy, and use this time to pray for each other.

Rachel attended the service at Nottingham Cathedral and Bishop Patrick asked everyone to take two cards: *One for you and one to give to someone*. Rachel has asked a lady in the parish to be her prayer buddy. Be brave and use this Jubilee Year to grow closer to God.

We are Pilgrims of Hope and the Confirmation Group 2024-5 and SJH students have had the opportunity to order a Pilgrim of Hope Hoodie. The deadline to put your order in is: 7th February 25.

Please email Rachel for more information.

FLAME Hoodies

Deadline Date for FLAME Hoodies is: Thursday 30th January 25.

Please email Rachel for more information.

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Parish Ambassadors



On behalf of SRSCMAT may I take this opportunity to congratulate Luke, Alistair and Nathaniel who were presented with their Silver Altar Serving Medals during Mass on Sunday and Elsie who was presented with her Bronze medal. How wonderful to see former Priory, St Thomas and Saint John Houghton Academy students guarding their faith!



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Parish Ambassadors

We are blessed to have Canon Paul as our Parish Priest and we are grateful for the support he gives. Parishioners provided a huge Celebration Party after Mass, there was a great 'buzz' in the hall with lots of smiles, chat and plenty food! Thank you to all who made this such a wonderful celebration! Rachel, School Chaplain.



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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

Date: 02.05.24 Year 11 Mass 11.30am
Friends of SJH 1.00pm – 2.00pm

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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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:

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 3	Monday 8 December 2025
Christmas holidays	Monday 22 December 2025 – Friday 2 January 2026
February half term	Monday 16 – Friday 20 February 2026
Inset Day (Trust) 4	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter holidays	Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April 2026
May half term	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026
Inset Day 5	Friday 3 July 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 23 July 2026

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