



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation
Friday 31 January 2025



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading! This week began with us marking Holocaust Memorial Day and the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp. Mr Poland led us in a poignant, challenging and thought-provoking Act of Worship reflecting on the Holocaust and how we must ensure we never forget what happened and our responsibility in making sure it never happens again.

A group of our Year 10 students visited St Thomas' Primary School, great friends of ours, and presented to a group of Year 3 and Year 4 students on their Health and Social Care projects.

Important upcoming dates

17-21 February 2025 – half term holiday

24 February 2025 – inset day

They also presented to the staff on Wednesday evening and taught us a thing or two!

We also had some external monitoring this week to support us with our preparation for the inevitable visit we will have from Ofsted in the near future. It was a really positive day with lots of praise given to the school, but as always, more to do and work on. As always, we will face that challenge and rise to it.

Reflecting on the fact that we are already at the end of January and that February begins tomorrow, the academic year really is flying by. As always, if there is anything you need from us, please do not hesitate to get in touch using the number or email address if you would prefer at the bottom of this page. We really appreciate your support. More next week...

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

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

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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.

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.

Food practical lessons:

Due to the GCSE food practical mock exams next week, there will be no food practical lessons Tuesday 4 to Friday 7 February, the only food practical lesson will be on Monday 3 February for food group 10A. All cancellations have already been emailed to parent/carers through Arbor and will show on the Arbor app students have access to.

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>

School News



Careers updates 28/01/2025

STEM Apprenticeships talk - Rolls Royce

On Tuesday, during PSHE, Year 9 and 10 had a talk from a former student, who is in her fourth year as an Apprentice at Rolls Royce. It was great for students to get an insight into the life of an apprentice at a successful and local business. It is also great to hear from an SJH student representing women in STEM. Thank you to Sophie for sharing her experience with us.

Year 11 - Interviews

Colleges and Sixth Forms have started their interviews for the 2025 intake. Students had a talk on interview techniques last Wednesday and were given a help sheet with top tips and example questions to use during their preparation for the interviews. Any students who missed this, please see your tutor for a copy.

Rolls Royce Update

We have received the following information from Rolls Royce:

Derby Open Evening | Advanced & Degree/Higher Apprenticeships

We know many of you missed out on earlier opportunities to attend an Open Evening at our Learning & Development Centre here in Derby, and so we are hosting an extra open event on Thursday 6th February which your students can book on to attend. This will be an excellent opportunity to explore more about the range of apprenticeships we offer, whether that's Advanced options or Degree Apprenticeships, including an opportunity to tour the Apprentice Academy & workshop on-site, and speak to the Emerging Talent team of recruiters for their top application tips and programme information.

Students will need to sign up to attend one of our hour-long slots, and can book onto the event using the following links: [5pm](#) / [6pm](#) / [7pm](#)

Support for Students

We are also excited to announce the release of two comprehensive preparation guides, created by us, to help your students know what to expect when it comes to applications, interviews and assessment centres for our early career programmes. So, whether they're applying to a Rolls-Royce apprenticeship or elsewhere, students can know what to expect, prepare with confidence, and go into each recruitment stage ready to shine. [Click here to download the preparation guides](#), or head to careers.rolls-royce.com to discover more about our huge range of apprenticeships and share them with your students.

Toyota partnership update

We have received the following information from Toyota:

Applications for our Partner Company Vacancies are now open!

The application window closes on the 3rd of March and all the key information about these brilliant opportunities can be found in my email below.

We still have spaces left on our Partner Company Open Evening on the 13th of February, which provides a great opportunity to see the training centre and meet the partner companies themselves. This can be booked via our website at the link below.

[Partner Company Maintenance Apprenticeships](#)

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Sportshall

Athletics

Last week we entered 4 teams in the Erewash Schools Sports Hall athletics championships. This took place at Rutland Sports Park. The athletes competed in a range of track and field events. The results were as follows

Yr 7 girls – 1st

Yr 7 boys – 2nd

Overall yr 7 – 1st

Yr 8 girls – 3rd

Yr 8 boys – 2nd

Overall yr 8 – 3rd

A big well done to all who took part.

The yr 7 girls team have now qualified to represent the district of Erewash at the Derbyshire Schools County Final in March

Safeguarding:

How Safe is WhatsApp for Children - NSPCC

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number. However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access. Although rated at 16+, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on whatsapp, and all the others will wish to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child>

School News



Safeguarding:

Virtual online safety training session for parents/carers

Nottingham Prevent team have organised the following webinars for parent and carers on Online Safety. They have kindly extended the offer to Derbyshire. Please sign up via the Eventbrite links below. There is a maximum number of participants for each, so please be aware that places will be allocated on a first-come first-serve basis.

“Our Parents Virtual Training on Understanding Online Trends workshop, designed to empower parents with the knowledge and tools needed to protect their children in the digital age. The sessions aim to provide parents with a comprehensive understanding of the online trends their children may encounter, the popular apps they use, the associated risks, and effective strategies to safeguard them. The workshop will cover several key topics to help parents address the challenges of online safety, including:

How Algorithms Work and Create Echo Chambers -This workshop will explore how algorithms on social media platforms and search engines influence content and foster echo chambers that can make young people more susceptible to harmful beliefs, manipulation, and radicalisation.

How Groomers and Radicalisers Exploit the Internet - Participants will learn about the tactics used by online groomers and radicalisers to target children and young people. We will also cover how to identify warning signs and protect children from harmful influences.

Case Studies of Grooming and Radicalisation Online - Real-world case studies will illustrate how online radicalisation occurs, helping participants understand the progression of these threats and their impact on young people.

Using Parental Settings to Reduce Risks - Parents will receive practical guidance on how to use parental controls and safety settings on devices and apps to create safer digital environments. Demonstrations will highlight tools for monitoring, restricting inappropriate content, and ensuring safe online behaviour.

Encouraging Responsible Online Discourse - This session will focus on promoting respectful, informed communication online. We will teach participants how to help children develop critical thinking skills, encourage empathy, and resist the spread of harmful or false information.”

Here are the workshops for parents online:

Tuesday 4th February 2025 -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1118807616699?aff=oddttdtcreator> 6.30-8pm

Friday 7th February 2025 - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1118821046869?aff=oddttdtcreator> 1-2:30pm

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School News



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?

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. Rrose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

All welcome.

CAFOD Club

With thanks to SJHCVA Yr 8 who volunteered to empty and clean our Compost Bins. We know it's a messy job and we know composting works so a huge thank you to this team!

CAFOD Club did their research this week and we know the value of money.

Question: If you had £5.00 what would you buy?

Did you know £5.00 can buy a CAFOD Vegetable garden?

Question: When did you last enjoy honey?

Did you know £4.00 can buy a CAFOD Queen Bee!

Rachel, our School Chaplain, is a Bee Keeper and can 'grow her own Queen Bee, and is aware they can be bought for £100-£150 locally! Go CAFOD.

£5.00 can buy CAFOD Emergency Water - how much are you prepared to pay for bottled water?

£8.00 will buy CAFOD Trees for life.

Please email Rachel if you have ever bought or received a CAFOD gift and perhaps you will get a gift that just keeps on giving...



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Parish Ambassadors

With thanks to our Parish Ambassadors and students grabbed the 'Opportunity' knowing, 'It's The Hard-Knock Life', but 'The Sun will Come Out Tomorrow.' Thank you for your support and company!



Thank you, Fr Paul, for a fabulous Film Night Friday 24.1.25! A perfect Friday evening with friends!



Compassion

The Word of the Week has been 'SCRIPTURE' it is a collection of sacred writings that tells the story of God's love for humanity. We pray three times a day in school, and we hear the Word of the Lord and I was delighted to support Year 8 who made cards and gifts for our neighbours, Kirk Hallam School. We walked over to deliver the gifts - what a great way to show compassion and reach out to support others. Well done all!



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Mass in SJH

Thank you to Fr Paul and all who supported our 8.00am on 23.1.25 A beautiful way to start the day.



Pilgrims of HOPE

Hello everyone,
please can you help Year 7 by making as many pom poms as possible from now until Easter? Any size and any colour would be wonderful! We are 'Pilgrims of HOPE' and Yr 7 are decorating our part of our SJH Pilgrim Bike with Pom Poms and Scripture! All donations gratefully received and can be left in SJH Reception for Rachel. Thank you, Team Chaplaincy Yr 7.



Friends of SJH Coffee Morning

Friends of SJH Coffee Morning was born from the SYNOD Pledge: To open our doors, share conversation and 'guard our faith'. This pledge is fully alive, and we are grateful to the parishioners and families who join us - thank you! All enjoyed watching our 60th Anniversary PowerPoint. With thanks to the students who served the refreshments and shared conversation. Great job.



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Chaplaincy

Humility

Next week the Word of the Week is: Humility. Humility is putting others before yourself. Please let Rachel know if you meet this challenge - don't be shy. We should celebrate our good choices. Why not find an opportunity to put others before yourself this weekend? Once you find this opportunity please act! Thank you.



SJH You will fall in love with these heartfelt messages and roses for Saint Valentine's Day!

Year 8 Team Chaplaincy will be selling Red Roses with a personal message or ? from Monday 3rd February but be quick when they are gone, they are gone!

Year 8 Team Chaplaincy will pop into your Tutor Group and be in the Hall during break and lunch.

You will need to donate £1.50 cash and you will be given a 'Heart Card' and envelope.

Write your message on the card...or ? and print the name of the person in school you would like Team Chaplaincy Year 8 to deliver for you on February 14th 2025.

Thank you for supporting. Best friends, Tutors, Support Staff, all need to feel the love. Be brave and know Team Chaplaincy will not give your name away - you will remain a secret admirer. I am here to support. Let's share the love. Rachel

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."

Psalms 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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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	Jacob H	Madison P	Tamzin R	Isabella O	George S
English	Lauren M	Abigail W	Cindy C	Mishel C	Lewis L
Science	Dylan L-J	JJ Willox	Cora G	Amy-May H	Lydia D
Theology Years 7 & 8 Religious Education Years 7,9 & 10	Oscar B	Fraser H-G	Oliver J	Hollie Ann P	Billy S
Geography	Bailey C	Alura L	Charlie B	Maximilian P	Emily O
History	Emma S	Valentina H	Sofiaa M	Harry L	Emily H
Computing & Business	Oliver E-B	Jessica H	Owen D	Business: Sophie A iMedia: Lucas L	Savannah P Business: Sasha F iMedia: Archie S-B
Music	Belle H	Maisie W	Jasmie T	Nancy W	Maja W
French	Noah G	Ava P	Roman-Axel R	Connor H	Nathanael W
Spanish	Myles S	Santiago R	Lois-Skye J	Lexie C	Oliver E
PE & Health & Social Care	Summer B	Florence A	Oscar R	Emilie P GCSE: Anton C Sports studies: Archie T H&S care: Elena M	Ayooluwa E-A GCSE: Chloe P Sports Studies: Molly P-E H&S care: Leah E
Design	Michal N	Christian H	Finlay L	DT: Sebastian F Engineering: Charles A Food: Safiya-Holly B	DT: Raivo K Engineering: Taner G Food: Skye H

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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: Summer B for representing Saint John Houghton at athletic competitions and doing so well!

Year 8: Charlie A for always following the Saint John Houghton way.

Year 9: Lucy S for living out the virtues in year 9 and gaining her alter serving medal.

Mr Ritchie:

Year 10: Lena M for always following the school virtues.

Year 11: Joanne S for having the highest positive points in the year group.

The Saint John Houghton Award:

Nancy W in year 10 has been nominated by staff for this week's St John Houghton Award, she has been nominated for guarding her faith and supporting 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:

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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