



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

# SJH Newsletter

Compassion – Aspiration – Respect – Excellence – Determination – Faithfulness – Optimism – Reconciliation  
Friday 7 February 2025



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Readers,

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. Thank you for reading. It's hard to believe that January is long gone and we are already looking forward to the half term break next week. There has also been a noticeable shift in the weather this week, and despite the cold mornings, it has been lovely being on duty at lunchtimes and seeing our students spending time with each other in the sunshine and the positively balmy temperature of 7 degrees centigrade!

It has been a busy week for our Year 11 students, who had their last ever Parents' Evening with us this week – Thank you to those parents who attended. They have also had their final GCSE Food Mock exam, meaning next time it will be the real thing.

## Important upcoming dates

17-21 February 2025 – Half term holiday

24 February 2025 – Inset day

26 February 2025 – Year 8 parent evening – further information to follow

A reminder to Year 11 parents that next week, on Thursday at 18:00, we have our GCSE Progress Meeting when we will share some crucial information about revision and preparation for the exams. Please do make every effort to attend.

Our Year 10 students left us this morning for the skiing residential in Canada and we wish them well as they travel to the other side of the world. We cannot wait to hear about their experiences!

Until next week, I wish you all a lovely weekend when it comes and as always, if there is anything we can do for you, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the usual channels highlighted at the bottom of the page. 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.

## **Half term & Inset Day:**

School will be closed Monday 17 – Friday 21 February 2025 for half term.

Inset day – Monday 24 February – school will be closed to all students on this day, students return to school on Tuesday 25 February 2025.

## **Year 11 individual and year group photos:**

The photographs have now arrived in school and are being distributed to students.

## **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.

## **Congratulations:**

To Summer B in Yr 7 who at the weekend became the North of England indoor shot put and long jump champion. Summer is a member of the local athletics club Amber Valley. She has worked incredibly hard and is very dedicated to training. Well done Summer



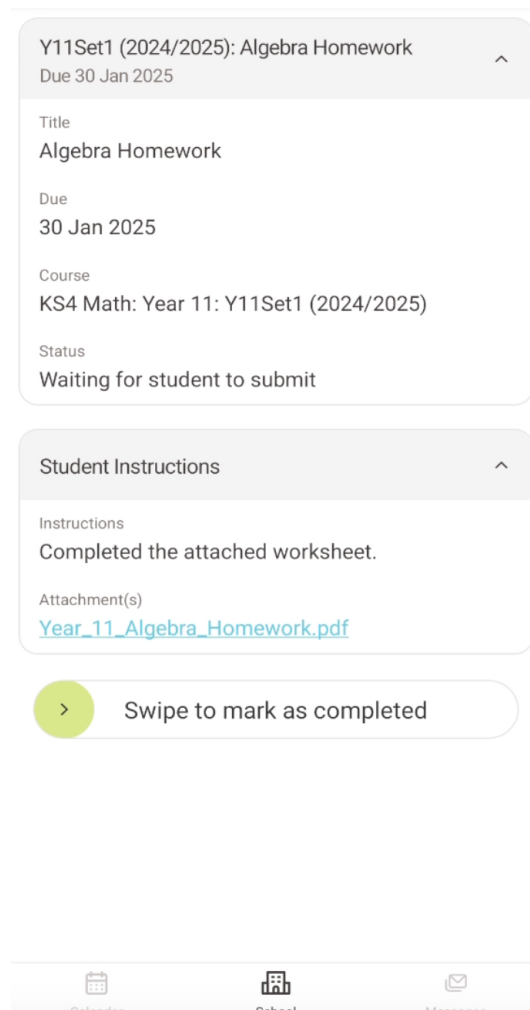
# School News



## Arbor student App:

The Arbor **Student App only** now has an update that allows Assignments to be 'swiped away' as completed by the student. This applies to assignments that have been set from this week onwards.

Students can tap on lessons in their calendar to see their assignments. When they tap onto an assignment, students can download attachments uploaded by their teacher, and mark assignments as completed.



You may need to re-install the App to make this new feature active - Please refer to the original instructions if needed, they can be found on the school website: <https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/information/arbor/>

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## **Careers updates - 07/02/2025**

### **Apprenticeship vacancies -Sept 2025 start**

A reminder to follow this link to apprenticeship vacancies for September 2025 at **Boots, Marks and Spencer, OP, Dematic and Forvia**.

<https://recruitment.toyotauk.com/apprenticeships/partner-company-maintenance-apprenticeships>

Please also see the Derby College website for 5 x Apprenticeship vacancies at **Alstom**, as an Engineering Fitter, starting Sept 2025.

<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies/vacancy/?vref=1000297606>

**Rolls Royce** apprenticeships are also now live from today. This includes *Nuclear Non-Destructive Engineering Technician (Level 3)* and *Aerospace Fitter (Level 3)*, all September starts.

Derby: [https://rollsroyce.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Apprentice/job/Derby/Rolls-Royce-Advanced-Engineering-Apprenticeship---Derby--UK\\_JR6128840](https://rollsroyce.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Apprentice/job/Derby/Rolls-Royce-Advanced-Engineering-Apprenticeship---Derby--UK_JR6128840)

Raynesway: [https://rollsroyce.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Apprentice/job/Derby/Rolls-Royce-Advanced-Engineering-Apprenticeship---Raynesway--UK\\_JR6128823](https://rollsroyce.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Apprentice/job/Derby/Rolls-Royce-Advanced-Engineering-Apprenticeship---Raynesway--UK_JR6128823)

All details, including entry requirements are listed on the sites.

# School News



## Year 8 creative writing task:

Our Year 8s are getting the marks back from their creative writing task. They were tasked to write a story based on this picture. Congratulations to Megan H for being voted the best of Year 8 by all the English teachers.



The cold winter breeze swept across an isolated area, where no one had stood for 150 years. A careless man wandered curiously through the hard metal gates, well preserved for a century. The bright full moon shone on the land of the dead, awaiting its next victim of the night. Mist encased the graveyard, weaving steadily throughout the untouched gravestones, while the man took it all in. Crunch. The grass broke its cycle of frost as the man walked quietly, pondering over the headstones that had been locked away and hidden behind metal bars. The strong birch trees loomed over him, shading the area from the world. The man's shallow breath quickened; his heart rate heightened, each puff of air coming out in smoke. He was unsure why this happened. As it slowed, he thought it could be adrenaline.

But little did he know, the supernatural was there...

He continued walking. More of a joy this time. He realized this wasn't a place to be messed with, so he decided not to stick around too long. As he moved along, the ground became rougher and more rigid, soon turning into vines. This change didn't alert the man's senses, as he was focusing on something else. Something bigger. Something brighter that hung in the sky at night, a substitute for the sun. As he pulled himself away from the moon, his sparkling eyes dulled and his senses returned. He soon noticed a change in the ground. Dewy, moss-green vines placed underneath his feet began to rise.

Entangling around his frozen shoes, they wrapped around his legs. His pulse quickened once again, and panic settled. He closed his eyes, accepting his unusual fate, and...

He didn't feel the grasp of the deathly plants anymore. They just vanished. The vines no longer stood beneath his shoes. Just grass. This made the man wonder if he still had any sanity left.

In the corner of his wide eye, he spotted a tall, unique gravestone. His thoughts wandered with him as his legs carried him there. His stiff hands skimmed over it with caution. At that moment, footsteps crunching the frosty grass appeared behind him. But there was no one. The trees swayed and whispered to him, telling him, 'I warned you.' It was very faint but easy to make out. The man was more concerned now than ever, but he continued observing the statue.

A while later, the man still stood. His feet were glued to the ground, never letting go. The wild wind howled, as the trees did. They whispered, 'I warned you.' Once again, his thoughts returned to the statue, thinking it was his mind playing tricks on him.

This time, a single whisper appeared when everything went silent. The wind stopped howling; the trees stopped swaying. 'I warned you,' came from behind.

A ghostly white figure stood, a deformed face staring into him with mad red eyes.

The only thing left to the man was a haunting, bloodcurdling scream...

# School News



## Carousel in English

The English Department would like to praise the following students for their use of Carousel.

### Year 7

Position	Name	No. of Questions Quizzed
1	Elisia T	1332
2	Benjamin M	847
3	Farleigh S	518
4	Hanna D	491
5	Jake T	454
6	Amelia S	395
7	Honey P	376
8	Summer B	338
9	Filip S	318
10	Ayo E	296
11	Oscar B	245
12	Ewan T	219
13	Kobby A	218
14	Amy-Grace W	198
15	Eliza Z	180
16	Kulani T	160
17	Myles S	149
18	Lily W	120
19	Jack E	109
20	Emma S	105
21	Anthony M	100
22	Noah G	100
23	Evie P	90
24	Caitlin C	85
25	Reuben H	81
26	Oscar T	70
27	Isla T	68
28	James A	65
29	Ava G	60
30	Elsie S	60

### Year 8

Position	Name	No. of Questions Quizzed
1	Gabriella W	726
2	Ernest Y	689
3	Ethan C	601
4	Donald C	551
5	Sonny L	472
6	Zach I	470
7	Abigail W	451
8	Betsy R	332
9	Felix H	312
10	Maisie J	280
11	Charlie B	273
12	Amelia C	236
13	Sienna H	223
14	Amelia-May O	222
15	James E	199
16	Valentina H	182
17	Amelia W	169
18	Aleksandra S	90
19	George W	80
20	Jacob L	72
21	Daisy W	71
22	Reggie R	71
23	Cara J	68
24	Ava-May H	60
25	Eleanor S	50
26	George M	49
27	Mide O	47
28	Matthew S	44
29	Sebastian D	39
30	Katelyn P	38



# School News



## Carousel in English

The English Department would like to praise the following students for their use of Carousel.

### Year 9

Position	Name	No. of Questions Quizzed
1	Kyrillos A	1247
2	Crimson S	990
3	Alexander M	932
4	Natasha G	331
5	Imogen K	307
6	Kalma S	270
7	Magdalena A	230
8	Amelia S	190
9	Aaron E	189
10	Jacob F	124
11	Jasmine T	115
12	Finlay M	110
13	Alfie S	95
14	Aaron V	70
15	Jordan T	65
16	Lois-Skye J	65
17	Finlay L	63
18	Dean Y	60
19	Peyton W	60
20	Summer S	60
21	Millie W	56
22	Imogen L	52
23	Grace Q	50
24	Matthew M	50
25	Olivia R	50
26	Samuel F	50
27	Evie B	48
28	Ava F	45
29	Ryan P	44
30	Cameron A	40

### Year 10

Position	Name	No. of Questions Quizzed
1	Natalia L	1169
2	Danielle M	1016
3	Mishel C	889
4	Mary F	400
5	Joshua F	389
6	Paige B	360
7	Hollie Ann P	272
8	Millie G	240
9	Charlie B	198
10	Scarlett L	157
11	Isabella O	151
12	Stanley S	147
13	Hugo M	137
14	Samson M	128
15	Nancy W	121
16	Bethany D	115
17	Kyra-Anne B	115
18	Miley S	115
19	Isla F	111
20	Georgia C	110
21	Ellie-Mai R	100
22	Gabriella H	100
23	Harry B	100
24	Jamie M	100
25	Sophie A	90
26	Amelia H	88
27	Lucie B	87
28	Eleanor H	84
29	Ethan G	83
30	Lottie L	79

# School News



## Carousel in English

The English Department would like to praise the following students for their use of Carousel.

### Year 11

Position	Name	No. of Questions Quizzed
1	Jayden H	2890
2	Amber F	877
3	Tia A	721
4	David O	662
5	Joanne S	613
6	Lewis L	479
7	Esma S	401
8	Cherish R	373
9	Amelia L	371
10	Oliver E	337
11	Ruby C	320
12	Olivia B	291
13	Ava L	288
14	Finley H	287
15	Delilah S	283
16	Marianna L	278
17	William N	241
18	Andre O	224
19	Jospeh P	220
20	Niamh W	220
21	Maja W	210
22	Amy Q	201
23	Alan S	200
24	Amber W	200
25	James P	200
26	Olivia S	188
27	Lewis G	141
28	Oscar M	129
29	Aimee M	128
30	Harry G	127



# 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?

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](mailto:Rose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)

All welcome.

### **LGBT+ History Month**

Its 50 years since the organisation who founded LGBT+ History Month was founded to support young people in schools. It is a fitting parallel to the year of Jubilee which in its biblical origins was celebrated every 50 years.

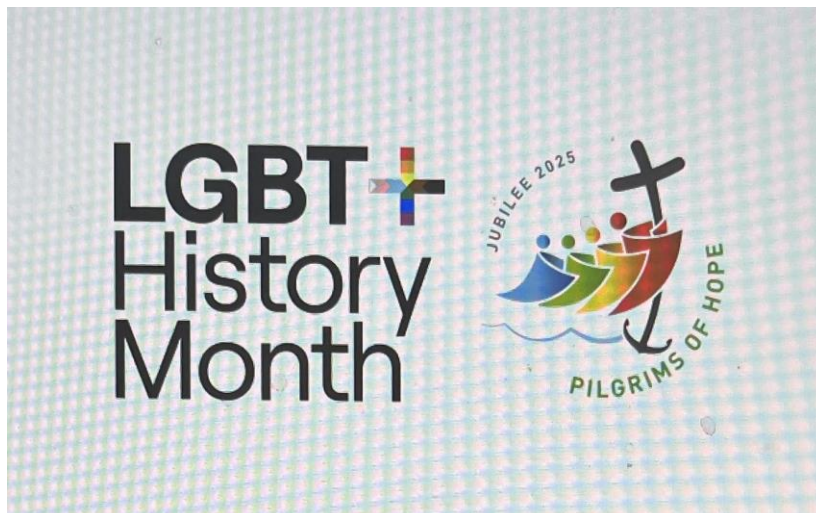
The Jubilee themes of inclusion, freedom and liberation for all, also has strong links with this year's LGBT+ History Month theme of Activism and Social Change. As Pilgrims of hope Pope Francis calls us to speak out for those on the margins. We are called to stand in solidarity and work for justice.

### **We pray**

*God of new beginning, this Jubilee year and LGBT+ History Month, grant us the courage to create a future filled with hope, where every heart finds belonging and every person is free to live authentically in Your love. Amen.*

### **Thank you**

This week I have had the pleasure of working with the most amazing young people; I would like to highlight Matteo C for his manners, generosity and time. Thank you.



# School News



## Chaplaincy

### **SJH Silver Faith in Action Team lead Celebration of the Word**

It is wonderful to see our Senior Leadership Team Supporting our Faith in Action Students as they prepare their Act of Worship. Well done and thank you all.



### **Thank you to our student teacher, Miss Fair!**

Here in SJH we love to share a video message in Tutor Daily Prayer. Parents, Carers and Grandparents, family members, can you help us? Simply email Rachel and she will contact you and share your story.

Have you experienced a journey of physical challenge that was very demanding? How is following Jesus also a demanding and sacrificial journey?

Do you have a favourite Bible Quote or Psalm that resonates with you?

Is there a passage in the Bible that you have discovered afresh recently?

How many reasons can you find to praise God?



## **CAFOD**

SJH has signed up for CAFOD Big Lent Walk 2025! Will you be part of this? Please email Rachel if you are interested. Come on SJH we can live our school virtues by supporting CAFOD in the season of LENT!

### Get ready for the Big Lent Walk



**Create a JustGiving page**  
Set up a JustGiving page for your school or place to start fundraising.



**Book a school visit**  
Our school speakers are delivering assemblies and workshops this Lent.

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# School News



## Chaplaincy

### Team Chaplaincy Year 8 share the love:

With thanks to Joshua, Charlie, Mila and Grace for their support and organisation with the Saint Valentine Roses. Please bring in £1.50 cash and we will deliver your Rose in secret on February 14<sup>th</sup> 2025. Thank you!

### MISSIO

Missio is the Charity for the Chaplaincy Department 2024-5.

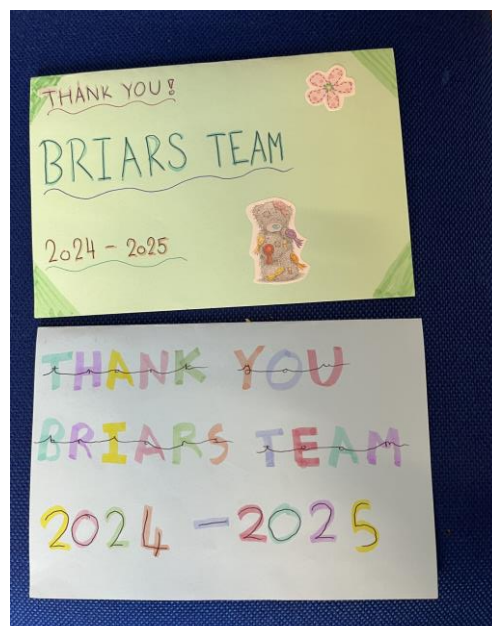
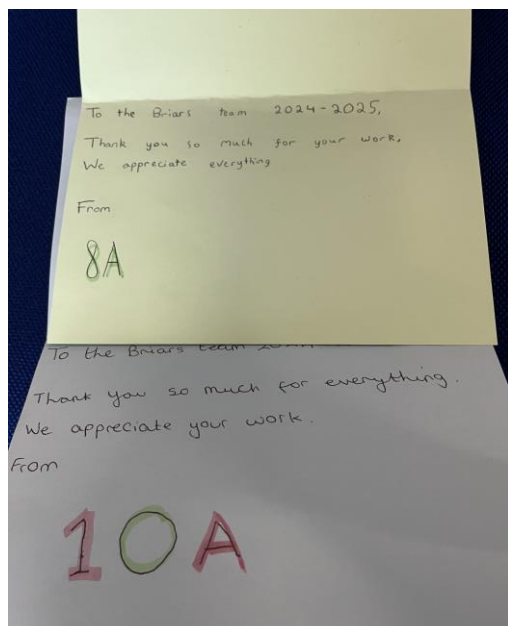
If you would like to donate to this Chairty please leave some cash in an enveloped marked Mission donation for Rachel.

We are selling Roses for £1.50 and any profit will go to MISSIO. Can you buy a rose from Team Chaplaincy Year 8 and share the love please.



### Briars

More cards have been posted to The Briars Team this week. Year 11 have you thought about giving a year to Briars? Rachel is always happy to support or simply give them a call or send an email for more information. Year 10, have you thought about reaching out to Briars Team to ask if they offer any Work Experience? Rachel is always happy to support.





# 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](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)**



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# School News



## **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:**

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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# School News



## SJH School holiday dates and inset days 2025-2026:

<b>Inset day 1</b>	<b>Thursday 4 September 2025</b>
<b>Year 7 only in school</b>	<b>Friday 5 September 2025</b>
<b>All years return to school</b>	<b>Monday 8 September 2025</b>
<b>Inset day 2</b>	<b>Friday 26 September 2025</b>
<b>October half term</b>	<b>Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2025</b>
<b>Inset day 3</b>	<b>Monday 8 December 2025</b>
<b>Christmas holidays</b>	<b>Monday 22 December 2025 – Friday 2 January 2026</b>
<b>February half term</b>	<b>Monday 16 – Friday 20 February 2026</b>
<b>Inset Day (Trust) 4</b>	<b>Monday 23 February 2026</b>
<b>Easter holidays</b>	<b>Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April 2026</b>
<b>May half term</b>	<b>Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026</b>
<b>Inset Day 5</b>	<b>Friday 3 July 2026</b>
<b>Last day of term</b>	<b>Thursday 23 July 2026</b>

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