

# NEWSLETTER

COMPASSION – ASPIRATION – RESPECT – EXCELLENCE – DETERMINATION – FAITHFULNESS – OPTIMISM – RECONCILIATION

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 19th  
September 2025

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading once again at this end of this second full week of the school year.

I have been so impressed with our students (and staff!) and the way the academic year has started. Our school has felt calm and orderly when I walk the corridors of our school during lesson time, I seem a calm and purposeful environment where students and staff are engaged in their work and giving 100%. I have been delighted to hear from students, who had a 'difficult' year last year who have not yet received a single consequence, and they are to be congratulated. I also want to highlight the brilliant silent majority, who day in and day out give their best.

Today, half our Year 11 students are out on their Geography Fieldwork Data Collection, and we wish them well on the expedition. It is a vital piece of work for them and contributes to their final GCSE grade.

Finally, a gentle reminder from me that next Thursday is our Year 6 Open Evening, an important day in the year for the promotion of our school. If you know anyone in Year 6, please do encourage them to come along and have a look around our school. We would love them to be part of what we are doing! The following day is an INSET Day (Friday 26 September). More next week...

'Inspiring ambition and  
excellence,  
guided by Christ'

Telephone:  
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# NEWSLETTER

## 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.



### Respectful Communication Reminder:

We kindly remind all parents and carers of the importance of treating our staff with courtesy and respect, be that on the phone or in person. Our team is dedicated to supporting the learning, wellbeing and safety of every single student, and positive, respectful communication helps us work together effectively.

### SJH open day – Thursday 25 September 2025 – school closing at 1.30pm:

We are holding our annual Year 6 Open Evening on Thursday 25 September 2025, therefore school will be closing at 1.30pm. The school buses have been made aware. Students who use the No.11 bus, which is shared with Kirk Hallam Academy, will need to make alternative arrangements to get home, apologies for any inconvenience caused.



### Inset day – Friday 26 September 2025:

School will be closed to all students on Friday 26 September 2025.

### Term dates and Inset Days for 2026-2027 School Year:

Please see below link to our website for the 2026-2027 Term Dates and initial Inset days, 3 further inset days will be confirmed in due course:

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

### Uniform update:

Due to the cooler weather we are experiencing, students will now be able to wear black v neck jumpers, if they wish to. Please be aware, they must be worn with their blazers. Black jumpers will be confiscated if they are not worn with their blazers.

# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS

### **Jewellery Update:**

Whilst nose studs are allowed in school, they must be able to be removed for practical subjects as part of the health and safety requirements. Failure to do so may result in students being removed from lessons and further consequences being applied.



### **Rewards Trips:**

There are 3 rewards trips for students at Saint John Houghton which take place in each term. Attendance on these trips is based on the most virtue points in the year group plus having zero negative behaviour points. Attendance to school will be taken into consideration. Numbers on the trips may be capped due to tickets available, travel arrangements or staffing numbers.

### **The Northern Pentathlon:**

Congratulations to Summer B in Year 8. At the weekend, Summer won The Northern Pentathlon championship. Her result from the weekend puts her at number 1 in the UK and 3rd on the all-time list for the UK. This is a massive achievement.



# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY



# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS



Attendance is vital for academic success, fostering strong social skills, building crucial life skills like responsibility and punctuality, and preparing individuals for better future opportunities in higher education and employment:

At SJH, pupils must arrive in school by **8:45 am** each school day. Coming late is disruptive to the pupil who is late, and other students in the school. For some pupils, this can cause embarrassment and anxiety.

 Registration takes place at 08:45am, and is kept open until 9:10am.   
The second session is taken at **2:15 pm**.  
Leave of absence is only granted by the headteacher in certain circumstances.

### TERM TIME ABSENCES:

#### **Circumstances allowed:**

- Taking part in a regulated performance
- Attending an interview
- Study leave
- Visit to a prospective new school/college
- Bereavement
- Religious observance

#### **Not Considered "Exceptional circumstances":**

- Family holidays if families are unable to afford in school time
- To visit family abroad
- To spend time with family visiting from abroad
- Parents/carers unable to get time off work during school holidays
- Family traditions of holidays at a certain time of year
- Going away for birthdays, including the students birthday
- Flight delays unless evidence supplied
- Illness after a school holiday or trip

### ILLNESS:

#### **Unauthorised attendance:**

All absences will be marked as unauthorised on day 4 and onwards unless medical advice is sought/given. Arriving after the register has closed will affect students attendance. Medical appointments without evidence are also unauthorised.

#### **Reasons that will be unauthorised:**

- Period pains / cramps unless under medical care with evidence
  - Common colds
- Headaches unless under medical care with evidence
  - Headlice
  - Missed bus
- Family or own birthdays
- "Unwell" - you must give an explanation
  - Oversleeping
- Parent too unwell / unable to bring student to school

**Please try and make medical appointments out of school time, and daily contact is required for absences if more than 1 day is required. If no contact is made, absences will be marked as unauthorised.**

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SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS



**Saint John Houghton**  
Catholic Voluntary Academy



# OPEN EVENING

*Thursday, September 25th 2025*

**3.30pm-7pm**

Headteacher's talk at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm  
No booking required

*Graded GOOD by Ofsted (2025) and GOOD in our  
Catholic Schools' Inspection*



Abbot Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, DE7 4HX



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Scan the QR  
code to visit  
our website

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# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

### Education Sunday:

What a great way to spend Sunday morning! Thank you to Ilkeston Parishioners who made Mr Brogan and I so very welcome and special thanks to Fr Paul and Fr Joby for their support and encouragement. Mr Brogan spoke about the gift of Catholic Education, of the joys of working with our young people and the importance of school and home family with Christ at the Centre. More lovely news at Eastwood Parish where Mr Gotheridge spoke about his time spent in St Thomas Academy which prepared him for his new post as Headteacher of The Priory, who have made him feel very welcome and he shared how grateful he is and full of hope for the future.

The Word of the Week next week is Work: let us all follow the example of our staff in Catholic Education and try to do your work to the best of your ability and to help others with their work too.

It was uplifting to see so many students in Sunday Mass, if you email me to let me know the mass you have attended, I will give you Virtue Points.

### Jubilee Year of HOPE:

On behalf of Saint John Houghton Academy please may I thank Fr Paul for the invitation to welcome the Pilgrim Walkers last Friday as they completed their 100 miles at Eastwood Catholic Church... but this was not the end of their journey! After a good nights rest the Pilgrim Walkers gathered in Church on Saturday morning for prayers before walking to Nottingham Cathedral with Bishop Patrick and completing their Pilgrimage with Holy Mass. This was a very emotional afternoon as students from The Priory and SJH joined parishioners to clap in the Pilgrims who were tired, happy and filled with joy and in need of a cup of tea and a slice of cake and they were not disappointed! As you can see for the photographs Ava, Lucy and Sienna, who are Parish Ambassadors, had the opportunity to pray in Eastwood Catholic Church with Fr Paul (continued next page...)





# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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## CHAPLAINCY

and the Pilgrims, to serve them and to listen to their faith stories. Ava said, 'thank you so much for bringing me today, I didn't expect it to be so buzzing and their stories so uplifting, this really has been a very special afternoon.

Isn't Fr Paul brilliant! We are so blessed to have him.' SJH have received a 'thank you' card from the Pilgrims with the message: 'Keep Smiling - it's infectious' and that is just what we will do! Bishop Partick said, 'I enjoyed joining the Pilgrims of Hope for the last day of the pilgrimage walking from Cathedrals and parishes in the North, South, West and East. Please follow SJH Chaplain on X to keep up to date with the news.



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# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

### A big thank you!:

Thank you to the students who have offered to support Chaplaincy. I am most grateful! It was my pleasure to give Virtue Points to the Sound Crew, School Captains, Dominica, Liam, Sienna, Lucy, Ava, Grace, Fraya, Ruby, Victor, Florence, Ewan, Summer, Luke, Declan, Cloe, Jacob, Sophie, Honey, Jake, Rosie, Josh, Pheobe, Logan, Amelia, Isla, Beth, Samson, Ruben, Isabella, Weluchi, Thomas, Blake, Ethan, Buddy and James who I noticed for their good manners.

Why not pop into my office at break time to say, 'hello.'



### Well Done School Captains:

Thank you, School Captains, for our meeting this week. I am so excited to hear your first Celebration of the word - you will smash it. Thank you for accepting our Beauvale Society bookmark - more news to follow about how YOU ALL can join the Beauvale Society 2025-6





# SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

### **SJH Vegetarian Society:**

We held our first Vegetarian Society meeting this week. All are always welcome; you do not have to be vegetarian to join. We are decided upon our aims, mission and favourite recipe. Please send your favourite Vegetarian recipe to Rachel and get a Virtue point. Do you drink Oat milk, and would you like to see it on offer in SJH?



### **SJH is 60 years old:**

If you can name someone in this photo, Rachel will give you a prize!



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# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

### Competition for all:

Prize to the best caption for this piece of art. Email Rachel by Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 25, thank you.



# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

**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: 19.09.25 Time: 11.30am-12.30pm**

**Date: 21.11.25 Time: 11.30am-12.30pm**

**Date: 18.12.25 Time: 11.30am-12.30pm**

**Date: 24.04.26 Time: 11.30am-12.30pm**

**Date: 25.06.26 Time: 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](mailto:schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk)**



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



# NEWSLETTER

## CHAPLAINCY

### Mass for Altar Servers

**Cathedral of St Barnabas  
Nottingham**

**27<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Arrive for 10:30-11am  
Ready for Mass at 11:30am**

Servers should bring their alb or  
cassock and cotta



# NEWSLETTER

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### Ilkeston Community Theatre

Ilkeston Community Theatre's musical play, *A Stitch in Time*, explores the town's rich history in the hosiery industry. The script was developed by local writers, drawing on research gathered by the Ilkeston Community Theatre and Festival. This research included recorded interviews—with full permission—from former employees of local hosiery factories such as Booths and Charnos. The play aims to celebrate and preserve a piece of Ilkeston's social history through a community production that is written by local people, inspired by the lives of local people, and created for the local community.

## Kirk Hallam

### SEND Parent/Carer Support Group and Stay and Play

Kirk Hallam Community Centre  
Kenilworth Drive | Kirk Hallam | Ilkeston | DE7 4EX

## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

### 11am - 1pm

Come and join us for a drink and a natter.

Children are welcome to join in for support and play session.



 01332 521229  
 [www.umbrella.uk.net](http://www.umbrella.uk.net)

 Umbrella Derby and Derbyshire  
 @UmbrellaDerby



# NEWSLETTER

## ROLL OF HONOR

Curriculum Leaders have recognised the following students for their hard work in their subjects. Well Done!

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Maths	Victoria A	Finlay W	Eleanor C	Matilda G	David B
English	Noah G	Zeva-May T	Kaiden J	Joseph R	Bethany D-R
Science	Christopher M	Violet D	Gabriella W	Lois-Skye J	Alex K
Theology / RE	Lukas H	Filip S	Santiago R	Solomon M	Caoimhe C
Geography	James H	James A	Jasmine-Joyce O	Magdalena A	Maximillian P
History	Jenson S	Xavier F	Dominika P	Aaron V	Gabriella H
Music	Arlo S	Willow B	Nicolo S	Ruby C	Nancy W
Computing / Business	Lexie P	Maxwell O-A	Ava-May H	<u>iMedia:</u> Ava J <u>Business:</u> Alice C	<u>iMedia:</u> Danielle M <u>Business:</u> Mya-Grace M
MFL	<u>Spanish:</u> Gabriel D-P	<u>Spanish:</u> Jacob B <u>French:</u> Elsie S-R	<u>Spanish:</u> Amelia C <u>French:</u> Matilda A	<u>Spanish:</u> Riana B <u>French:</u> Maggie L	<u>Spanish:</u> Evie H <u>French:</u> Summer P
PE / Health & Social Care	Megan D	Caitlin C	Chelsea P	<u>PE:</u> Matilda C <u>GCSE PE:</u> Cameron A <u>H&amp;S Care:</u> Ella-May B	<u>PE:</u> Spencer H <u>GCSE PE:</u> Tymoteusz G <u>H&amp;S Care:</u> Shantelle T <u>Sports Studies:</u> Farren S
Design	Lewis R	Edward M	Skye G	<u>DT:</u> David B <u>Engineering:</u> Marley L <u>Art:</u> Tamzin R <u>Food:</u> Jack T	<u>DT:</u> Jack M <u>Engineering:</u> Ethan G <u>Art:</u> Livvy-Jo S <u>Food:</u> Samuel A



# NEWSLETTER

## 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.

### **KS3 Miss Turgoose:**

Year 7 – Victoria A for her brilliant start to life at SJH

Year 8 – James A for his continued efforts in every subject

Year 9 – Skye G for her real conscious effort to start year 9 well

### **KS4 Mr Ritchie:**

Year 10 - Jack T for being the highest virtue point scorer in the school

Year 11 - Ella S for an excellent start to the school term

# NEWSLETTER

## 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-atschool/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Link to School Calendar:

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/news/calendar>

# NEWSLETTER

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### 2025-2026 School holidays and Inset days:

<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 1 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>



# NEWSLETTER

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**2026-2027 School holidays and Inset Days (3 Inset days to be confirmed):**

<b>Inset day 1</b>	<b>Friday 4 September 2026</b>
<b>Inset day 2</b>	<b>Monday 7 September 2026</b>
<b>Years 7 &amp; 11 return to school</b>	<b>Tuesday 8 September 2026</b>
<b>All years return to school</b>	<b>Wednesday 9 September 2026</b>
<b>October half term</b>	<b>Monday 26 - Friday 30 October 2026</b>
<b>Inset day 3</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Christmas holidays</b>	<b>Monday 21 December 2026 – Friday 1 January 2027</b>
<b>February half term</b>	<b>Monday 15 – Friday 19 February 2027</b>
<b>Inset Day 4</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Easter holidays</b>	<b>Friday 26 March – Friday 9 April 2027</b>
<b>May half term</b>	<b>Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027</b>
<b>Inset Day 5</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Last day of term</b>	<b>Monday 26 July 2027</b>