

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 3rd
October 2025

Important Dates:

- October half term:
Monday 27 - Friday 31
October 2025

'Inspiring ambition and
excellence,
guided by Christ'

Telephone:
0115 9322896

Email:

schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading. The Catholic Life of the school is in sharp focus at this time, and we were delighted to be joined by our great friend and Parish Priest, Father Paul Newman, who celebrated Holy Mass with Year 8 on Wednesday. It was a beautiful liturgy and our Year 8 students were beautifully reverent and respectful. The theme of the Mass was Angels (cue the humming of the Robbie Williams classic) and their love and care for us in our daily lives. Next week, 30 of our Year 9 students will visit Rome and the Vatican, the great centre of our faith! This is the first time we have run the trip, and I am so grateful to Mr Cudworth, Mr Warden, Mrs Hartharn and Miss Bailey for giving up their own time to support our students with this trip.

In other news, we have our annual Post-16 Careers Fair on 7 October after school for our Year 10 and 11 students who really need to be thinking about the plan for when their time with us comes to an end. Please do make the effort to support their attendance at this event! We have numerous, colleges, Sixth Forms and other providers who will be desperate to attract Saint John Houghton's finest.

If you need anything from us, please do not hesitate to contact us, we are always here to help. More next week...

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

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.

Internal Vacancy:

We are currently recruiting for an Exam invigilators, please see below link to the vacancy for full details:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2025-SJHCVA-83414>

Attendance Matters: Everyday Counts:

We're approaching five weeks into the term, and it's a great time to reflect on the progress students are making. Regular attendance helps build momentum—not just academically, but emotionally and socially too. We understand that life can be unpredictable, and we're here to support families through any challenges. If your child is struggling, please reach out early so we can work together to find solutions. attendance@sjh.srscmat.co.uk



Quote of the Week: "Small steps in the right direction can turn out to be the biggest steps of your life." — Naeem Callaway

Wellbeing Tip for Families Check in midweek: A simple "How's your week going?" can open up space for your child to share worries, celebrate wins, or ask for help. Listening without judgment builds trust and resilience.

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Year 9 Football v Holgate Academy:

The Year 9 boys travelled to Hucknall for their 1st round National Cup game on Tuesday. In a mixed first half, the team went 3 - 0 down in 20 minutes after being blitzed by the use of the long high ball. The team responded well and scored two goals in reply by Felix H and Seb R. The 6th goal was bound to be the key, and Holgate scored a fluke goal from the halfway line. Despite laying siege to the goal and taking shot after shot the team could not respond and were knocked out 4 -2.

Player of the match : Felix H

Senior Students:

Congratulations to 15 of our year 10's who have been appointed as Senior Students after a testing recruitment process. Well done to all, we are so proud and excited to see the impact you are going to have over the coming year. Thank you for your service and commitment to the improvement of our school year 10!

Charlie B, Isaac T, Ava F, Ellen T, Somto N, Imogen K, Kalma S, Summer S, Amelia S, Matilda C, Emil W, Lucy S, Aaron V, Lois-Skye J, Millie W



NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

SJH

Post-16 Options Fair

at Saint John Houghton CVA

Tuesday 7th October

3.15 – 5.15pm



Year 11 and 10 students are once again invited to attend the Post-16 Options Fair. Parents are welcome to accompany them. There will be representatives present from a range of local colleges, sixth forms and training providers. They will have stands with information on their offer and they will be available to chat to.

Providers in attendance this year*:

Friesland School Sixth Form, Bilborough College, Heanor Gate, George Spencer, Juniper Training, Kirk Hallam Sixth Form, The University of Derby, The Kimberley School Sixth Form, Derby College, St Benedict's Sixth Form, Nottingham College, The Army, The Royal Navy, Born to Perform Academy, Keele University, Derby County Community Trust, Education and Semi-Professional Football Academy, YMCA

*The above providers have all confirmed their attendance but any last-minute absence will be out of our control

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.

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

Telephone: 0115 9322896 | Email: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY



Mass for Alter Servers:

How lovely to see lots of familiar faces representing our Diocese and School at the Mass for Altar Servers over the weekend at Cathedral of St Barnabas Nottingham. Thanks for taking your alb, cassock or cotta! You look fabulous and we are most grateful for your service. Well done everyone.

Why not write a few lines about the Mass and send them in an email to Rachel

rrrose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk - Virtue Points and a reward for all who have a go! If you are doing your Faith in Action Award, remember to print this photo and add to your journal. More thanks to the SJH Altar Servers who have provided our Grace Before Meals. Did you know here in SJH our computers stop just before lunch and our Grace Before Meals flash up and again at the end of the day - we here in SJH we pray at least three times a day.

More thanks to the Faith in Action Team who have written our End of Day Prayer:

End of Day Prayer:

Father God, be with us as we journey home after our day in SJH. As we think about what went well, we give thanks to you for being with us. As we think about what we could do better tomorrow, we ask you to be with us and as we remember the most joyful part of the day, we take little steps to share that joy with all we meet. Amen.

With thanks to the Faith in Action Team for our End of Day Prayer!

Thank you!:

It is my pleasure to award the following student Virtue Points. Thank you for joining me for lunch - your parents must be extremely proud of you: Lucas M, Georg B, Riley J, Noah M, Thomas S, Arlo S, Noah G and Lucas H.

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Charity Support:

With thanks to Paula, Julie and Team for serving a Macmillan Coffee Morning to staff on our Inset Day. What a wonderful way to gather, share news and most of all support one another and the charity. £152 raised - Thank you!



'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

Telephone: 0115 9322896 | Email: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Year 7 Cake Sale for MISSIO: Tuesday 7th October

Please bring in cakes on the day! We kindly ask that no cakes contain nuts, as nuts are not allowed in school. Both homemade and shop-bought cakes are welcome, and labels are very helpful.

Year 7 students: Please make or buy some cakes to donate, bring a small amount of change to purchase a cake at break time (we'll be set up outside the hall), cake donations should be left at Reception.

Once you've donated, let Rachel know so she can reward you with Virtue Points.

Challenge: Can your Tutor Group bring in the most cakes?

Competition Time:

A prize to the first person who can say where the photo below was taken! Email rrose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk with your answers.

Delighted to say Mrs Adams, Sunny L, Lilly R have won prizes this academic year so far - and a parent too!



CAFOD Club:

With thanks to all who came to CAFOD BINGO on Monday, I am delighted to give Virtue points and prizes - well done Imogen-Grace!



SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Holy Mass:

Thank you, Fr Paul and Michael for celebrating 8.45am Holy Mass for us in our Chapel, lovely to be with staff and students, thank you. Well done Jessica S and Sonny L.



Amazing SJH students:

Well done! You have received Virtue Points for making the right choice, you are noticed for your great manners and support: Amelia C, Josh B, Ethan C, Charlie B, Eleanor C, Lois-Skye J, Summer S, Kalma S, Jess H, Maia R, Orlaigh S, Imogen G-C, Phoebe T, Avanna F, Aoibheann W, Louisa V, Harry S, Lexi P, Megan S, Ariel L, Vic A, Ava C, Caitlin C, Sienna H, and Lyla H.

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

Telephone: 0115 9322896 | Email: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Sharewear:

Thank you for donating good-quality clothing! We are always happy to receive donations of good-quality clothes. Please note that we cannot accept books, shoes, or toys. Please, feel free to browse our selection of second-hand school uniforms in Reception and help yourself.



First Holy Communion:

A big well done and thank you to Ava and Tilly for leading the way and serving our community—it was a pleasure to reward your hard work. Thank you also to Lucy, Evie-Mae, and Jasmine for your support, and a warm welcome to Hanna, who will be joining the team. If you are completing your DofE or FiA, speak to Rachel about how this can count towards your service—this is a great opportunity for you!



‘Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ’

Telephone: 0115 9322896 | Email: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Alpaca Farm Visit:

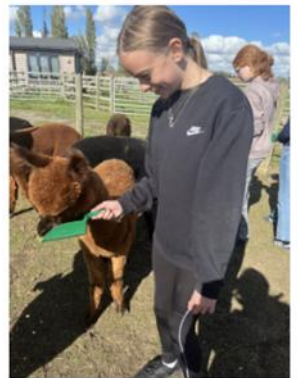
Saint John Houghton had their first trip to the Alpaca Farm. Will you be on the second? With thanks to parents, Mrs Adams, admin staff and Mr Warden.



Living Catholic Social Teaching: Care of Creation.



Living CST: Dignity of the Human Person. Time wasted with friends is time well spent!



Living CST: Solidarity. We love the 'Alpacary Ever After' – rescuing Alpaca and animal friendly yarn. Sadly, Mr Brogan has not (yet) given permission to have an Alpaca in School...



'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

Telephone: 0115 9322896 | Email: schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

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



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

NEWSLETTER

LOCAL NEWS

Winter Wellbeing Event Ilkeston:

The Winter Wellbeing Event in Ilkeston is coming up fast on Tuesday 14th October, 1pm-4pm at Arena Church. It's a free afternoon of creativity, relaxation, healthy treats, and interactive wellbeing activities designed to help you stay healthy and connected this winter. Spaces are limited, so make sure to book your ticket soon to secure your spot. Everyone's welcome! Book here: <https://tiny.cc/9c5s001>



Social Prescribing presents..

Winter WELLNESS & CONNECTION

Tuesday 14th October
1pm-4pm

Free Event

Free Smoothie Tasting

Free Art Workshop

Free Wellbeing Workshop

Arena Church, Rutland Street Ilkeston, DE7 8DG

Exploring the six pillars of wellbeing:

- Nutrition
- Relationships & Connections
- Mental Wellbeing
- Sleep
- Positive Choices
- Activity

To book your FREE place please scan the QR code.
Alternatively ring 01159 466740

NEWSLETTER

LOCAL NEWS

Hope Fostering Services:

Representation and cultural awareness are vital in today's world. Hope Fostering Services want to ensure that all children and parents feel seen, valued, and celebrated, especially those from underrepresented communities.

Hope Fostering Services aim to engage families in meaningful conversations about Black history, identity, and the importance of diversity. They also want to highlight the growing need for diverse families in community programs, leadership roles, and educational spaces. Please see the below flyer for more information.

An independent & supportive agency
Nurturing Hope for every child

HOPE
FOSTERING
SERVICES

**Have you ever considered a
career as a foster parent?**

Hope is a **Nottingham-based** fostering agency and we
are currently recruiting **diverse and caring families.**

Message Ellie on: **07442379352**
or email us at: **enquiries@hopefs.co.uk**

Supporting **BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

97.5 kemet fm
continuous jamz

Scan for giveaway

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	Lukas H	Leila K	Lucas M	Tatiana C	Libby H
English	Elsie B	Michal N	Santiago R	Thomas G	Amy-May H
Science	Reagan MB	Nicole RJ	Jacob O	Toluwanimi O	Harry W
Theology / RE	Megan D	Eliza Z	Reggie R	Aaron E	Evie H
Geography	Christoper M	Harry A	Vincent LW	Ryan P	Scarlett W
History	Harry R	Nelly K	Betsy R	Samuel F	Amelia A
Music	Eugene C	Lacie S	Zach I	Aaron V	Harry B
Computing / Business	Maia R	Oscar B	Jaycee C	iMedia: Jasmine T Business: Darcie C	iMedia: Violet R Business: Victor O
MFL	<u>Spanish:</u> Jesse T	<u>Spanish:</u> James A <u>French:</u> Summer B	<u>Spanish:</u> Zofia S <u>French:</u> Jessica S	<u>Spanish:</u> Matilda G <u>French:</u> Oliver J	<u>Spanish:</u> Abigail H <u>French:</u> Paige B
PE / Health & Social Care	Reuben M	Oscar T	Fraser HG	<u>PE:</u> Amelia SJ <u>GCSE PE:</u> Oscar R <u>H&S Care:</u> Imogen L	<u>GCSE PE:</u> Casey E <u>H&S Care:</u> Dawn M <u>Sports Studies:</u> Poppy R
Design	Molly F	Ayo EA	Aaliyah L	<u>DT:</u> Ellen TB <u>Engineering:</u> Roman-Axel R <u>Art:</u> Cora G <u>Food:</u> Lilly MP	<u>DT:</u> Sebastian F <u>Engineering:</u> Anton C <u>Art:</u> Chantelle T <u>Food:</u> Orlaith C

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.



WELL DONE!

KS3 Miss Turgoose:

Year 7 - Seth KB for living out our school virtues.

Year 8 - Summer B for her outstanding sporting achievements.

Year 9 - Thomas C for his brilliant start to year 9.

KS4 Mr Ritchie:

Year 10 - Lucy S for living out the Saint John Houghton Virtues on a daily basis.

Year 11 - Samson M for having excellent leadership by captaining the Year 11 football team to a win this week.

NEWSLETTER

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-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:

October half term	Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2025
Inset day 3	Monday 1 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

NEWSLETTER

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

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