

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 16th
January 2026

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading once again. We are delighted that you have joined us to hear about what is going on in school.

First of all, thank you for your patience and understanding at the decision to close school last Friday. I usually write my Newsletter article on a Thursday and how ironic that the day after I was in the unenviable position of having to close school because of the weather. These are always extremely difficult decisions, and my default position is always that if it is safe to open the school, we will.

We are hearing that those on the Year 10 Ski Trip are having a fabulous time and they are really enjoying themselves. They arrive back tomorrow and we look forward to hearing their stories next week in school. We are also looking forward to Year 9 Parents' Evening next week, as our Year 9 students begin thinking about their options choices and the next stage of their education. As always, we will advise and guide them to the very best of our ability to make the right choices.

It is hard to believe that we have completed two weeks of this half term already. Our Year 11s have just 63 school days until the first GCSE exam in May. Time to 'lock in' Year 11!

More next week... Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!
Mr S Brogan, Headteacher

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

Telephone:
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**St Ralph
Sherwin**

Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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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.



Year 11 photographs – Monday 19 January 2026:

Year 11 will have their individual and year group photographs taken on Monday 19 January 2026, please ensure that students are dressed in their full appropriate school uniform.

Sharewear Charity:

In school we try to support multiple charities - one of the ones we provide for is Sharewear. They offer free-of-charge clothing choices to people who are in economic difficulty. As a school we have supported them for a number of years, but they are particularly low on clothing for boys.

If you have any high-quality clothing which you no longer require please do bring it in a bag to our school reception and we will gladly donate it. Thank you so much in advance for your anticipated support.



Confirmation at St Alban's:

We will soon begin our next course for those who wish to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The programme is open to those who are year 8 to year 11 (up to and including 16 years of age). The sessions will generally take place on Wednesday evenings at St Alban's Church in Chaddesden. If you are interested, then please contact St Alban's parish office on 01332 672914 or email Stalbansoffice@dioceseofnottingham.uk before Wednesday 21st January to register your interest.

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

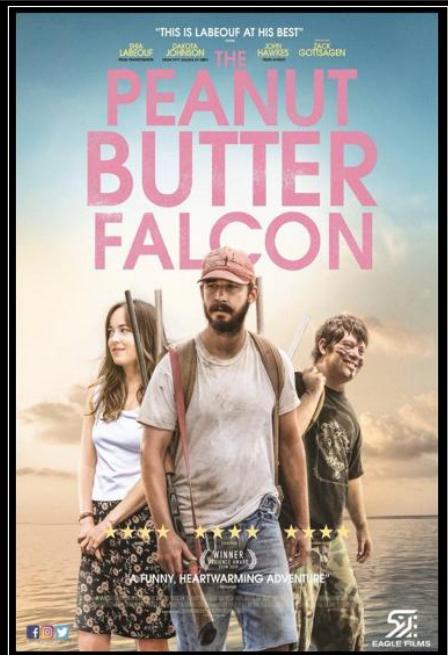
SCHOOL NEWS

Film Club

New Year – same old Film Club! Dropping visual bangers for your eyes, ears and souls.

After the monumental success of both *Labyrinth* & *Gremlins* – we've probably had our fill of 80's puppetry. So, let's bring it to the 21st Century! It's 2019's coming-of-age tale *The Peanut Butter Falcon*.

Room E3, every Friday, 1:35pm. Bring a packed lunch.



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CAROUSEL

LEARNING

Carousel:

The English department would like to praise students for completing their Carousel homework. Our plan this year is for students to complete 50 quiz questions a term. By the end of this term, they should be at 150 questions in total.

A quick reminder that students should be using Carousel 'a little often'. They should only be doing quizzes of a maximum of 10 questions at a time. If they do more than that, then the quizzing isn't effective. Thank you.

	Name	Number of Questions
1	Sienna H	323
2	Noah G	281
3	Connie H	253
4	Christopher M	236
5	Sara B	211
6	Reuben M	187
7	Sam B S	186
8	Tyler S	165
9	Elize J	160
10	Harry R	151

	Name	Number of Questions
1	Benjamin M	1240
2	Elisia T	961
3	Harry F	774
4	Hanna D	427
5	Honey P	413
6	Lacie S	295
7	Anthony M	290
8	Kobby A B	276
9	Jake T	255
10	Ewan T	151

	Name	Number of Questions
1	Evie-Mae M	712
2	Jasmine J O	545
3	Eleanor C	356
4	Amelia W	325
5	Zach I	284
6	Amelia-May O	172
7	Sonny L	166
8	Jayden L	151
9	Isla T	150
10	Maisie W	138

	Name	Number of Questions
1	Kalma S	421
2	Peyton W	396
3	Lois-Skye J	340
4	Kyrillos A	283
5	Amelia S	234
6	Daniel S	230
7	Samuel F	177
8	Imogen K	176
9	Robyn R	173
10	Summer S	169

	Name	Questions Quizzed
1	Natalia L	774
2	Danielle M	695
3	Evie H	482
4	Isabella O	414
5	Paige B	374
6	Harvey B	350
7	Isla S	291
8	Lucie B	283
9	Amy-May H	268
10	Hollie Ann P	247

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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	- Missed bus
- Common colds	- Family or own birthdays
- Headaches unless under medical care with evidence	- "Unwell" - you must give an explanation
- Headlice	- 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 your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting they must not attend until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours (the '48 hour rule') and feel well.

If no contact is made, absences will be marked as unauthorised.

Is my child too ill for school? - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

PLEASE BE AWARE: due to the advice of the local authority we have to send a letter to each person with parental responsibility regarding attendance, and not a joint letter.

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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



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Psalm 46:10

Mass in SJH for staff and students.

~~Date: 05.09.25 Yr 7 – 2.15pm~~

~~Date: 25.09.25 All welcome – 8.45am~~

~~Date: 01.10.25 Yr 8 – 9.10am~~

~~Date: 24.10.25 Whole School 8.45am~~

~~Date: 14.11.25 Bereavement, all welcome – 8.45am~~

~~Mass in Advent – SJH will join St Thomas CVA~~

~~Date: 09.12.25 Yr 11. Reconciliation~~

~~Date: 06.01.26 School Captains to St Thomas CVA~~

Date: 27.02.26 Mass in Lent, all welcome – 8.45am

Date: 18.03.26 Yr 9 – 9.10am

Date: 22.04.26 All welcome – 8.45am

Date: 8.05.26 Yr 11 – 9.10am

Date: 17.06.26 Yr 10 – 9.10am

Blessing

Blessing of the Eco Garden 25.06.26

This is taking place at **Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy, Abbot Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston DE7 4HX**

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SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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CHAPLAINCY

CAFOD

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

CAFOD is a whole school Charity.

CAFOD Club meet each Monday lunchtime.

~~4th October 2025 CAFOD National Activity Day – SJH
Chaplain leading.~~

~~10th October 2025 CAFOD Harvest Fast~~

~~19th December 2025 CAFOD national Christmas
Video with SJH family~~

**23rd January 2026 CAFOD and vocations with
CAFOD raffle**

**27th February 2026 Mass for CAFOD & Family Fast
in SJH**

**7th March 2026 SJH lead the Diocese in The Big Lent
Walk**



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CHAPLAINCY

Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy

“Love means doing what God has commanded...2 John 1:6...and He has commanded us to love one another.

Missio Charity Work

~~Date: 18.09.25 Collecting small change.~~

~~Date: 07.10.25 Yr 7 Cake Sale~~

~~Date: 28.11.25 Yr 8 Sponsored silence~~

Date: 16.04.26 Whole School Bake Off

Date: 12.05.26 Yr 9 Rosary for missio

Date: 02.06.26 Yr 10 Sweet sale for missio

This is taking place at **Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy, Abbot Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston DE7 4HX**

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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	Lucas M	Ruby G	George A	Darcie C	Amy-May H
English	Jarvis H	Kobby AB	Emily D	Matilda G	John G
Science	Ava F	Anthony M	Jacob M	Alicia K	Danielle M
Theology / RE	Ollie C	Lydia W	Lily R	Magdelena A	Mishel C
Geography	Sofia A	Elsie SR	Oscar T	Chevin G	Dawn M
History	Joseph R	Eliza Z	Gabriella W	Oscar R	Summer P
Music	Megan L	Isla T	Aleksandra S	Alice C	Bethany DR
Computing / Business	Noah M	Imogen-Grace C	Isla T	<u>iMedia:</u> Somto N <u>Business:</u> Samuel F	<u>iMedia:</u> Mary F <u>Business:</u> Nieve C
MFL	<u>Spanish:</u> Noah S	<u>French:</u> Elisia T	<u>Spanish:</u> Matilda H <u>French:</u> Charlie A	<u>Spanish:</u> Jack B <u>French:</u> Matilda C	<u>Spanish:</u> Kayla N <u>French:</u> Nancy W
Design	Leo M	Oscar B	Ava M	<u>DT:</u> Solomon M <u>Engineering:</u> Aleksander Z <u>Art:</u> Kornelia O <u>Food:</u> Imogen K	<u>DT:</u> Hollie-Ann P <u>Engineering:</u> Maximilian P <u>Art:</u> Hallie B <u>Food:</u> Emilie F

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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.



KS3:

Year 7: Noah G - for his work effort in lessons

Year 8: Anthony M - brilliant effort all round all week including his homework

Year 9: Kaiya C - for her never ending work ethic and her manners around school

KS4:

Year 10: Corey S - for his effort in all his lessons

Year 11: Kayla N - for her consistent effort

The Saint John Houghton Award:

Hanna D in year 8 has been nominated by staff for this week's St John Houghton Award, she has been nominated for her determination to succeed and guarding her faith.

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-at-school/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:

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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DATES FOR THE DIARY

2026-2027 School holidays and Inset Days:

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	Friday 27 November 2026
Christmas holidays	Monday 21 December 2026 – Friday 1 January 2027
February half term	Monday 15 – Friday 19 February 2027
Inset Day 4 (Trust)	Monday 22 February 2027
Easter holidays	Friday 26 March – Friday 9 April 2027
May half term	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027
All years finish school	Friday 23 July 2027
Inset Day 5	Monday 26 July 2027