

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 30th
January 2026

Dear Readers,

A very warm welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and thank you for reading.

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who have completed their Food exams this week and Year 11 now go into a crucial period of their time in school as they enter two weeks of mock exams. We wish them all the very best with the exams, we hope that their preparation has gone well and that they are able to give an excellent account of themselves. These are of course, their last opportunity before the 'real thing' begins in May.

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of January and that it will be February when we return after the weekend. The weeks seem to be flying by and there don't appear to be enough hours in the day at the minute.

I know that January is a difficult month for many people. I have had numerous conversations in the past couple of weeks with some members of our community and the challenges that January presents. It does not have the excitement of that period of time in December before Christmas and we are not there yet with warmer weather and the energy that Spring brings. But we must remind ourselves that we make our own weather in life and we choose our outlook ourselves.

More next week... Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!

Mr S Brogan, Headteacher

Important Dates:

- February Half Term -
Monday 16 – Friday 20
February 2026
- Inset day - Monday 23
February 2026

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Telephone:
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SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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.



Year 11 photograph orders:

A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Tuesday 10th February 2026** for the Year 11 photographs. Order through the Tempest website using the unique reference number that is on the paper order forms by visiting www.tempest-orders.co.uk

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 5).

Sea Cadets Drill Competition:

Elsie B in year 7 had a fantastic weekend at the drill competition, competing for both her home unit, Long Eaton Sea Cadets, and supporting Nottingham Sea Cadet Unit. With just one hour's notice and a single rehearsal, she joined the Nottingham squad and delivered an excellent performance. Elsie won gold with Long Eaton Sea Cadets, bringing home the competition trophy, and also achieved silver with the Nottingham unit. We are incredibly proud of her dedication and achievements.



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SCHOOL NEWS

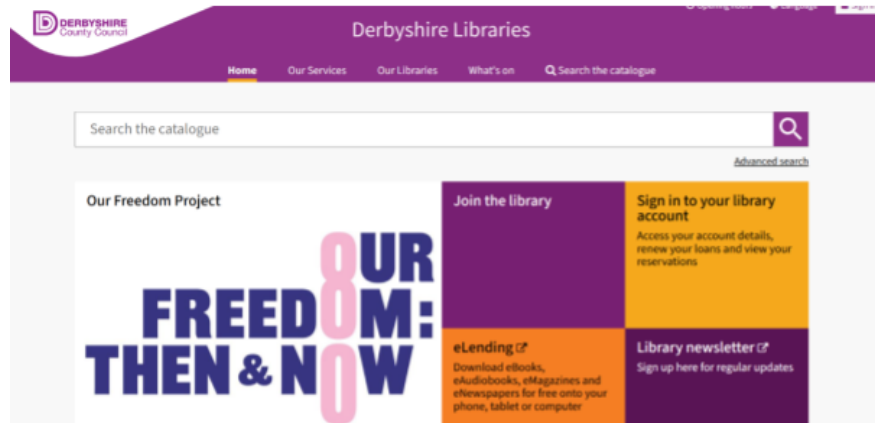
2026 – The Year of Reading

With the cost of living continuing to rise, we wanted to share a completely free way for families to access books and reading materials at home. Everyone living in Derbyshire can sign up to the Derbyshire Library Service and enjoy unlimited access to:

- eBooks and graphic novels
- Audiobooks
- Newspapers and magazines

All of these can be accessed instantly on a mobile phone or tablet, and there's no need to visit the library or worry about

return dates or fines. This is a great way to support reading for pleasure, revision and wider learning at home. Students, with their parent's help, simply need to create an account by following this link: [Join the Library - Derbyshire](#)



Missio Valentines Fundraiser:

We're raising money for Missio at the behaviour office. Every lollipop is 20p. You can choose to buy one for yourself, a mate or someone special and we'll deliver them in the final week of this half term.



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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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CHAPLAINCY

Daily Prayer in SJH:

Here in Saint John Houghton, we pray three times a day, we hope our students will carry on this routine for their rest of their lives. We have a 'Word of the Week' which is drawn from the Gospel readings of the day. The Word of the Week is the same through out the Diocese, and it leaves us with a Mission, so we are 'sent out' to make the world we live in a better place. Our SJH School Captains have worked with Jamie, our Lead Lay Chaplain to announce the Word of The Week for the SRSCMAT. Well done and thank you Casey, Beth and Evie for guarding your faith.



Pilgrim of HOPE:

Well done and thank you Lewis. I will take great pleasure in sharing this with our Chair of the Governing Body, Cathy, who is a skilled at cross stitch too and we shall add this to our Pilgrim Bike which is on it's travels. Good job!

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CAFOD Club:

Saint John Houghton CVA take Charity work seriously. We understand all our charity work is rooted in prayer. The money we raise is given with good and gracious hearts. We teach our students during Celebration of the word how to give, how to be generous and we are blessed when our students donate and give to CAFOD Missio and Sharewear. All year groups are welcome to grow in faith and understanding by taking the time to join our CAFOD Club on Monday lunchtimes in HU1. We will be using CAFOD's resources to understand 'floating beds' and climate change. A special thanks to Cathy, our Chair of Governors, who supported our Year 9 raffle. Students from Year 9 who bought raffle tickets will receive Virtue points for having the courage to do what is right. Thank you for helping others who will never be able to thank you. You are using your time and power for the common good. Well done.



Date for your Diary:

Beauvale Pilgrimage: 3rd May 2026

I was delighted to attend the planning meeting for The Beauvale Pilgrimage 2026. Please consider joining The Beauvale Society, you will be made most welcome and any support will be gratefully received. The Society are a group of wonderful parishioners who 'Guard their Faith' and we work as a team to share the load. Please email Rose@sjh.srscmat.co.uk for more information.

Beauvale Priory was founded in 1343 by Nicholas de Cantilupe and was dedicated to the Carthusian order of.....



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..... monks. The monks lived a silent life here at Beauvale for 200 years until the Dissolution of the Monasteries, when they refused to sign the Oath of Supremacy acknowledging Henry VIII as the head of the Church. Saint John Houghton and Saint Robert Lawrence became the first Pro-martyrs of the Reformation and were canonized in 1970.

Mass will be celebrated at the ruins of Beauvale Priory on 3rd May 2026.

A triduum of preparation for the Pilgrimage will take place in Stapleford Parish on 30th April 2026 at 7.00pm, in Ilkeston Parish on 1st May 2026 at 7.00pm and Mass in Eastwood parish at 7.00pm on 2nd May 2026.

We will be asking for cakes to be brought on the day or to SJH reception on Friday 1st May 2026.

There will be a Beauvale Coffee Morning after the Eastwood Mass on Sunday 19th April 2026. Please support and you are invited to donate a raffle prize and a few cakes.

The next planning meeting with the Beauvale Society will be on 24th March 2026 at 7.00pm in Eastwood meeting room. Please attend and offer support on the day or if you are willing and able to transport items and set the site.



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CHAPLAINCY



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

CHAPLAINCY

Friends of Saint John Houghton Catholic Academy

"Be still and know that I am God."

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

Contact –
schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk



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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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Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

NEWSLETTER

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**

Contact –

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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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	Joshua T	Xavier F	Isabella T	Corey S	Sebastian F
English	Bradley M	Charlie L	Maisie W	Darcie C	Isla F
Science	Leo M	Olivia SW	Felix H	Lois-Skye J	Isla S
Theology / RE	Bentley H	Charlie D	Isla T	Maecee A	Mishel C
Geography	Lewis R	Emma S	Ernest Y	William J	Scarlett W
History	Harry P	Temi O	Valentina H	Evie B	Finn P
Music	Megan S	Reuben H	Henry F	Isaac T	Logan S
Computing / Business	Victoria M	Isla T	Victoria Z	iMedia: Lloyd B Business: Jake S	iMedia: Miley S Business: Archie R
MFL	<u>Spanish:</u> Erin P	<u>Spanish:</u> Amelia S <u>French:</u> Ewan T	<u>Spanish:</u> Skye G <u>French:</u> Abigail W	<u>Spanish:</u> Connor C <u>French:</u> Finlay M	<u>Spanish:</u> Maisie L <u>French:</u> Connor H
PE / Health & Social Care	Archie P	Bethany R	Jacob S	<u>PE:</u> Oliver J <u>GCSE PE:</u> Mollie W <u>H&S Care:</u> Ella M	<u>PE:</u> Samson M <u>GCSE PE:</u> Lewis P <u>H&S Care:</u> Mary F <u>Sports Studies:</u> Luke C
Design	Jake P	Filip S	Emily D	<u>DT:</u> Finley A <u>Engineering:</u> William B <u>Art:</u> Zuzanna K <u>Food:</u> George Q	<u>DT:</u> Oscar W <u>Engineering:</u> Joshua F <u>Art:</u> Shantelle T <u>Food:</u> Oliver S

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: Christopher M for his excellent manners and supporting of charity fundraising.

Year 8: Hugh H for his consistent effort particularly with his homework.

Year 9: Coleena SS for her great attitude around school.

KS4 Mr Ritchie:

Year 10: Morgan JP for showing resilience on the Year 10 Ski trip.

Year 11: Casey E, Evie H, Bethany DR for their service to the school as School Captains.

The Saint John Houghton Award:

James A in year 8 has been nominated by staff for this week's St John Houghton Award, he has been nominated for his service before self and his determination to succeed.

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:

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:

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