

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 22nd
May 2026

Important Dates:

- Year 7 Parents Evening – 22 June 2026 – further information to follow
- During any Industrial action, school closed to Years 7,8,9 & 10 – Open to Y11 every day.

'Inspiring ambition and excellence,
guided by Christ'

Telephone:
0115 9322896

Email:

schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Dear Readers,

On May the 13th we said goodbye to Miss Blaydon a long standing Teaching Assistant. She has impacted the lives of many pupils over her time here, encouraging all to become the best version of themselves. Miss Blaydon will be greatly missed by all and we wish her well in her new role.

Year 11 students have continued to show themselves as excellent role models in their conduct around the GCSE exams. They have attended lots of revision booster sessions and worked hard during supervised revision sessions in school over the last three weeks. A link to revision booster timetable for after half term is

here: <https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/curriculum/gcse-exams/>

Year 11 also may begin Study Leave on Tuesday 2nd June – see next page and separate email for more information.

Please remember that Industrial action continues on Tuesday 2nd June, Wednesday 3rd June and Thursday 4th June 2026. Live lessons on Teams will also continue, for all years by staff who are in school on those days.

Happy half term – please enjoy your time together , lets hope the weather delivers for us this year!

Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!

Mrs Christina Hartharn

Acting Headteacher

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Year 11 study leave:

Friday 12 June 2026 - will be our Year 11 Celebration Day. It will be the last day that all the students in Year 11 will be together in school before the GCSE exams begin to wind down the following week.

We will be remembering the five years that most of Year 11 have had in school, with their tutors. As part of this there will be a final Year 11 liturgy. Lunch is being provided by school for Year 11 on this day to enable the students to come together and share some time over food with both their peers and staff. Shirt signing will be permitted under the guidance of Mr Ritchie Key Stage 4 Pastoral Leader.

Tuesday 2 June 2026 - Study Leave for Year 11 Students - From the Tuesday all Year 11 students can revise at home if they wish and only come into school for their exams. There will continue to be specific revision booster sessions until the end of the GCSE exams and students will be informed of these times - they may in school or on-line through Microsoft Teams. However, once a student leaves school after an exam or study session, they should not return to school, as we cannot re-register them.

School uniform - throughout the GCSE Exam sessions, ALL Year 11 students should be in full normal school uniform - this includes abiding by the rules on jewellery and shoes. On days when there is industrial action Year 11 may wear their Leavers/PE/Ski hoodie instead of a blazer.

Study rooms - From 2 June 2026 there will be quiet study rooms available in school for any Year 11 student who wishes to use them. They will be available on days with no exams and in the mornings and afternoons to support students who may need to be at school and use the school bus system to either arrive at school or return home.

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.



Number 415 & 416 bus service:

We have been advised that Nottinghamshire County Council are completing a review of their discretionary Faith School Transport which includes our 415 & 416 school bus services.

Parents and carers should have already been made aware by the County Council.

We encourage all parents/carers of students who use the 415 & 416 bus service to share their views, as a school we shall be sharing our views too.

For more information please see the below link and you will see where you are able to share your views:

https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/faith-school-transport-review/?_gl=1*147as9j*_gcl_au*MTY4OTE2NDg5NS4xNzc3NTQ3NTYw*_ga*NDE2MzI5NTIyLjE3Nzc1NDc1NjA.*_ga_QHE3HKNBEC*czE3Nzc2MjM5NTckbzMkZzAkdDE3Nzc2MjM5NTckajYwJGwwJGgw

Please kindly note this is a review by Nottinghamshire County Council not by school or the Trust.

Half term holiday:

School will be closed for the half term break and will reopen to all students on Monday 1 June 2026.

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Sacrament Preparation:

Please pray for all the young people making their First Holy Communion in our Parish. Thank you Ava, Tilly, Hanna, Lucy, Evie-Mae Jasmine and Thayonita for supporting these sessions. More thanks to Mr Smiley for all his hard work preparing the hall. We are delighted to be part of the faith journey for Amelia-May, Caitlin and Aaron who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation very soon. By growing in faith we are reflecting on The invitations offered to us by our Lord and we help each other to live as He wants us to live and to find the fulfilment for which he has created.



Could you be called to join The Briars Team? Rachel is always available to talk through your choices and opportunities.

During the month of May we entrust Mary, to help us understand how the Church is asking how best to help each other and accept their calling for joy, love and fulness of life.

It was a pleasure to lead a marriage preparation day earlier this month for past pupils and past Briars Team.

If you are interested in the Catholic Faith and feel you would like to join the Church please do not hesitate to reach out for support.

Saints for 21st Century young people:

Juana Ines De la Cruz born 1648 died 1695

A group of students have gathered to learn: Juana was born in Mexico, she was a young girl with great intelligence and forward looking beliefs. Juana was a champion of girls' right to education. Juana wrote plays, poetry and comic dramas but she was a polymath, she wrote music and was a scientist and mathematician! She became the person she knew was important: a role model for women who came after her in the path of life.

Please email Rachel the Saint who inspires you. What could learn from Juana?

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

REFLECTION

The Diocese of Nottingham covers Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland and Lincolnshire. Cathedral cities and former mining villages, Lincolnshire fenland and Peak District hills, market towns and university campuses. It is a place. It is also a people: clergy and Religious, parishioners and parents, teachers and students, those who arrive at Mass on time and those who slip in at the back, those who would not yet call themselves believers but who are paying attention.

TODAY, WE PRAY

For our diocese: for every priest, deacon, Religious, parishioner, child, young person, parent, grandparent, seeker, doubter, returner.

For the cities, towns and villages of our five counties, that they would be places where Christ is known and loved, and our parishes be places of welcome and invitation.

And for an openness, in each of us, to the Holy Spirit who has been given to us in baptism: the Spirit who makes encounter, discipleship and mission possible.

CLOSING PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit. Unfurl our sails.

Make us faith-filled, joyful and outward-looking missionary disciples for the renewal of our diocese, and the life of the world.

Amen.



NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE AREA

HAMILTONS
SCHOOLWEAR SPECIALISTS

**EARLY BIRD
UNIFORM SALE!**

SAVE 10% OFF!
APRIL 1ST – MAY 31ST

ONLINE ONLY
USE CODE:
EARLYBIRD10

**PREFER TO SHOP
IN-STORE?**
GET **5% OFF!**
USE CODE:
INSTORESARE

41-43 GRANBY STREET, ILKESTON DE7 8HP | 0115 932 6333 | info@hamiltons.biz
www.hamiltons.biz

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

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

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:

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