

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 26th June
2026

Dear Readers,

Next week staff are taking a trip to CERN in Switzerland – we wish them a safe journey and look forward to seeing the pictures on their return.

On Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July 2026 we welcome our Year 6 Transition students. They will have two full packed days and on Wednesday 6-8pm have the option to join are current Year 7 students at a disco in school.

Industrial action is still planned for Monday 29th and Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July – please see separate letter which will be sent out later today for details and information on the rest of the school term.

During this last week of extreme heat we have significantly relaxed school uniform. From next week onwards uniform standard will return to normal however, **Blazers will remain optional until the end of term.**

Finally, good luck to England for their final group match tomorrow evening, enjoy the match if you are staying up to watch it!

Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!
Mrs Christina Hartharn
Acting Headteacher

Important Dates:

Industrial Action days:
Monday 29 June, Thursday
2 & Friday 3 July 2026
Monday 6 & Friday 10 July
2026
Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15
& Thursday 16 July 2026

Inset day – Thursday 23
July 2026 – school closed
to all students

‘Inspiring ambition and
excellence,
guided by Christ’

Telephone:
0115 9322896
Email:

schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

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.



Trust restructure/industrial action information:

Please see below link to the Trust restructure/industrial action information page where updates will be posted:

<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/news/restructure-industrial-action-information/>

Vacancies:

We are currently recruiting for a Teaching Assistant and Cover Supervisor to join our school, please click on the below for further details:

Teaching Assistant:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2026-SJHCVA-81601>

Cover Supervisor:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2026-SJHCVA-58142>

Water Bottles:

Please can you make sure that your child comes to school with a refillable water bottle as the temperatures increase over the next few weeks. We have several locations throughout the school where students can refill their bottles.

Duolingo:

Please could all students who are using Duolingo make sure they log their scores with their MFL teacher. This will help ensure they are included in the upcoming rewards breakfast, which will take place on Wednesday 8 July 2026.

Shout out to KS3:

Miss Turgoose would like to give a huge shout out to the first KS3 student to reach 150 virtue points this year! What an amazing achievement - Sienna H you should be very proud!

A message from the Ilkeston community theatre and festival group:

During our festival week in August, we're holding a St. John Houghton School reunion at Kirk Hallam Community Centre on Tuesday 11th August 1.00 - 2.30. for people who were learners pre- 1977 – please feel free to come along.

NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAINCY

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026:

You are welcome to write a 'letter to Mary' which will travel to Lourdes with Bishop Patrick. This is a Catholic Tradition which is open to all.

My Grandma and mum took me to Lourdes when I was 12 years old and we were encouraged to write a letter to Mary and many friends and neighbours gave us letters of intention to take to Lourdes. Lourdes, located in the foothills of the Pyrenees in southwestern France, is one of the world's premier Catholic pilgrimage destinations. The Nottingham Diocese visit annually to explore the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto where Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. We believe Lourdes is a place of healing and Bishop Patrick has said when he is in Lourdes it is like having a thin veil between heaven and Earth.

So why do we write letters to Mary?

Very simply this is another way of communicating with Mary and she points the way to her son Jesus.

What happens to the letters?

They are posted through a special letter box at the Grotto and when they are burnt it's as if your hopes and prayers in the letter are taken to Jesus.

What does a letter look like?

Dear Mary,

thank you for today, my life, my friends and my family.

I love you and Jesus.

You have given me such a lovely life but I know I can ask and pray for more. Please can I pray for X (name a person) who is suffering with Health/money worries/mental health/relationship and please can you bring them peace.

I will continue to talk to you each day and grow closer to Jesus - or

I do not go to church or pray very much but when Rachel offered me this opportunity I wanted to take time in my day to write to you and I hope you will make life easier for me and X.

Thank you,

You can sign your name or leave it blank.

Put your letter in an envelope and leave in Reception with

' For Rachel Rose to go to Lourdes Private Intention.'

Deadline Date: Tuesday 30th June 2026 9.30am.



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:

Last day of term Inset Day 5 – school closed to all students	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