

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Thursday 23 July
2026

Important Dates:

September 2026 return to school dates:

Tuesday 8 September 2026
– Years 7 and 11 only in school

Wednesday 9 September 2026 – all Years in school

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of the summer term is always a bittersweet moment with the excited anticipation of the summer break - coupled with saying goodbye to staff who move on to new adventures. We have said goodbye to a number of staff this week, Rachel Rose our Lay Chaplain, Mrs Boddice, Mr O'Grady, Miss Garrod, Mr Beardsley, Mrs Smith, Mrs McMyllor, Miss Burrows, Miss Bayliss, Miss Newton and Mr Poland (who left on the World Challenge trip last week). They go with all our thanks and love – they will always be a part of the SJH family.

We will be welcoming new staff to our SJH family in September including a new Chaplain, teaching and support staff.

The last of term was marked by Sports Day which was great occasion for the students. Not too hot which helped! And facilitated by the PE Dept. who kept everything running time.

The last thing to say is to wish all our students, and their families a lovely summer break – please stay safe and return to us in September ready to learn.

“My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.”

Exodus 33:14 Let us all find peace, rest and renewal over the next few weeks.

Garde ta Foi! Guard your Faith!

Mrs Christina Harthorn

Acting Headteacher

‘Inspiring ambition and
excellence,
guided by Christ’

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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.



September 2026 return to school dates:

Friday 4 September 2026 – Inset day – school closed to all students
Monday 7 September 2026 – Inset day – school closed to all students
Tuesday 8 September 2026 – Year 7 and Year 11 only in school
Wednesday 9 September 2026 – All year groups in school

School uniform for September 2026:

Please see below link to the school uniform policy, we expect all students to be in school in September in the full correct uniform:

<https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/parents/dress-code-and-equipment/>

Please can parents/carers note that hair colour/nails and piercings must all be in accordance with the policy. Equally, the uniform will be blazer, shirt, tie and black trousers/skirt for students on their first day back in September.

416 Update:

Please be aware that from September 2026 for the next school year, the 416 bus route will be operated by Littles instead of Skills.

School vacancy:

We are currently recruiting for a Behaviour Support Worker to join our school, please click the below link for further information:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2026-SJHCVA-18869>

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Year 10 Work Experience 2026:

During July, Year 10 took part in a week-long work experience programme. Students managed to secure placements at a wide variety of different workplace settings. Dentists, restaurants, fashion designers, engineers, barbers, schools, estate agents...to name but a few. Feedback from employers was excellent - many of whom said that the students were hard-working, polite and a credit to the school - Well done Year 10! I am sure that the students learnt a lot about working life and gained some valuable insight into what the real world is like after leaving school...the positives and the challenges!

Meanwhile, in school, there were many activities arranged for students who were unable to secure a placement outside of school. Sessions included a range of 'Work experience' tasks, a session with our careers advisor and two mornings with a former student who now runs her own successful business. The week was concluded with a visit from the Army who talked to students about careers and led a hands-on problem solving activity.

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award through Girl Guiding:

Congratulations to Grace R, Megan H, Maisie W, Daisy W, Eleanor S and Lily S in Year 9, who successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition through Girl Guiding over the weekend of 11th and 12th July. Despite the extremely hot weather, the girls showed great resilience, teamwork and determination throughout the expedition. They all performed exceptionally well and should be very proud of their achievement. Well done to all six students on this fantastic accomplishment.



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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

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