

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 2 October
2026

Important Dates:

**Year 10 & 11 Post 16
Options Evening –
Tuesday 6 October
2026 – 3.15 – 5.15pm**

**Flu vaccinations:
Wednesday 14
October 2026**

'Inspiring ambition and
excellence,
guided by Christ'

Telephone:
0115 9322896
Email:

schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe that it is October already and we are halfway through the term, and the weather has continued to be nice.

On Wednesday, Year 7 parents/Carers were invited to attend our 'Meet the tutor', it was lovely to see so many families attending and hearing how our Year 7's are settling in.

Good luck to our Year 11 students who are undertaking their food mock exams next week, we look very much forward to seeing their creations and having a taste of the dishes they make.

The Word of the week in school has been: Listen. Tutors have been talking to students about how listening is an important part of dialogue. It means paying attention to what others are saying and trying to understand their point of view. Listening is not just about hearing words; it is about hearing the heart. We are called to be good listeners and we should make sure to listen to those who are different from us. Above all we should listen to what God is calling us to do in our lives.

Loving God,

Help us to listen with open hearts and kind minds. May we hear with understanding, speak with wisdom, and show others they are valued. Amen.

Have a lovely restful weekend.

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

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.



No.11 bus service – 8/10/2026:

As Kirk Hallam Academy are closing early on Thursday 8 October 2026 due to their open evening, the school bus will not be available on this day to take students home, alternative arrangements will need to be made on this day, we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Flu vaccinations 14/10/2026:

Flu vaccinations for all year groups will be on Wednesday 14 October 2026 in school. Consent forms have been emailed to parents/carers directly from the Derbyshire Immunisations team. If you have any queries or have not received an email, please ring 03333 583 397 choose option 5. School are not able to help with any queries regarding the vaccinations.

School vacancy:

We are currently recruiting for a permanent, full time Behaviour Support worker to join our school, for further information please click on the below link:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137908/EDV-2026-SJHCVA-33034>

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Y11 GCSE Geography Fieldtrip



Mrs Etienne and Mr Carr led a group of Y11 students on their Geography fieldtrip on Friday to undertake primary data collection along the River Dove in Dovedale.

The students were investigating how the characteristics of the river change along its course, as well as heading into Ilkeston town centre to study the environmental quality of the town centre.

The students were able to put into practice vital fieldwork skills and data collection methods in preparation for the applied fieldwork exam. A great time was had by all, and the weather was very kind.

Mrs Etienne would like to thank the students for their exemplary behaviour whilst representing the school, and to the additional staff who supported the trip, Mrs Gilmartin, Mr Weightmen, Mrs Surgey and Miss Bywater.

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

KS3 Geography:



Geography club launched on Thursday 25 September and was well attended in KS3.

We had the opportunity to guess the flags of South America, our champions were Liam B and James H who got them all correct without having to use the Atlas, well done!

We spent time learning more about Brazil...did you know that Brazil is bordered by 10 other countries and Portuguese is the official language!

I look forward to seeing KS3 again next week for more exploration of the world...Mrs Etienne ☺ HU1 Thursday lunchtimes – see Miss for an early lunch pass.

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Geography:

KEY STAGE 4
GEOGRAPHY
SUPPORT SESSIONS

EXPLORE
LEARN
ACHIEVE
A BRIGHTER
TOMORROW
TOGETHER

REVISION | HOMEWORK | SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE
Get the support you need to succeed!

REVISION
Consolidate knowledge
and prepare for exams

HOMEWORK
Get help with
classwork and
homework tasks

SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE
Deepen your
understanding and
build confidence

**ALL KS4
GEOGRAPHY
STUDENTS
WELCOME!**

**EVERY
TUESDAY**
LUNCHTIME

HU1
WITH
MRS ETIENNE

PEOPLE
PLACES
ENVIRONMENTS
FUTURES

Same
Challenges
A Brighter
World

GEOGRAPHY
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

PEOPLE | PLACES | ENVIRONMENTS | FUTURES

This week was well attended by Y11 to the first GCSE geography study session. We spent time revising core knowledge on coastal processes and then tackled a practice exam question; we even found time to grab a sandwich! I look forward to seeing more faces as the mock exams fast approach!!

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Football Match Report:

Parkinson double blast sinks Mercia!

On the 30th of September, the Year 9 Boy's football team beat Mercia Academy 8-2 in what can only be described as a sublime performance!

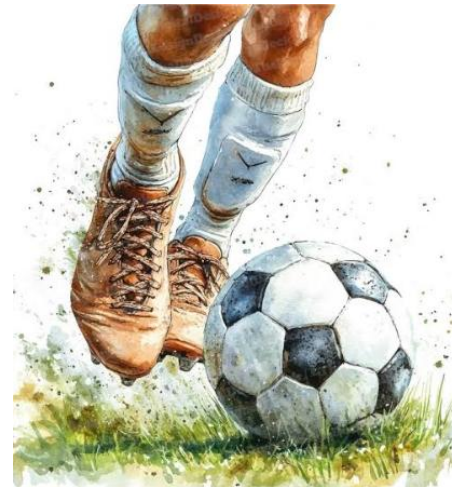
It only took minutes to break the deadlock and before long the team were 4-0 up. Highlights were out of the box goals from inform Aydan P and Dexter. But the best part was a 30-yard free kick from Aydan P, which nestled perfectly in the top corner.

Manager Mr Thomson said,

"Aydan has really stepped up his game and is now one of the first names on the team sheet. PE teachers across the midlands are asking, "Who is that dead ball specialist"?.....It's phenomenal"!

Goals came from Aydan 2, Dexter 1, Reuben 1, Ewan 1, Ayo 1, Oscar 1 and Michal 1.

The boys now face either Ilkeston or Dronfield in the next round.



NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

SJH

Post-16 Options Fair

at Saint John Houghton CVA

Tuesday 6th October

3.15 – 5.15pm



Year 11 and 10 students are once again invited to attend the Post-16 Options Fair. Parents are welcome to accompany. There will be representatives present from a range of local colleges, sixth forms and training providers. They will have stands with information on their offer and they will be available to answer questions. Our school careers advisor will also be present for any questions you may have.

Confirmed providers in attendance this year so far*:

Friesland School Sixth Form, Bilborough College, Heanor Gate, George Spencer, Steven Gerrard Academy, Kirk Hallam Sixth Form, The University of Derby, The Kimberley School Sixth Form, Derby College, Nottingham College, The Royal Navy, Born to Perform Academy, Derby County Community Trust, Education and Semi-Professional Football Academy, Trinity School, Wilsthorpe Sixth Form

*The above providers have all confirmed their attendance but any last-minute absence will be out of our control

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

School choir:



Saint John Houghton

SCHOOL CHOIR

Do you love to sing? Want to be part
of a fun and welcoming group?
Come add your voice to our choir!

No Experience Necessary ●
Everyone Welcome ●

TUESDAY LUNCH

In the Music Room

*Mr Quenby will give you an
early lunch pass if needed*

NEWSLETTER

Ilkeston Army Cadets:

OPEN DAY ATTRACTIONS
DEMONSTRATIONS
GAMES
TOMBOLA
JUMBLE SALE
TEA, COFFEE & CAKES

EXPERIENCE NEW ADVENTURES
GAIN NEW SKILLS

ACHIEVE RECOGNISED QUALIFICATIONS
MAKE NEW FRIENDS



OPEN DAY:
Saturday, 14th November 10:00 - 14:00
Ilkeston ACF detachment
Cadet centre 29 Albert St
Ilkeston DE7 5GU

APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW-ARMYCADETS.COM



NEWSLETTER

Ilkeston Air Cadets:



WE'RE RECRUITING!

348 (Ilkeston) Squadron RAFAC



**Also recruiting
adult
volunteers!**

For young people in Year 8 and above:

**Develop lifelong skills and forge lasting friendships:
there's something for everyone at 348!**

Find out more on our website:



ilkestonaircadets.com

**ROYAL
AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS**
the next generation

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

2026-2027 School holidays and Inset Days:

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 year's finish school	Friday 23 July 2027
Inset Day 5	Monday 26 July 2027