SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Friday 23 October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done to Year 11 for completing the first week of the GCSE mock exams – the students have been exemplary this week. Please congratulate your Year 11 child too, for all their hard work and positive attitude.

This week our CEO of SRSCMAT Lisa Walton was invited to the opening of the Ilkeston Charter Fair and Sienna H acted as the student ambassador for St. John Houghton.

Congratulations to 8A – who held their charity bake sale this week. A great success – more details on P4.

I also want to say a massive thank you to all the students (and the supporting staff and parents/carers!) who have represented the school in various sporting matches this term. It has been very busy with teams going to locations all over the East Midlands and Yorkshire. This continued on Thursday with our Year 11 boys football winning 6 nil in the latest country cup match – with Finley P Player of the match!

As we break up for half term, we wish all our students a happy half term. *"Lord, thank You for bringing us to the end of this busy half term. Thank You for the learning, the challenges, the successes, and the friendships we have shared. As we begin our break, help us to rest well, enjoy time with family and friends, and return refreshed and ready for the new term ahead. Keep us safe, fill us with Your peace, and renew our strength"* Amen

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

Important Dates:

The Year 7 Admissions deadline for 2027 is 31 October 2026 – Please remember to make your choice by this date. More information from Schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

Wednesday 11 November 2026 – Year 10 Parents Evening

Friday 27 November 2026 – Inset Day

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ'

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

St Ralph Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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.



PSHE & RSE:

As part of our PSHE curriculum we cover Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). If you would like to know more about the resources that we use, please see our website (link below). St. John Houghton Catholic CVA follows the Nottingham Catholic Diocese prescribed RSE resource called TEN:TEN. Parents can access these resources by following the link in the parent letter on the website. If you have any questions about RSE then please contact schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk
https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/curriculum/subjects/#1635955221907-4c6375de-7fbb

Inset day – Friday 27 November 2026:

School will be closed to all students on Friday 27 November 2026 due to an inset day.

SAINT JOHN HOUGHTON CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS - EVERY DAY COUNTS

Dear Parent/Carer,

At SJH, we are committed to ensuring that every student receives the maximum benefit from their education. Regular attendance and good punctuality are essential to academic achievement, wellbeing and preparation for adult life. Attendance at school is not optional. It is a legal requirement and a shared responsibility between school, students and families.

The Importance of Arriving on Time

School begins at **8:45am** and students should be in school, ready to learn, by this time. Morning registers close at **9:15am**. Students arriving after 9:15am do not receive a morning attendance mark because the registration period has ended.

Important: A student who arrives on time every day receives 10 attendance marks each week. A student who arrives after 9:15am every day receives only 5 attendance marks. This can result in **50% attendance for the week**, despite attending school each day.

Why Attendance Matters

Students who attend regularly and arrive on time are more likely to make strong academic progress, feel settled in school, develop positive friendships, build confidence and establish routines that support future success. Every lesson, every day, provides valuable learning opportunities.

Preparing Young People for Adult Life

One of our responsibilities as a school is to prepare young people for adulthood. Employers, colleges, universities and training providers expect individuals to attend regularly, arrive on time and meet their commitments. Good attendance helps students develop reliability, responsibility and resilience - qualities that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Where families experience difficulties affecting attendance, we encourage early communication with school so that appropriate support can be explored. Contact: Attendance@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

BE HERE. BE ON TIME. BE READY TO LEARN.

Every day matters. Every lesson matters. Every minute matters.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure that all students attend school regularly, arrive punctually, and make the most of every opportunity available to them.

Yours faithfully,

Attendance Team

Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS



Charity Cake Sale

Mrs Etienne would like to congratulate all 8A on hosting a fantastic end-of-half-term fundraiser!

Members of 8A kindly took the time to bake cakes, donate items and host a fundraiser during their own breaktime. **Total raised £180**

An extra-special mention goes to our school council representatives, Iris and Noah, who first suggested the idea to the tutor group and worked hard to organise the event. Well, done to you both!

Thank you to all the students and staff who purchased items or supported in anyway, we are very grateful!



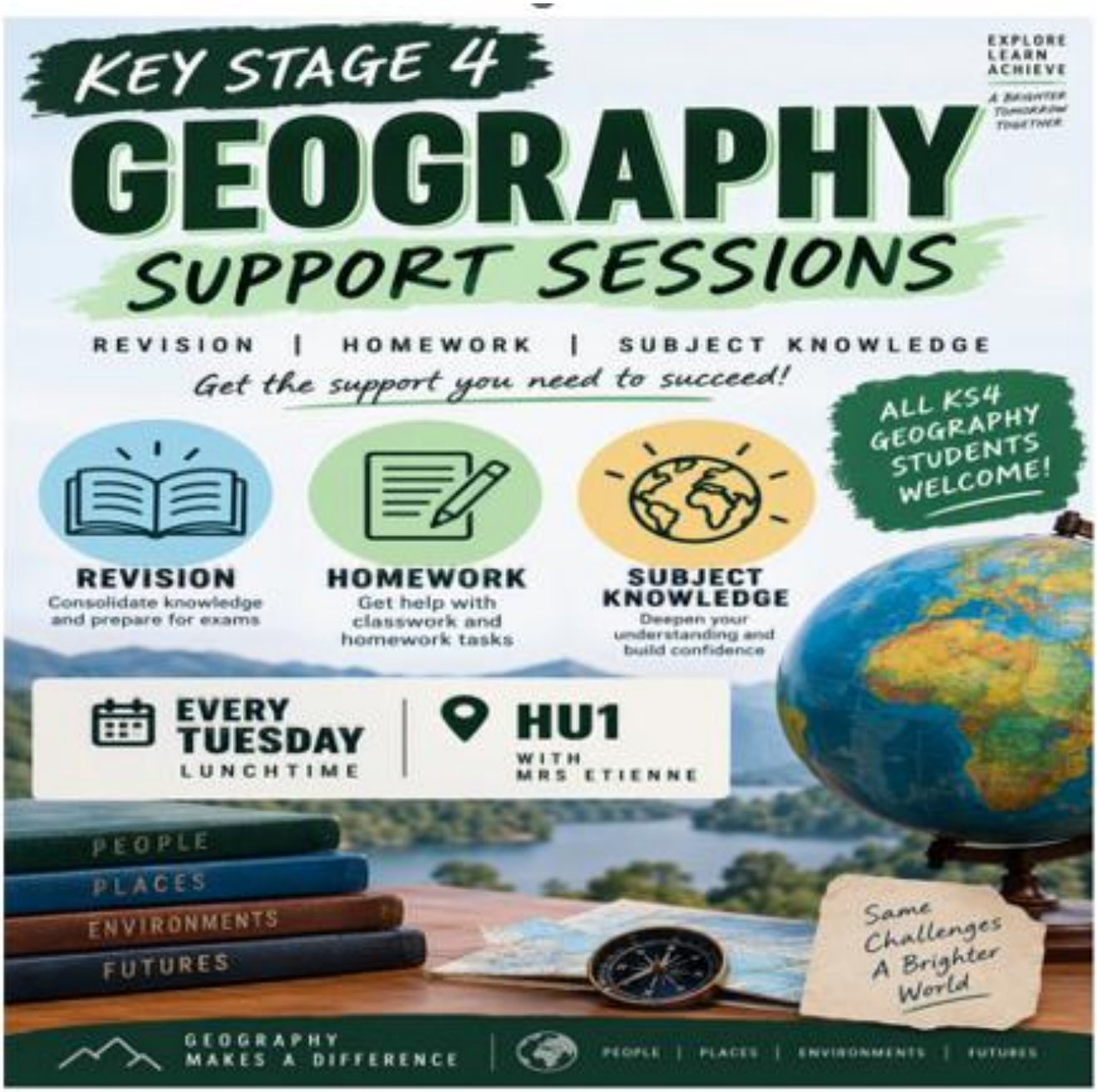




NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

Geography:



NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

School choir:



NEWSLETTER

Ilkeston Army Cadets:



NEWSLETTER

Ilkeston Air Cadets:



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**

NEWSLETTER

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2027-2028 School holidays and Inset Days:

Inset day 1	**Monday 6 September 2027**
Inset day 2	**Tuesday 7 September 2027**
All students return to school	**Wednesday 8 September 2027**
October half term	**Monday 25 - Friday 29 October 2027**
Inset day 3	**Friday 3 December 2027**
Christmas holidays	**Thursday 23 December 2027 – Wednesday 5 January 2028**
February half term	**Monday 21 – Friday 25 February 2028**
Inset Day 4 (Trust)	**To be confirmed**
Easter holidays	**Monday 10 – Friday 21 April 2028**
May half term	**Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2028**
All year's finish school	**Friday 21 July 2028**
Inset Day 5	**Monday 24 July 2028**