ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

10 JULY 2023 WEEK A





🔗 A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

As we enter our penultimate week of this academic year, we are reminded of the wonderful opportunities and experiences offered to our students, both in and out of school. From festivals, retreats, performances and sporting competitions, to trips, fundraising events and celebrations, we are proud of the opportunities our students have had this year to really get involved in the life of St John's and both the local and wider community. We are even prouder of the way our students have shown such confidence, self-belief and resilience in stepping up and grasping these opportunities with both hands.

On Tuesday, 15 singers took part in a workshop with world-class. professional chamber choir, The Sixteen. Students enjoyed a fun vocal warm up, took part in performance and composition, and were even treate to a mini concert. Ou thanks go to Durham Music Service for organising this amazing opportunity.

After a 26 hour long journey, our Project Kenya team have safely arrived in Nakuru, via

the Giraffe Sanctuary. They are now looking forward to heading to their partner school where they will be painting newly built classrooms, teaching lessons and organising sporting events. The group will also be visiting the Masai Mara on Safari. This is an incredible opportunity for the students and staff involved and one which will also make a huge difference to the community over there. talents shine.



LAST WEEK'S EVENTS

Following a successful Induction Evening on Tuesday where our incoming Year 7 students and their parents and carers came into school to meet their Pastoral Tutors and Tutor Groups, we then welcomed our Year 6 students into school all day on Thursday and Friday for their Induction Days. Students got a real taste of life at St John's, with lessons in Science, RE, English, Maths, Drama, Media, PE, ICT among others. They were also treated to an exclusive preview of The Addams Family and had two days which, in their own words, were "marvellous", "epic" and "amazing"! We were very impressed with their behaviour, enthusiasm and engagement and we know they will settle in well to our school community when they join us in September.

This week, we were invited to The Key UK awards evening to celebrate the outstanding work the young people across the North East have accomplished by working through The Key+ programme. The group of Year 8 students were nominated across several categories. We are so proud of what they have accomplished and look forward to continuing to work with The Key who provide our students with amazing opportunities.





On Wednesday, 39 of our Year 9 and Year 10 students joined over 500 other young people from our Diocese to celebrate this year's Secondary Schools Festival which lasted for three days and two nights. The theme of this year's festival was 'Bold and Brave'. Pope Francis encourages our young people to dare to be different, and the festival really did encourage our young people to be Bold and Brave, empowering them to be the best version of themselves and giving them the confidence to let their



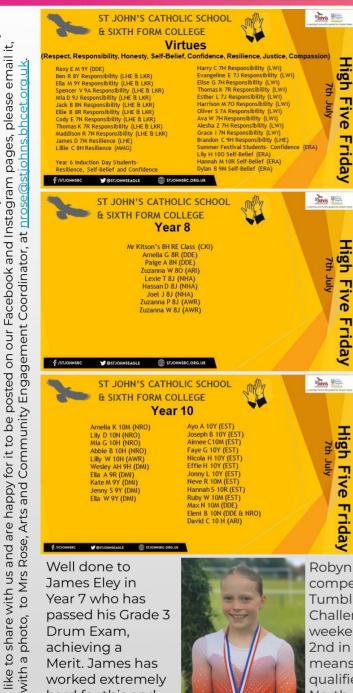
COMING UP THIS WEEK

July

Monday 10- Year 10 Work Experience. We hope all students have an enjoyable and useful week. Wednesday 12- Sports Day. Students should wear their St John's PE kit and trainers all day on Wednesday. The morning will consist of individual track and field events by nominated students from each Pastoral Group. All other students will be in their normal lessons. After lunch, all students will be outside for Pastoral Group events. Thursday 13 and Friday 14- The Addams Family the Musical, 7pm. Our students have been rehearsing extremely hard for this and it promises to be an amazing show with an exceptional cast on both evenings. Having sold out of initial tickets, we have added limited additional tickets for both evenings, but these won't be around for long. Visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-catholic-school to book.

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS







passed his Grade 3 Drum Exam, achieving a Merit. James has worked extremely hard for this and we are very proud of him!



Robyn Selby in Year 7 competed at the Tumbling Regional Challenge Cup last weekend and placed 2nd in her category. This means that she has qualified to represent the North at the National Final in September- a fantastic achievement!



Isabelle Parry in Year 8, along with some friends, took it upon herself to raise money for the charity Stray Aid, organising a Bake Sale last week which raised £200! Well done, Isabelle!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Tuesday 18 July- Rewards Day for Year 7 and the Winning House.
- ☐ Wednesday 19- Thursday 20 July- Arts Trip to London
- Thursday 20 July- Break up for Summer (School finishes at 1.15pm)
- Thursday 17 August- A Level Results
- Thursday 24 August- GCSE Results
- Tuesday 5 September School reopens to all students

FOCUS ON

Our Welfare and SEND teams are so important in ensuring our students are supported, both academically and emotionally. The staff within these teams work tirelessly and do a superb job on a daily basis, so it is lovely to see many of them receiving nominations lately. Well done to Susie (Parent Support Advisor), Miss Allaway (LSA),

Mrs Kreczak (SENDCO) and Mrs Watson (Assistant Head/Safeguarding Lead). With only two more Thankful Thursdays left of this academic year, make sure you drop us an email at <u>iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk</u> to nominate.



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