ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

14 OCTOBER 2024 WEEK A



On Friday our Year 12 students took part in a Retreat Day with the theme 'No Limits'. The day was focused around not letting obstacles get in the way of achieving their dreams and helping to break down



the barriers which prevent others from achieving their dreams too. They spent the morning engaged in activities which included listening to inspirational speaker Stuart Myers, who was born with no arms and but has not let this hinder him in anyway. On the afternoon, students then took part in a sponsored walk for Henry, Mr Barber's son, who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma in September 2023. Part of the walk involved stopping at Escomb Church where students lit candles and prayed for those in their lives who need their prayers. Students showed real compassion and respect throughout the day and it was a wonderful chance for them to spend time together as a year group reflecting.



Thursday was World Mental Health Day. As well as activities focused on mental health in Pastoral earlier in the week, we also held a bake sale which raised a fantastic £190 for the Mental Health Foundation. The focus of this year's WMHD was mental health in the workplace. and so we also gave our staff the opportunity to chat and enjoy a sweet treat together at break time.

A huge well done to our students who represented St John's last week at the ESSA Secondary school teams. They all put maximum effort into their swims to support their team performance and we are super proud of

them! The Year 9/10 girls' team placed 5th out of 20 schools participating in both the Freestyle and Individual Medley. This was a high graded gala which was a nerve-wracking experience for our students, but they were fantastic!





In the Main Hall Costumes Optional uck shop available £1 per item

A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

Thank you to all of the Year 11 and Year 10 students and their families who came along to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday evenina. It was a wonderful event which showcased our fantastic Sixth Form and it was wonderful to welcome students from St John's and from other schools as they consider their next steps. Our Sixth Form offers academic excellence, a supportive and caring environment, outstanding pastoral care and life-changing wider opportunities. We really do believe St John's Sixth Form is a special place to continue your education and we love to see our students continue to soar higher with us. Applications are now open via our brand new Sixth Form website, stjohns6.bhcet.org.uk.



Choosing our Sixth Form means becoming part of a tradition of excellence, where you are empowered to achieve your goals, make meaningful contributions, and prepare for an exciting future.







Last week's attendance figures were:

Year 7 94.3%, Year 8 89.4%, Year 9 89%, Year 10 90%, Year 11: 90.5%

As has now become tradition, we are holding an Autumn Disco for our Year 7 students to celebrate a successful first half term at St John's. Tickets can be paid for via MCAS and money raised will go to our Project Peru funds.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Wednesday 16- Year 13 Information Evening, 5.30pm. We invite parents and carers of our Year 13 students to an important Information Evening all about what to expect from Year 13, mock exams, A Level preparations, university applications and next steps. Please enter via Main Reception if you are attending. For any parents who are unable to attend, a copy of the presentation will be available on the school website after the evening. Thank you to everyone who has attended our information evenings so far- it has been great to welcome so many parents and carers into school and we hope you have found them informative.

Friday 18- We look forward to welcoming Sam Rushworth, Labour MP for Bishop Auckland, into school to chat to some of our students about his career path and how we can all contribute positively to our community. Our Show Racism the Red Card talks meant to take place this week have been rescheduled for future dates

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS



ClassCharts

Year 7 Top

Achievers

Verity D 7M

Georgie J 7M Rosie S 70 Emily B 7M

Isla T 7M

Year 8 Top

Achievers

Ruby M8H Holly H8R

Kea-Shenell W 8H Nicholas S 8J

Noah H 8A

Year 9 Top

Achievers

Jake O 9Y

Ryan D 9A

Leah W 9A

Clara J 9R

Isabella E 9A

Year 10 Top

Achievers

Hassan S 10J

Monica M 100

Benjamin S-J 10H

Jack R 100

Isaac C 10O

Year 11 Top

Achievers

Joshua C 11N

Emily C 11H

Jaimee R 11J

Sapphire S 11N

Luca R 11H



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MFL Stars of the Week: Isabella G 7N, Ava Mae J 8N, Lucy C 8J, Logan P 9N

🦃 I Heard a Whisper...

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Teaching is a stressful and demanding profession, and so it is more important than ever that our staff feel valued and appreciated for their tireless work in supporting our students. Our staff really do go above and beyond every day, and sometimes this may be to the detriment of their own work/life balance. This is why it is so important to say thank you and acknowledge their dedication and commitment in guiding, nurturing, inspiring and championing our young people. Well done this week to the members of the English Department, Mrs Rose (Assistant Headteacher), Miss Aisbitt (Maths), Miss Gough (LSA), Miss Batty (Head of Social Sciences), Mrs Moran (Assistant Head of English) and Danielle Lawson (Admin) who have all been nominated by parents or colleagues.

Harry Blackett





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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Wednesday 23 October- Year 7 Welcome Mass
- ☐ Friday 25 October- School closed to students for staff INSET. Half Term
- ☐ Monday 4 November- School reopens
- ☐ Tuesday 12 November- Christmas Market, 6pm
- ☐ Monday 4 November- Year 11 and Year 13 mock exams begin
- ☐ Monday 11 November- Year 8 Retreat ☐ Friday 29 November- Disaggregated
- Day, school closed ☐ Thursday 5 December- Year 11 **Progress Eve**
- ☐ Thursday 12 December- Year 10 **Progress Eve**

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk



