# ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

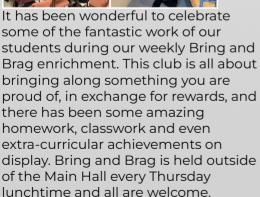
6 OCTOBER 2025 WEEK B



We had a wonderful Open Evening last week, opening our doors to prospective students in Year 5 and 6 and their families. There was so much to see and do across all of our amazing departments, and we loved showcasing the amazing teaching, learning and opportunities at St John's, including some of our fantastic enrichment clubs such as Gardening Club, Board Game Club, a live darts competition and performances from our choir and some of our Frozen cast. Thank you to all of our fabulous student volunteers, who continue to be the best ambassadors for St John's. A special mention to Claudia, George and Grace who all spoke so passionately and articulately about their experiences of St John's to hundreds of people during our Headteacher talks.







On Friday, Year 9 took part in a series of powerful and thought-provoking workshops from the charity Prison, Me? No Way! The talks and workshops focused on the important topics of knife crime, drugs, life-saving skills, rail safety, anti-social behaviour and making good choices. They got to set foot inside a prison cell, hear all about prison life from prison guards and former prisoners, and even hear the real-life story of the consequences of bad decisions from a current prisoner. Year 9 were incredibly engaged and respectful throughout the day and made some excellent contributions to the sessions. This was such an important day for our students, and one we run every year for Year 9 as we help them to make good decisions and grow into responsible and respectful young adults.





## Spotlight on ... Sport

We are incredibly proud of the sporting success at St John's, as well as the wide range of sporting clubs, teams and opportunities we offer. Did you know, for example, that we are the only school in the area that are represented at all sporting events at local and regional levels, achieving significant success in county, regional, and even national competitions. From trampolining to rock-climbing, badminton to water polo and every sport in between, we are very proud of the endless opportunities for our students to shine and soar. This week alone has seen our students achieve great success in swimming, rugby and football, with the latter seeing 23 goals scored and only 2 conceded across all games for Years 7-11! Our Year 8 students also attended the local school multi-skill festival at King James School on Friday, with St John's placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in boys' and girls' football and badminton.











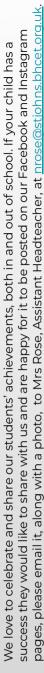
# COMING UP THIS WEEK

**Wednesday 8 October-** Year 12 Information Evening, 5pm. Parents and carers of Year 12 students are warmly invited to attend our Information Evening focused on the transition into Sixth Form, expectations, opportunities and key dates for the upcoming year, as well as a chance to speak to the Head of Year and external support services.

**Thursday 9 October-** Sixth Form Open Evening, 5.30-7.30pm. We are looking forward to welcoming Year 10 and 11 students from both St John's and elsewhere into our Sixth Form to find out about the courses on offer, opportunities available and what makes St John's one of the best Sixth Forms in County Durham. We are also looking forward to sharing more details about our exciting Sixth Form redevelopment plan.

# LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS





















### **ClassCharts** Year 7 Top **Achievers**

Constance A7R Willow D 7R Richie M 7M Ellie S 7R Isla H 7R

#### Year 8 Top **Achievers**

Belle D 8A Tommy S 8N Kai D 8A Hannah K 8A Tommy-Lee C 8O

### Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Eva M 9R Bokani N 90 Grace N 9N Tylor S 9Y Lucy D 9M

#### Year 10 Top **Achievers**

Matthew W 10R Michelle E 10R Tejaswi S 10A Thomas K 10R Esther L 10J

#### Year 11 Top **Achievers**

Hassan S 11J Zoe A 11M Chloe C 11A Eve M 11R Nadia I 11M

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Wednesday 15 October- Year 13 Information Evening, 5pm
- ☐ Wednesday 15 October- Year 8 Residential
- ☐ Tuesday 21 October- Year 7 Welcome Mass (details to follow)
- ☐ Wednesday 22 October- Year 8 Information Evening, 5pm
- ☐ Friday 24 October- Staff Inset- school closed to students. Half term begins
- ☐ Monday 3 November- Term begins. Mock exams begin for Year 11 and Year 13
- ☐ Tuesday 18 November- Year 7 Meet the Tutor (online)- more details to follow

## Last Week's Attendance

Year 7: 94.8%, Year 8: 93.7%, Year 9: 91.6%, Year 10: 90%, Year 11: 90.1%

## I Heard a Whisper...

Sometimes the smallest of actions can have the biggest impact on those around us. All of last week's nominations were for things that may not have seemed big or significant to the person doing them, but to others they made a huge difference; small acts of kindness, consistency and relentless dedication. Well done to Mr Oxberry (Head of Year 7), Mrs Higgins (Maths), Mrs Lawson (RE), Miss Johnston (English), Miss Hankey (English), Mr Johnson (English), Mrs Smith (Head of RE) and Mrs Langford (MFL) who all received a sweet treat. Drop us an email to pass on your special thanks to a member of staff.

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

STJOHNSRC.ORG.UK

## Artist of the Week



Kristen R, 8A









