ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

13 OCTOBER 2025 WEEK A



We has a wonderful evening on Thursday for our Sixth Form Open Evening. It was lovely to welcome so many Year 10 and 11 students into our Sixth Form, both from St John's and from other schools, and to showcase our excellent courses, opportunities and facilities. Applications are now open for September 2026 and can be found on our website. The deadline to apply is 3 November.

Year 7 had an amazing time on Tuesday meeting author Helen Rutter. As part of their transition, every student was gifted a copy of Helen's book, The Boy with Big Decisions, and they got the chance to get their books personally signed! Helen encouraged a love of reading for pleasure with her engaging, interactive and often amusing talk about her books and the inspiration behind them. Thank you to Helen for signing over 200 books and for being part of our reading journey in Year 7.









Another round of Netball league games took place last week for our Netball squads in Years 9, 10 and 11. All teams were victorious, winning all of their games against Wolsingham, Staindrop,

Bishop Barrington and King James. The girls displayed excellent teamwork and a great level of skill and we look forward to another year of continued Netball success.



Last week saw the finals of this year's Biology Spelling Bee. A huge well done to all who took part and the fantastic efforts made with some tricky spellings. A special well done to this year's winners in each year group who will receive their prizes this week:

Year 7: Jack Relton and Ada Anoke, Year 8: Harini Thivaharan

Year 9: Grace Ndiyamba, Year 10: Ryan Davies

Year 11: William Cumming (highest scorer)

Year 12: Eason Zheng (highest scorer)

Year 13: Georgia Freeland and Harriet Freeland (highest scorers)

A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

Spotlight on... Year 7 Despite only being part of our St John's

community for 6 weeks, our Year 7s have made a huge impact and have settled in extremely well. So far we have seen some superb sporting achievement, excellent effort across all of their subjects and some amazing enrichment attendance and engagement, proof that they are really taking all of the opportunities offered to them at St John's. There has been some wonderful work on show from Year 7 in particular at Bring and Brag, demonstrating the passion and pride they have for their work. Year 7 have also shown great maturity and engagement during talks on important topics such as hate crime and road safety. We look forward to welcoming them officially in our upcoming Welcome Mass.



→ COMING UP THIS WEEK

Tuesday 14 October- Year 12 Retreat morning. All of Year 12 will be taking part in a retreat morning at St Mary's Church followed by a session in school.

Tuesday 14 October- Georgetown University Presentation at Carmel College. All of Year 12 and a selection of Year 11 students will be attending a special talk to find out more about international bursaries and studying at American universities.

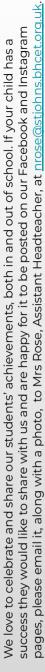
Wednesday 15 October- Year 13 Information Evening, 5pm. Parents and carers of Year 13 students are warmly invited to attend our Information Evening focused on exams, expectations, key dates, next steps and key dates for the upcoming year, as well as a chance to speak to the Head of Year and external support services.

Wednesday 15 October- Year 8 Retreat. 68 of our Year 8 students are heading to the Emmaus Youth Village on Wednesday after school and returning at the end of the day on Friday for their Year 8 Retreat. We wish them a wonderful time and know they will have a great few days of reflection, teamwork and making memories.

Friday 17 October- A small group of Year 10 students are spending the day at the Gala Theatre, Durham for a Women of the World conference, focused on the changing world of relationships and how to protect our planet

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS











ClassCharts Year 7 Top

Achievers

Ada A 7N Daniel S 7J Evie P 7N Archie P 7M Meggan W 7N

Year 8 Top **Achievers**

Michael I 8R Kai D 8A Belle D 8A Tommy-Lee C 8O Guru S 8A

Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Tom C 9A Michalina G 9R Lilly J 9N Bokani N 90 Constance C 9N

Year 10 Top **Achievers**

Teiaswi S 10A Thomas T 10A Kate T 10Y Nathan K 10M Alex M 10A

Year 11 Top **Achievers**

Chloe C 11A Jacob B 11A Chloe D 11A Freddie C 11A Olivia B-M 11M

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Tuesday 21 October-Year 7 Welcome Mass
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Tuesday 18 November-Year 7 Meet the Tutor (online)- details to follow
- □ Tuesday 25 November-Christmas Market, 6pm



👸 I Heard a Whisper... Well done to all of last week's I

Heard a Whisper nominees who we received emails about from parents, students or colleagues to thank them for their dedication, hard work and for going the extra mile for our students. Well done to Miss Batty (Head of Social Sciences), Mr Walker (LSA), Mrs Deverell (Art), Ms Somers (Assistant Headteacher), Mr Smith (Head of Year 7), Mr Athey (Pupil Premium Coordinator/ Maths) and Allan and Morris (Minibus Drivers). If you would like to pass on your thanks to a deserving member of staff, drop us an

email iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

Artist of the Week





Daniel Dawson, 13A







