ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

20 OCTOBER 2025 Week B



Our Year 8 students had a wonderful residential retreat at the Emmaus Youth Village last week. They took part in team building activities, reflections and games, all centred around the theme of 'Living Hope' and enjoyed time away from screens and with their friends, strengthening friendships and forging new ones. Our students were fantastic and really embraced the theme of the retreat. A huge thank you to all at YMT and to our staff who gave up their time to accompany the students.

Thursday's Bring and Brag saw some more fantastic work on show, from superb Spanish homework to amazing artwork and sculptures, and some students really pushing themselves in their classwork and homework. It is wonderful to see so much excellent work being shared by our students and the pride that they are taking in their lessons and homework. Anyone is welcome to come along to Bring and Brag, with the last one of this half term taking place outside of the Main Hall on Thursday



lunchtime.











A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

Spotlight on... Catholic Life As 'A Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values', the faith journey of our students and the virtues and values instilled within them are key to being part of St John's. Last week saw our Year 8 retreat, a highlight of the school calendar, where students were encouraged to take a step back from the busyness of life (and from their screens) to take time to strengthen their relationships with friends and with themselves and reflect on their hopes for the future. We also held our annual Year 12 Retreat Day, with the theme of 'No Limits' where students were asked to consider the limitations they place on themselves and each other, and the impact of removing these limits. This week we look forward to welcoming Year 7 officially into our Learning Community with a special Welcome Mass dedicated to them, as we call them by name to be members of our school and celebrate their journey so far. We are looking forward to more wonderful events on our Catholic Life calendar through the rest of the year.

We had more sporting success last week, A huge well done to our Under 16 and Under 14 girls' rugby teams who competed in the County Cup tournament. The teams both finished third overall and showed excellent team spirit, determination and skill. A special mention to Grace Irwin who was nominated by her teammates as Player of the Tournament for the Under 16s. Well done also to our students who competed in the District Cross Country with some fantastic individual results and many of our students finishing in the top 16.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Tuesday 21 October- Year 7 Welcome Mass, 10am at St Mary's Church. We are looking forward to officially welcoming Year 7 into our learning community with our Year 7 Welcome Mass. Students will walk down to church with their tutor and will return to school after the mass. Due to limited space, one parent or carer per child is warmly invited to attend the mass, and it will be streamed on YouTube also for those unable to come. We kindly ask that parents do not arrive at church prior to 9.45am and park considerately.

Wednesday 22 October- We are delighted to announce that this year's school production will be Little Shop of Horrors. Any students wanting to be involved are invited to a special launch session after school on Wednesday in the Main Hall until 4.30pm where they will find out more and learn audition material. All are welcome.

Wednesday 22 October- Year 8 Information Evening, 5pm. Parents and carers of Year 8 students are warmly invited to attend the last of our Information Evenings, focused on expectations, the Year 8 curriculum and key dates for the upcoming year, as well as a chance to speak to the Head of Year and external support services. A huge thank you to all of our parents and carers who have attended these important evenings this half term.

Friday 24 October- Staff INSET day- school closed to all students and half term begins. We wish all of our students a restful and enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 3 November when mock exams will begin for Year 11 and Year 13 and we have lots of exciting events to look forward to in the run-up to Christmas.

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS











ClassCharts Year 7 Top **Achievers**

Richie M 7M Luca C 7R Constance A7R Isla H 7R Nieve F 7R

Year 8 Top **Achievers**

Michael I 8R Isaac O 8R Finlay H8R Richard D8R Hannah K 8A

Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Tom C 9A Daniel S 9R Noah H 9A Oli K 90 Ava Mae J 9N

Year 10 Top **Achievers**

Matthew W 10R Thomas K 10R Nathan K 10M Tejaswi S 10A Michelle E 10R

Year 11 Top **Achievers**

Skye H 110 Madelyn A 11N Chloe E 11Y Chloe D 11A Ava R 11A

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Monday 3 November- Term begins. Mock exams begin for Year 11 and Year 13
- ☐ Tuesday 18 November- Year 7 Meet the Tutor (online)- details to follow
- ☐ Tuesday 25 November- Christmas Market,
- ☐ Friday 28 November-Disaggregated INSET Day- School closed
- □ Thursday 4 December-Year 11 Progress Evening
- ☐ Thursday 11 December-Year 10 Progress Evening
- ☐ Monday 16 December-Christmas Celebration
- ☐ Thursday 18 December-Student Christmas Lunch
- ☐ Friday 19 December- Break up for Christmas

👸 **1 Heard a Whisper..**.

Last week's assemblies all focused or the theme of gratitude, and the importance of being thankful for the people around us. It can be easy to take for granted the importance that teachers and school staff have on our lives, but is wonderful to see so much gratitude from parents, students and staff in our I Heard a Whisper email inbox each week. Well done last week to Mr Robertson (Head of MFL), Mrs Johnson (Assistant Headteacher), Mrs Rose (Assistant Headteacher), Sara Nevin (Finance), Mr Karaca (Cover Supervisor), Miss Batty (Head of Social Sciences) and Angela Wilson-Dando (Catering) who all received sweet treats.

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

Martist of the Week



Naomi D, 7A









