



From over 70 entries from students across the school, we are delighted to reveal the winner and runners up of this year's House Christmas Card Competition. A huge well done to Zea from Year 10 whose stunning nativity scene was chosen by Ms Byron as our winner. She will have her design made into our official Christmas card for this year and will also receive an Amazon voucher and lots of House points! Ali and Joni, both from Year 8, were chosen as our runners up with their beautiful designs and will also receive Amazon vouchers and House points. We were so impressed with all of the amazing entries that we also chose a 'Highly Commended' category who will all also receive a reward.



On Tuesday, 30 of our Year 9 students attended a Creative Careers Carousel at Ushaw Historic House, focused on careers in the creative industries. Students got the chance to speak to industry professionals in a wide range of creative sectors and took part in activities in areas such as music, collection management, marketing and green screen technology. It was a wonderful afternoon which left our students feeling inspired by the potential careers in the creative industry and excited to make their GCSE option choices later this year.



On Wednesday, our GCSE and A-Level Music and Drama students enjoyed a series of workshops at Teesside University, giving them a flavour of life as a Performing Arts student in Higher Education. Drama students enjoyed a script to screenday, writing their own scripts before bringing them to life on camera. Music students spent their day recording dialogue and foley sounds, as well as composing and performing an underscore, as they explored the relationship between sound and film. A university experience day would not be complete without a campus tour and lunch at the Student Union. A fun and inspiring day for all!



Just before half term a small group of Year 10 students visited Corehaus in Murton as part of their research for their Teen Tech Awards project. We were fortunate to be able to speak to employers and employees from both Corehaus and Low Carbon Materials and find out about the innovative materials and methods they are using to combat the environmental issues around using traditional materials like concrete. We had a tour of the Corehaus facilities and saw how the modular homes, that are currently being made to be assembled in Spennymoor, are built. We are looking forward to the next step in our project, making our own low carbon building materials.



A WORD FROM LISA BYRON, HEADTEACHER

Spotlight on...Careers

We believe every student deserves the tools and opportunities to shape their future with confidence. Our comprehensive careers programme is designed to inspire, inform, and guide students as they take their next steps toward success. Careers education is embedded in our pastoral programme, ensuring every student receives guidance throughout their school journey. Our in-house Careers Advisor works one-to-one with students, helping them make informed decisions and plan for success, whether that's university, apprenticeships, or entering the workforce. From guest speakers and career workshops to university visits and our Year 10 Work Experience programme, we're committed to helping every student find their path and achieve their aspirations. Last week alone saw three career-focused trips which gave our students the opportunity to explore their next steps and get a taste for life beyond school in areas such as Performing Arts and STEM. We also have our dedicated Careers Day to look forward to in January, a full day focused on future planning, featuring workshops and interactive sessions to spark ambition and broaden horizons.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Tuesday 25 November- St John's Christmas Market, 6-8pm. Join us for what promises to be a wonderfully festive evening with a wide selection of stallholders selling unique gifts and sweet treats. Whether doing a spot of Christmas shopping, or treating yourself, come along and pay us a visit. Admission can be paid on the door, £2 adults/ £1 concessions.

Wednesday 26 November- Our A Level and GCSE Drama students are attending a performance of Fiddler on the Roof at Sunderland Empire, leaving school at 6pm.

Friday 28 November- Disaggregated Inset Day. A reminder that school will be closed to all students.



LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS



We love to celebrate and share our students' achievements, both in and out of school. If your child has a success they would like to share with us and are happy for it to be posted on our Facebook and Instagram pages, please email it, along with a photo, to Mrs Rose, Assistant Headteacher, at nrose@stjohns.bhccet.org.uk.

High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Virtues

Emilia O 7Y Confidence (CSW)
Ava A 10M Respect & Responsibility (LHA)
Pippa H 9R Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Lucy C 9O Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Noah G 9N Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Nancy T 9O Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Lorna B 9R Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Lily S 9N Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Leon W 9A Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Julia B 9R Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)
Constance C 9N Self-Belief and Confidence (NRO)

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Self-Belief, Confidence, Resilience, Justice, Compassion

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 8

Finley H 8O (JKE & CHA)	Thea P 8O (DSM)	Kai D 8A (CHA)	Freya V 8A (NPA)
Carrollena A 8O (JKE)	Darcy S 8O (DSM)	Aimee H 8O (JKE)	Lousha H 8A (NPA)
Alex T 8O (JKE)	Matilda T 8O (DSM)	Noah R 8J (HBA)	Verity D 8M (DMI)
Horia A 8R (LCU)	Tanatsawa M 8O (DSM)	Sauke K 8M (DMI)	Harini T 8M (DMI)
Evan C 8R (LCU)	Isabella G 8O (DSM)	Holly A 8O (JKE)	Belle D 8A (DMI & CHA)
Harry D 8R (LCU)	Francesca S 8O (DSM)	Darcey L 8O (JKE)	Meillia K 8Y (KXB)
Isabella G 8N (LCU)	Chase N 8A (DSM & NPA)	Heidi R 8O (JKE)	Ali R 8Y (KXB & CSW)
Hope T 8N (LCU)	George G 8M (DSM)	Daniel K 8O (JKE)	Hannah K 8A (LLA)
Chuk O 8A (LLA)	Harrison B 8R (DSM)	Hannah K 8A (CHA)	Ruby J 8Y (LLA)
Tommy S 8N (LCU)	Louis W 8J (DSM)	Callum S 8O (CHA)	Emilia W 8Y (LLA)
Belle D 8A (LLA)	Oscar A 8A (DSM & NPA)	Guru S 8A (CHA)	Isla T 8M (LMH & AWR)
Claudia M 8J (LLA)	Benny W 8A (DSM)	Rosie S 8O (CHA)	Madysyn D 8M (LMH & AWR)
Lexi D 8N (LLA)	Lawrence J 8O (DSM)	Emmy T 8O (CHA)	
	Ethan P 8O (DSM)	Beau W 8O (JKE & DSM & CHA)	

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 10

Raine N 10M (LBT & ASP)	Zea L 10Y (CHA)	Milly H 10N (LBT)	Lewis G 10O (LCU & ASP)
Tia-Rose S 10J (EDO & NRO)	Lily H 10A (LCU)	Hollie D 10A (LBT)	James D 10M (LCU)
Maddison R 10N (EDO & NRO)	Charlie L 10M (HBA)	Sophie H 10J (LBT & NRO)	Yu Tao Z 10Y (LCU)
Tanisha A 10N (EDO)	Leah W 10A (HBA)	Silver N 10M (LBT)	Yu Qi 10N (ASP)
Lucy N 10A (EDO)	Luke F 10J (HBA)	Bridie-Leigh R 10M (LBT)	Flip Z 10R (ASP)
Alesha Z 10O (EDO)	Damon C 10R (HBA)	Chris J 10Y (LCU)	Jenson S 10R (ASP)
Zachary P 10J (EDO)	Iris C 10J (HBA & LLA)	Connor A 10Y (LCU)	Harry M 10M (ASP)
Logan C 10A (EDO)	Niall B 10N (HBA)	Ryan D 10A (LCU)	Jacob D 10J (ASP)
Charlie T 10N (EDO & AWR)	Sophia C 10R (HBA)	Robyn S 10N (NRO)	Lexi B 10A (ASP)
Bradley W 10N (EDO)	Isabella E 10A (HBA)	Maya W 10J (NRO)	Amber W 10R (ASP)
Halle M 10Y (ELH & ACH)	Maddison S 10J (HBA)	Macey A 10J (NRO)	Elpidia B 10O (ASP)
Maddison S 10J (HBA)	Lincoln B 10N (AWR)	Grace G 10N (NRO)	Luca M 10Y (ASP)
Charlie G 10A (AWR)	Tejaswi S 10A (DMI & ASP)	Aidan C 10O (NRO)	Phoebe W 10O (KXB & NRO)
Harry C 10O (CLJ & NRO)	Ellie W 10N (DMI)		Layton H 10Y (ASP)

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 12 and 13

Max B 12S (LBT)	Julia W 12S (DLA & NRO)	James G 13R (ELH)	Isaac S 13R (LBT)
Ruby H 12S (LBT)	Molly W 12T (NPA)	Sofia M 13E (ELH)	George B 13C (LBT)
Zak S 12T (LBT)	Amy-May H 12T (NPA)	Joshua Y (DOU)	Ezri H 13R (LBT)
Niamh C 12T (LBT)	Daisy J 12S (NRO)	Ruby W (DOU)	John J 13A (LBT)
Poppy W 12T (LBT)	Lexi W 12T (LBT)	Oliver T (DOU)	Freya F 13E (LBT)
Alicia M 12T (LBT)	Eason Z 12T (LBT)	Poppy D (DOU)	Lucie P 13A (LBT)
Emilie P 12T (LBT)	Ryan D 12T (LBT)	Gabrielle F 13A (NRO)	Madison R 13E (LBT)
Hollie R 12T (LBT)			Amelia W 13E (LBT)
Lexi J 12T (LBT)			Jacey W 13E (LBT)
			Logan M 13C (HTH)
			Lily W 13C (HTH)
			Lily A 13C (HTH)
			Katie C 13R (HTH)
			Hannah S 13C (HTH)

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 7

Connie A 7R (JKE & LCU & CSW)	Riley L 7R (COS)	Vogue T 7H (COS)	Rio B 7Y (NPA)	Archie R 7H (CLI)	Amalie W 7M (EBA)
Martha B 7H (DSM)	Nadia K 7Y (NPA)	Grayson G 7Y (SGO)	Roman T 7A (SGO)	Thomas H 7M (EBA)	Archie P 7M (EBA)
Adeleide W 7O (DSM)	Clinton S 7Y (NPA)	Miles M 7A (LLA)	Nikodem F 7A (LLA)	Destiny W 7H (EBA)	Darcie-Mae L 7A (EBA)
Eleanor S 7M (DSM)	Katherine J 7J (LCU)	Kos G 7Y (DMI)	Miles M 7A (DMI)	Eddie D 5N (RCA)	Sienna C 7N (RCA)
Freya F 7J (DSM & LCU)	Lucy B 7J (LCU)	Jack C 7M (DMI)	Lucy W 7O (KXB)	Annie B 7J (KXB)	Lucy W 7O (KXB)
Pippa S 7R (DSM)	Amelia A 7J (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Athena A 7J (DSM)	Scarlett P 7H (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Charlie T 7R (DSM)	Toby H 7J (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Lewis T 7A (DSM & LCU)	Ellis W 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Ethan P 7H (DSM)	Cassidy M 7R (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Isaac S 7A (DSM)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Joseph C 7R (DSM)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)
Jonah R 7Y (DSM)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)	Naomi D 7A (LCU)

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 9

Neve O 9J (JKE)	Tom C 9A (COS)	Queenmercy A 9N (LLA)
Chloe M 9J (JKE)	Ruby M 9H (DMI)	Leon W 9A (EBA)
Milana D 9J (JKE)	Summer B 9H (DMI)	Sarah R 9J (KXB)
Amelia P 9R (EDO)	Dola O 9H (DMI)	Chloe M 9J (KXB)
Brooklyn H 9A (EDO)	Belle G 9H (DMI)	Constance C 9N (KXB)
Bokani N 9O (HBA)	Taylor W 9R (LCU)	Lily S 9N (KXB)
Emily E 9A (HBA)	Grace R 9R (LCU)	Riley H (KXB)
Sienna J 9H (HBA)	Harry G 9A (LCU)	Lydia S 9A (CLJ)
Lorna B 9R (DLA)	Isa C 9A (LCU)	Elena W 9A (CLJ)
Lydia-Rose H 9R (DLA)	Leland M 9Y (LCU & SGO)	Tyler W 9N (CLJ)
Holly H 9R (DLA)	Millie B 9M (LCU)	Heidi D 9R (SGO)
Eva M 9R (DLA)	Erin D 9O (ASP)	Evie P 9O (SGO)
Emily M 9R (DLA)	Kelly-Ann C 9Y (ASP)	Ivy R 9A (SGO)
Grace R 9R (DLA)	Grace S 9O (ASP)	Annalise M 9R (SGO)
Harriet S 9R (DLA)	Jack R 9R (SGO)	
Mollie S 9R (DLA)		

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High Five FRIDAY

21 November 2025

Year 11

Hannah B 11R (COS)	Molly D 11A (COS)	Evening H 11O (COS)	Evie S 11O (COS)	Jack T 11A (DMI)	Ben B 11H (DMI)	Ben S 11H (DMI)	Hassan S 11J (DMI)	Ava R 11A (CSW)	Jacob B 11A (KXB)	Noah L 11R (KXB & JKE)	Liam B 11R (NRO)	Kristian W 11H (JKE)	Sienna S 11H (ELH & ACH)	Elliot R 11H (ELH & ACH)
Brody M 11R (AWR)	Simone B 11R (AWR)	Eden S 11J (AWR)	Kristian W 11R (AWR)	Daniel B 11R (CLJ)	Anna B 11R (CLJ)	Harry B 11Y (CLJ)	Lewis W 11A (NRO)	Eva M 11R (NRO)	Thomas S 11O (CHA)	Ahmed A 11J				

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Department Stars of the Week- 21/11

Philosopher of the Week: Heidi Robinson 8O

Reader of the Week: Annie Ballan 7J

Mathematician of the Week: Archie Rushton 7H

Scientist of the Week: Joni Lapinskas 8Y

Linguist of the Week: Esmae Urch 7M

Historian of the Week: Claudia McWilliam 8J

Geographer of the Week: Finley Haigh 8O

Sportsperson of the Week: Lottie Peareth 7R

Designer of the Week: Isaac Selby and Sadie Gardner 7A

Artist of the Week: Maggie Winter 8J

Musician of the Week: Mea Thorne 9N

Computer Scientist of the Week: Jonathan Bland and Sienna Chambers 7N

Esmae Urch (7M), Tommy Smith (8N), Chukwuemye Okeke (8A), Tom Clarkson (9A), Illia Kurinnyi (8J)

ClassCharts

Year 7 Top Achievers

Sienna C 7N
Katherine J 7J
Constance A 7R
Naomi D 7A
Athena A 7J

Year 8 Top Achievers

Rosie S 8O
Carrollena A 8O
Kai D 8A
Finley H 8O
Beau W 8O

Year 9 Top Achievers

Lily S 9N
Neave W 9Y
Beaux A 9M
Emme R 9Y
Chloe M 9J

Year 10 Top Achievers

Trevor B 10J
Elise G 10O
Iris C 10K
Mylee A 10Y
Grace M 10J

Year 11 Top Achievers

Grace I 11H
Molly M 11O
Joshua W 11M
Harry B 11Y
Chloe C 11A



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 4 December- Year 11 Progress Eve
- Wednesday 10 December- Parishioner Christmas Lunch-
- Thursday 11 December- Year 10 Progress Eve
- Monday 15 December- Christmas Celebration (tickets on sale this week)
- Thursday 18 December- Student Christmas Lunch
- Friday 19 December- Break up for Christmas 2026
- Monday 5 January- Return to school
- Tuesday 13 January- Year 9 Options Evening
- Tuesday 20 January- Whole School Careers Day
- Thursday 29 January- Sixth Form Progress Eve
- Thursday 5 February- Year 9 Progress Eve



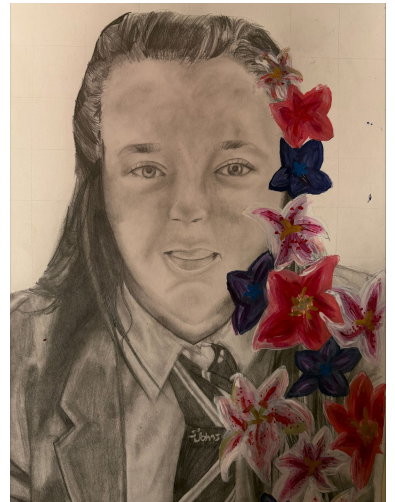
1 Heard a Whisper...

I Heard a Whisper... of thanks and we're passing it on! Congratulations to the staff recognised this week for their kindness and dedication: Miss Heads (Assistant Head of Year 7/ LRC Manager), Mr Harwood (Maths), Miss Urwin (RE), Mrs Widdowson and Mrs McGowan (PE), Emma Ramsey (Chaplain) and Danielle Dowson (Admin- Exams). We hope they enjoyed their well deserved sweet treat. Thank you to everyone who has submitted nominations via our dedicated email address. We encourage parents and carers, students and staff to continue to send their nominations to us to celebrate the wonderful work of our staff.

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhccet.org.uk



Artist of the Week



Maddison Cheetham, 11H



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