



Our Sixth Formers celebrated Christmas, and the end of the first term, in style at their annual Dinner Dance at Ramside Hall Hotel this weekend. Students and staff donned their finery and enjoyed a meal and dancing together in recognition of their fantastic achievements so far this year. This event is always a highlight of our Sixth Form calendar and it was wonderful to have so many of our students and staff together to celebrate.



This December we have brought back our Good Pud awards, rewarding students who have been 'caught' in acts of kindness, compassion and care. Last week our students were 'caught' looking after their school environment, showing generosity to friends and being kind and thoughtful to others. All students received a special postcard and chocolate pud as recognition for being such wonderful role models.



Last week, 50 Year 12 and 13 students went along to a Crime Day at Teesside University. The day was truly interactive, where students watched a pre-recorded crime taking place and spent time in the university labs and replica courtroom to understand the different approaches taken by crime scene scientists and investigators, cybersecurity specialists, criminologists and legal professionals in solving modern crimes. It really was a fantastic day which left our students feeling inspired and engaged.

We are delighted to announce that 10 of our Year 7 students have been accepted onto one of 3 levels of the Parallel Academy programme, providing students with the opportunity to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills beyond the Maths curriculum over five years. This is a life-changing opportunity that will prepare students for Further Maths A Level, applying to a top university and long-term success in a STEM-related career. Well done to Ada Anoke, Adelaide Wight, Emilia Ochman, Emily Lin, Ethan Palmer, Grace Crow, Jason Li, Katherine Jones, Miles Martin and Teddi Davison. We are very proud of the efforts of all of the students and we look forward to seeing where the programme may take them in the future.



A WORD FROM LISA BYRON, HEADTEACHER

Exciting News...

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a grant of £80,000 from the Wolfson Foundation, an independent grant-making charity dedicated to supporting high-quality research and education. This significant funding will enable us to undertake a major upgrade of our Performing Arts facilities and equipment, including refurbishing our Main Hall, brand new sound, lighting and staging and upgrading our Music classrooms and recording studio. Following our success last year in achieving the Gold Artsmark Award for our contributions to arts education, we wanted to be able to develop our offering further. We are extremely proud of the incredible experiences we offer our students in Performing Arts, from school productions and concerts to trips and workshops, but knew that a complete overhaul of our facilities, spaces and equipment was necessary to improve further. We are delighted and incredibly grateful to have been awarded this amazing grant from the Wolfson Foundation, which will transform our facilities. Such investment is particularly significant in light of the Government's response to the recent Curriculum and Assessment Review, which highlights the need to revitalise Arts education and foster creativity. With this much-needed investment, our inspiring Arts education, fantastic provision and amazing facilities will provide wonderful opportunities for St John's and the wider community.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Wednesday 10- We wish our wonderful choir lots of luck as they compete in the Durham Music Service Secondary Choir of the Year Competition at Ushaw College.

Wednesday 10- Parishioners' Christmas Lunch, 11.45am-2pm. We are looking forward to welcoming our local parishioners into school for our annual Christmas lunch.

Thursday 11- Year 10 Progress Evening. Appointments are still available for our progress evening via Schoolcloud and we look forward to important conversations with our Year 10 students and their parents/carers

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.bhcet.org.uk.

High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Virtues

Wren C 8J Confidence and Self-Belief (NRO)
Sofia H 7M Self-Belief (NGO)
Amalie W 7M Self-Belief (NGO)
Daniel S 7J Respect (NGO)
Evan B 13C Compassion (HTH)
Spencer V 12T Resilience (HTH)
Malakai S 12S Self belief (HTH)
Leon W 9A Compassion (ALI)

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

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 8

Heidi H 8N (MHA)	Tom B 8N (DSM)
Jessica R 8N (MHA)	Oscar A 8A (DSM)
Ellie N 8J (MHA)	Harry H 8Y (DSM)
Katie G 8J (MHA)	Finlay K 8J (DSM)
Isabella T 8J (MHA)	Zac B 8J (DSM)
Lexi A 8N (MHA)	Patrick S 8Y (DSM)
Heidi B 8J (MHA)	Ethan P 8O (DSM)
Maisie C 8N (MHA)	Thomas D 8N (DSM)
Clayton N 8N (MHA)	Gabriel M 8M (DDE)
Max T 8N (MHA)	Chukwunonye O 8A (DSM)
Alex T 8O (MHA)	Seth L 8N (DSM)
Jessie C 8O (MHA)	Ethan-James O 8R (DSM)
Claudia M 8J (LCU)	Kaleb C 8N (DSM)
Allan T 8M (NHI)	Saule K 8M (LMH)
Tamarah M 8R (NHI)	Georgie J 8M (LMH)
	Noah R 8J (COS)
	Alan T 8M (DUO)
	Evelyn K 8M (LMH)

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 10

Ruby S 10 (SGO)	Max A 10M (JKE)	Joey R 10O (GMC)	Iris C 10J (DDE)
Molly N 10 (SGO)	Thalia A 10M (JKE)	Ava W 10O (GMC)	Aidan C 10O (DDE)
Kieran W 10 (SGO)	Anyia A 10M (JKE)	Charles B 10O (JKE & NRO)	Amber W 10R (DDE)
Kohl T 10 (SGO)	Sophia B 10A (JKE)	Charles L 10J (GMC)	Harrison M 10M (LCU)
David I 10J (SGO)	Michelle E 10R (JKE)	Tia Rose S 10J (GMC & NRO)	Yao T 10Y (LCU)
Lennox H 10 (SGO)	Cruz J 10Y (JKE)	Lexi W 10N (NRO)	Kate T 10Y (SLO)
Isabelle H 10 (SGO)	Harry M 10M (JKE)	Esther L 10J (NRO)	Chloe W 10O (SLO)
Daisy H 10 (SGO)	Silver N 10M (JKE)	Macey A 10J (NRO)	Ava A 10M (SLO)
Sophie T 10 (SGO)	Jake O 10Y (JKE)	Phoebe W 10O (NRO)	Aiden G 10O (SLO)
Jamie D 10J (AWR)	Ewan 10M (JKE)	Robyn S 10N (NRO)	Trevor B 10J (NHI)
Filip Z 10R (AWR)	Isabella E 10A (JKE)	Ava W 10O (AWR)	Kodi S 10N (NHI)
Lacey M 10J (AWR)	Olivia J 10N (JKE)	Sophia C 10R (AWR)	Rishon T 10O (NHI)
Logan P 10M (ELH)	Anna R 10N (JKE)		Lilly M 10J (NHI)
Maya W 10J (ELH)	Charlie T 10J (JKE)		Thomas T 10A (LCU & GMC & SGO)

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 12 and 13

Hollie R 12T (HTH)	Isaac S 13R (HTH)
Jaimee R 12S (HTH & DLA)	Amelia W 13E (HTH)
Niamh T 12T (DDE)	Katie C 13R (HTH)
Lucas E 12S (DLA)	Freyja F 13E (HTH)
Ethan R 12S (DLA)	Sam W (DMI & NHI)
Yasmin W 12S (MMG)	Jack L 13A (DMI)
Anna T 12S (MMG)	Andrei E 13A (DMI & NHI)
	Charlie P 13C (DMI)
	Ryan W 13C (DMI & NHI)
	Laksh S 13C (DMI & NHI)

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 7

Brayden N 7R (JKE)	Esmee U 7M (NHI)
Ava M & (SGO)	Laila G 7M (NHI)
Sofia H 7M (EST)	Eleanor S 7M (NHI)
Amalie W 7M (EST)	Amalie W 7M (NHI)
Rio B 7Y (DDE)	Mary G 7M (NHI)
Nola C 7Y (DDE)	Dinny A 7M (NHI)
Kosi O 7Y (DDE)	Lily B 7O (DLA)
Oscar I 7R (MST)	Niko F 7O (DLA)
Leon H 7Y (COS)	Eliza M 7O (DLA)
Callum H 7O (DSM)	Cameron W 7O (DLA)
Elijah O 7M (DSM)	Eddie D-S 7M (DUO)
Boaz F 7M (DSM & NHI)	Jason L 7O (ELH)
Alfie W 7N (LCU)	Lily A 7A (MMG)
Isla W 7O (LCU)	Sadie G 7A (MMG)
Cassey M 7R (LCU)	Esmee U 7M (MMG)
	Ella B 7A (MMG)

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 9

Sam E 9O (SGO)	Emme R 9Y (DDE)
Leland M 9Y (SGO)	Alfie D 9Y (DDE)
Ivy W 9M (SGO)	Milana D 9J (DDE)
Lara S 9M (SGO)	Alfie W 9Y (DDE)
Ivy R 9A (SGO)	Jake L 9Y (LCU)
Evie P 9A (SGO)	Jack S 9A (LCU)
Neve O 9J (SGO)	Eva M 9R (LCU)
Grace R 9R (SGO)	Oli K 9O (LCU)
Jack R 9R (SGO)	Nancy T 9R (NHI)
Lexi K 9M (DSM)	Harriet T 9M (NHI)
Sarah M 9J (ELH)	Vito M 9R (DLA)
Beaux A 9M (ALI)	Joshua Z 9N (DLA)
	Hollie T 9N (MMG)

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High Five FRIDAY

5 December 2025

Year 11

Grace B 11O (NPA)	Joel A 11N (AWR)
Lillie C 11H (NPA)	Jack P 11R (AWR & NRO)
Evie C 11N (NPA)	Chloe D 11A (AWR)
Hannah S 11J (AWR)	Chloe D 11H (DDE)
Ellie Mae H 11O (AWR & MHA)	Monica M 11O (DDE)
Eden S 11J (AWR)	Jacob C 11H (MHA)
Ava W 11Y (AWR & MHA)	Elliot R 11H (MHA)
Eva N-D 11H (AWR)	Thea C 11Y (MHA)
Mazie H 11M (AWR)	Finley TS 11A (MHA)
Teddy M 11H (AWR)	Alex U 11J (MHA)
Vanessa N 11O (AWR)	Ava R 11H (MHA)
Neve E 11O (AWR)	Jorgia P 11A (MHA)
Eve M 11R (AWR & NRO)	Ryan S 11Y (MHA)
	Evian B 11A (LCU)

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Department Stars of the Week- 5/12

Philosopher of the Week: Gracie Hunter 9H
Reader of the Week: Isobel Mundell 7Y
Mathematician of the Week: Heidi Harrison 8N
Scientist of the Week: Jason Li 7O
Linguist of the Week: Belle Devlin 8A
Historian of the Week: Naomi Dilva 7A
Geographer of the Week: Archie Dixon 7N
Sportsperson of the Week: Lawrence Jimoh 8O
Designer of the Week: Willow Dolan 7R
Artist of the Week: Emily Lin 7A
Musician of the Week: Beaux Allison 9M
Computer Scientist of the Week: Scarlett Ross 8R and Teni Ashiru 8N

MFL Stars of the Week: Leon Hamilton (7Y), Finley Gill (9A), Oscar Culey (8M), Ella Wilkinson (9N)

ClassCharts

Year 7 Top Achievers

Betsy W 7N
Jason L 7O
Elizabeth-Grace S 7R
Rio B 7Y
Michael R 7H

Year 8 Top Achievers

Hannah L 8Y
Ella S 8N
Rosie G 8R
Matthew B 8Y
Amelia-Robyn G 8R

Year 9 Top Achievers

Riley T-W 9M
Mollie S 9R
Summer B 9H
Ella M 9M
Tom A 9Y

Year 10 Top Achievers

Georgia C 10R
Mollie M 10M
Leah W 10A
Thomas T 10A
Thailia A 10M

Year 11 Top Achievers

Ellie S 11A
Lily J 11H
Charlotte J 11H
Eden W 11Y
Ben B 11H



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 15 December-** Christmas Concert ([tickets available via TicketSource](#))
- Tuesday 16 December-** Christmas Liturgies
- Wednesday 17 December-** Whole school reward day (*details to follow*)
- Wednesday 17 December-** Year 7 Disco
- Thursday 18 December-** Student Christmas Lunch
- Friday 19 December-** Break up for Christmas. **School will finish at 1.30pm on the last day 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



I Heard a Whisper...

Through 'I Heard a Whisper' we celebrate our staff who help to make our school such a special learning community through their hard work, dedication and care. Whether it is a nomination from a parent or carer, student, colleague or even an external agency, it is wonderful to read so much praise for our staff. Well done this week to Mrs Noon (SENDCO), Miss Crawford (MFL), Miss Johnston (English), Miss Hankey and Mrs Moran (English), Mrs Toulson and Mr Vicary (Humanities), Mr Ebberley (Science) and Danielle Dowson and Steph Anderson (Admin) who are the deserving recipients of this week's sweet treats. Keep your nominations coming in and help us to shout about our wonderful staff:

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk



Artist of the Week



Jack Bennett, 11J



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