



Our Year 8 students recently returned from an unforgettable Turing Scheme adventure to Geneva, where they proved themselves to be outstanding representatives of St John's. During their visit, students explored some of the world's most influential international institutions. At the United Nations, they learned how global cooperation helps tackle major issues such as peacekeeping and human rights. A visit to the International Red Cross Museum offered powerful insights into humanitarian work and the importance of compassion during times of crisis. The highlight for many was the trip to CERN, home of the Large Hadron Collider. Students had the rare opportunity to see cutting-edge

scientific research in action and to discover how physicists are working to understand the fundamental building blocks of the universe. Throughout the trip, our students showed curiosity, maturity, and enthusiasm. Staff

consistently praised their behaviour, engagement and thoughtful questions. We are incredibly proud of how they represented both themselves and St John's. Well done also to Riley and Isabella who, on their return, fed back on their experiences at the UN to the Year 13 History students.



On Friday, a group of Year 10 students went along to Newcastle Theatre Royal to watch 'Weird'- a brand new, electrifying pop-powered musical reimagining Shakespeare's classic tragedy, Macbeth. Students were selected by their English teachers for the fantastic start they have made to their GCSE course. The musical told the dramatic tale of the Scottish king through the eyes of the three witches, giving our students a unique insight into one of their GCSE English Literature texts. The show is part of an amazing initiative to provide more pathways for young people to be able to access live theatre, and we were incredibly privileged and honoured as a school to have been selected to be amongst the first people in the world to see this musical! A huge thank you to Newcastle Theatre Royal for offering our students, many of whom have never been to the theatre before, this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see a world premiere on their doorstep, inspiring them and instilling a love of theatre, culture and live performance. Well done to all of our students for their impeccable manners, behaviour and engagement.



A huge well done to our Year 8 and 9 girls who put on a fantastic performance at the Regional Schools Netball Tournament at Sports Central this weekend, finishing an impressive 3rd place behind Barnard Castle and Dame Allan's School. The girls showed excellent teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship throughout. This is a hugely talented group who all play for Bishop Auckland Netball Club, with many also representing at County level. We are incredibly proud of their achievement- they are a true pleasure to watch and a fantastic example of young athletes playing a sport they love.



A WORD FROM LISA BYRON, HEADTEACHER

Spotlight on... Opportunities

Our staff are always on the look-out for exciting and unique opportunities for our students, whether it's brand new theatre experiences, STEM projects, sporting competitions, educational visits or talks and workshops within school.

We are incredibly honoured to be amongst the 32% of Turing Scheme applications that were successful for funding this academic year, and one of only 23 schools in the North East to be able to offer these opportunities. The Turing Scheme provides funding for students to take part in life-changing experiences to study abroad, specifically aimed at young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to travel to such places. Over the past four years, these experiences have not only broadened our students' horizons but sparked excitement for future global opportunities and aspirations. We look forward to our next Turing Scheme trip to Singapore in April and plenty more exciting future opportunities for our students.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Tuesday 3- The Choice is Mine workshop for Year 9. This session will help support students in their GCSE option choices, exploring transferable skills and where subjects can take them in the future.

Thursday 5- Year 9 Progress Evening. We look forward to welcoming our Year 9 students into school along with their parents and carers for important discussion about progress and option choices. Appointments are still available via SchoolCloud; there will be chance to see staff on the night if appointments appear fully booked.

Looking Ahead: Year 9 GCSE Option deadline- Friday 13 February. Students must ensure they have completed their form by this deadline and should see their tutors if there are any issues with this.

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

30 January 2026

Virtues

Harrison H 7J Compassion (NGO)
Daniel S 7J Respect (NGO)
Lucy O 12S Justice (ERA)
Daisy J 12S Justice (ERA)
Bokani N 9O Compassion (SCO)
Eli F 9O Compassion (SCO)
Lexi A 9O Compassion (SCO)
Ruby J 8Y Respect (VNI)
Eve M 11R Responsibility (CJO)
Lewis B 9N Responsibility (NRO)

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

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 8

Eve D 8J (LCU)
Ethan-James O 8R (LCU)
Jessica R 8N (LCU)
Harrison B 8A (COS)
Noah D 8Y (MHA)
Horia A 8R (MHA)
Kairon H 8A (MHA & CHA)
Harry H 8Y (MHA)
Nieve M 8M (MHA)
Scarlett RP 8A (MHA)
Evan G 8Y (MHA & SCO)
Harrison B 8A (MHA & CLJ)
Alfie R 8N (RMO)

Scarlett R 8R (ASP & VNI)
Evelyn K 8M (ASP)
Clayton N 8N (SCO)
Evelyn K 8M (SCO)
Thomas A 8A (SCO)
Belal Q 8A (IAI & PBA & CLJ)
Freya V 8A (PBA)
Scarlett P 8A (PBA)
Gabriel M 8M (AWR)
Madison D 8M (AWR)
Claudia M 8Q (CHA)

Ethan B 8J (SCO)
Nathan M 8M (EGI)
Kai S 8H (EGI)
Molly J 8N (MWI)
Natalia T 8J (IAI)
Allan T 8M (IAI)
Ben A 8N (EDO)
Thomas A 8A (SCO)
Freya V 8A (PBA)
Scarlett P 8A (PBA)
Gabriel M 8M (AWR)
Madison D 8M (AWR)
Claudia M 8Q (CHA)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 10

Lucie H 10M (JKE & SLO)
Connor A 10Y (SEB)
Raine N 10M (SEB)
J-Lucas W 10J (EMO & EDO)
Lucas M 10J (EMO)
Silver M 10M (LDV)
Macey A 10J (LDV)
Adrian C 10O (LDV)
Millie W 10M (LDV)
Keiran W 10R (IAI)
Niall B 10N (IAI)
Harry W 10N (IAI)
Finbar H 10R (SLO)

Phoebe W 10O (LBT)
Jessica M 10N (LBT)
Ella G 10R (LBT)
Halle M 10Y (CJO)
Ellis W 10N (CJO)
Alexi P 10R (CJO)
Mollie M 10M (CJO)
Aarnon C 10R (CJO)
Zachary P 10J (CJO)
Aela W 10O (CJO)
Matthew W 10R (CHA)
Clive C 10R (DHA)
Ethan L 10J (CLJ)
Sophie R 10M (GLI)

Artem S 10J (AWR)
Macey A 10J (AWR)
Olivia J 10J (AWR)
Macey B 10Y (AWR)
Lacey M 10J (AWR)
Alesha Z 10O (AWR)
Madison R 10N (AWR)
Tia Rose S 10J (NRO)
Joel H 10J (EDO)
Yu Tao Z 10Y (EDO)
Oliver J 10N (EDO)
Sophie T 10N (RMO)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 12

Issac C 12T (HTH)
Ethan R 12S (HTH)
Joshua C 12S (LBT)
Alidia M 12T (LBT)
Lucas E 12S (LBT)
Ella M 12T (LBT)
Daniel D 12S (SLO & CLJ)
Isabel W 12S (DHA)

Malakal S 12S (EST)
Julia W 12S (EST & NRO)
Beth K 12T (EST)
Daisy J 12S (NRO)
Adam W 12S (NRO)
Niamh C 12T (NRO)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 7

Amelie A 7N (LCU)
Koa T 7N (LCU)
Ava O 7R (LCU)
Grayson G 7Y (LCU)
Lee F 7H (COS & MHA)
Kamsi O 7Y (COS)
Athena A 7J (JSD)
Lucy B 7J (JSD)
Lily B 7O (JSD)
Katherine J 7J (JSD)
Ethan W 7M (ATU)
Jack C 7M (ATU)
Elijah O 7M (ATU & IAI)
Francesca H 7J (JSD & MHA)

Isobel M 7Y (SCO)
Constance A 7R (SCO)
Meggan W 7N (SCO)
Talulah C 7H (SCO)
Niko F 7O (MHA)
Eddie DS 7N (MHA)
Jorja-Ann M 7H (MHA)
Oscar R 7J (EMO)
Krystyn J 7J (EMO)

Logan B 7N (EDO)
Toby H 7J (EDO)
Eva P 7Y (EDO)
Oliver C 7A (DHA)
Booby C 7O (DHA)
Megan W 7N (CLJ)
Cameron W 7O (CLJ)
Alice C 7N (CLJ)
Talulah C 7H (PBA)
Lee F 7H (PBA)
Jacob P 7H (PBA)

Cassey M 7R (RMO)
Priya B 7M (EST)
Eleanor S 7M (EST)
Esmee U 7M (EST)
Isobel C 7R (CJO)
Isia T 7Y (CJO)
Emilia W 7M (CJO)
Dinny A 7M (CJO)
Clinton S 7Y (CJO)
Archie P 7M (CJO)
Sofia H 7M (CJO)
Eddie D-S 7N (SCO)
Elizabeth-Grace S 7R (CJO)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 9

Anita E 9J (JKE)
Ellie-Rose F 9J (JKE)
Laila K 9J (JKE)
Sally B 9J (JKE)
Milana D 9J (JKE & MHA)
Isaac B 9M (SMG)
Lucy D 9M (SMG)
Lexi A 9O (SMG)
Elin H 9O (SEB)
Isaac B 9H (SEB)
Jessica N 9H (MMG)
Ella W 9N (MMG)
Isis C 9A (MHA)
Harry G 9A (MHA)
Isia S 9M (MHA)
Bokani N 9O (DHA)
Dily B 9R (DHA)

Rebecca J 9Y (COS)
Grace N 9N (MHA)
Oli K 9O (MHA)
Neave W 9Y (MHA)
Abi H 9R (MHA)
Lily J 9N (MHA)
Bokani N 9O (MHA)
Lydia HW 9R (MHA)
Craig R 9A (MHA)
Rhys L 9Y (MHA)
Neve O 9J (CHA)
Bokani N 9O (DHA)
Dily B 9R (DHA)

Ava J 9N (MMG)
Olivia B 9J (EMO)
Alistair M 9J (EMO)
Lorna B 9R (SCO)
Constance C 9N (SCO)
Ella W 9N (SCO)
Milla B 9M (SCO)
Elena W 9A (SCO)
Ellie-Rose F 9J (CJO)
Ella W 9M (MHA)
Xi Yuan L 9O (MHA)
Chloe H 9A (MHA)
Lydia S 9A (MHA)
Tom C 9A (MHA)
Melissa B 9Y (MHA)
Charlie M 10N (IAI)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 11

Molly M 11O (JKE)
Rachael M 11Y (RBE)
Logan J 11A (JSD)
Lewis A 11N (JSD)
Josh W 11M (JSD)
Dario W 11O (JSD)
Phoebe H 11H (JSD)
Grace I 11H (SEB)
Joshua W 11M (SEB)
Ben B 11H (EMO & SLO)
Neve E 11O (EMO)
Terry N 11A (LDV)
Ava T 11R (LDV)
Isay G 11N (LHA)
Willow H 11J (LHA)
Jack B 11N (LHA)
Haden R 11J (LHA)

Reuben S 11J (LHA)
Charlotte H 11H (LHA)
Sofia H 11O (LHA)
Hannah S 11H (LHA & AWR)
Posi A 11N (LHA)
Jack I 11A (LHA)
Eve S 11O (LHA & RMO)
Harry B 11Y (LHA)
Grayson L 11Y (LHA)
Ben B 11H (LHA)
Ella D 11N (LHA)
Molly C 11Y (LHA)
Ali C 11R (LHA)
Lilie C 11H (LHA)

Danah H 11H (LHA)
Mille G 11A (LHA)
Dakota H 11H (LHA)
James M 11J (SLO)
Thomas B 11N (SLO)
Noah L 11R (IAI)
Oliver H 11R (IAI)
Theo D 11A (COS)
Hannah B 11R (COS & DHA)
Oliver H 11R (AWR)
Mazie H 11M (AWR)
Ava W 11Y (AWR)
Eva N 11O (AWR)
Eden S 11J (AWR)
Tom M 11J (AWR)
Alex U 11J (AWR)
Simone B 11R (AWR)
Bridie M 11R (AWR)

Hassan S 11J (RMO)
Maab S 11R (RMO & NRO)
Imogen P 11N (RMO)
Jack B 11Y (CJO)
Jenson R 11J (CJO)
Nelle R 11R (CHA & NRO)
Nadia I 11M (CLJ & NRO)
George E 11M (CLJ)
Eva M 11R (NRO)
George E 11M (CLJ)
Chloe C 11A (NRO)
Chloe D 11A (NRO)
Jacob B 11A (NRO)
Jack P 11R (NRO)
Bobby E 11A (NRO)

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High Five FRIDAY

30 January 2026

Year 13

Ezri H 13R (HTH)
Andrei E 13A (HTH)
Hannah S 13C (HTH)
Freya F 13E (HTH)
Jessica P 13C (HTH)
Issac S 13R (HTH)
Hannah A 13C (HTH)
Olivia P 13E (HTH)
Savannah L 13E (LBT)
Amelia K 13A (LBT)
Neve R 13C (LBT)
Leah H 13E (LBT)

Eve C 13C (EST)
Harriet F 13E (EST)
Beth T 13C (EST)
Milton A 13C (CLJ)
Katie C 13R (NRO)
Poppy D 13A (NRO)
Lily D 13A (NRO)
Aimee C 13C (NRO)
Emily C 13A (NRO)
Gabrielle F 13A (NRO)
Jack R 13C (NRO)
Erin L 13R (NRO)
Bridie M 11R (AWR)

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ClassCharts Year 7 Top Achievers

Willow D 7R
Lotti P 7R
Cassey M 7R
Luca C 7R
Constance A 7R

Year 8 Top Achievers

Callum B 8R
Kai D 8A
Horia A 8R
Jenson C 8J
Charlotte W 8R

Year 9 Top Achievers

Grace N 9N
Bokani N 9O
Belle G 9H
Joe M 9H
Neave W 9Y

Year 10 Top Achievers

Chloe W 10O
Michelle E 10Y
Sienna T 10A
Bridie-Leigh R 10M
Callie T 10R

Year 11 Top Achievers

Joshua W 11M
Madelyn A 11N
Skye H 11O
Kristian W 11R
Ava R 11A

Department Stars of the Week- 30/1

Philosopher of the Week: Grave Ndlovu 9N
Reader of the Week: Luca Chadwick 7R
Mathematician of the Week: Eddie Devereil-Smith 7N and Nikodem Firmanty 7O
Scientist of the Week: Darcie-Mae Luckhurst 7A
Linguist of the Week: Emilia Ochman 7Y
Historian of the Week: Jenson Cullen 8J
Geographer of the Week: Neve Oxley 9J
Sportsperson of the Week: Molly Jennings 8N
Designer of the Week: Thomas Anderson 8A
Artist of the Week: Ollie Airey 9Y
Musician of the Week: Ali Race 8Y
Computer Scientist of the Week: Verity Devlin 8M

MFL Stars of the Week: Emilia Ochman 7Y, Ethan Beswick 8J, Finley Gill 9A, Bokani Ndlovu 9O, Tommy Smith 8N



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 9 February-** Year 11 and 13 mocks begin
- Wednesday 18 February-** Ash Wednesday Liturgies
- Friday 20 February-** Break up for half term
- Monday 2 March-** School reopens
- Thursday 19 March-** Year 8 Progress Eve
- Monday 23 March-** Year 10 and 12 mocks begin
- Wednesday 25 March-** Jaquie Holloway Prize for Performing Arts
- Thursday 26 March-** Year 7 Progress Eve
- Tuesday 31 March-** Whole school Lenten liturgies
- Thursday 2 April-** Break up for Easter



I Heard a Whisper... iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

Our I Heard a Whisper shout-outs from parents, colleagues, and students are a reminder of the powerful impact our staff make every single day. We thank all of them for their passion, care and commitment to going the extra mile. Well done to Mrs Wright (Science), Ms Somers (Assistant Headteacher), Dr Little (Assistant Careers Lead), Hannah Teasdale (Careers Advisor) and Mrs Nighoskar (Social Sciences/ Health and Social Care) who all received nominations and received a well-deserved sweet treat last week. We love to receive I Heard a Whisper nominations and read all about the numerous ways our staff support, nurture and inspire our students.

Artist of the Week



Daniel Dawson, 12A



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