



Spotlight on... Catholic Life

This week, our school community has been reflecting on the Gospel message, "Let your light shine before others" (Matthew 5:16). Jesus reminds us that each of us carries a unique light- gifts, talents and qualities given by God not to hide, but to share generously with the world.

Across our classrooms and corridors, we see our students living out this message in countless ways. Their lights shine in the moments of kindness they show to one another, in the confidence with which they share their talents, and in the determination they bring to their learning. Whether it is through creative expression, thoughtful leadership, quiet acts of service, or simply offering a word of encouragement, our students reflect the love and hope that Christ calls us to share.

This Gospel theme connects beautifully with Pope Francis' invitation in *Fratelli Tutti* to recognise every person as a brother or sister. When our pupils use their gifts to uplift others, they build a culture of respect, solidarity, and compassion, key principles of Catholic Social Teaching. By "shining their light," they help to create a community where everyone feels valued and where the dignity of each person is honoured.

As we approach the end of this half term, may we all be inspired by the example of our young people. Their light reminds us that even the smallest acts of goodness can brighten our whole community. May we encourage one another to keep shining brightly, for in doing so we reveal God's love at work.

On Friday we had the privilege of welcoming Iman, a Syrian refugee, who spoke to all of Year 10 students about her journey and the experiences she and her children have faced since moving to the UK in 2017. Our students listened with real empathy, asked thoughtful and mature questions and showed deep respect throughout her time with us. An extra special shoutout to Matthew, Taylor, Faye and Lewis who bravely asked some brilliant questions. Iman's story connected beautifully with our focus this week on Pope Francis' *Fratelli Tutti*, reminding us of our shared responsibility to build a world rooted in compassion, solidarity and the celebration of diversity. Iman's lived experience brought those values to life in a powerful and unforgettable way. We are reminded that, no matter where we come from, we are all part of one global family. Thank you to Iman for sharing her story with us, and a huge well done to Year 10 for the dignity, openness and kindness they showed, making our community proud. Let's continue to celebrate and uplift each other!

Our amazing student librarians were treated to a truly magical reward experience as part of their recent Key Fund project. Inspired by the beloved story of Matilda, students enjoyed a cinematic dining experience like no other. After a 2-hour shopping trip to carefully choose all the ingredients, the scene was set for an unforgettable feast in the LRC. The epic feast included pancakes, just like Matilda, a table full of "junk food" typical of the Wormwood family, a legendary chocolate cake, challenge worthy of Bruce Bogtrotter, and to wash it all down, a mischievous "newt cocktail," just like Miss Trunchbull drank. The LRC was filled with laughter and a shared love of storytelling brought to life through food (and lots of it!) A huge well done to our student librarians, you've earned it!



Last week, over 100 Year 11 and Year 12 students attended the launch of the well-established St John's Sixth Form charitable expedition to Peru which takes place every two years. St John's have been actively involved in the project since 2009 and this was a great opportunity for Joe Plumb, the leader of the project, to come and launch the aims of the project to current and prospective Sixth Form. We are delighted to see so many students expressing an interest in the 2027 project, and to already hear the buzz amongst both current and prospective Sixth Formers.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday 16- Year 11 and Year 13 mocks continue. We are so proud of the commitment of our students so far, and wish them lots of luck as they continue with their mock exams this week.

Tuesday 17- Pancakes will be on sale in T5 during lunchtime to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Pancakes will be priced at £1 and proceeds will go to CAFOD.

Tuesday 17- Some of our Performing Arts students are heading to Sunderland Empire to watch *Matilda the Musical*. The bus will be leaving school promptly at 6pm and students can wear their own clothes for the trip.

Wednesday 18- Ash Wednesday Liturgies. All students will be taking part in a special Ash Wednesday liturgy to mark the beginning of Lent.

Thursday 19- Sixth Form theatre trip to York. A group of our Sixth Formers are looking forward to a cultural visit to York to watch the critically acclaimed *Prima Facie*, featuring Tony and Olivier award-winner Jodie Comer.

Friday 20- School closes for half term at the end of the day. We wish all of our students, staff and families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

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 rose@stjohns.bhct.org.uk.

High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Virtues

Daisy J 12S - Responsibility (CJO & ERA)
Lucy O 12S - Responsibility (CJO & ERA)
Daniel S 7J - Justice and Compassion (DLA)
Eve V 13C Resilience (EST)
Jacqui P 13C Resilience (EST)
Summer T 13C Resilience (EST)
Beth T 13A Resilience (EST)
Sarah T 13A Resilience (EST)
Harriet F 13E Confidence, Self Belief and Resilience (EST)
Beth K 12T Responsibility (EST)
St. John's School Choir - Confidence and Self-Belief (RBE & ALI)

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

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High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Year 7

Molly R 7A (CJO)
Macy H 7Y (NPA)
Isobel M 7Y (NPA)
Emily 7Y (NPA)
Brayden 7R (HOB)
Lilia G 7A (HRO)
Sadie G 7A (HRO & MMG)
Nieve F 7R (SCO)
Isobel M 7Y (SCO)
Constance A 7R (SCO)
Hannah 7R (SCO)
Jacki 7R (SCO)
Isabella 7Y (COS)
Isabel B 7N (COS)
Amalie W 7M (COS)
Casey M 7R (COS)

Eddie DS 7N (MHA)
Emma OB 7H (MHA)
Daniel S 7J (MHA)
Jacob 7M (MHA)
Niko F 7O (MHA)
Millie H 7O (DDE)
Jason L 7O (DDE)
Mya P 7M (HHA)
Lucy E 7M (HHA)
Jack H 7A (UKS)
Jack 7M (HHA)
Cameron W 7O
Pippa S 7R (SGO)
Roman T 7A (SGO)
Isaac W 7Y (RMO)

Lilia G 7M (EST & HHA)
Elijah G 7M (EST)
Francesca 7M (EST & HHA)
Emma U 7M (EST)
Eleanor S 7M (EST & MMG)
Dinny A 7M (EST)
Richie M 7M (EST)
Ella H 7M (EST)
Lucy E 7M (EST & MMG)
Tomyra H 7M (EST)
Sofia H 7M (EST)
Jimmy Joy 7M (EST)
Amalie W 7M (EST & MMG)
Ada A 7N (CLI)
Lily B 7O (CLI)

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High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Year 8

Carollena A 8O (RMO)
Molly J 8N (NPA)
Ella S 8N (NPA)
George A 8M (KIB)
Thomas A 8A (KIB)
Lexi-May C 8H (KIB)
Poppy S 8Y (KIB)
Guru S 8A (CLI)
Imogen O 8N (COS)
Joni L 8Y (COS)

Oscar A 8A (DHA)
Aimee B 8O (DHA)
Finlay H 8O (SGO)
Heidi R 8O (SGO)
Hannah K 8A (MMG)
Bella D 8A (MMG)
Verny D 8M (MMG)
George J 8M (AWR)
Ella S 8N (DDE)
George A 8M (DDE)

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High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Year 9

Carrollena A 8O (RMO)
Molly J 8N (NPA)
Ella S 8N (NPA)
George A 8M (KIB)
Thomas A 8A (KIB)
Lexi-May C 8H (KIB)
Poppy S 8Y (KIB)
Guru S 8A (CLI)
Imogen O 8N (COS)
Joni L 8Y (COS)

Oscar A 8A (DHA)
Aimee B 8O (DHA)
Finlay H 8O (SGO)
Heidi R 8O (SGO)
Hannah K 8A (MMG)
Bella D 8A (MMG)
Verny D 8M (MMG)
George J 8M (AWR)
Ella S 8N (DDE)
George A 8M (DDE)

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High Five FRIDAY
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Year 10

Lily S 10A (BT & RMO)
Ava A 10M (VNI & EST)
Sam R 10O (RMO)
Clive C 10R (RMO)
Tashia M 10N (RMO)
Thomas T 10A (RMO)
Isabella D 10Y (SGO)
Kibbi-Jean M 10O (SGO)
Kerry M 10A (SGO)
Kofi T 10M (SGO)
Savannah-Leigh H 10M (AWE)
Robyn S 10N (NRO)
Harry M 10M (HHA & AWE)
Tia-Rose S 10J (HHA & AWE)
Ellie M 10A (HHA & AWE)
Charlie B 10O (NRO)
Thomas K 10P (CLI & EST)
Harry C 10O (NRO)
Harrison M 10M (HHA & EST)
Iris C 10U (NRO)
Poppy W 10O (LBT & NRO & LDV)

Matthew W 10R (SLO & EST)
Eve B 10R (EST)
Macy B 10Y (EST)
Amelia C 10M (LBT)
Jessica M 10A (LBT)
Liam 10Y (LBT)
Sophie H 10U (LBT)
Leoni D 10Y (LBT)
Helen D 10A (LBT)
Hose D 10A (LBT)
Adam D 10A (LBT)
Eve M 10Y (MMG)
Grace G 10M (MMG)
Georgia C 10R (SGO)
Jordan 10A (SGO)
Mia 10M (EST & LDV)
Amelia C 10O (VNI)
Brooke B 10M (EST)
Oliver B 10Y (EST)
Daisy L 11R (EST)

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High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Year 11

Benjamin S-J 11H (RMO)
George E 11M (RMO)
Imogen P 11N (RMO)
Mia P 11A (RMO)
Josie J 11J (RMO)
Jenson R 11U (CJO & HHA)

Luci B 11Y (NRO)
Freddie C 11A (NRO)
Ava S 11N (LDV)
Charlotte J 11H (LDV)
Oscar B 11L (LDV)
Ben H 11C (JCO)
Kaela H 11R (NPA)
Hassan S 11A (DHA)
Tom M 11J (AWR)

Hannah S 11H (SLO)
Chloe H 11A (SLO)
Robert B 11R (SLO)
Madelyn A 11N (SLO)
Hannah V 11A (SLO)
Sofia A 11O (SLO)
Eden W 11Y (NRO)
Mabie S 11H (NRO)
Nadia I 11M (NRO)
Phoebe E 11A (NRO)
Brianna F 11M (NRO)
Lewis W 11A (NRO)
Jack P 11R (NRO)

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High Five FRIDAY
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Year 12

Jess B 12T (LBT)
Joshua C 12S (LBT)
Lucas E 12S (LBT)
Jaimee R 12S (LBT)
Isaac C 12T (VNI)
Abi T 12T (VNI)
Yasmin W 12S (VNI & HTH)
Beth K 12T (VNI & HTH)
Daisy A 12S (VNI)
Olivia F 12S (VNI)
Isla D 12S (VNI)
Daisy J 12S (HHA)
Poppy W 12T (DDE)

Joshua C 12S (VNI)
Jake C 12S (VNI)
Imogen M 12S (VNI)
Rene R 12S (VNI & HTH)
Harrison S 12S (VNI)
Vincent T 12S (VNI)
Sophia O 12S (HTH)
Niamh C 12T (HTH)
Rosa J 12T (HTH)
Olivia E 12S (NPA)
Isabelle P 12T (NPA)
Aimee D 12S (NPA)
Daniel D 12S (SLO & LDV)
Donald B 12S (SLO)

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High Five FRIDAY
13 February 2026

Year 13

Year 13 Sociology (LBT & MDU)

Leah H 13E (LBT)
Amelia K 13A (LBT)
Neva R 13C (LBT)
Daniel W 13A (LBT)
Nicola H 13E (LBT)
Anna S 13A (LBT)
Jessica P 13C (LBT)
Hannah N 13A (HTH)
Ruby W 13A (HTH)
Katie C 13R (HTH)
Nicole H 13E (HTH)
Amelia K 13A (HTH)

Eva R 13E (HTH)
Amelia W 13S (LOU)
Lily A 13R (LOU)
Mika M 13A (LOU)
Jessica P 13C (LOU)
Neva R 13C (LOU)
Lucie P 13A (LOU)
Georgia F 13S (LOU)
Sofia M 13E (LOU)
Imogen C 13C (SLO)
Lily H 13R (SLO)
Annemarie K 13E (SLO)
Jonny L 13C (SLO)
Keeva R 13E (SLO)

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MFL Stars of the Week: Krystyn Jojo (7J), Sienna Newell (9Y)
Oscar Albinson (8A), Imogen Outterside (8N), Belle Golightly (9H)

ClassCharts Year 7 Top Achievers

Richie M 7M
Eleanor S 7M
Elijah O 7M
Esmae U 7M
Ella H 7M

Year 8 Top Achievers

Verity D 8M
Belle D 8A
Kristen R 8A
Kai D 8A
Tanatswa M 8J

Year 9 Top Achievers

Evoline S 9Y
Constance C 9N
Harvey T 9Y
Pippa H 9R
Lucy C 9O

Year 10 Top Achievers

Matthew W 10R
Mina S-E 10J
Harry M 10M
Esther L 10J
Lucie H 10M

Year 11 Top Achievers

Chloe D 11H
Nicole S 11O
Eve M 11R
Eden W 11Y
Grace I 11H

Department Stars of the Week - 13/2

- Philosopher of the Week: Isla Haunwell 7R and Jayke Nixon 8O
- Reader of the Week: Honey Taylor 7M
- Mathematician of the Week: Brayden Ngata 7R
- Scientist of the Week: Jonathan Bland 7N
- Linguist of the Week: Sienna Newell 9Y
- Historian of the Week: Adam Rezpa 8J
- Geographer of the Week: Rhuben Clark 7J
- Sportsperson of the Week: Hannah Keddity 8A
- Designer of the Week: Isobel Mundell 7Y
- Artist of the Week: Theo Short 7O
- Musician of the Week: Grace Ndiyimba 9N
- Computer Scientist of the Week: George Crosby 8O



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Monday 2 March-** School reopens
- **Wednesday 4 March-** Auditions for Jaquie Holloway Prize (see poster)
- **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
- **Monday 20 April-** School reopens
- **Monday 5 May-** External exams begin
- **Monday 18 May-** Year 10 Work Experience week

St. John's Performing Arts Faculty invites you to audition for

The Jaquie Holloway Prize for Performing Arts

Wednesday 25th March 2026, 6pm

A competition for soloists, celebrating excellence in the Performing Arts. Anyone is welcome to audition across all artforms: music, drama and dance.

Auditions:
Wednesday 4th March
3:20-4:20pm

First prize £50
Second prize £30
Third prize £20

Audition slots only available by emailing Miss Bell rbell@stjohns.bhct.org.uk

I Heard a Whisper...

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhct.org.uk

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

Last week's Celebration of the Word was focused around the theme of light, and how we can all let our own light shine. By being thankful for the people in our lives, we not only allow our own light to shine through positivity and gratitude, but we show others that their efforts and good deeds do make a difference. Well done to Miss Hayes (Assistant Headteacher/ Head of English), Mrs Higgins (Maths) and Mrs Hannant (Humanities) who were the recipients of last week's sweet treats.