# ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

8 JANUARY 2024 Week B



Our final week of term before Christmas was jam-packed with Christmas liturgies, reward assemblies and trips, our Christmas Celebration, Student Christmas Dinner and our annual Parishioner Christmas lunch. We hope you enjoy some of the highlights:

We kicked off the festivities with our Student Christmas Dinner where they enjoyed Christmas music, singing and even some signing.

Christmas crackers and hats and a delicious dinner cooked by our wonderful Catering team. It was a wonderful afternoon!



We were also delighted to welcome over 50 parishioners from our local area into school for our annual Christmas Lunch. Our visitors enjoyed a lovely 2 course lunch followed by entertainment from some of our wonderful singers and a

raffle, and were served by members of our Student Leadership Team. This annual tradition is so important as we spend the build up to Christmas each year reaching out to those within our local community.

Continuing our community work, our amazing Welfare Team spent the final week busy preparing gift bags and hampers for some of our lovely families. Our food bank table was packed up ready for Woodhouse Close Community Centre, our generous audience members at our Christmas Concert donated toys and gifts for us to send to Angel Trust's Toy Appeal and our staff and families were incredibly generous donating items to our Hygiene Hamper Appeal. Once again, we were incredibly grateful for everyone's kindness and generosity this year, but an extra special mention must go to former student Jessica Dailey who won some money and chose to spend it all on buying items which we could pass on to families in need.

GCSE Music students had their annual Christmas Formal in Newcastle and Gateshead. Students enjoyed a wonderful Ital meal before enjoying a programm of festive a cappella music by internationally renowned vocal ensemble. The

Swingles, at the Glasshouse, Gateshead. Both staff and students had a fabulous evening

celebrating the achievements of our Music students.



## A WORD FROM LISA BYRON, HEADTEACHER

Happy New Year!
I hope you all had
a happy and
peaceful Christmas
and enjoyed some
valuable time spent
with loved ones. We
are looking forward to
welcoming our staff
and students back to
school this week ready
to begin a brand new
term. A new term, and
a new year, bring with

### Thank You Lord for giving me The brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

them so much potential for a clean slate and a fresh start. We take this opportunity to remind our students of our high expectations for uniform, attendance and punctuality as well as the importance of giving their all to becoming the best version of themselves they can be. Here's to another fantastic term!





Our Performing Arts Department delivered another fantastic event in the shape of our annual Christmas Celebration, this year entitled 'That's Christmas to Me'. The evening explored what Christmas means to each of us and to others from around the world. As well as the beautiful singing, music and readings, it also gave us the chance for poignant reflection on what matters most at Christmas, and the chance to consider those for whom Christmas is not filled with joy and peace. A huge well done to all of our performers, soloists, musicians, readers, poem writers and staff who filled the hall with Christmas magic.



### COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday 8- All students return to school. A reminder that school begins at 8.50am prompt, when students should be at their congregation areas. Any students arriving at school after 8.50am will receive ClassCharts negatives for lateness. We appreciate your support with encouraging good attendance and punctuality.

Monday 8- Year 13 mock examinations begin. We wish our Year 13 students lots of luck as they begin these important mock exams.

REMINDERS

As we begin a new term, we would like to take this opportunity to remind our parents, carers and students of our Designated Safeguarding Leads within school. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Watson, Assistant Headteacher, and she is supported by several other members of staff who are also in charge of safeguarding:

Miss Wilkinson, Julie Usher, Mr Rolston, Mr Dunn, Mr Athey and Michael Stephenson.

# LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS























### Year 7 Top **Achievers**

Lorna B 7R Pippa H 7R Harriet D 7M Constance C 7N Jack R 7R

#### Year 8 Top **Achievers**

Evie M 8Y Thomas T 8A Thomas K 8R Yu Xuan L 8M Kai W 8J

#### Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Hassan S 9J Jack R 90 Jack S 9M Molly M 90 Grace B 90

#### Year 10 Top **Achievers**

April G 10A Lucy O 10M Poppy W 10R Evie W 10Y Eleanor B 10A

#### Year 11 Top **Achievers**

Eleni B 11N Alfie J 11A George B 11J Ezri H 110 Jack R 11H

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ....



- Monday 29 January- Year 11 mocks 2 begin Thursday 1 February- Year 9 Progress Eve
- Tuesday 6 February- Options Evening for Year 9 students, 4-6pm
- Friday 9 February- Last day before Half Term
- Monday 19 February- School reopens
- Thursday 22 February- Year 12/13 Progress Eve
- Thursday 29 February- Year 11 Progress Eve 2 Thursday 21 March- Year 8 Progress Eve
- Wednesday 27 March- Jaquie Holloway
- Performing Arts Prize Concert Thursday 28 March- Last day before Easter
- Monday 15 April- School reopens after Easter
- Thursday 2 May- Year 7 Progress Eve
- Monday 6 May- School closed for Bank Hol Wednesday 10 / Thursday 11 July- Les Mis

#### I Heard a Whisper...

Our final I Heard a Whisper of last term, and of 2023, saw an incredible 14 nominations being shared. Well done to Mr Athey (Pupil Premium Lead), Mrs Higgins (Maths), Mrs Rose (Assistant Headteacher), Mr McIntyre (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Richardson (MFL), Mrs Thompson (Head of Year 12/13), Mrs Widdowson (Assistant Head of Year 12/13), Miss Heads (LRC Manager), Mrs Johnson (Assistant Head/ Head of Year 11), Steph Anderson (Admin), Mrs Stephenson (English), Mr Walker (LSA), Ms Somers (Assistant Head) and Mr Minton (Head of Computer Science) who all received a sweet treat. Our inbox remains open and we look forward to receiving and sharing more wonderful nominations with you this term.

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk





Tilly Summerbell, 10N









