# ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

22 JANUARY 2024 WEEK B



On Tuesday, we were proud and delighted to welcome former student, Alisha Cowie, into school to talk to all of our girls on the topics of confidence, self-esteem and overcoming challenges. Since leaving St John's in 2015, Alisha has won Miss England and is the current Miss International



UK. As part of these roles she has undertaken an extensive amount of charity and fundraising work, most notably for the Papyrus charity for young suicide and empowering young women in India. Alisha shared her confidence journey with students and spoke about some of her achievements, as well as encouraging students to write their own positive affirmations to themselves and set their own SMART goals. Her message was clear- we need to be better at talking positively to ourselves and feeling proud of our talents and achievements, only then can we grow in confidence and develop our skills.

Congratulations to Matty Richardson, Rowan Norman, Grace Richardson, Jessica Montgomery, Miylee Alison, Lewis Anderson and Max Pickering who represented the District Cross Country Team last Saturday in Sunderland. All students were a credit to themselves, showing determination, resilience and a large amount of effort throughout a challenging course. A further well done to Matty, Rowan and Grace who have now qualified for the County Durham Squad.

Some of our wonderful Sixth Form students are busy planning a special fashion show which will take place on Friday 8 March and will focus on preloved fashion, all to raise money for Cancer Research. Tickets will be on sale soon, but in the meantime we are appealing for any pre-loved clothes in good condition to help stock the event. If you have any items you would like to pass on for this fantastic event and cause, please drop them at Main Reception by February 15.



A WORD FROM LISA BYRON.
HEADTEACHER

Within their weekly Pastoral lessons, our students study various PSHE topics surrounding relationships, citizenship, social issues and the pressures of growing up. We take our job of ensuring our students grow into respectful and kind young adults very seriously, and it is important that our students leave us with a real sense of what it means to be a good member of society and our local community. Part of our Pastoral Programme focuses on diversity and equality, ensuring that students are aware of the Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act of 2010: Age, Disability, Sex, Gender reassignment, Race, Religion, Sexual orientation, Marriage and Civil partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity. Some of these topics can be quite overwhelming for our young people to understand, and so your support in continuing these important conversations at home and speaking to your child about their Pastoral lessons is much appreciated.

We are appealing to former students of St John's to join our brand new Alumni Programme, Flown the Nest, and have the opportunity to get involved with inspiring our current students. We are looking for some of our former 'Eagles' who have flown the nest and gone on to have interesting career paths or successful careers in a range of areas to be part of this exciting new programme. As we always tell our students before they leave us for the next step of their journey, they are always a part of the St John's community and we would love to use our alumni to help deliver talks, workshops and opportunities to inspire our current students. For more information or to get involved with the programme, please email our dedicated alumni email address, flownthenest@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk and please 🕅 share with any former students you may know.

#### TOMING UP THIS WEEK

**Tuesday 23-** Life of Pi Theatre Trip. GCSE Drama students are watching a live performance of the National Theatre's 'Life of Pi' at Newcastle Theatre Royal. Students will need to be at school ready to depart for 6pm and will return at approximately 10.30pm.

Wednesday 24- Les Miserables rehearsal for all cast members, 3.20-4.30pm.

**Saturday 27**- We wish a safe and enjoyable trip to our staff and students heading to New York and Albany as part of our next Turing Scheme visit. We look forward to share news and photos from this amazing trip.

## \* REMINDERS

Payment for the Year 11 Leavers' Celebration Party is due by Friday 2 February. Please contact Finance if you have any queries regarding making payment. Payments can be found by clicking on the Trips link on the left hand side of the app and then on 'Available'.

We are actively seeking support from parents and the wider community to help with this year's Work Experience for Years 10 and 12. If you are able to offer a placement with your place of work, either in-person or virtual, to a fitting student we would love to hear from you. Please contact Dr Little, Assistant Lead for Careers, at clittle@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk for more information and please pass onto any suitable contacts.

### LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS

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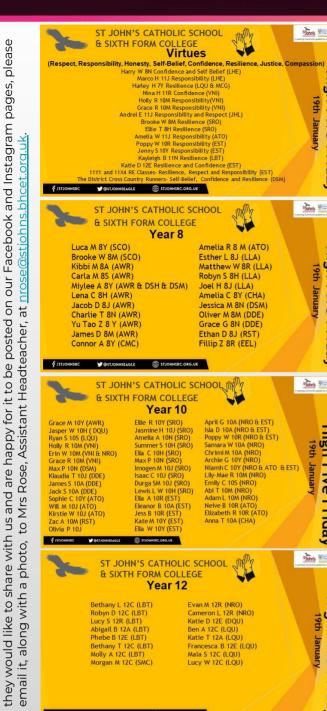
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Year 7 Top **Achievers** 

Eva M 7A Eli F 70 Bokani N 70 Olivia B 70 Harriet D 7M

Year 8 Top **Achievers** Ethan D 8J Esther L 8J Joel H 8J Madhav S M 8A

Year 9 Top **Achievers** Lewis W 9A

Jacob D 8J

Jorgia P 9Y Luci B 9Y James K 9H Freddie C 9A

Year 10 Top **Achievers** 

Harrison H 10J Emily C 10H Jaimee R 10J Durga S M 10J Isaac C 10J

Year 11 Top **Achievers** Jack R 11H Lily D 11N

#### 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 20 May- Year 10 Work Experience
- Monday 8 July- Year 12 Work Experience

#### I Heard a Whisper...

We are extremely lucky at St John's to have the most wonderful team of staff. Staff who are not only incredible at their jobs and in the support they offer our students, but also in their support for each other. Our staff help, encourage and champion each other every single day, and this week's nominations are examples of exactly that. Well done this week to Joanne, Sara, Danielle, Mandy and Bernadette (Finance/Admin), Mrs Mangles (LSA), Miss Heads (LRC Manager) and Mr Walker (LSA) who have all received nominations for the amazing support they have given staff and students. Drop us an email at: iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

Artist of the Week





Joshua Yorke, 113

Bishop

Hogarth



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