ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

5 FEBRUARY 2024 Week B



On Tuesday 30th January, 13 of our students attended a trip to Durham Chorister School for a workshop with internationally acclaimed ensemble, East Asian Pool of Sound. It was a real privilege to hear the magical sounds of the sheng (Chinese mouth organ) and the tungso (Korean bamboo flute) played by professional musicians. Students also enjoyed a tour of Durham Cathedral before a tasty meal at Lebaneat. We would like to thank our host, Mrs. Murray, from Durham Chorister School, and Dr. James Weeks of Durham University for helping to organise such an enjoyable day.

Our New York and Albany Turing Scheme trip arrived back safely on Friday. As well as their whistle-stop tour of NYC, our Sixth



Form students were given a tour of Siena College in Albany. They explored what life would be like if they studied there and lived on campus. They then had a mini retreat experience exploring how spirituality can help our mental health and wellbeing. A fantastic experience for all involved and the students were fantastic ambassadors.





Well done to our Year 9 boys and girls who took part in a Dodgeball competition at Bishop Barrington on Friday. Year 9 girls came second, only losing one match and the boys came fourth. All those who participated represented St John's really well and were a credit to all.

A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

As a 'Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values', it is important that we are guided by the values of love, peace, justice, compassion and service in all that we do as a school. The Catholic Social Teaching principles act as our moral compass, helping us to live out the Gospel Values. Two of these principles in particular, Common Good and Option for the Poor, call us to actively support others within our community, particularly those who are vulnerable or in need. Last May we held our fabulous Strictly St John's event where we raised over £4000, funds which we pledged to use to support those within our own community and beyond. We are proud to share that the money raised has been used to help aid communities in Kenya during our Sixth Form trip in the summer, to purchase translator pens to help our Ukrainian students in their learning and to purchase uniform and subsidise transport for families in need. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, carers, family members and wider community for their continued support of our events and fundraising efforts which allow us to offer this vital support. I wish you all a lovely half term.

All year groups had improved attendance last week, which is fantastic! A special mention to 7J who had the most improved attendance in the school. Well done, all!

THE COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday 5- Year 9 Vaccinations will be taking place during the course of the day for those with consent.

Monday 5- Year 11 mock exams continue. Well done to all of Year 11 for their hard work and dedication so far.

Tuesday 6- Year 9 Options Evening, 4-6pm. Our Year 9 students and their parents/carers are invited along to find out about the subjects on offer and to chat to subject staff to help inform their choices.

Thursday 8- Appointments for Sixth Form Progress Evening on Thursday 22 February will go live this Thursday and will be available via School Cloud.

Friday 9- Good luck to our amazing choir who are taking part in the final of the North East Secondary School Choir of the Year competition, ran by Durham Music Service, at Durham Cathedral.

Friday 9- A group of students will be representing St John's in a Trust ESports Competition at Carmel College on Friday afternoon. The competition will be streamed live via Twitch and we will share the link on Facebook. **Friday 9-** Final day before half term- wishing all of our staff and students a restful break. School reopens on Monday 19 February for all students.

₽ REMINDERS

A reminder that parents and carers should only be arriving at school to collect their child during the school day if there is a pre-arranged appointment we have been notified about or you have been contacted by school directly. If your child becomes unwell during the school day and is deemed too unwell to remain in school, a member of staff will contact you to ask you to collect your child. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Tickets for our Charity Fashion Show on Friday 8 March are now on sale and available from Main Reception at a cost of £5 which includes a meal. A bar will also be available on the evening and all proceeds go towards Cancer Research, with all pre-loved clothing from the evening going to the Angel Trust clothing collection.

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS











Year 7 Top **Achievers**

Nancy-Mae B 7J Milana D 7J Imogen K 7J Frankie B 7J Maria M 7J

Year 8 Top **Achievers** Finbar H 8R Karol O 8N Thomas T 8A Harrison M 8O

William L 8Y

Year 9 Top **Achievers** Alicia W 9Y

Neve E 90 Molly M 90 Tom M 9J Jack S 9M

Year 10 Top **Achievers**

Niamh C 10Y Jenny S `10Y Isla D 10A April G 10A Sam E 10A

Year 11 Top **Achievers**

> Ollie F 11N Ryan D 11J Eleni B 11N

Kaylie B 11N Josh M 110

I Heard a Whisper...

∳ /stjohnsrc

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 13

& SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

At St John's we pride ourselves on our caring and nurturing environment where staff go above and beyond to support students, and each other. This week's nominations all show exactly that, and it makes us extremely proud to be able to share these examples. Well done this week to Miss Wilkinson (Assistant Headteacher), Miss Allaway (LSA), Mrs Wright (Science) and Mrs Barnham (Head of Year 9) who have all been rewarded with a sweet treat. If you would like to show your appreciation for a member of staff, drop us an email at

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk

Artist of the Week

Stohn's



Sophie Relton, 13E

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 19 February- School reopens
- Thursday 22 February- Year 12/13 Progress Eve (appointments available from February 8)
- Thursday 29 February- Year 11 Progress Eve 2 Friday 8 March- Charity Fashion Show (Tickets
- on sale now from Main Reception) \Box 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

Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11- Les Mis

Monday 8 July- Year 12 Work Experience



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