# ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

9 SEPTEMBER 2024 WEEK B



Our Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to their time at St John's, with some wonderful reports from their teachers about their enthusiasm, hard work and excellent behaviour.

It has also been lovely to see them immersing themselves in the life of St John's, with many making use of our wide range of enrichment clubs over lunchtime and lots having the confidence to try out for the school football team. Well done, Year 7 and keep it up!



Our new Enrichment Programme for the Autumn term began last week, featuring over 70 clubs across lunchtime and after school. Across our seven Enrichment Areas of STEM, Cultural Capital, Community and Catholic Life, Wellbeing, The Arts, Active Lifestyle and Academic Enrichment, there is something for everyone! Whether you are interested in badminton or board games, karaoke or coding, sign language or STEM, there is a club for every hobby, talent and passion. As well as popular clubs from last year such as FIFA Club, Diversity and Equality Club, Debate Club and Football on the 3G continuing this year, the programme also features some brand new additions including Board Game Club, Crochet and Crafts and Karaoke Club, which proved to be lots of fun on Friday lunchtime.







We love our students to take up as many opportunities offered to them as possible and to engage in the wider life of the school. Regular attendance at Enrichment will result in rewards such as celebration postcards, vouchers and queue jump passes. Our after school clubs also begin this week, with lots more to be involved with including Choir, Orchestra, Lego Club, Girls' Football, Rugby, Netball and Trampolining. We look forward to seeing many of our students pursuing their passions, learning new skills and throwing themselves into life at St John's.

### A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

Our school mission statement is 'A Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values', and it is a statement we strive to live by each day. First and foremost we are a community and we value every member of our community, regardless of their role within it. Of course school is important for education, exams and qualifications, but it is also hugely important that we help our students grow into good members of society. We want our students to become the very best version of themselves and to leave us as young people who can live out the values of love, compassion, forgiveness, humility, faith, hope, honesty, generosity, and integrity.

This week we welcomed our brand new Year 7 students into our Learning Community and what an excellent first impression they have made. I have been delighted to hear their good manners, witness their smart uniform and punctuality and hear all about their fantastic hard work and engagement in lessons and in the wider life of the school. They have made an excellent start and I look forward to seeing them continue to grow under our care and guidance.

#### A Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values

A sea of brand-new faces have joined us today. With nerves and excitement, all finding their way. Their smart maroon blazers and eagles on ties, Will help them to soar and reach for the sky. We'll nurture their talents and help them to shine, We'll support their ambitions and challenge their minds. We'll teach them compassion and confidence too. And just how to be the best version of you. We'll carve out their journey and model respect, We'll shoulder their struggles and always protect. We'll celebrate with them, both big wins and small, And lift them back up again if they should fall. We'll give them a voice and a listening ear,
And make sure they're valued throughout their time here. For these brand-new faces are now part of St John's, And this community is where each one now belongs.

### COMING UP THIS WEEK

Wednesday 11- Year 10 Information Evening, 5.30pm. We invite parents and carers of our Year 10 students to an important Information Evening all about what to expect from GCSEs, how to support your child during the next two years and the expectations on your child during this key time in their education. Please enter via Main Reception if you are attending. For any parents who are unable to attend, a copy of the presentation will be available on the school website after the evening. We look forward to seeing many of you there and will be holding information evenings for other year groups during the course of this term.

Good attendance and punctuality are so important to ensure our students reach their full potential. Last week's attendance figures were: Year 7- 97.5%, Year 8- 91.8%, Year 9- 91.7%, Year 10- 88.7%, Year 11- 95.3%. There is a high correlation between good attendance and good grades, as shown in our most recent GCSE results, and we appreciate your support with ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time.

A reminder that students should be bringing a suitable school bag with them each day along with a pencil case and their planner. Trainers, earrings, false eyelashes and nail varnish are not part of our school uniform.

### LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS









### **ClassCharts** Year 7 Top

**Achievers** 

Matilda T 7J Max L 7J Claudia M 7J Natalia T 7J Jessica B 7J

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

Lexi A 80 Tyler T 8A Ajay H-N 8Y Lucy C 80 Lexi K 8M

### Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Thomas T 9A Miylee A 9Y Charlie L 9M Logan R 9A Jake O 9Y

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

Jack R 100 Lily J 10H Jack B 10N Darci W 100 Chloe H 10A

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

Olivia P 11J Grace M 11Y April G 11A Evie W 11Y Chrimi M 11A

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 18 September- Year 11 Info Eve,

Wednesday 25 September- Year 9 Info Eve,

Thursday 26 September- Open Evening, 5.30-7.30pm

Wednesday 2 October- Year 8 Info Eve, 5.30pm Wednesday 9 October- Year 12 Info Eve, 5.30pm Thursday 10 October - Sixth Form Open Evening,

Wednesday 16 October- Year 13 Info Eve, 5.30pm Wednesday 23 October- Year 7 Welcome Mass (more details to follow)

Friday 25 October- School closed to students for staff INSET. Half Term begins.

Monday 4 November- School reopens

# I Heard a Whisper...

We are continuing with our 'I Heard a Whisper' initiative this year following its huge success last year, with it even getting a special mention in our Ofsted report which acknowledged that it "recognises and celebrates the contributions that staff make to the school community." I Heard a Whisper is all about saying thank you. It's about showing appreciation for our staff who continually go "above and beyond" for our students and families, and for each other. We want to ensure our staff are recognised and celebrated in the same way our students are; last year we received almost 500 nominations for our staff! If you would like to thank a member of staff who has gone out of their way to help or support, or has gone above and beyond in their job role, you can email our dedicated email address. We will share a selection of nominations each week and staff will receive a sweet treat.

iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk







