ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

28 APRIL 2025 WEEK A



Before Easter we held our second set of enrichment sessions at Bishop Auckland College, focused on giving ou students taster sessions and enrichment in a wide range of areas. Almost 150 students in Years 8, 9 and 10 took part in a session of their choice in areas such as bricklaying, catering, motor vehicles, carpentry, ceramics, fashion design, nursing, childcare and hairdressing. Our students showed incredible engagement, enthusiasm and manners throughout their sessions, with college staff commenting on their impeccable

We concluded our Spring term with Easter Liturgies at St Mary's Church, reflecting on the significance of Holy Week and theme of our Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope. Students listened to readings and performances which helped them to understand the story

behaviour and efforts.

of Jesus' death and resurrection. Students were encouraged to be beacons of hope through their thoughts, words and actions.







To reward our students for their excellent efforts last term, we were visited by the Easter Bunny on the Friday afternoon who hopped around school spreading joy and delivering chocolate treats to all year groups. All classes were visited and over 100 'Good Egg' rewards given out. It was a wonderful way to end the term and celebrate the hard work of our students.

Our Year 8 netball team have been crowned winners of the South West Durham School Netball Tournament. Despite facing tough competition from the nine other schools, our girls played their socks off and did not concede a single goal in any of their matches. Their commitment, resilience and self-belief, as well as their talent, shone through and we are so proud of them!

A WORD FROM LISA BYRON. HEADTEACHER

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Easter break filled with lots of rest, time with friends and family and, of course, lots of chocolate!

We were deeply saddened at the passing of Pope Francis over Easter, but his death reminds us of his inspirational words for all young people: "Do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you. Do not be afraid to dream of great things!" As we enter the Summer term we also enter our exam season as well as preparing for lots of important and exciting events. We know during the next four weeks our students will continue to dream, and do, big things and we look forward to celebrating many more successes with them. On the theme of dreaming great things, we're incredibly proud to announce that St. John's has been awarded the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award! This national recognition celebrates our commitment to creativity, inclusion, and providing high-quality arts opportunities for every student. Over the past two years, we've worked hard to embed the arts across our curriculum and wider school life. increasing opportunities and provision in the performing and creative arts, and we're thrilled that this work has been recognised at the highest level. The award acknowledges the passion, talent and dedication of our staff. students and wider community.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday 28- We are looking forward to welcoming all students and staff back to school after what we hope has been an enjoyable and restful Easter break.

Monday 5- A reminder that school will be closed next Monday to all staff and students due to Bank Holiday.



As we begin a new term, a reminder that students must have their bus passes with them every day to ensure that they are able to travel on our school buses. Staff and bus drivers will be checking bus passes each day to ensure that all passes are compliant and valid for students to travel.



We remind all students, parents and carers of the importance of good attendance and punctuality. An attendance record of 90% might seem good but is actually equal to one day missed per fortnight. If this continues from Years 7 to 11, a total of six months of education will be lost. It is important that we work closely with our parents and carers to ensure absenteeism and lateness is kept to a minimum and we appreciate your support in ensuring your child's good attendance and punctuality this coming term.

LAST WEEK'S ACHIEVEMENTS



johns.bhcet.org. and Instagram out of school. If your child Facebook at on our Headteacher, for it to be posted Assistant Headtea both in and achievements, Rose, happy to Mrs are students' to share with us and photo, σ share long v and like t $\overline{\sigma}$ بـــ celebrate they would email please р 2 love success Ме









ClassCharts Year 7 Top **Achievers**

Hannah K 7A Pola K 7N Nathan M 7M Darcey L 70 Isla T 7M

Year 8 Top **Achievers**

Ellie-Rose F 8J Neve O 8J Indi B 8J Noah H 8A Poppy Y 8M Lewis B 8N

Year 9 Top **Achievers**

Charlie N 9H Shane F 9Y Jake O 9Y Kai W 9J Anna M 9M

Year 10 Top **Achievers**

Hassan S 10J Jack R 100 Katie W 100 Chloe E 10Y Skye H 100 Danae H 10H

Year 11 Top **Achievers**

Evie W 11Y Joshua J 11R Daniel D 11S Levi H 11J Olivia E 11J

MFL Stars of the Week: Beau W 7O, Lucy D 8M, Sophie R 9M, Charlie G 9A, Jed O 8Y



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☐ Monday 5 May- Bank Holiday
- ☐ Wednesday 7 May- GCSE Exams begin
- ☐ Monday 12 May- Year 7 Residential Retreat
- ☐ Monday 19 May- Year 10 Work Experience
- ☐ Thursday 22 May- Year 7 Progress Evening
- ☐ Friday 23 May- Last day before half term
- ☐ Monday 2 June- School reopens
- ☐ Monday 2 June- Year 12 Work Experience
- ☐ Thursday 19 June- Virtue Awards 2025
- ☐ Monday 23 June- Year 10 and Year 12 mocks
- ☐ Wednesday 2 July- Year 13 Peru Trip
- ☐ Wednesday 2 July- Year 9/10 Summer Festival
- Monday 7 July/ Tuesday 8 July- St John's presents 'Frozen the Musical'
- ☐ Thursday 10/Friday 11 July- Year 6 Induction

洮 Heard a Whisper...

Before Easter it was our PE department who were nominated for a sweet treat. From setting up and taking down equipment for lessons to the incredible amount of enrichment clubs on offer over lunchtime and after school, our PE staff really do work tirelessly to give our students the best experiences in and out of the classroom. And not forgetting the fixtures, tournaments, trips and opportunities offered to our students every week, often involving late nights and even giving up their own time on weekends. Our wide range of sporting clubs on offer and the continued successes we share, often with many a trophy to celebrate, are thanks to the dedication and passion of our PE staff.



Artist of the Week



Imogen Pye 10N







iheardawhisper@stjohns.bhcet.org.uk



