

Saint John Wall Catholic School

A Catholic School For All



Mission Statement

'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Issue 39

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Thursday 21 July 2022

Catholic Life - This year 's theme is based on the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13)

Termly theme: Respect (thorny soil)

Termly SJW values – Compassionate and Loving

Dear Lord, We ask of you to help each and every unique child to become educated in our school. We also ask of you to hear and respond to each and every prayer of the students in our care, we ask you to guide them to what God calls them to be. We pray that our pupils become learned and wise and are grateful for your love, support and generosity. Saint John Wall Pray for us. Amen

Message from Chair of Governors

"In the summer time when the weather is hot."

I'm writing this on the hottest day of the year (so far!) as yet another challenging school year draws to a close. Despite all the numerous obstacles that have arisen since September Miss Marston and all the staff have continued to offer our pupils a first class education.

Just looking at our website, especially on a Friday when the weekly newsletter is published, we can see the many and varied events and achievements the school has celebrated over the last three terms. As Mr Mull recently said on Twitter do have a look at the jam-packed edition of the 24th of June.

As well as coverage of the school's recent refugee week there were lots of photos of Year 11's final Mass at Saint John Wall celebrated by Bishop David Evans. It really was a truly joyful occasion. The pupils' appearance and behaviour were impeccable and their worship during Mass, reverential. Bishop David told us beforehand how much he'd looked forward to visiting the school for the first time. He left mightily impressed. The pupils then moved into the playground to bid farewell to each other and to the staff, sharing memories and enjoying the feast that was provided – not forgetting the treats served from the ice cream van!

Last week two highly experienced education consultants carried out what is called a "deep dive" into the subjects studied by our pupils.

It was similar to an Ofsted inspection with lessons observed, books checked and pupils interviewed. Miss Marston has just sent me their final report. It makes for impressive reading. Both consultants could not have been more fulsome in their praise for what they saw. Congratulations to all the staff and to our pupils who were, as usual, a credit to their families and themselves.

Due to the Covid pandemic this summer has seen the first public exams pupils have sat for three years. Organising exams is a mammoth task. I wish to thank Mrs Nash whose job it is to ensure each pupil takes the correct exam paper on the right day. She has had terrific support from all the staff including the exam invigilators. The pupils too have co-operated in a mature manner. If there is any justice their hard work will be rewarded with good news on Thursday 25 August.

The governing body is currently undergoing an overhaul. I'll let you have more information in October. Two people leaving are Mrs Pawar and Mr Lloyd-Price. Mrs Pawar is our clerk. She not only makes sure that any discussions and decisions taken are accurately recorded but that as governors we meet the many legal requirements laid down by the government and the Catholic Church. Mrs Pawar has been a great help to us all. We will really miss her and offer our heartfelt thanks and good wishes for the future. Rather than goodbye we say au revoir to Mr Lloyd-Price. While continuing as a valuable member of our Senior Leadership Team he is stepping down as a staff governor. As shown by recent events in Westminster it is all too easy to become detached from normal life.



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Mr Lloyd-Price has always brought his direct experience of what is happening in the classroom to any discussions we've had ensuring we always act in the best interests of the pupils. We are really grateful to him for his contribution. I'm sure he too has benefitted from his experience as a governor.

Inevitably the end of each school year is tinged with a little sadness as we bid farewell to staff that are leaving us. On behalf of the governors I wish to express our gratitude for all their hard work with our very best wishes for the future. I hope their time at Saint John Wall will hold good memories for them.

Finally, I wish all our parents and their families a happy and safe summer holiday. Let's hope the good weather holds (if a little cooler!) and the Commonwealth Games is a success. Until the next time I'll end with this prayer:

Loving Father, as we come to the end of another school year, we turn to you in confidence and place any concerns we may have into the healing hands of Jesus, your Son. May the holiday be for us a time of rest and relaxation, to help restore us and re-create us in your image and likeness, as we enjoy more of the love and presence of our families on whom we ask your blessing. Amen

Saint John Wall. Pray for us.

Martin Jones, Chair of Governors

Goodbye to Members of Staff

We say goodbye and good luck to a number of staff who are leaving Saint John Wall for pastures new. We wish them all the best for the future.

Staff Comments

"I just wanted to say thank you. Thank you for always making me feel welcome. Thank you for being such a superb school. Thank you for helping me to become a better teacher.

I will especially miss my pupils, but I know I am leaving them in the best place, with the best people. I know they will continue to thrive here.

I will always carry my Saint John Wall memories wherever I go.

It's not a goodbye- it's a see you later!"

By Mrs Burrows

"The past three years have flown! I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Saint John wall. Thank you all for the memories and lessons you have taught me. I will miss staff and students so much and will be thinking fondly of you all and my time here, during my new adventure in Qatar. Goodbye and good luck for the future."

By Miss Fox-Roberts

"First of all, I want to say what a pleasure it has been to work here at SJW. All staff and pupils have made me feel very welcome and I will be sad to say goodbye.

I joined Saint John Wall for 2 mornings a week in September 2019 to cover the SENDCO role before becoming full time SENDCO in January 2020. Little did we know at that time I would only get 2 and a half months in school before the pandemic took its toll and we went into National Lockdown. Although Covid-19 has had a significant impact on my time here I have been forever impressed with the resilience of the pupils and staff and how much everyone cares for each other.

I am moving onto work at Albright School in Sandwell, an alternative provision for pupils with Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs.

Thank you for looking after me SJW and I am sure I will be keeping in touch. God Bless."

By Mrs Adams

'In my time at Saint John Wall, I have had the pleasure of teaching Geography to the children here. The pupils are a credit to themselves and have made my time at the school a welcoming and fulfilling experience. I have also enjoyed every moment with my form 7COB and wish them the best going into Year 8 with their new form teacher Mr Ahmed, treat him well! My two years here have provided me with a great establishment to improve my teaching skills, invaluable experiences and some great memories. Thank you SJW!'

By Mr Cockburn

We also said goodbye to Mr Hulme and Mrs Torgbi, who are retiring, and Mr Moran who is going to begin training to become a teacher. Mr John will be temporarily working at Bishop Milner Catholic College next term in order to help with leadership of using data in the classroom.

This has been another unprecedented year and all staff have worked hard to ensure the best education for pupils at Saint John Wall. We wish all staff, pupils and families a restful break.

By Miss Marston



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Numeracy Ninja Champions

Well done to the following pupils for Numeracy Champions for a Summer 2022.

| Name | Surname | Form |
|-----------|---------|------|
| Carlise | Co | 7PAW |
| Priya | Chem | 7PAW |
| Julian | Omena | 9WIO |
| Ashpreet | Kaur | 9WIO |
| Harsh | Kumar | 7COB |
| Bhagwant | Singh | 7COB |
| Vanessa | Kodua | 8BRK |
| Abdihakim | Yousuf | 8BRK |
| Neeraj | Kaler | HAR |
| Ashpreet | Kour | HAR |



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France Trip

Monday 11 July to Friday 15 July

On Monday 11 July, 38 Year 8 and Year 9 pupils met Miss Lally, Mr John, Miss Gosselin and Miss Raybe at 2am outside school to depart for France. Once we had made the crossing from Dover to Calais later that morning, we made a stop at Vimy Ridge to explore the Canadian memorial to soldiers who had fought and lost their lives in WWI and walk through the trenches that had been built to fight the Germans. We reached Chateau de Grade Romaine at 5.30pm where pupils unpacked and became familiar with their home away from home for the next 5 days. We visited Paris on Tuesday to climb up to the second floor of the Eiffel Tower. Although the weather was hot and there was a lot of stairs, all pupils and staff made it to the top to take in the beautiful sights of Paris. After this we took a river cruise down the Seine which afforded us the opportunity to see the Notre Dame amongst other landmarks. We finished the day at the Sacre Couer where pupils were able to use some French phrases while purchasing items in the local shops. On Wednesday we visited the Palace of Versailles. In 36 degrees heat, the group spent the day looking around the enormous grandeur of the palace and its gardens before returning to the Chateau to cool down in the swimming pool! Finally, we went to Disneyland Paris on Thursday where pupils were very daring to go on the major rides before finishing the day watching the fantastic parade that takes place down Main Street. Even Miss Lally, Mr John, Miss Gosselin and Miss Raybe joined a group of pupils on the Indiana Jones ride. Throughout the week pupils were open to many new experiences such as eating snails. All of the pupils were well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed the week. Thank you to Miss Lally, Mr John, Miss Gosselin and Miss Raybe for accompanying them on the trip. **By Miss Lally**



"I really enjoyed France. I experienced a lot of fun and exciting things such as Disneyland and the Palace of Versailles. Chateau de Grande Romaine was a good place to stay as there was plenty of nice food to try and it was great to use the swimming pool to relax."

By Emmanuel Ifeosome 9OWE

"My favourite part of the France trip was visiting the Palace of Versailles because the paintings and statues were very nice and detailed. I liked the view of Paris from the Eiffel Tower. It was also exciting to go on the rides at Disneyland. At the Chateau I was able to experience eating French cuisine, particularly tasting snails. It was a great week."

By Hannah Khan 9JON





Year 7 Sandwell Valley

Monday 18 July

On Monday Year 7 pupils travelled to Sandwell Valley for a lovely warm walk! It was great to spend more time as a Year group, swapping stories and exploring the local area. There is so much natural beauty and open spaces right on our doorstep. **By Mrs Ellis**



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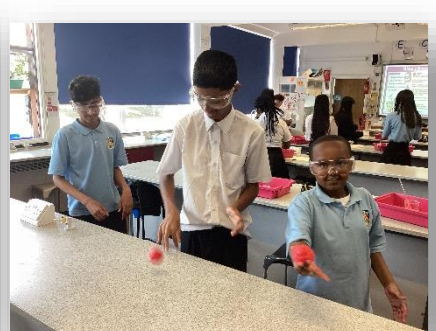
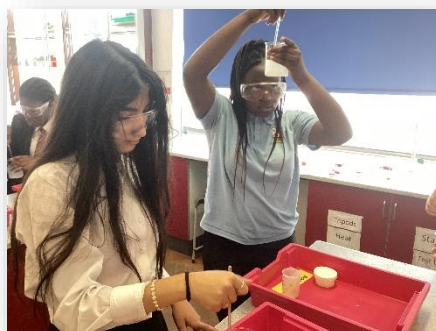
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Year 8 STEM

Monday 18 July

On Monday Year 8 pupils took part in a STEM day to take part in everything to do with Science. Some of the activities ranged from looking at an animal heart and eyes and dissecting it which the pupils thoroughly enjoyed. They also had a chance to use a microscope and look at samples such as a cheek swab, crisps. Some pupils even got a chance to make their own bath bombs which looked very colourful. They looked at polymers, saponification, human body and making useful objects. The pupils were focused and attentive throughout the day. **By Mrs Chand**



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Year 9 Stratford-Upon-Avon

Monday 18 July

The pupils visited the town centre and experienced many black and white Tudor style frontages, and the old shop signs giving the pupils a feel of what the town might have looked like in Shakespeare's time. There was an array of major retailers across the town, and pupils' feedback was positive about visiting the town centre.

The pupils walked and experienced the Stratford Canal Basin, which is a bustling environment centrally located and surrounded by riverside gardens. The group spent the afternoon on the recreation ground on the eastern bank of the River Avon and activities included playing sports, relaxing, and enjoying the experience. Several pupils experienced the Ferris Wheel, which offered viewing across the town and beyond.

The trip was a good experience for all the pupils, and the behaviour of the pupils was very good and respectful at all times. Finally, I would like to thank Miss Pollock for her guidance and support during the visit. **By Mr Hussain**



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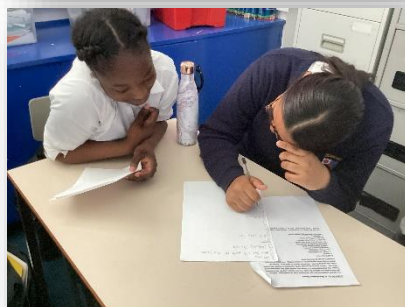
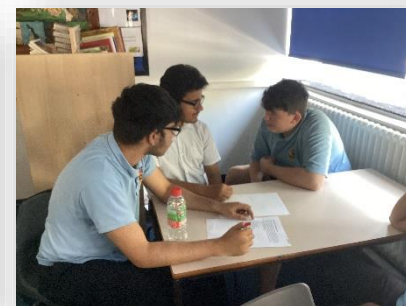
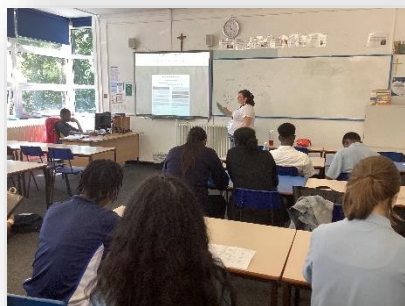
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Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 18 July to Wednesday 20 July

This week Year 10 took part in work sessions on careers. Pupils were given a wide range of information about life after school especially colleges, sixth form and apprenticeships.



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Year 7 ThinkTank Museum

Tuesday 19 July

On Tuesday pupils visited the Thinktank in Birmingham. They watched a show about energy with many pupils and staff taking part. Then pupils explored the museum and learned more about the natural world and transport.

By Mrs Ellis



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Year 8 Conkers

Tuesday 19 July

Year 8 visited Conker's on Tuesday 19 July for their Witness Week trip. They took part in many activities such as riding the train to discovery, barefoot walks, time in the adventure playground as well as visiting the 4D cinema which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Pupils very attentive and enjoyed all aspects of the trip despite the very hot weather. Thank you for all the staff that supported the trip and pupils. **By Mrs Chand**



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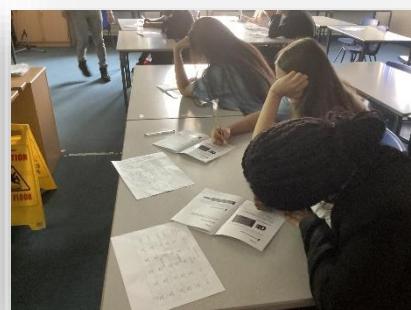
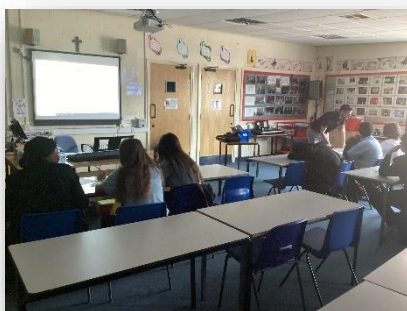
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Year 9 Tyre Challenge

Tuesday 19 July

Year 9 pupils developed several key skills relating to careers and enterprise. These skills are sometimes referred to as 'EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS'. The TYRE CHALLENGE helped pupils to work collaboratively on a group project and pupils were in groups of 3 or 4. Pupils created presentations and delivered these to peers, and demonstrated a strong work ethic and team work. **By Mr Hussain**



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SMSCV Day

Wednesday 20 July

On Wednesday this week Years 7 to 10 took part in a variety of different activities and work shops from music, learning about stories of hope and home, CAFOD, Prison Me No Way, Team building exercises, county lines etc.

The day was a huge success and pupils learnt many important facts.



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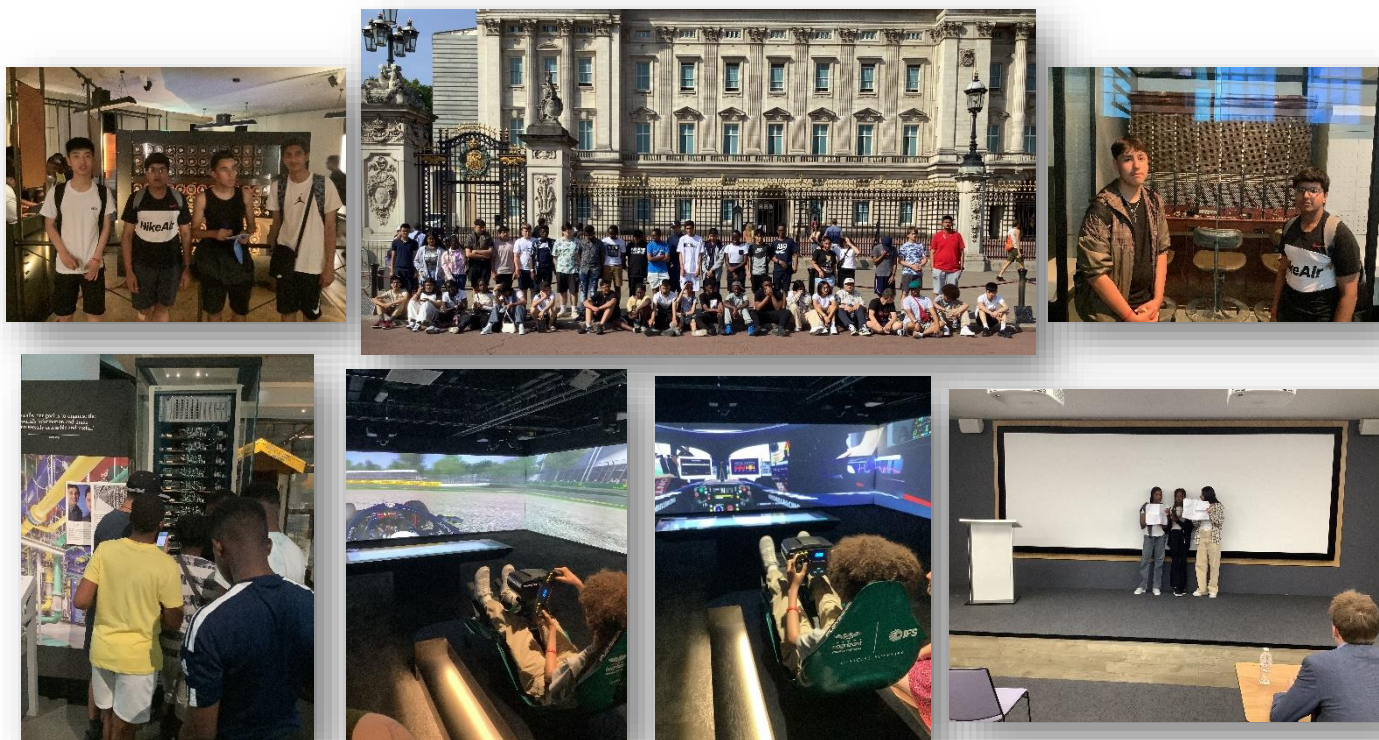
Year 9 London Trip

Monday 18 July to Tuesday 19 July

This week Year 9 Computer Science, IT and Enterprise pupils got to enjoy an overnight visit to London. The trip began with a tour around Bletchley Park, home to some of the machines that cracked the enigma code in WW2 and one of the birthplaces of the modern computer. We then went on to visit the National Science Museum where pupils got to see such exhibits as the Mathematics Winton Gallery, Information Age and Explore Space. The next day began with a bus tour of the Capital City of London. Seeing such sights as Big Ben, the London Eye, Tower of London and London bridge. We were able to hop off and take a few pictures outside of Buckingham Palace and were able to see the Royal Guards on patrol.

The final stop was visiting the Staines-Upon-Thames branch of the international Software Firm IFS. Pupils were given talks about how the firm works and some of the many jobs and customers they have. Pupils had the opportunity to present, to IFS employees, what they had learnt about the past and possible future of Computing and Enterprise. Congratulations to the winning Team who won the opportunity to drive a lap in the hi-tech Formula 1 simulation experience. We want to take this opportunity to thank IFS for sponsoring the trip and allowing the pupils the opportunity to see London, visit their offices and learn more about the world of Computing and Enterprise.

By Mr Rathbone



"I liked the trip as I learnt a lot about the past of computer science. It let me understand how fast technology is developing. It also gave us the idea that technology will develop a lot more in the future." By Rayaan Nawaz 9WIO

"One thing I enjoyed was presenting my thoughts and opinions on the past and future of technology." By Anay Parekh 9GOS

"The good part was when we were actually at IFS and we learnt about the company, what they do, how they do it, who does what and all the different roles they have there." By Rayyaan Afzal 9WIO



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Maths Challenge

KS3 Summer Maths Challenge



Continue showing that you are curious and active...

Prove that you are intentional and prophetic...

Earn points for your house in the new academic year!

"The only way to learn mathematics is to do mathematics."

- Paul Halmos -

Are you up for the challenge?

You will receive an email today with a link to the challenge.

Entries must be submitted by **16th September 2022**.

Mission Statement: 'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'

KS4 Summer Maths Challenge



Continue showing that you are curious and active...

Prove that you are intentional and prophetic...

Earn points for your house in the new academic year!

"The only way to learn mathematics is to do mathematics."

- Paul Halmos -

Are you up for the challenge?

You will receive an email today with a link to the challenge.

Entries must be submitted by **16th September 2022**.

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SOHO HOUSE

Soho House Museum English Language Club

Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5:00pm.

Free, drop-in English Language conversation club at Soho House Museum, Handsworth. Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5:00pm in School Term-Time. Children welcome.

Naadiga Luqadda Ingiriisiga ee bilaashka ah, bilaa ballan ee guriga Soho House, Handsworth. Maalmaha Talaaddada 3.30-5.00 galabnimo Waqtiga Xilli-Dugsiyeedka, bilaabeyaasha ayaa la soo dhawaynayaa.

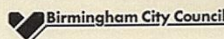
ਸੋਹੋ ਹਾਊਸ, ਹੈਂਡਜ਼ਵਰਥ ਵਿੱਚ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਸਿੱਖਣ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ, ਡਰੌਪ ਇਨ ਇੰਗਲਿਸ਼ ਲੈਂਗੂਏਜ ਕਲੱਬ।
ਸਕੂਲ ਟਰਮ ਟਾਈਮ ਦੌਰਾਨ, ਹਰ ਮੰਗਲਵਾਰ 3.30 ਤੋਂ 5.00 ਵਜੇ ਸ਼ਾਮ, ਨਵੇਂ ਲੋਕ ਆ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ।

হ্যাভসওয়ার্থের সোহো হাউজে বিনামূল্যের, ড্রপ-ইন [অ্যাপয়েন্টমেন্ট ছাড়াই আসতে পারবেন] ইংলিশ ল্যাংগুয়েজ ক্লাব
স্কুল টার্ম টাইমে প্রতি মঙ্গলবার 3.30-5.00pm, নতুনরা স্বাগত।

سوهو ہاؤس، ہینڈزور تھ میں مفت، ڈراپ ان انگلش لینگویج کلب۔
سکول ٹرم ٹائم کے دوران منگل کو سہ پہر 3.30 بجے تا شام 5.00 بجے تک، نئے شروع کرنے والوں کو خوش آمدید۔

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Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

HAPPY, SAFE SUMMER – REMINDER FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

The summer holiday is fast approaching, it is important our students are reminded what we, as a school community, expect of them in terms of behaviour while they are enjoying socialising with friends and family during the break. We also want to ensure they feel confident to keep themselves safe and away from crime and anti-social behaviour.

Parents/carers and students should already be aware that as part of our safeguarding arrangements, the school has a two-way information sharing agreement in place with West Midlands Police, and we are active members of the local Police & Schools Panel. This joint approach helps us to intervene early to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour involving our students and provide support and up-to-date safety messages.

In partnership with the police, we would like to provide some reminders about the following:

- **Personal Safety:**
 - Be aware of your surroundings, take care of friends and family members and keep valuables such as phones out of public view whenever possible.
 - Don't drink alcohol, take illegal drugs or unknown substances; they can have a big impact on your health and safety, behaviour and your ability to do well at school and enjoy other interests and activities. They can also be addictive and have unpredictable side effects, including sudden death! Information is available at www.talktofrank.com
- **Swimming in rivers/reservoirs:** Reservoirs may look inviting, especially on a hot day, but they are extremely dangerous places to swim. If you jump in, you may not be able to get out as the sides are very steep; the water never gets above 11 degrees, and this will affect your ability to breathe and to move. Rivers and reservoirs may contain broken glass and may be deeper than you think.
- **Social Media:** Don't allow your use of social media to put you at risk of grooming, exploitation or regret in future. Use social media positively and avoid being negative about anyone online as comments/actions may be traced back to you and you will be held accountable.
- **Weapons in public places:** Carrying a knife or other weapon will get you a criminal record which can have life-long effects on travel and job prospects. Those who carry knives are also much more likely to be injured by them.
- **Anti-social behaviour:** Think about your actions towards others; a little thought & respect goes a long way.
- **Off-road bikes:** These can only be ridden on private land with the landowner's permission. Don't risk your life and future prospects by illegally riding these on the road.
- **Remember the company you keep:** If your friend breaks the law, you may also be held responsible for that crime – even if you weren't the one directly responsible.



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If a student is in a position where they need help, they should talk to an adult they trust. Crimes can be reported directly to the police via 101; alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org. **If a crime is taking place or a life is in danger, call 999 immediately.**

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer.

Yours faithfully,

K Marston

Miss K Marston
Headteacher
Saint John Wall Catholic School

Mat Shaer
Chief Superintendent - East NPU
West Midlands Police

Richard North
Chief Superintendent - West NPU
West Midlands Police



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