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 1

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 10 September 2021

Catholic Life - Termly theme: Excellence (hard soil)

Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of death.

Amen

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome all pupils back together this week in a covid safe environment. All pupils are now able to mix more than in previous months and school has felt much more like the great environment it used to be before the pandemic. We are of course following all the latest government covid guidelines which prioritise 4 key safety areas. These are:

- 1. <u>Ensure good hygiene for everyone</u>. Pupils continue to sanitise their hands when entering the site, and then regularly throughout the day. They also make use of the outdoor sinks at break and lunchtime. We are also promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' message regarding coughing or sneezing into a tissue.
- 2. <u>Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes</u>. We have continued to employ safety associates who circulate the school site cleaning frequently touched surfaces. This is in addition to our usual cleaning rota.
- 3. <u>Keep occupied spaces well **ventilated**</u>. All classrooms have natural ventilation and teachers are ensuring spaces are well ventilated but still at a comfortable temperature for learning.
- 4. <u>Follow public health advice on testing, Self-isolation</u> <u>and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19</u>. The school testing site has been available for on-site tests. Pupils and staff are encouraged to use the home testing kits twice a week throughout September. We also follow all guidelines regarding isolation of anybody with symptoms, or who tests positive.

Thankyou for your continued support in ensuring that all pupils attend school safely.

Whilst many of you were enjoying the summer break, school was busy. A number of site improvements were overseen by the Site and Business staff, and the school had a deep clean. Three fantastic summer schools took place and Year 11 pupils attended school on 12 August to collect their qualification grades. You can read more about summer school and results day later in this newsletter. A huge thankyou to the many staff who were involved in all the summer holiday events and school improvements.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome our new staff to the Saint John Wall Family. They are: Mr Barnes, Mrs Burrows, Miss Young, Mr Jasat and Mrs Hough. You can read about them later in this newsletter.

Finally, we have put in place a contingency plan for any future lockdowns or restrictions that may occur during this academic year. The contingency plan includes reverting to remote learning via Teams. There will be a remote learning preparation day calendared later this term so that we can ensure a smooth and effective transition for all pupils should the need arise.

Have a good weekend

Miss Marston

Headteacher



Oxhill Road Handsworth Birmingham B21 8HH

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Examination Results 2021

It was great to see leavers 2021 collect their examination results this summer. There were some fantastic performances across the school, a few of the many brilliant grades awarded are below:

Fritz Bayong was awarded 4 grade 9, 2 grade 8 and 3 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

Amandeep Bhamra was awarded 2 grade 8 and 7 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

Ehsan Mohammed was awarded 2 grade 9, 1 grade 8 and 5 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

Irene Jain was awarded 8 grade 9 and 1 grade 8 GCSE qualifications.

Callum Khan was awarded 1 grade 9, 7 grade 8 and 1 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

Esha Kumari was awarded 2 grade 9, 4 grade 8 and 3 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

David Lemvoka was awarded 1 grade 9, 4 grade 8 and 4 grade 7 GCSE qualifications.

Overall 41% of pupils were awarded a 9-5 grade in English and Maths, this was 59% at grades 9-4. Well done to all pupils and staff for working so hard and achieving so highly. We wish our leavers luck and happiness in the next stage of their education.

By Mr John





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Mrs Burrows - Trainee Teacher of English

"My name is Mrs. Burrows, I am a trainee English teacher here at Saint John Wall. I am originally from New York City, I moved to England to study for my MSc and am now finishing up my PhD at the University of Leicester.

I am teaching Years 7, 8, 9 and 11. I look forward to learning more about my pupils and working through the English curriculum with them. In Year 9 we are studying Jane Eyre, which is one of my favourite novels!"



Miss Young - Casual Cover Supervisor

"Hello! I'm Miss Young and some of you may recognise me as I was a trainee PE teacher in the summer term last year! Alongside this, I am now a cover supervisor and look forward to teaching you in other subjects. I can't wait to endeavour to encourage learners to participate in activities to develop their learning and lifelong skills!"



Mr Jasat - Trainee Teacher of Maths

"I'm Mr Jasat and I am a trainee mathematics teacher. I aim to help as many pupils as I can realise and reach their potential, so they can access all the opportunities that a maths GCSE can provide for them. I look forward to getting to know or teaching as many of you as possible and travelling this journey with you."



Mr Barnes – Science Teacher

"Hello all, my roles are a teacher of Science and form tutor. I have a Year 8 form and am looking forward to getting to know all of the pupils. I am a firm believer in the SJW values which I will use to help the pupils learn, not only about Science, but life as a whole and personal development."



Mrs Hough - DLP Coordinator

"My name is Mrs Hough. I come to SJW as a qualified SENCO and teacher of Science and English. My passion is inclusion and making sure every child has a champion to enable them to have the best life chances and succeed. I am looking forward to engaging and empowering young people to become passionate enthusiasts for reading and literacy. I want all learners to be happy and safe in school and to have learner resilience to build their confidence in accessing a broad and balanced curriculum."



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Head of Year 10 Message

Hello Year 10 and welcome back, I hope you had a restful summer holiday and were able to spend this with your family and friends safely. You have all now been taking your GCSE and BTEC lessons for a year and should now be well underway with gathering the evidence and soaking up the knowledge that will set you up for your future.

<u>This year</u>

During this school year I would like you all to really focus and continue with the positive attitude towards school and your education that we left with last year. You are all now more mature and hopefully even more focused on gaining the knowledge that will help with your qualifications. It would also be nice to see you participating across the school in wider activities such as clubs and house competitions - our year group now has House Captains and they will be sure to get you involved in the activities. Do your house proud!

The school day - for Year 10 ONLY - is as follows

School gates open- 08:20AM (Breakfast available, Wash hands, Go to the playground near the Chapel and use toilets by English)

Form- 08:50 - 09:15 Lesson- 1- 9:15 - 10:30 Break time- 10:30 10:45- (Go to the playground near the Chapel and use the toilets by English) Lesson 2- 10:45 - 12:00 Lesson 3- 12:00 - 13:15 Lunch- 13:15 - 13:45 (Use toilets by Head of Year office) Lesson 4- 13:45 - 15:00

It is important that you follow the one-way system around school and ensure that you are using the allocated toilets at the correct times to ensure we are staying Covid-19 safe. Please ensure you are on time to school and leave the playground promptly when the bell rings - we do not want you to miss out on valuable lesson time!

<u>Uniform</u>

It is important that your school uniform is perfect. We are setting the professional standards that will be expected in many work places. It is a good habit to get into making sure you look smart and presentable.

With the changing weather and the unpredictability of the weather we would like you to be wearing you school shirts and blazers (jumpers optional). You can no longer wear your summer uniform (the blue polo) unless it is for your P.E lessons.

Your school shoes must be exactly that, not trainers - they must not have logos on them.

If you are in need of a school bag then please come and see one of the Heads of Year and we will be able to provide you with one.

I hope you all have a wonderful start to school and are well prepared for the year ahead. There are exciting times to come.

By Miss Reynolds

Head of Year 9 Message

Welcome back to our new school year; it has been great to see you fresh and ready for the year ahead. Our first Collective Worship was a great success, in terms of attentiveness, but also your excellent attitude and behaviour. Please keep and maintain this!

You have been emailed the behaviour contracts, please check your school email, and complete the form (link is provided). Should you be experiencing any issues uploading the form, please come to see me. The set deadline for completion is Monday 20 September 2021.

Please have all your school equipment with you every day and be in full school uniform at all times. We went through the uniform dress code in detail during the week, and please speak to your form tutor, if you are not sure or have any questions.

Our school day is as follows:

08:50 - 09:15 - Form Time 09:15 - 10:30 - Period One 10:30 - 10:45 - Break 10:45 - 12:00 - Period Two 12:00 - 13:15 - Period Three 13:15 - 13:45 - Lunch 13:45 - 15:00 - Period Four

Let's rise to the challenge and be motivated and ambitious with strong team spirit, as no matter who you are or what you look like, you can write your own destiny.

By Mr Hussain

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Year 11 Co-ordinator Messages

My name is Miss Fox-Roberts, I am an RE teacher and one of the Year 11 Co-ordinators, my focus will be working with those of you who have poor attendance, and working closely with you all as a year to help with your career paths and your life aspirations.

I will be setting up intervention groups with key pupils who may need more support with attendance, I will be working closely with the prefects, sorting duties ad extra-curricular tasks for those pupils. I will also be planning the PROM!!!

You have a challenging and exciting year ahead of you, this means you need to be prepared, as preparation is key to succeeding. You need to be at school everyday at 8:50 ready for your form, to get key information about the current week, you are also in subject specific forms to help support you in any area of weakness.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all in Year 11 and working with you during your final year at Saint John Wall.

Please come to our office opposite T2 and say hello :)

By Miss Fox-Roberts

My name is Mr Brooks and I will be responsible for motivating you as a year group in order for you to achieve the best grades possible. I strongly believe that this year group is capable of achieving magnificent results and collectively therefore, there is no reason why this cannot happen. As this is the most important year in your SJW school career, it is vital that you start the year on the front foot, and ensure that you have all the relevant resources ready for this challenging year such as the right equipment, and ensuring that uniform is of a high standard.

Whatever you put into this year, is what you will get out!! Whenever you feel you need to have a chat or just some encouragement with your work, feel free to email me and we can arrange to have an informal conversation in the pastoral office.

I look forward to working with you this year, and together we can make this year a success.

By Mr Brooks

Head of Year 7 Message

My name is Mrs Ellis and I am Head of Year 7. It has been wonderful getting to know you this past week and being a part of your first steps on your journey with us at Saint John Wall Catholic School. I would like to congratulate you all on your exceptional behaviour throughout this first week and look forward to the coming weeks as we get to know one another better.

As always, we have high standards within school to ensure that everyone settles quickly and can access their learning. Can we please ensure that pupils are in their WINTER uniform. This includes a white shirt, tie and blazer. Trousers or skirts can be worn but please ensure that skirts are at knee length.

Pupils will be told on Monday which day they will need to bring in their PE kit. Please ensure that you have all of your equipment with you each day. Try to pack your bag the night before.

The timings of the school day are as follows for Year 7:

Registration 8.50am- Please ensure you arrive before this time. The school gates open at 8.20am and a breakfast service is available.

Lesson 1- 9.15am-10.30am

Break- 10.30am-10.45am Pupils may bring in a small snack or purchase one from the school canteen.

Lesson 2- 10.45am-12pm

Lunch- 12pm-12.30pm - Parents please note that you can add money to your child's account via Parent Pay should you wish. Letters for your Parent Pay accounts were sent home on Monday.

Lesson 3- 12.30pm-1.45pm Lesson 4- 1.45pm- 3pm

Water is available at break and lunchtime, and we would advise pupils to bring in a reusable bottle which they can refill at these times.

Next week we have the opportunity for parents to visit the school and speak to their child's Form Tutor. Text messages have been sent out and the details are below. If you have any questions or would like to speak to your child's Form Tutor this would be an excellent chance to do so. Parents are asked to enter the hall via the side entrance through the carpark. Monday 13 September 7HAY Mr Hayaat 2.30-3pm Tuesday 14 September 7PEJ Mr Pejatta 2.30-3pm Wednesday 15 September 7COB Mr Cockburn 2.30-3pm Thursday 16 September 7PAW Mrs Pawlowska 2.30-3pm Friday 17 September 7FOR Miss Forbes 2.30-3pm

By Mrs Ellis



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Head of Year 8 Message

Welcome back Year 8 from your Summer holidays, I hope you all managed to have a wonderful, restful break.

I am Mrs Chand and will be your Head of Year, please do not hesitate to contact me should you need to ask any questions.

It was lovely to see you all on Tuesday looking exceptionally smart in your full uniform. Make sure this continues for the rest of the year. We had our first Collective Worship yesterday and I was very happy the way the Year group showed great maturity coming into the hall.

Please remember the timings of the day and continue to follow the one-way system in school and to stay on your own playground during break and lunchtime.

Tutor time 8.50am – 9.15am

Lesson 1- 9.15am-10.30am Break- 10.30am-10.45am Lesson 2- 10.45am-12pm Lunch- 12pm-12.30pm Lesson 3- 12.30pm-1.45pm Lesson 4- 1.45pm- 3pm

I am very excited to be working with Year 8 pupils this year and look forward to getting to know you.

Take care and have a lovely weekend.

By Mrs Chand



Have you ever wondered how to deal with mental health and anxiety?

Here are some top tips from the pastoral team to help you out!

- 3. Keep Active! 20 minutes of light activity a day is enough to boost your mood. The endorphins released will make you feel happy, sleep better and concentrate more.
- Keep hydrated. Make sure that you are drinking water throughout your day. Bring in a reusable water bottle and refill it at break or lunch time. Keep fizzy pop/sugary drinks to a minimum and avoid caffeine.
- 5. Make a 'to do' list. Set yourself small goals to achieve each day to put you back in control. All the small wins matter and take you one step further than before.

- 1. Keep your bedroom tidy and clutter free. Walking into your room with your bed made and the floor free of clutter will boost your mood when you arrive home from a busy day at school.
- Talk to others. If you don't quite feel yourself have a chat with a parent/carer/family member or our staff about it, don't keep it bottled in!

By Mrs Ellis

Pupil Safety and Welfare

We want pupils to feel safe and secure here at Saint John Wall Catholic School. We will continue to raise awareness of the dangers of banned items and the consequences. Therefore, we shall be working with pupils to ensure that they are aware of any dangers and any risk to their life and others. To support this, we shall be spot checking pupils as well as using a metal detector in school as appropriate during the course of the year in line with our behaviour policy.

By Mrs Crooks

BANNED ITEM - GEEKBAR

Geekbars are the new trend in vaping. These are aimed at young people with inviting colours and a range of flavours. They contain nicotine which is an addictive drug and harmful to health. People must be 18 years and over to purchase a GEEKBAR. Pupils found in possession of a GEEKBAR, any variation of a vape or ecigarette or smoking paraphernalia will be excluded from school for a fixed period of time.

By Miss Timmins



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Year 7 Summer School

Who am I? How can I experience joy and bring joy to others?

Coding

Year 7 (now our Year 8) pupils had a fantastic time over the summer holidays taking part in activities to develop their creativity, resilience, team working skills and confidence. Their activities consisted of Art, Drama, Steel Pans, Sports Day, Shakespeare in a Box, Space Rockets, Engineering, Coding, Cooking and an Inflatable Assault Course. It's safe to say that the pupils had a fantastic time with their friends old and new and really enjoyed meeting our new Year 7 pupils (then in Year 6) who have started with us this week. Pupils said throughout the week that they didn't want to leave and they wished the week was longer. That is due to the hard work and dedication of the staff at Saint John Wall making the experience so special and memorable for them.

Our theme for the week was: Who am I? How can I experience joy and bring joy to others? Pope Francis says:

"The true joy experienced in the family is not something casual or accidental. It is a joy born of the profound harmony among persons, which gives us a taste of the beauty of being together, of supporting one another along the journey of life"

Throughout the week, as a family we reflected on this and we encouraged pupils to think about how they can experience joy in their activities and how they could also bring joy to those activities for their peers.

By Mrs Breslin

Saint John Wall school welcomed 30 Year 6 pupils for summer school fun at the end of July. The pupils were able to get to know the school and each other whilst building cars, rockets, and planets. They also participated in the fun sports day with the Year 7s and made new friends. When asked, most pupils said that their favourite activity was the bouncy castle assault course on Friday.

By Mrs Johnson



Engineering-Racing Cars



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We did some pupil voice based on their personal development at the start and the end of the week:





A special thank you to: Mr Hulme, Miss Flinn, Miss Restauri, Mr Mclernan, Mr Moran, Miss Lai, Miss Boora, Miss Cummings, Miss Fox-Roberts, Miss Quinn, Mr Hayaat, Miss Jones, Mr Brooks, Mr Simmons, Miss Guest, Mrs Johnson, Mr Esmaili, Mr Clarke and the site team for contributing to a wonderful Summer Fun experience.



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Year 8

Summer of Fun 2021

The week beginning the 26 July, 30 Year 8 (now our Year 9) pupils attended this year's Summer of Fun event organised by the staff of Saint John Wall. The aim of the week was for our pupils to think and consider what type of person they are or who they want to be moving into the most important years of their time at SJW. Throughout the week, pupils took part in a range of activities that allowed them to be creative, be challenged and work as a team in sessions that they may have never done before. The week consisted of events such as Gardening, Coding, Shakespeare in a Box, Solve the Mystery and we ended the week celebrating who we are with Steel Pans, Art and an Inflatable Assault Course. Through this week the pupils were not only reflecting on who they are but they were developing skills that they can take forward into their education and further.

I am so glad that this week was a success and ran smoothly! It was a pleasure to organise it and I would like to thank my fantastic team (Miss Lake, Mr Simmons, Mr Woodward, Miss Flinn, Mr McLernan, Mrs Mann, Mrs Habibullah, Mr Hayatt, Mr Hussain, Miss Quinn, Miss Lai, Miss Pollock, Miss Mubashar, Miss Boora and Mr Moran, Mr Clarke and the Site Team) for all their hard work and contributions into making this week happen. I would not have been able to do it without their support. I hope the Year 8 pupils enjoyed it as much as we did.

It is so important as an individual to consider what type of person you are or you would like to be especially moving forward in not only your education but in life. Throughout this week, we reflected on different key characteristics of a person and what God calls us to be and how we can go into society being the best person we can.









By Miss Cummings





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Pupils took the time at the start and end of the week to reflect on what kind of person they are or who they have become through a series of statements.





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Bucket 3- Enrichment Activities

Autumn Term Enrichment

1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Music Peri	Music lessons take place in the school day and you will be allocated a time for each week. <u>Please see Mrs Crooks</u> if you need a letter to sign up. Lessons are run by the Birmingham Music Service and are charged at less than £50 per term of up to 15 lessons. That's £3.33 per lesson what a bargain!!				
Lessons		Years 7-9 Steel Pans Guitar Drums	Years 7-9 Key Board- TBC		Years 7-9 Dohl Drums- TBC
Lunch Time				Year 7&8 Engineering- work on your class project Mr Penfold T6	
After School 3pm- 4pm	Years 7-9 Code Club Mr Rathbone Room 3 Year 7 and 8 Football Club Mr Brooks & Miss Reynolds Year 7 and 8 Netball Club Teacher (TBC)	Staff Meetings	House Competitions Specific Year Groups Miss Cummings Year 9 & 10 Football Club - Mr Owen / Mr Parekh Year 9 & 10 Netball Club Teacher (TBC) Year 9 Music Jam Session Keyboards, Drums, Guitar, Classical, Reggae, Hip Hop, Gospel. Mrs Crooks/Ms Brooks Music room	Saint John Wall School Team Sports Fixtures	Year 7 –9 Cooking Club Miss Bibi T1 Year 7 & 8 Drama Club Miss Cummings Drama Studio Year 7 – 9 Art Club Mrs Restauri Room 1

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Morrisons Free Equipment

If you shop at Morrisons please donate any Grow Tokens to Saint John Wall via the Morrisons app or website. We will then use any equipment to maintain the Memorial Garden and for other pupil gardening projects around the school.



Morrisons.com



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SJW YOU ARE INVITED TO THE MACMILLAN BAKE SALE 2021!

When: 24th September 2021 Where: The Playground at Break Time

Staff and Pupils can donate as many cakes and sweet treats as they wish but you must make sure that they are individually wrapped!

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Please drop donations off with your form teachers or Miss Cummings before 23rd September

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CANCER SUPPORT