

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 14

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Thursday 16 December 2021

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

Termly theme: Excellence (hard soil)

Termly SJW values - Attentive and Discerning

Dear God, As we come to the end of the Autumn term 2021, help us reflect on our experiences from the past year. Encourage us in the new year, to be attentive to the needs of others and discerning of your calling to us. Help us to bring light, hope & joy to the lives of all those around us. Challenge us to do this as we end this year and look ahead to a new one. Amen

Message from the Chair of Governors

'Tis the season to be jolly'

You'd be excused for not thinking so though as we endure not only darker mornings and afternoons but also storms and most alarmingly the on-going spread of the Omicron variant. It is the Season of Advent however when we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. There is much therefore to look forward to and to be thankful for.

During these extremely challenging times safeguarding, in all its aspects, remains our main priority. Miss Marston and our brilliant staff continue to work unstintingly to make sure our pupils are able to attend school and be taught and cared for in a safe environment. We owe them all a massive debt of gratitude.

I'd like to take this opportunity also to mention Mr Uddin, the site staff, cleaners and safety associates. Sometimes with all that goes on we can take for granted their tireless and repetitive work. I know Miss Marston and the rest of the staff appreciate their efforts but I hope they know that as governors we too thank them for their diligence and attention to detail.

Great credit also goes to the pupils for their co-operation during these very strange times. I know from the feedback they've given how much they enjoy school. Despite all that happens in the outside world pupils say they feel valued and well looked after by the staff of the school.

To ensure this continues Miss Marston is starting next term on the first Wednesday of the New Year, 5 January. On that day pupils attend school only in the morning. They will be given a Covid 19 test before then returning home. It is really important too that children are tested regularly during the Christmas holidays using the home test kits the school has provided this week. If we think back to the beginning of last January the government suddenly announced all schools were to remain closed after the Christmas and New Year holidays. This might happen again if the effect of the Omicron variant has even more serious effects. Keep up to date by looking at our superb website to get further advice and guidance.

Regarding the work of the governors there has been little progress about our joining a Multi-Academy Company (MAC). Just last weekend I received a message from the Diocesan Education Service (DES) in which they admitted progress across the Archdiocese had been slow and that some schools still remain unconvinced about academy conversion. The DES also said their communication with schools needs improving. Early in January a map is promised including nominating the MAC we are encouraged to join by next September. I shall of course keep you updated if there is any progress.

Before I finish I wish to pass on the good wishes of all members of the school community, past and present, to Miss Allen. As one of our longest serving members of staff thousands of pupils and hundreds of colleagues, Miss Allen is held in the highest regard. I know from personal experience there is no better Maths teacher anywhere than Miss Allen. Nor more loyal a servant of Saint John Wall Catholic School. We all hope to see her up and about again before too long.



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As 2021 draws to a close, on behalf of the governors I wish you and your families a safe and peaceful Christmas. Please continue to take care of yourselves and each other. I look forward to being in touch with you in 2022. Until then I'll end with this prayer:

*Almighty God, we turn to you in hope as Christmas approaches. May our roots extend deep into the soil of faith and spread outwards in sharing the Good News and promise of Christ's coming. Amen.
Saint John Wall, pray for us.*

By Martin Jones - Chair of Governors



Important Dates

Trips

- **University of Worcester – Year 10 & 11**
Monday 10 January 2022 – 8.50am to 3pm

Assessment Week

- **Year 10 Assessment Week**
Monday 17 January 2022 to Friday 21 January 2022

New Term Begins

- **School Open to Pupils for Testing**
Wednesday 5 January between 9.00am and 12.00 midday for covid testing only, then straight home.
- **School Open for normal lessons**
Thursday 6 January 2022

Goodbye and Good Luck

We would like to say thankyou to some staff who are leaving at the end of this term. It has been a pleasure to have them working here at Saint John Wall.

- Ms Jama - Temporary Science Technician who is moving to pastures new.
- Mrs H Kaur – Cleaner who is moving to pastures new.
- Miss Jacobs - RE trainee who has come to the end of her placement.

Thankyou for all your hard work at the school. We wish you all the best for the future.

We would also like to wish Mrs Restauri the best of luck as she is starting Maternity leave after Christmas.

Thankyou to everybody who donated generously to our food bank and Saint Chad's Sanctuary appeals this year. I look forward to seeing many pupils return on Wednesday 5 January for a covid 19 test. Then school fully re-opens for lessons for all pupils on Thursday 6 January.

We wish all members of our community a very Happy Christmas and New Year. At the end of this newsletter you will find some useful information about food banks, bereavement support and other agencies that may be helpful to you over the Christmas period. Christmas free school meal vouchers have also been issued by the school to those who qualify.

Enjoy the holiday.

By Miss Marston



Catholic Life

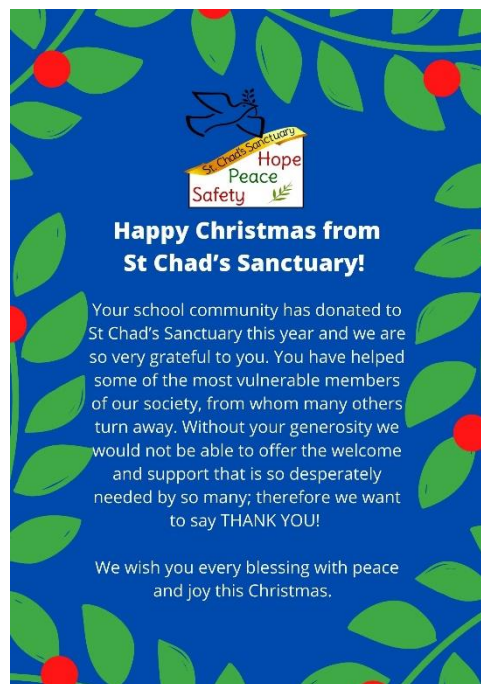
Saint Chad's Sanctuary Visit

This Advent, staff and pupils focused on supporting others in our local community. Throughout December, staff donated food, toiletries, clothing, and shoes to support refugees and asylum seekers in Birmingham to making a safe and fresh start in our city. A huge thanks go to Mrs Chand and Mrs D Kaur specifically, who donated generously to the appeal.

Our Year 7 SVP group visited St Chad's Sanctuary and were able to tour the building and gain insight into the experience of those seeking sanctuary in our city. They will continue to hear and respond to the needs of others throughout the school year by leading in Collective Worship and continuing their efforts to provide for the vulnerable in our society.



Thank you to our staff and SVP group for promoting one of Jesus' key teachings: "I was a stranger and you made me welcome" (Matthew 25:35)



SVP Foodbank Campaign

Several members of our SVP group went to visit a local food bank in their own time after school to understand more about the work that takes place in supporting our local community of Handsworth. They came into school full of ambition with one goal in mind, to raise awareness of the growing need for food banks and to encourage others to stand up and help where they can. Through posters and a video campaign the SVP were able to reach pupils and parents and encourage donations of canned goods and toiletries. We received over 400 donations within 3 weeks which have all been donated to Aspire Foodbank on Oxhill Road. We are very proud of our student leaders and grateful to all who have donated during the past few weeks.

Christmas Service

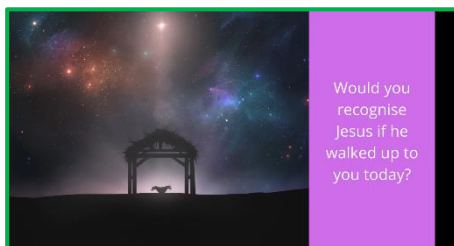
Our Christmas Service focused on the Advent wreath this year with pupils reflecting on hope, peace, joy and love. Thank you to our Year 8 readers Hannah Nyika, Zaakir Hussain, Francis Idemudia, Abi Brown, Elisa Breton-Johnson and Teniola Adekunle-Olayiwola for all your hard work this past week in rehearsals and filming. A special thank you also to our Year 7 singing group who performed a beautiful rendition of 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter' and to Akeyo Cunningham for his portrayal of John the Baptist. We also enjoyed the delights of our steel drummers who performed 'Mary's Boy Child' to end our celebration. Thank you to Elizabeth Ajayi, Zephaniah Lebert, Francis Idemudia, Jasmine London, Malkia Reid and Daisy Idemudia.

By Mrs Ellis

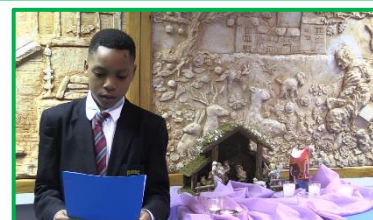




Christmas Service – Video



Advent is a time for
preparation and
peace



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Christmas Jumper Day

Last week Friday was wear a Christmas Jumper day or 1 item of non-school uniform to raise funds for the purchase of a school defibrillator. As you can see from the images below the staff and pupils really got into the spirit of Christmas and we raised **£512.67** including a donation from Mrs Forde, one of our members of staff.

Well done to everyone who contributed!



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Christmas Jumper Day



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Christmas Card Competition Winners

This year we had a large number of entries and it was difficult to choose just one design from the wonderful designs. We therefore decided to pick 5 winners, and all 5 designs featured on our Christmas cards that have been hand delivered by our pupils to our local community today. Well done to all pupils who entered.



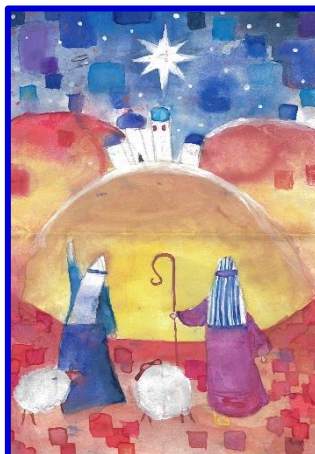
Designed by Stefania Holodeair 8BRK



Designed by Diya Chana 8TOW



Designed by Sarah Manu 8MCI



Designed by
Sakshi Mahey 9JON



Designed by
Hannah Khan 9JON





Christmas Card Delivery to our School Neighbours



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House News

Highest Earning Pupils - Term One

Gandhi

Connie Grant (10HAR)	252
Erica Fosua Agyemang (7FOR)	191
Francis Idemudia (8TOW)	187
Peter Pham (9WIO)	165

John Paul

Sarah Manu (8MCI)	223
Harsh Kumar (7COB)	214
Emmanuel Ifeosome (9OWE)	211
Sahar Stosray (10ESM)	179

Pankhurst

Crystabel Owusu (10HAB) 238	
Hannah Nyika (8BRK)	229
Yanis Miguel Nchang (9GOS)	173
Valentina Opoku (7HAY)	139

Luther King

Cairo Herbert (9HEA/BUR)	190
Beatrice Tofei (10FOD/MAN)	181
Deborah Fadola (8BAR)	179
Richard Oye (7PAW)	166

Mandela

Grace Irwin (8RES)	216
Veer Kaura (7PEJ)	213
Jakub Borawski (9GOS)	182
Olamide	168
Adekunte-Olayiwola (10PAR)	

The Leaderboard

Pankhurst	13630		
Mandela	13349		
Gandhi	12374		
Luther King	12189	John Paul	10929

House Competition: The Christmas Project

This Christmas our forms have been getting creative and creating/building their own Nativity Scene or Jesse Tree on the lead up to Christmas. Year 7 created their own spin on the Nativity Scene while Years 8-10 have been creating something new this Christmas, The Jesse Tree. It has been a great competition and was definitely a hard one to judge but here are the results:

Year 7:

5th = 7HAY, 4th = 7PAW, 2nd = 7COB+7PEJ, 1st = 7FOR

Year 8:

5th = 8MCI, 4th = 8BRK, 3rd = 8BAR, 2nd = 8HUL, 1st = 8TOW

Year 9:

5th = 9HEA, 4th = 9JON, 3rd = 9GOS, 2nd = 9WIO, 1st = 9OWE

Year 10:

5th = 10HAR, 4th = 10FOD, 3rd = 10HAB, 1st = 10ESM + 10PAR

House Competition: The Playground Challenge

During their lunch time, KS3 have been getting competitive in this term's 'Playground Challenge'. This brought the forms together to compete in a series of sporting tournaments. The results are below:

Year 7:

3rd = 7COB, 7PAW + 7HAY, 2nd = 7FOR, 1st = 7PEJ

Year 8:

4th = 8BRK + 8BAR, 3rd = 8MCI, 2nd = 8HUL, 1st = 8TOW

'I really enjoyed working as a team and getting competitive playing basketball with the other forms' – By David Ejiofor (8TOW)

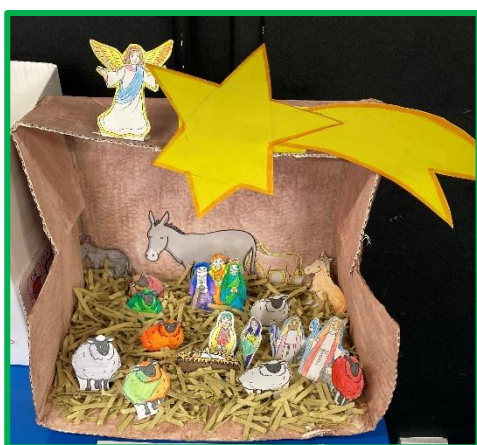




Year 7 Nativity Project

"I found Creating the nativity scene exciting but also very promising because we were able to create realistic elements from the scene of Jesus being born." By Eliyah Salim 7PEJ

"I enjoyed the teamwork included for the nativity scene and the creativity that had been used. I was very happy with our final project." By Maja Majrowska 7FOR



7PAW



7FOR

Winner



7PEJ



7COB



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Year 8 Jesse Tree Project

"I found creating the Jesse Tree fun and different from creating the Nativity Scene last year. I also liked how we got to work as a team as this meant I could work with people I don't usually work/speak to." **By Ameira Peart 8MCI**

"I really enjoyed working as a form to create a Jesse Tree. We made ours very colourful and learnt about different parts of the Jesse Tree." **By Kellianne Levande 8BAR**



8BAR



8BRK



8HUL



8MCI



8TOW

Winner



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Year 9 Jesse Tree Project

"At first I found creating the Jesse Tree difficult as I didn't fully know what it was but I did enjoy learning about the different parts of the Jesse Tree and working as a team." **By Hasan Muhammad 9GOS**

"I enjoyed this year's Christmas house competition as it was different. I liked working as a team and making sure we included everything." **By Sebastian Paul 9HEA**



9GOS



9JON



9WIO

Winner



9OWE



9HEA



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Year 10 Jesse Tree Project

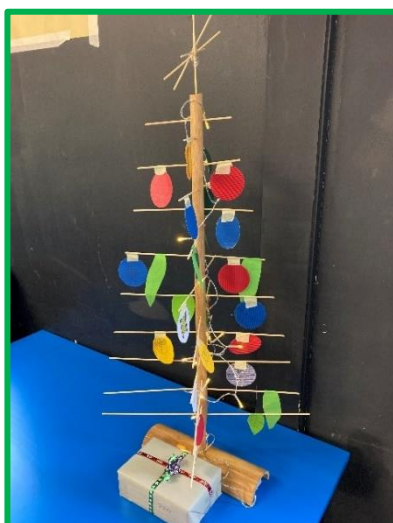
"I enjoyed working as a team and I really liked how our project turned out in the end. I liked how this project was a different way at looking at advent." **By Jaspreet Kaur 10PAR**

"I enjoyed working as a form and decorating the tree." **By Timothy Renju 10PAR**

**Joint
Winner**



10ESM



10FOD



10HAB



10HAR



10PAR

**Joint
Winner**



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Head of Year Messages

Head of Year 7 Message

This week we have celebrated our Super Saints as a Year group. Well done to everyone in Year 7 for your amazing achievements!

Star of the Term Award

Erica Fosua Agyemang
Harsh Kumar
Borys Morawski

Kodi Jack Brown
Kayden Tran

Vocations Award - Hearing and responding to what God calls me to be

Precious Illori
Godson Omenma
Sham Mehari-Gebremichal

Priya Chem
Ryan Kanna

Resilience Award

Kyreese Williams
Shamelia McLean
Carlisle Co

Yakob Binyam
Arjan Badhan

Three Steps to Success Award- Excellence, Achievement, Respect

Elijah Salimi
Arjun Singh
Ellie-May Middleton

Noah Paul
Greg Mwakatobe

School Values Award- Attentive and Discerning

Imogen Babalola
Maria Tibuleac
Darling Dikoko
Maya Borkowska
Richard Oye
Imwenoghomwen Imadonmwinyi

Ishmael Clarke
Kamari Nguyen
Veer Kaura
Daiana Mancescu

Friendship Ambassador Award

Kritika Basra
Paul Odey
Maya Karwanska
Maja Majakowska
Kyh-Shayn Douglas
Bhagwant Singh
Africa Beauty Garcia George

Isabella Gill
Deborah Agbolade
Isaac Kidane
Arashjit Singh
Nigel Mthinsi
Rako Hussain

100% Attendance with no lates

All pupils who achieved 100% attendance and no lates this term were invited to watch a Christmas film with Mrs Ellis along with drinks and popcorn. The pupils really enjoyed watching Christmas Chronicles on Friday afternoon, it was a lovely treat!



By Mrs Ellis



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Head of Year Messages

Head of Year 10 Message

Hello Year 10, I am proud of all you have accomplished this term, it was an absolute pleasure to award certificates and rewards from the recent Saints League celebration collective worship.

Well done to those who have moved on up through the saints league and who have continued to be super saints.

Head of Year 8 Message

It is that time of year again where we will be heading into the Christmas Holidays and I will be asking parents/carers to make sure pupils and their families are staying safe over the festive period. Please continue to use the home testing kits to test for Covid regularly during this period.

This week we have been celebrating the pupils through our Saints League Collective Worship. Not only were we celebrating pupils' achievement with attendance and behaviour we were also celebrating pupils who have accumulated a huge amount of house point positives for working to the best of their ability. I was able to give many certificates and prizes to pupils. Attendance certificates were given to pupils with 100% attendance and no lates in school which is an amazing achievement. I am looking forward to more pupils improving their attendance in the New Year as this will have a positive impact on your education by being in school every day and continuing to be punctual.

Have a wonderful restful holiday and if you are celebrating Christmas enjoy the festivities.

As always please be safe and look after each other.

By Mrs Chand

Head of Year 9 Message

As we reach the end of this year and school term, I can proudly say our year group have shown great resilience and played a part in maintaining our strong school values. This year (2021) will go down as the time when Year 9 showed strong adaptability and organisational skills, and this includes maintaining social distance, Microsoft Teams lessons and the return to classroom learning with maturity.

Yesterday was your successful Parents Afternoon, and I hope you had the opportunity to speak with your subject teachers and are now planning your strategy to reach / maintain / go above your targets. Independent learning and self-motivation are the key for you to reach your goals!

It has been great to see the extracurricular activities you have participated in and around school and during form time your excellent Christmas House competition entries - well done to you all.

During the half term please keep safe and follow the local guidelines and this will help you in returning to school in the new year refreshed.

"If you want the rainbow, you've got to put up with the rain"

Seasonal greetings.

By Mr Hussain

BRONZE SAINTS

Tobi Babalola	10HAR	Noe Maleyombo	10FOD
Jannat Begum	10ESM	Logan Phillips-Robinson	10ESM
Armani Christie	10ESM	Daniel Slowikowski	10HAR
Ayesha Kaur	10ESM	Amari Smith	10PAR
Zoiya Kaval	10HAR	Azailea Tweede	10HAB
Gerrard Kelly	10ESM	Dashawn Walker	10PAR
Leona Kollarova	10HAB		

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

SILVER SAINTS

Rayaan Akbar	10FOD	Brajes Lal	10HAR
Mohammed Asad	10FOD	Rain Love	10PAR
Sashae Black	10FOD	Dylan Masih	10ESM
Dylan Cutler	10PAR	Himna Mustafa	10HAR
Daniel Dinu	10ESM	Mekiah Nesbeth	10HAB
Ria Droch	10FOD	Ronny Nkuidjeu	10HAR
Shea Fleming	10HAB	Dominik Ostrowski	10HAR
Shanay Graham	10ESM	Jaydon Porter	10FOD
Jahmone Hamilton	10HAB	Malika Rahman	10PAR
Jarhle Ingram	10ESM	Asher Rogers	10FOD
Neeraj Kaler	10HAR	Chetan Sohal	10FOD
Manjot Kaur	10PAR	Alvin Titah	10FOD
Manmeet Khosa	10ESM	Samuel Wren	10HAB

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GOLD SAINTS 1

Olamide Adekunle-Olayiwola	10PAR	Deborah Gebrekristos	10HAR
Abid Ali	10FOD	Amrita Gill	10ESM
Subhan Ali	10PAR	Connie Grant	10HAR
Mohammed Asaan	10PAR	Arnav Grewal	10HAR
Rayhan Ayoub	10HAR	Ali Hamad	10HAB
Leah Badhan	10FOD	Mohammed Hamzah	10PAR
Mohit Badhan	10FOD	Kymani Harvey	10HAR
Tyreike Bailey	10FOD	Nadwa Hassan	10PAR
Amelia Baldyga	10HAB	Meerab Hussain	10HAB
Jacobie Baruti	10FOD	Ivie Imadonwinyi	10ESM
Naima Choudhury	10FOD	Moses Johnson	10FOD
Andrej - Petru Dahorea	10HAB	Ketrin Joniova	10FOD
Darin Diako	10ESM	Jaspreet Kaur	10PAR
Said Fouenang Abba Kaka	10FOD	Varlin Kaur	10HAB
Tyrese Francis	10HAR	Alyba Khan	10PAR
Anthony Frimpong	10ESM	Taybah Khan	10HAB

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GOLD SAINTS 2

Mahesh Korotania	10PAR	Upen Rohilla	10HAB
Bianca Emuke Lole	10HAR	Navraj Sabharwal	10FOD
Daniel McDonough	10ESM	Jaskarn Sampla	10ESM
Sadiq Miah	10FOD	Alisha Shafiq	10HAB
Samuel Milligan	10HAR	Theo Shelley	10ESM
Julia Moszczynska	10ESM	Yuvraj Singh Shergill	10HAB
Natalia Moszczynska	10PAR	Rajan Shoker	10ESM
Samiya Muhamed	10HAR	Jannatpreet Singh	10HAB
Kiet Nguyen	10HAR	Ravjot Singh	10PAR
Mateusz Nowak	10HAR	Yuvraj Singh	10ESM
Roland Ofori	10PAR	Te'Airey-Zidane Stennett	10HAR
Rachel Ohene-Williams	10FOD	Sahar Stosray	10ESM
Victoria Omoze Ufumwen	10HAR	Simran Tiwana	10HAB
Nojus Oniunas	10PAR	Beatrice Tofei	10FOD
Crystabel Owusu	10HAB	Dimitre Vernon	10ESM
Hardi Pembele	10HAB	Daniel Wojciuk	10ESM

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Form Tutor Award

HAR- **Connie Grant**- Positive Attitude to school and learning
 FOD- **Said Fouenang Abba Kaka**- Being helpful in form time
 HAB- **Crystabel Owusu**- lead role in house competitions and general excellence in school
 ESM- **Dimitire Vernon**- Highest positives in form.
 PAR- **Jaspreet Kaur**- General excellence and attitude in form

Head of Year Award

HAR- **Kiet Nguyen**- Positive attitude and effort to lessons
 FOD- **Naima Choudhury**- Focused and attentive
 HAB- **Ali Hamad**- Settling in well and work hard
 PAR- **Timothy Renju**- Positive contribution to school
 ESM- **Rajan Shoker**- Positive contribution in lessons and around the school

A special well done to the form groups who have worked so hard on the house competition this year. The trees that have been produced for the Jesse Tree have been fantastic and I know it has been a tough one to judge!

As we head into the new year, please reflect on some of the ideas you have been considering during the time allotted to Passport to Life in form. Remember that every journey begins with one step - are there any small changes that you could make over the holiday that will lead to a future that you are proud of? Think about the positives changes you can make to ensure you are being the best you can be.

Stay safe over the Christmas break. If you are going out remember to follow government guidance. You should be wearing face masks in shops and all public transport and ensure you keep using the testing kits available to keep yourself and those around you safe as you can be over the term. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year enjoy all the festive things that will be happening and spend quality time with your family.

By Miss Reynolds

Head of Year 11 Messages

Year 11 it has been an eventful term to say the least! I am so proud of all of you for really pushing yourself during this period and engaging so well with after school revision and lessons. It is vital now that over the Christmas period you rest well, but still do revision periodically to prepare for Mock 2 when you return. It is important to remain consistent both academically and mentally so that you can achieve the best possible grades. This is only the start of the journey, and although there seems like a long way to go, time will fly by and we need to be prepared.

Some of you came on the trip this week to King Edwards Handsworth Grammar school in order to gain an insight into the sixth form there and what they offer, and had a great time as it really opened the eyes of those who came as to what is possible with hard work. I will be organising some more sixth form trips when we return after Christmas in the hope that it will inspire you to push for excellence as that is no less than you are capable of.

If you have any queries about anything to do with next year, please email me or come to the office and have a word with one of the team. This is your future, and we want to make it as bright as possible.

Merry Christmas and God bless!

By Mr Brooks

Hello Year 11 well done on getting through this term. You are amazing! I know you are tired, but this is your chance to get back up and get back in the race, through a little bit of revision throughout the break. Even though your first mocks are finished and the next aren't for a few months you can continue working hard and being the amazing pupils that you are. Stay safe over the half term. Continue your hard work and amazing behaviour, Merry Christmas!

By Miss Fox-Roberts

Year 11 sixth form trip

Some Year 11 pupils volunteered to go on a trip to King Edwards Handsworth Grammar School for boys on Monday 13 December 2021. The trip was designed to encourage and motivate those who are interested in a grammar school sixth form education. Once we arrived at the school, the deputy headteacher who is responsible for sixth form gave our pupils a 20 minute talk about what the school offers, and what they can expect should they decide they would like to come there for Year 12 and 13. It was a very open and honest analysis of the specific requirements they expect as a minimum, but he also clearly articulated that when you become a student at the school, the level of support that is put in place is far superior to many other places. Our pupils were then taken on a tour of the school and were shown the new sixth form centre which includes many fantastic features such as: a sixth form common room, computer suite, Library and study rooms. Many of the current sixth formers gave their experiences so far and how they have enjoyed the standard of education they have received thus far, and how the school promotes the importance of extra-curricular activities also such as being involved in numerous sports clubs and enrichment activities. Year 11 took the opportunity to ask many relevant questions whilst they were there, which has spurred some of them to make an application already! I am grateful that this opportunity to visit such a prestigious institution has been warmly received by our students and has allowed them to aspire to be more than they are. The deputy headteacher sent an email articulating how the pupils carried themselves with dignity and were a real credit to Saint John Wall Catholic school, which filled me with pride. Long may this ambitious mindset continue for our pupils, and I hope that we can have many more trips throughout the year to show them that anything is possible so long as you are willing to put in the work.

By Mr Brooks



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Year 7 Reading Relay

Last week Friday all of Year 7 took part in the first Saint John Wall Reading Relay. Over the course of the day Year 7 explored the short story 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. At the beginning of each lesson for 20 minutes they participated in reading and a discussion.

Here is what the pupils thought:

"I think the Reading Relay was a very good event last week. I personally enjoyed it because I got to read out loud which I think greatly improved my reading. My vocabulary has also improved because there were new words in the story that I hadn't read before and soon I'll be able to use them in the right context. In the story, I liked how the Iron Man, who was weaker than the dragon in so many ways and 100 times smaller, was still able to stand up to him. I believe that the moral of the story is that no matter how small you are, you can always stand up for what is right and what you love."

By Bradley Nguefack 7PAW

"Last week we had a reading relay about a book called 'The Iron Man'. I enjoyed how Iron Man won the battle. I liked how everyone got a turn to read the book."

By Success Ihaza 7FOR

"The reading relay was a really good experience to work on our fluency and reading pace. The book was very good which teaches us to never judge a book by it's cover. It was also nice to see a change of personalities by certain characters such as Hogarth who didn't lose faith in Iron Man and believed in him until the very end."

By Miradi Pembele 7HAY

"I think the reading really was very good and helped me learn some vocabulary. The amazing book choice, 'The Iron Man', made the story and vocabulary very easy to understand."

Hopefully we will have another reading relay as it was fun and everyone got to take turns."

By Sham Mehari-Gabremicael 7HAY



Year 7 Reading Relay Bookmark



Friday 10 December

'The Iron Man'
by Ted Hughes

My Vocabulary Log:

Name: _____



Oxhill Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



0121 554 1825



enquiry@sjw.bham.sch.uk
www.sjw.bham.sch.uk



Book Reviews

Well done to those Year 7 and Year 8 pupils who have increased their reading ages in the Star Reading Test recently and for making excellent progress with their fortnightly Accelerated Reader books.

By Mr Mull

'Space Stars and Slimy Aliens' by Nick Arnold

"The book was very enjoyable for me. It was about Odd Blob and the blurbs as they went on a space adventure (around our galaxy - The 'Milky Way') facing difficult challenges throughout. It was very funny in a way, it had interesting facts that very much increased my knowledge and understanding of how our Galaxy/Planets/sun was made. It also has lots of fun activities for us (the reader) to do."

By Anthony John Anthony Tikimo Mongo 7PAW

'Sitting Target' by John Townsend

"The story is about a boy and mum who have money problems, they couldn't pay their bills but they still survived, his mom always did everything to make her son happy."

One day Lee's mom was in work and Lee spotted some man staring at him he knew the man was watching him for a long time because Lee always saw someone. He didn't know what to do because he was home alone.

The man came out and they started talking, Lee was scared and he felt like he wanted to trust the guy but at the same time not...

Lee wanted to call the police but he didn't because the man convinced him that he wouldn't hurt him. The man could read his mind. The man warned him about Zeta and how dangerous he was that he wanted to kill him that's why he needs help...."

By Jesika Gadova 7COB

'The Boy in the Dress' by David Walliams

"The book The Boy in the Dress was a good book it is about a boy who lives with his dad and brother but the boy is not ordinary he loves to wear dresses, read vogue and do girly things. I loved this book and I would recommend this book to others."

By Shanae Warner 8BAR

'Diary of a Wimpy Kid - Cabin Fever' by Jeff Kinney

"This book was about a boy called Greg who was stuck at home because it snowed so much, he was locked in. I found this book good and I would recommend it to people who read the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books."

By Elisa Breton-Johnson 8TOW

'Dog Zombies Rule' by Tom Gates

"This book is good because it was very interesting, and it was funny to read with all the funny drawings in it. The other reason I got this book was because the cover and the story line was good. I hope other people like this book too."

By Emmanuel Erikowa 8TOW

'Othello' by William Shakespeare

"I read the book Othello and I loved the story line, however it did not match my expectations I was looking for, as it was an easy book. The book was about a man named Othello that had been tricked to murdering his own wife. Out of 5 stars I would give this a 3-star rating."

By Elnael Brhane Fasil 7COB

'Bale' by Matt Oldfield

"I read the book called Bale, I loved reading about Bale's struggles he overcame to become a footballer. The book wasn't too much of a challenge to read but very good. If I was to rate it out of 5 stars I would rate it 4."

By Jahari Brou 7PAW

Staff Book Review

'Say Her Name' by James Dawson

"The book I have chosen to do a review on is called 'Say Her Name' by James Dawson. It is a horror book which is a twist on the classic Bloody Mary legend. It follows two best friends who are dared to summon the ghost of Bloody Mary. At first, they go ahead with it because they think nothing will happen, but they end up releasing the ghost into the real world, with the rest of the book following how the two deal with this. It is a really good book for anyone who likes horror books, especially those who are in Year 9 and above. I got this book while I was in school when the author visited our English class, and I have been obsessed with it since."

By Mr Hayaat



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BEBRAS Computing Challenge

Earlier this term, during Computing lessons, pupils were given the opportunity to compete in the national Computing Bebras challenge. It is organised in over 50 countries and designed to get pupils all over the world excited about computing. The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to pupils that then complete an online set of questions in exam conditions. Each participant answers questions that focus on computational and logical thinking, questions such as how to divide up flowers in a set size garden or how to program a robot to move around a maze. Well done to Sara Yemane (7HAY) who was best in school for Year 7 and Tahseen Khanom (8MCI) who was best in school for the joint Year 8/Year 9 category.

By Mr Rathbone

Here are the top 5 leader boards for Year 7 to Year 9 that took part.

Year 7

Firstname	Lastname	Total	Achievement	OUC Invite
Sara	YEMANE	156	Best in School (Y7)	YES
Mateusz	TETERYCZ	146	Distinction	YES
Kemissa	IBLE	136	Distinction	
Balkaran	SINGH	135	Distinction	
Carlisle	CO	124	Distinction	

Year 8

Firstname	Lastname	Total	Achievement	OUC Invite
Tahseen	KHANOM	161	Best in School (Y8 & Y9)	YES
Kamron	GRAHAM	122	Distinction	YES
Yousuf	BOUSERSE	105	Distinction	
Elisa	BRETON-JOHNSON	105	Distinction	
Ayub	GUL	102	Distinction	

Year 9

Firstname	Lastname	Total	Achievement	OUC Invite
Rayyaan	AFZAL	146	Distinction	YES
Ali	MIRSHEKARIKAZEROUNI	125	Distinction	YES
Dhiraj	RAM	123	Distinction	YES
Fabrice	KING	118	Distinction	
Natasha	PHAGANIA	105	Distinction	

Along with some excellent scores across the school, some of the very best have achieved the "Gold Award". This is only awarded to pupils who finish in the top 10% of the whole country. This allows them to compete in the next phase of the competition which is the Oxford University Computing Challenge (OUC). This is an invitation-only challenge for talented UK pupils to produce programmed solutions to computational thinking problems. We wish them luck!

"I felt that Bebras was a very fun experience and it was a good way to bring out my computing thinking skills, it really ties in well with problem solving."

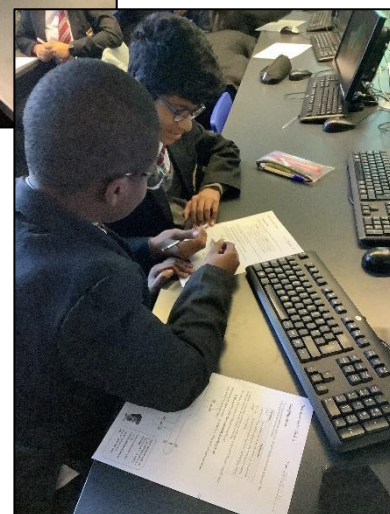
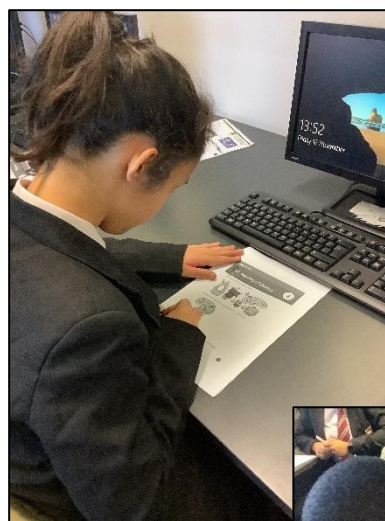
By Daniel Wainer Kodua 9JON

"I thought that Bebras was very fun and a good way to bring computational thinking into our lessons."

By Jakub Borawski 9GOS

"Bebras was interesting and I would like to do it again in the future as it was quite engaging."

By Rayaan Nawaz 9WIO





9 December 2021

COVID-19 Children's Vaccination Team
Children's and Families Division
Birmingham Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust
Priestley Wharf 1
Holt Street
Birmingham
B7 4BN
Tel: 0121 466 7635
Email: BCHC.covidschools@nhs.net

Dear parent or guardian

COVID-19 vaccinations for 12 to 15 year olds

All young people aged 12 to 15 are now eligible to have two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination. A second dose can be given 12 weeks (3 months) after the first dose. Two doses of the Pfizer vaccine will give young people the best protection against COVID-19.

The medicines regulator, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), has confirmed the Pfizer vaccine is safe and effective for children in this age group, following a rigorous review of the safety, quality and effectiveness of the vaccine.

How will my child receive their vaccinations?

Vaccinators from the local Children's Vaccination Team will visit your child's school. This is likely to be after the Christmas holidays, with further information being shared nearer the time.

There will also be local appointments that you can book for your child at vaccination centres, as well as walk-in sessions, with no appointment needed. Please visit this website to find out more about this (please check back regularly if no sessions are currently available): <https://www.birminghamandsolihullcovidvaccine.nhs.uk/12to15yearolds/>



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Is my child eligible?

Your child is eligible to have their vaccination if:

- For second doses, they must have had their first at least 12 weeks ago
- They have had their 12th birthday since vaccinations were offered at their school
- They previously declined to have their first vaccination, but would now like one
- They will not be able to have a vaccination if they have had COVID-19 infection in the last 12 weeks.

Further information

COVID-19 is usually mild in most children, but it can make some children unwell. Two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine gives the best protection against your child becoming seriously ill. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to take up this offer for your child. Vaccinating children can also help stop the spread of COVID-19 to other people, such as to elderly relatives and within schools.

In the meantime, for further information about the vaccination programme for 12-15 year olds, visit: <https://www.birminghamandsolihullcovidvaccine.nhs.uk/12to15yearolds/>

Yours sincerely

COVID-19 Children's Vaccination Team



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Do you need any support over Christmas?

Food:

Food Parcels collections 5-6pm Daily
Midland Langar Seva Society
Dale End Bus Stops (Stall)
Birmingham City Centre
B4

Active Christians
www.activechristians.org.uk
Pastor – Colin Rankine
Food bank – call 07500416635



Food Bank Centres
New Life Weslyn Church
Holyhead Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 0RA
0121 507 0734

(Thursdays 1-3pm)

Salma Food Bank
Unit 8
Ash Court
Crystal Drive
Smethwick
B66 1Q
07767164246

Aspire Housing Rookery Road
308 Rookery Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 9QG

12.30pm - Wednesday Only

0121 5548007

Healthy Mind

Headspace- an app providing a range of meditations & resources to help you relax, sleep and more.

www.headspace.com

YoungMinds- Mental health support for children of all ages

www.youngminds.org.uk

Pixel thoughts- A relaxing meditation tool for those moments when you need support

www.pixelthoughts.co

YoungMinds- Advice and mental health support

www.youngminds.org.uk

Keep your mind as active as possible whilst at home.

Bereavement & Loss:

If you or anyone in your family suffers the loss of a family member or friend at this difficult time, there are some websites below that may help & comfort you:

Winston's Wish

Website: <https://help2makesense.org/>

Email: ask@winstonswish.org

Cruse Bereavement Care

Website: <https://www.hopeagain.org.uk/>

Phone: 0808 808 1677

Childline

Website: www.childline.org.uk

Phone: 0800 1111

Grief Encounter

Website: <https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/young-people/>

Phone: 0808 802 0111



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