

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 26

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 31 March 2023

Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'The Year of Sanctuary'.

Termly theme: Peace

Termly SJW Values – Eloquent and Truthful

This week in Weekly Worship... "We discussed the topic of Easter and the Prodigal Son. The story showed us an example of how we should forgive each other no matter what and we used it as an example to remember the values of Saint John Wall and setting an example for others. We also discussed how we should make peace between others and remembered how we have encouraged peace at school through remembering the unfortunate disasters in Syria and Turkey."

By Ruth Kidane and Deborah Habteab 9WOO

This week in Afternoon Prayer... "We prayed about Holy Week. Holy Week is the week leading up to Jesus' Resurrection. We began the week by praying about Palm Sunday and thought about our own strength and how we can overcome anything we face. We also prayed about Jesus in the temple and thought about our own places of Worship."

By Amelia Raj-Sawyers 7RAH



Message from Chair of Governors

"I don't like making predictions... and I never will"

Peculiar as these words from a politician might be, I was reminded of them at a recent governors' finance meeting. We were asked to examine the proposed school budget for March 2027! Imagine if we'd done a similar exercise back in March 2019? Nobody could have envisaged a global pandemic, a war in Europe and no fewer than four UK Prime Ministers.

Anyway, back to the present day and the Chancellor's recent Spring Budget. It contained lots of promises of additional school funding but no mention of any continuing support for schools with their energy bills nor of any new money to settle the teachers' pay dispute. We just hope schools aren't expected to find the money from their existing budgets. At our meeting we undertook an exercise called financial benchmarking in which we were compared with fifty similar schools nationally to find out how we spend our money. It gave us an efficiency metric score through dividing our Progress 8 result by our pupil expenditure. I am delighted to inform you we were ranked number 1! In other words, no school achieves better pupil progress for a similar amount of money spent. Congratulations to Miss Marston and all the staff and in particular to Mr Holden, Mrs Whitehouse and Mr Kaila for making sure every penny we get is spent prudently.

Earlier this month, on International Women's Day, the Government announced new standards for equal access to sports, making it clear that girls and boys should be offered the same sports during PE and extracurricular time in schools. Those that successfully deliver equal opportunities for all will be rewarded through the School Games Mark.



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For us this announcement happily coincided with Miss Marston introducing to us a new initiative called the Schools Games Partnership. It provides activities which are linked with primary schools in order to increase participation in sports. This project is still in the early planning stage. I'll let you know how things develop.

Ofsted has been very much in the news recently with the tragic death of a headteacher who had seen her school downgraded as a consequence of a recent inspection. There is much discussion within education of how schools are inspected and whether or not it enables schools to improve. Still on the topic of Ofsted I'd like to remind parents about Parent View which is an invitation to express opinions of schools. I'd encourage every parent to complete the survey to let us know how you think we are doing. To do so please log onto:

[Welcome to Ofsted Parent View | Ofsted Parent View](#)

This has been an unusually short half term. Nevertheless, it has still been a packed one with much happening at Saint John Wall. On our superb website you'll find excellent coverage of all that's gone on including up-to-date information, you can also follow the school on twitter: @SAINT_JOHN_WALL. What is even more remarkable is that the school has had to contend with the recent snowy weather, teachers' strike as well as the recent bus strikes. Miss Marston and all her colleagues have worked tirelessly to overcome these challenges. A massive thank you to them for their continued commitment and to parents for their co-operation and understanding.

Despite all the interruptions our Year 11 pupils have been working hard to ensure they meet the targets set for their forthcoming exams. Recently governors were given a comprehensive presentation by Mr Holder of the measures being used including daily extra sessions after school and others scheduled during the forthcoming Easter holidays. Governors are indebted to the staff for all they are doing to ensure our pupils have the very best preparation.

Friday marks the start of the Easter holiday with this weekend being Palm Sunday marking the beginning of Holy Week. When pupils return on Monday 17 April the summer exams will be just a few weeks away. In the meantime, I hope our pupils, staff, parents and all their families enjoy a happy, joyful and peaceful Easter. Let's hope we have some good weather to cheer us all up. Until the next time I'll end with this prayer:

Loving Father, at this time of Easter rejoicing open our eyes that we may see You in the poor. Open our hearts that we may love You in those who need forgiveness. Lend us your spirit that we may share You with those far from your mercy and love. Amen. Saint John Wall, pray for us

By Martin Jones - Chair of Governors

Headteacher's Message

This has been a busy term interspersed with several disruptions so I would like to thank all parents, pupils and staff for their patience, co-operation and resilience. There have been many highlights which you will have seen in our newsletters including values@days, trips and visits, catholic life events and services, and much more.

As usual, at this time of year, we are saying goodbye and good luck to some colleagues. Mrs Bates and Mrs Wallis have led the Science and MFL departments respectively and we thank them for their hard work and commitment to our pupils. Both are moving on to new jobs nearer to home. We wish them all the best for the future.

Sadly, we also heard the news that Miss Slee, who retired last October from working in our Ark and Saint Francis Centre, passed away on Friday 24 March. Our thoughts and prayers go to her family, friends, colleagues and pupils who knew her.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

By Miss Marston

Important Dates to Note

- **Easter Holiday**
Monday 3 April 2023 to Friday 14 April 2023
- **Bank Holiday – School Closed**
Monday 1 May 2023
- **Year 11 Reward Trip to Alton Towers**
Tuesday 2 May 2023
- **Bank Holiday – School Closed**
Monday 8 May 2023
- **GCSE Examinations Begin**
Monday 15 May 2023

The National Apprenticeship & Education Event

I am delighted to confirm a number of Year 10 pupils visited The National Apprenticeship & Education Event. This exhibition was very inspiring, and our pupils gained important access to independent apprenticeship and careers advice from Top UK Employers, Universities and Training Providers.

By Mr Hussain



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Catholic Life

Lent 2023

Make peace, create peace, be the example of peace. We need peace in the world. Pope Francis.

This Lent we have been on a journey of solidarity and empathy. It all began before our half term, with a Weekly Worship planned and delivered by our Year 7 Chaplaincy Team. The team launched our charity focus for Lent, as a school we would walk 200km for CAFOD and in doing so, raise money for those displaced around the world due to climate change.

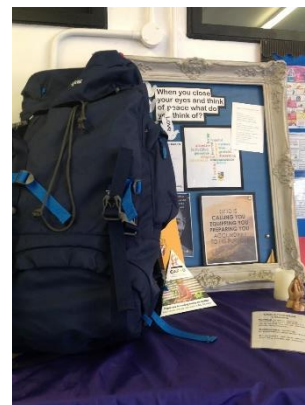
As a school, we know the importance of educating each and every pupil, not only in giving generously, as they all do, but also in understanding the importance of that giving and why we give.

Our bag campaign began during our Year 7 and 8 form time. Each form was given a large bag, and were able to look inside it, discussing its contents.

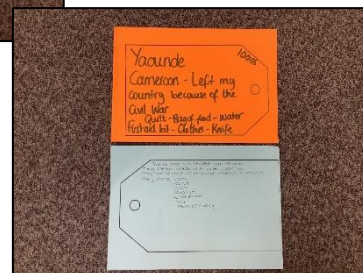
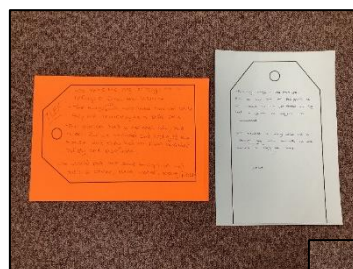


The form groups then watched a special video on the effects of climate change around the world, and had eloquent conversations with one another as they gave a back story to the person who owned their bag.

The bags then travelled to Year 9 and 10, still filled with the same items, but this time with a focus on the refugee crisis. Each pupil was given the opportunity to take part in a meditation where they walked in the footsteps of a refugee, from the moment that they needed to pack their emergency bag, until they were away at sea, on route to a new country. Again, pupils were given the opportunity for discussion on the importance of sanctuary, and gave a back story to the owner of their bag.



Here are some examples of the discussion work that took place in forms.



Last week all pupils engaged in a reconciliation service that reflected on the baggage that we carry around each day, due to the people and difficulties that we encounter. They were able to observe the weight of their own baggage, and the importance of building their relationship with God through prayer and reconciliation, in order to lighten their burdens. Pupils were also given the opportunity to go to confession with Fr Gerry Lennon. We are very grateful to Fr. Gerry for coming into school to enable pupils to receive this sacrament.



Our bags continued on their journey during our last week in school to engage Year 11 pupils in conversation about the need to provide sanctuary within our school and local community. One bag was placed around the school, in form rooms, and on the playground. Each day, pictures and videos were recorded of the pupils to what reaction, if any that they had with the bag.

For three days, the bag was moved for ball games, or walked passed and stepped over. They on the third day, a pupil picked up the bag, and returned it to the office. The videos and pictures were shared with Year 11 during their service on Thursday morning alongside an important message; to listen, see and act.

A special thank you to Ruben Prica for his exceptional guitar skills, as well as Deborah Gebrekiristos and Bianca Emuke Lole for their beautiful singing. Thank you also to Olamide Adekunle-Olayiwola for your compassion and empathy in handing in the bag.



Year 8 Sanctuary Team

Pupils in Year 8 spent a few weeks looking at the 'Lift the Ban' campaign. This is a campaign that works towards giving people seeking asylum the right to work. As part of this activity, pupils filled in a worksheet thinking about different reasons why people may need to leave their homes, what they could do to make people feel welcome and what they would do if they had to leave their homes.

Pupils also completed a myth and fact exercise about asylum seekers. They had to read a variety of sentences and put them into two columns based on whether they thought it was a fact or a myth.

Last week, pupils discussed their plans for after Easter and what they would like to do as a group.



Year 7 Chaplaincy Team

Over the past few weeks, pupils in Year 8 have been taking part in the Great British Spring Clean. This is the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign in which school's pledge to pick up litter to clean up the places and spaces we love.

Pupils spent a session discussing the reasons why we need to litter-pick. Examples included the importance of looking after the animals and the communities in which they live. Pupils then spent a session discussing the safety aspects of litter-picking and how to ensure they keep themselves safe when litter-picking. After this, pupils visited Uplands Allotment next door to school and carried out some litter-picking.



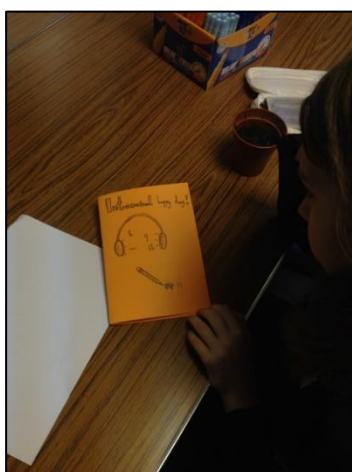
National Careers Week

At the beginning of March, pupils thought about National Careers Week. As part of this, pupils spent time thinking about their own careers in the future. They focused on discussions including 'What makes a good leader?' and what they can do themselves to prepare for their futures. As well as this, pupils also discussed the different types of jobs they could go into. As part of this, they thought of a category, such as sport, and then listed all the different types of jobs to do with sport.



International Happiness Day

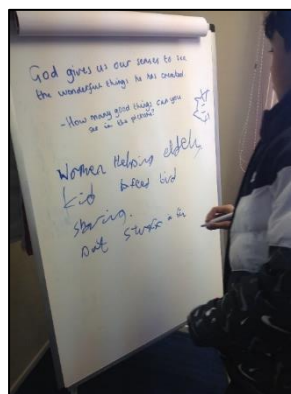
March also celebrated International Day of Happiness. This is a time in which we can create a happier and kinder world together by adopting simple, daily practices. As part of this, students discussed the different things that bring them happiness and why. Students put together some drawings on cardboard to promote this day. Examples of happiness included listening to music and drawing art!



Worship Wednesday

On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, we heard how Jesus helped a blind man to see again. Pupils discussed how God has given us the gift of sight to see all the wonderful things around us. They used CAFOD's Gospel activity sheet which presented a picture of many good and bad things. This included individual sharing their food and individuals excluding people from groups. Pupils discussed these ideas and spoke about what they would do if they saw these things happening in their lives.

Pupils also reflected on the Transfiguration of Jesus as part of Worship Wednesday. The Transfiguration gives us a glimpse of Jesus in all his glory. It is a taste of what is to come. In the Transfiguration, it is stated that Jesus' "face shone like the sun." As part of this, students coloured in an image of the sun and discussed what they can do to be more like Jesus.



Easter

Pupils also took part in a variety of Easter activities. Activities included an on the road to Easter word search and a colouring on the Last Supper. As part of this, pupils had a discussion around Easter and the Last Supper.



By Mrs Ellis



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Stars of the Month

History

Abi Brown 9RES - For being learned and wise by showing consistently good knowledge and skills in History.

Ali Mirshekarikazerouni 10JON - Fantastic assessment result - well done!

Timothy Renju - For being learned and wise by making excellent progress in mock 2 despite missed lesson time due to injury.

Tahseen Khanom 9MCI and **Denzel Okyei 9MCI** - Being learned and wise by achieving 100% in his/her History assessment - well done!

Rachel Ohene-Williams 11SIM and **Ivie Imadonmwinyi 11LAL** - For being learning and wise by achieving fantastic results in mock 2.

By Miss Lally

Michal Chmielecki 7ESM - For being determined and working hard in History lessons.

David Ifeosame 7RAH - For being determined and working hard in History lessons.

Hamza Mehmood 7REG - For being attentive and discerning in History lessons.

Oyinkansola Olayiwola 7JAS - For consistently being Curious and Active in her history lessons.

Isaiah Foster 7LEV - For consistently being Curious and Active in his History lessons.

Miss Levine

Bhagwant Singh 8BAK **Mateusz Teterycz 8GRE** **Jahari-Brou Walker-Smith 8PAW** **Sara Yemane 8HAY**

For being learned and wise in History lessons and consistently showing excellence.

Daniel McDonough 11LAL - For achieving a phenomenal grade on mock 2!

Miradi Pembele 8HAY and **Nathaneal Byfield 7ESM** - For being attentive and discerning in History lessons.

Roya Abdul 7LEV - For a marked improvement in behaviour and attitudes in History lessons.

Gerrard Mendoza 10HEA - For being consistently active and curious in History lessons.

By Mr McIntosh

MFL

Manjot Kaur 11FOD - For showing great progress after Mock 2 and her consistency and effort during Spanish lessons.

Sakshi Mahey 10JON - For her brilliant attitude towards learning Spanish resulting in a noticeable improvement.

By Mr Rosellon

Anna Horvathova 8GRE - For being intentional and prophetic in her continued diligence and focus in lessons.

Armando Constantin 7RAH - For being attentive and discerning towards learning Spanish following his return to Spanish lessons.

Ronny Nkuidjeu 11FOD - For his excellent Mock 2 results.

Awet Tecli 7ESM - For being learned and wise in lessons by demonstrating his previous learning very accurately.

By Mrs Wallace

Trae Nguyen 7RAH - For being Active and Learned in his French lessons.

Mohit Badhan 11BAT - For his excellent Mock 2 results.

Nathanael Byfield 7ESM and **Krishnoor Singh 7RAH** - For consistently being Curious and Active in their Spanish lessons.

Armaan Ali 8HAY

By Miss Gosselin





Stars of the Month

Geography

Asher Rogers 11SIM - An improved grade in mock 2, well done.

Lydia Binyam 7ESM - Hard work at all times in Geography.

David Tran 10JON & Kameron Chem 10HEA - Getting stuck in at Carding Mill Valley, well done.

Naima Choudhury 11LAL - A huge improvement between mock 1 and mock 2 (paper 1) excellent work.

By Mr Woodward

Mahesh Korotania 1HIR - For being attentive and discerning in Geography lessons.

Yuvraj Sidhu 10WIO - For being intentional and prophetic in his Geography lesson. Great focus.

Hassan Muhumed 10HEA - For making a noticeable improvement in focus and behaviour in Geography.

Nathan Jiang 10HAL - For being intentional and prophetic by always going the extra mile in Geography lessons.

Navraj Sabharwal 11BAT - For continually being attentive and discerning in Geography lessons.

By Miss Levine

Performing Arts

Raheem Nadeem 7LEV - For his hard work and dedication to practising and giving his extra time to rehearse.

Rayna Jassal 8GRE - For her hard work in lessons and inquisitive.

Natasha Glenn- 9BRK - For her hard work and consistent dedication to rehearsals.

Renato Dinu 10HAL - Hard work and always eager to perform.

Ruben Benjamin- Prica 11HIR - Hard work and focus in every lesson, making a conscious effort to get his coursework to the best quality.

By Miss Antonucci

Marlon Richards 7ESM - creativity and hard work during practical activities.

Alina Matthews 8PAW - creativity and hard work during practical activities.

Teniola Adekunle Olayiwola 9RES - creativity and hard work during practical activities.

Hasan Muhammad 10GOS - hard work and determination during throughout coursework.

Ivie Imadonmwinyi 11LAL - hard work and creativity during throughout practicals.

By Miss Cummings

Science Department

Manjot Kaur 11FOD - for excellent progress and effort.

Sahar Stosray 11LAL - for excellent progress.

Deborah Gebrekristos 11 BAT - for always working well.

Aundre Singh 11HIR - Excellent mock 2 results, learned & wise in class.

Kiet Nguyen 11LAL - Very engaging in class, eloquent and attentive in class.

Dominik Ostrowski 11HIR - Excellent mock 2 results, learned % wise in class.

Roland Ofori 11BRE, Jannat Begum 11LAL, Said Fouenang 11BAT - Excellence and attainment.

Mohit Badhan 11BAT - Consistent excellent assessment results, behaviour and attitude in Science.

Jaspreet Kaur 11BAT - Consistent excellent assessment results, behaviour and attitude in Science.

Darren Okonkwo 10GOS - Excellent assessment results, Active and curious in class.

Zaida Khanom 10HAL - Very good performance in whole school assessment, learned & wise in class.

Daniel Kodua 10JON - Excellent attitude to learning, Faith filled and prophetic.

Bethany Butlin 10GOS - Excellent written work and progress in lesson.

Azhan Faisal 10GOS - Outstanding attitude to learning.

Ali Mirshekarikazerouni 10JON - Consistent excellent assessment results, behaviour and attitude in Science.





Stars of the Month

Adam Hannan 10GOS - Good behaviour and learned in class.
Deborah Fadola 9BAR - Outstanding bookwork and good attitude to learning.
Krish Harjiv 9BRK - Excellent behaviour and attitude to learning.
Sami Qasim 9MCI - Outstanding written work and intentional and prophetic in class.
Halima Ali 9MCI - Good written work in class and learned and wise.
Dilpreet Sandhu 9BAR - Good written work and excellent attitude to learning.
Mawra Hussain 9BRK - Outstanding written work and attitude to learning.
Muhammed Sheraz 9WOO - Good interaction in class and classwork finished to a good standard.
Elisa Breton-Johnson 9WOO - Excellent behaviour and working well every day.
Sarah Manu 9MCI - Always working and showing excellent behavior.
Sharnae Dennis-Hayes 9MCI - Consistent excellent assessment results, behaviour and attitude in Science.
Francisca Idemudia 9BRK - Consistent excellent assessment results, behaviour and attitude in Science.
Esaias Stewart 9BAR - Excellent progress and effort in Science.
Danvir Bains 8FOR - Good written work and attitude learning.
Riya Bains 8FOR - Mature attitude to learning, intentional and prophetic.
Ihsan Sadique 8PAW - Excellent contribution during Assessment for learning in class.
Jaskirat Siatkowski 8FOR - for always working well.
Sandra Lutrzykowska 8PAW - Good written work and fluency during whole class ERIC.
Ishmael Clarke 8FOR - Outstanding written work and very intentional in class.
Dominik Gruszczynski 8FOR - Excellent attitude to learning.
Imogen Babalola 8FOR - Excellent written work and very intentional in class.
David Ifeosame 7RAH - David is polite, respectful and a hard-working student. David is always such a positive influence on the class. He works conscientiously and diligently and always strives to do his best. In class, he is always focused and attentive towards his learning.
Oyinkansola Olayiwola 7JAS - for always working well.
Charlene Tuong 7JAS - for always working well.
Aangelinah Antonio Pereira 7REG - For being active and curious in Science.
Natnael Desta 7ESM - For progress and effort in Science.
Neha Kaur Sagoo 7REG - For constant good behaviour and attitude in Science.
Darius Chiriack 7ESM - For constant good behaviour and attitude in Science.
Asim Zaman 7ESM - For being active and curious in Science.
Harjot Singh 7RAH - For progress and effort in Science.

Bucket 3

Makda Abraha 7LEV	Aangelinah Antonio Pereira 7REG	Sara Antony 7ESM
Amelia Stolarska 7LEV	Andrei-Felix Cantaragiu 8HAY	Ella Prescott – Hopkins 8GRE

For fantastic commitment to producing high quality in Food Technology.

Ameera Arogundade 7REG	Isa Khan 7LEV	Sartaj Singh 7LEV
Jake Le 8BAK	Danvir Baines 8FOR	Muhammad-Sahil-Adam 8BAK

Darling Dikoko 8BAK
For high quality design and determination in Design Technology.

Rahma Samia Miah 10GOS	Tiffany Ung 10HEA - For dedication to personal development in Art.
Sadiq Miah 11SIM	Brajesh Lal 11BRE - For creative flair in GCSE Design Technology.

By Mrs Breslin



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Head of Year Messages

Head of Key Stage 3 Messages

Year 7

Over the last term we have spent time getting to know one another better within the year group through lots of activities, whether that be during our Values@ Day, playing Quidditch (I'm happy to say I manage to get in a few goals for Ravenclaw! Well done team!) or during the most recent residential to Alton Castle. I'm sure Year 7 will join me in thanking all our staff for providing us with such wonderful personal development experiences that have brought us closer together.

We have a lot to look forward to during the Summer Term, including our Witness Week in July, where pupils will enjoy lots of trips and activities. I would like to remind everyone in Year 7 that we must keep to our high standards of attendance, behaviour and uniform in order to attend trips, and the KS3 team can't wait to spend more time getting to know you outside of the classroom.

We will be having a focus on social skills this term. The girls in Year 7 and 8 will be working with a coaching company on navigating these vital skills in a small group format, one group session has already taken place, with 3 more planned next half term. We also have social skills lessons planned for everyone in the two year groups running until the end of July. We hope that these activities will help support the development of relationships and attitudes within our school community.

As we embark on our two-week break, can I please ask all parents to check our school uniform policy on the website. Now is a good time to ensure uniform fits and is to standard. We all know how quickly our pupils grow, especially within their first two years of secondary school. There is also the option of pupils to purchase our summer uniform polo shirt. This is the same as the PE top and can be worn until the end of July. Polo shirts can be purchased from the school for £6 or £8 depending on size.

I hope you all have a wonderful break, and come back well rested. God bless,

By Mrs Ellis

Year 8

This term, both Year 7 and 8 were working on developing skills to use in the wider world outside education, and looking at their futures to develop into what God is calling them to be. Year 8's have been focusing on their pathways, this is where pupils choose the subjects they will be studying in Year 9-11. These subjects will help them reach their targets which are needed to go to further and higher education.

The pathways journey started with a trip to the University of Birmingham, where 50 pupils looked at one of the world leading universities and the courses it offers. Pupils learnt about different courses they can study, how to get to university, and the doors that university opens up for them. All pupils in Year 8 then worked on developing and learning more about their skill through the personalised pathways booklets which were completed in form time. During their recent Values@day, Year 8 pupils received taster sessions where they experienced a variety of different subjects on offer. Pupils were able to experience subjects such as performing arts, catering and hospitality, and computer science.

The pathways process then led to the pathways fair, where pupils and parents were able to see the different subjects on offer and ask questions about what they will be studying, how they will be assessed, and what kind of jobs the subject can lead them to. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend.

Please don't forget the deadline for your online Pathway form is Friday 21 April. Please check your emails for this Microsoft Form.

By Mr Hayaat

Head of Year 9 Message

As we near the end of term we understand that there has been a lot of disruption due to either teacher or bus strikes or even the snow. Our pupils have shown resilience and continued to complete work at school to the expected standard of our school. Thank you to all pupils who managed to continue to work to the best of their ability even with the disruptions.

During this term we have continued to focus on attendance and the importance of this as well as punctuality on your child's education. Pupils are expected to come into school before 8.50am in full school uniform, equipment and a school bag ready for their day of learning.

This term Year 9 pupils took part in Values day in which they focused on careers, we had many visitors in to talk to them about their future choices. At the end of the day pupils were able to visit the Career's fair where we had many further education providers that were able to speak to the pupils about what they would like to do when they complete their education at our school. Pupils were well behaved throughout this day and visitors had positive comments on this. Well done to them all.

As always please take care and look after each other.

By Mrs Chand





Head of Year Messages

Head of Year 10 Message

As the flowers begin to bloom and we start to see more daylight, I hope you are looking towards the future summer term and hopeful of warmer weather to come. As discussed, during form time earlier this week, summer school uniform is allowed after half term.

Our attendance is improving, however several pupils in our year group are missing valuable time away from school and this is a serious disadvantage to you. Please come to school every day, on time with the love for learning and when you return from the Easter break, you will be in your last term as Year 10 pupils.

Standards - our expectations are clear and the majority of our year group have shown good leadership. However, we have improvements to make when we return to school from half term, and I know you will do much more. I expect 100% co-operation from all our pupils, in school in full uniform and looking ready for learning. Please have all your equipment with you every day. Half term is a good time to purchase any required school equipment.

I hope since your assessment week feedback and results, you have created your personalised plans and have a clear vision of your strengths and weaknesses. Please use the Easter break to continue your learning.

Well done to the pupils for high standards and behaviours during your school trips this term and also to all the pupils for excellent attitude during the careers fair.

Work experience - please return your consent forms (if you have not already) as health and safety assessments are required to be completed.

Finally, I hope you have a nice and restful half term with your family and loved ones. Please be safe and have a set routine, don't go to bed too late!

By Mr Hussain

Head of Year 11 Message

Hello Year 11, I would like to say well done for your hard work over the last term. There is still a lot to do for the final countdown to starting your GCSE's exams. You should have received your SJW wallet, containing a pack of equipment and some exam papers for you to practice over half term. Your teachers have given you these so please ensure that you complete them. It is going to help you practice answering questions under timed conditions.

This is your final push before it all starts. After parents evening you should know the things you need to be working on over the next few weeks to ensure you are giving yourself the best chance in the approaching exams.

As previously mentioned, it was lovely to see so many parents at parent's evening. I hope you and your families found it valuable.

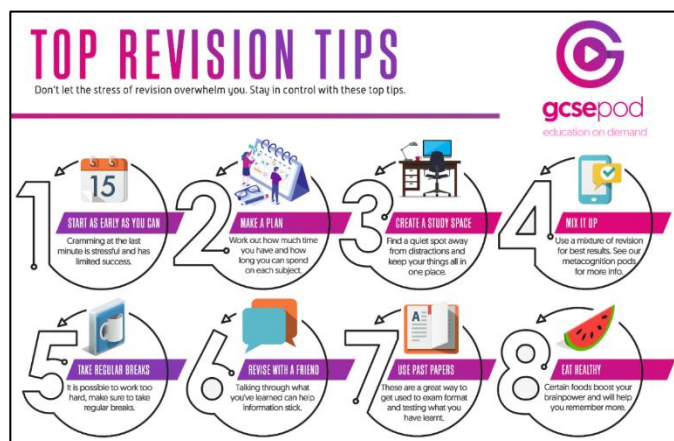
I would like to congratulate those who received some of their results back from the January entries. You should celebrate these results and let these be proof of what you can achieve. I would also like to say well done to all of those who have been nominated for an award on Awards Evening. This will be lovely for you to attend and celebrate your hard work with your family.

Finally, thank you for the great effort from most of you, in getting to school during the bus strikes and for those who logged into Teams even when they couldn't get to school. It was a wonderful effort and you should be very proud of yourself.

Some of you have been given letters to attend revision in the holidays. Please ensure that you are on time and have your equipment with you. This again, is going to help with preparing and planning for your assessments. You should be in school on the days you have been requested.

Stay safe over the 2-week break.

By Miss Reynolds



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Passion Service

Our bag campaign drew to a close during our final service for pupils in Year 7-10 that same day. The service reflected on the final few hours of the life of Jesus, while drawing comparisons to our Catholic Life theme of peace, using our scripture of the term, the Prodigal Son. We watched a lovely drama of the Son and his Father by Jason Nguyen and Godson Omenma followed by a contemporary dance piece, featuring Bethany Butlin and Sarah Manu, and several pupils in Year 7, all of whom have spent lots of time after school working on bringing the Gospel to life. Our guitar group played a wonderful rendition of 'Jesus remember me' as the cross was brought forward and our bags were laid to rest at the end of their long journey. Renato Dinu played the keyboard while Natasha Glenn and Karen Karenga sang 'God of Justice' and 'Lift me up.' Thank you to all our readers and everyone involved, it was a lovely way to bring an end to our Lenten journey of discovery, and to realise the importance of our 200km walk for CAFOD.

By Mrs Ellis



Alton Castle

This week, 24 Year 7 pupils took part in a residential retreat at Alton Castle with Miss Cummings, Miss Raybe and Mr Lysaght. The theme of the retreat was 'Come close and listen to the story' which allowed the pupils to explore the Easter story from different viewpoints such as Mary, Peter and Simon. During the retreat, the pupils took part in a range of activities such as survival, crates, bike riding and trekking. These activities tested their communication skills, teamwork and resilience whilst also having fun. Throughout the retreat pupils were encouraged to reflect on the sacrifice made by Jesus, as well as the life of Mary his mother. Through prayer and meditation our pupils came to understand the importance of standing by those we truly care about in life, no matter what difficulties we may face. We also had an opportunity to celebrate Mass alongside Fr. Chris and the Castle Team. It has been a great experience for our Year 7 pupils, who had this wonderful experience to encourage their understanding of faith; develop their relationships; to hear and respond to what God calls them to be.

By Miss Cummings



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Sponsored Walk for CAFOD

Throughout Lent we have been taking part in the CAFOD Big Lenten Walk. During lessons, classes have been walking around our local community in a bid to get to our 200km target.

On the last day of term, we took part in our annual sponsored walk. Pupils and staff were allowed to wear their own clothes and donate £1. Monies raised will be shared between CAFOD and Parkinson's UK.

Despite the muddy path and the intermittent rain, spirits remained high and everyone had a fantastic time enjoying the natural world around our school. We will announce how much we have raised in next week's newsletter.



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Globe Theatre Trip - London

On Thursday 16 March, 30 Year 8 pupils visited Shakespeare's Globe theatre in London. We watched a performance of *The Tempest* in the open air theatre, with the busy streets of London forgotten as Caliban, Prospero and Miranda took to the stage. Shakespeare intended for his works to be performed, and it was marvellous for the pupils to witness stagecraft and theatricality in action and for it to enhance their understanding of the play which they are studying in lesson.

The pupils were excellently behaved throughout. A huge thank you to Mr Lysaght and Mrs Wieremiewicz for accompanying us.

By Mrs Hillier





Book Reviews

Tom Gates - My School Project - Family Friends and Furry Creatures by Liz Pichon

"While I was reading the book, the boy named Tom was in an adventure to finish his school project in time but he had to face a series of obstacles. I'd like to recommend this book to anyone who likes the adventure of a boy because there are many books of this author to read in your free time."

By Vanessa Kodua 9BRK

Dead End by Michael Dahl

"Braden gets on the bus to go home from school he sits down and looks at his maths book and sees a big F, he wasn't concentrating on the bus, until he realises that no one else is on the bus. It is then he doesn't think it's the usual bus, he looks around and notices that the bus is dirty, he looks out side and everyone looks at one direction then he gets off the bus and there is a crowd he falls into an open grave. Everyone is chasing him then he runs to his next bus and all he thinks about is going home as fast as he can. The bus stops, the door opens, he rushes out, he peers out of the door, and sees his house. Sitting back from the street, Braden leaps of the bus as soon as he hits the ground he takes a deep breath and he doesn't care about the test paper in his hands anymore but to get home."

The author now gives us the information that Braden is scared of what was going on around him with the people. Also, he gave us the information that he was scared of his parents that he got a big F on his test paper and he said that he will just run away."

By Daniel Pruteanu 9RES

Dark Star by Melanie Joyce

"The book was about a key that had to fit in to a stone on a hill and Tyler got it from her grandma. I liked the girls name and how she had a mission to achieve."

By Lena Nowak 7REG

The Dying Photo by Alan Gibbons

"The dying photo was about a boy called Jimmy his mom and dad went missing when a photographer took a photo of them and the photo was of Jimmy's mom and dad looking scared then Jimmy wanted to find this photographer and get his mom and dad back."

By Kimora Williams 7JAS

The Ghost Box by Catherine Fisher

"The book was about a girl who had a dream of a tree in her room and then she tried to get a box after she woke up with the box on her cabinet she tried opening it, the brother switched the key. The ghost was mad that the box didn't open Sarah apologised to her step brother at the end. I liked the bit where she apologised to her step brother."

By Amelia Stolarska 7LEV

Ghost for Sale by Terry Deary

"The book was good it had lot of up and downs. The book was about a woman who bought an old wardrobe that had a ghost in it. It was a scam and had no ghost, so she lost all the money. I Really enjoyed the book."

By Rachel Owusu 7ESM

Toad Attack by Patrice Lawrence

"The book was good, at the start Leo saw a toad on a tree but it just bounced away to the roof of their house but Leo just thought it can't be real, that a toad can fly, so their grandfather just sent him to the school."

By Sameer Sabharwal 7JAS

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

"This novel written by Paulo Coelho's is a mystical story about a young boy named Santiago who lives in Spain."

This young boy was a shepherd who yearns to travel, but not just for the purpose of exploration, but in search of a worldly treasure that he soon discovers to be more than what it seems.

While Santiago is on his quest for the riches of the world, he finds that the path can be cruel and has teachable moments that make him think about his life back home. His journey becomes more than a quest for treasure; it becomes a quest for self-discovery and the pursuit of one's dreams. Santiago discovers that he who has a dream must be more self-aware and mature than he intended."

By Mr Esmaili



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House News

It has been another exciting half term for House events here at saint john wall. Some really impressive work and entries have been produced for our literacy week door decoration competition, it was brilliant to see pupils from form groups being enthusiastic and excited towards the book they had chosen for their form's door. I hope this competition has encouraged and inspired you all to read some of the books that have been displayed across the school!

Next half term we have the Eco challenge where your entries will be entered into a prize draw to win £10,000 for the school - the more entries I receive the increased chance we have in winning!

As we are approaching the end of the year, it is important you keep up your fantastic efforts to receive positive points. You have 13 school weeks left to accumulate points so that your house wins the House rewards trip early next academic year! Good luck and keep up the good work.

Leaderboard

- 1st - Pankhurst
- 2nd - Gandhi
- 3rd - John Paul
- 4th - Mandela
- 5th - Luther King

Literacy Door Competition

It has been another exciting half term for House events here at Saint John Wall. Some really impressive work and entries have been produced for our literacy week door decoration competition, it was brilliant to see pupils from form groups being enthusiastic and excited towards the book they had chosen for their form's door. I hope this competition has encouraged and inspired you all to read some of the books that have been displayed across the school!

By Miss Young

It has been wonderful to see our form groups working together to decorate their doors as inspired by popular texts. Walking along our corridors brings us face to face with classics such as A Christmas Carol and Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, to modern favourites Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Harry Potter and to doors inspired by quotes from the Bible and nostalgic memories of reading from pupils themselves. These beautiful creations remind us of the joy of reading and celebrates the part it plays in our lives.

By Mrs Hillier

Winners



7LEV



8FOR



9MCI & 9BAR



10JON & 10WIO



Summer Uniform Standards

Hot Days



- School polo shirt
- No tie
- Can be untucked
- No blazers required
- No coats permitted

Warm Days



- School polo shirt
- No tie
- Can be untucked
- With blazer

or



- Shirt and tie with blazer

No coats permitted

Colder Days



- Shirt and tie with blazer
- Jumper permitted
- Coat permitted



Summer Polo Shirt is available to purchase from school from Monday 17 April 2023 during form time and lunch time.

- £6 for Sizes: 11 - 13
- £8 for Sizes: S/M/L/XL





Donations of Uniform

Do you have any items of uniform at home?

Would you like to donate them to our school?



Black school trousers -
Girls or Boys

School coats

White plain shirts

Blazers

PE navy shorts
PE navy joggers

SJW ties



Black school skirts

Any donations will be very much appreciated.



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Together, we can help stop cyberbullying



Designed by young people for young people, Stop, Speak, Support gives children simple steps to take positive action online and deal with cyberbullying.

It offers them the confidence to step in and inspire change in other people's behaviour.

www.internetmatters.org/StopSpeakSupport

internet
matters.org

STOP
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SUPPORT

Anti-Bullying
Alliance



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Encourage your child to Stop, Speak and Support to take positive action online and be a good digital citizen.

STOP

- Take time out before getting involved, and don't share or like negative comments
- Try and get an overview of what's really going on
- Check community guidelines for the site you are on

SPEAK

- Ask an adult or friend that you can trust for advice
- Use the report button on the social platform it's happening on
- Speak to one of the charities set up to help with situations like this, such as Childline

SUPPORT

- Give the person being bullied a supportive message to let them know they're not alone
- Encourage them to talk to someone they can trust
- Give them a positive distraction from the situation

www.internetmatters.org/StopSpeakSupport

#Pledge2share

**with your child to
inspire change and
stop cyberbullying**



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**STOP
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Moving house or having a clear-out?

We are collecting items for Ukrainians moving into independent living.

Please email with the subject 'Furniture Donations' to:

birminghamforukraine@gmail.com

We will collect straight away.

www.birminghamforukraine.org



- Good condition furnishings

- Kitchen equipment

- Bedding



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Lent Cello & Piano Concerts

With Ulrich Heinen (Cello) and John Humphreys (Piano)

Four Saturday afternoons
at 4.00pm
4 March-1 April
(no concert on 11 March)
also live-streamed via YouTube

St Mary's Church,
Vivian Road,
Harborne, Birmingham



At each concert there will be an opportunity to donate for the Hospitallers of Ukraine – the Paramedics who receive medical and surgical equipment bought with your donations.

Programme 1 - Saturday 4 March

A Vivaldi Sonata No 5 in e minor
J S Bach Gamba Sonata No 2 in D major

Programme 2 - Saturday 18 March

F Schubert Sonata in A minor 'Arpeggione'

Programme 3 - Saturday 25 March

A Dvorak 'Waldesruhe' op 68/5
R Schumann 5 pieces in Folkestone op 102

Programme 4 - Saturday 1 April

L van Beethoven 7 variations 'Bei Männern welche Liebe fühlen' in E flat major
Sonata No 4 op 102/1 in C major

Please note
change to
programme



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ENROL OR FOR MORE INFO: INFO@SUP.CO.UK OR PICKUP A REGISTRATION FORM IN THE GYM

SESSION TIMES

MORNING: 10AM-2PM

AFTERNOON: 2PM-6PM

MONDAY 3RD APRIL

TUESDAY 4TH APRIL

WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL

THURSDAY 6TH APRIL



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AVAILABLE 03.04.23 – 24.04.23

From 03.04.2023– 24.04.2023, say 'Kellogg's Breakfast Club' at the till point at any UK Morrisons Café to receive breakfast, which includes, a free portion pack of: Cornflakes (24g) Coco Pops (35g) Rice Krispies (22g) with milk or milk alternative (125ml) and a glass of water. While stocks last and subject to availability. Limit of 1 breakfast per customer per day. Offer is not transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash. For a balanced breakfast, enjoy your bowl of cereal and milk with a piece of fruit and a drink of water. TM & © 2023 Kellogg Company



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