

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 21

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 23 February 2024

Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'Year of Live Simply'.
Termly Theme: Dignity of Work and Participation
Termly SJW Values – Eloquent and Truthful

This week in weekly worship... "We focused on our CAFOD Lenten Appeal. This links to the **Dignity of Work and Participation** as communities around the world often rely on charities like CAFOD to help with levels of poverty. We thought about the different types of technology we use every day and how this technology can help to save lives. As a school, we are taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk to raise money for CAFOD so they can continue to help communities around the world. I like Weekly Worship because we focus on different topics and try to help other people".

By Priya Chem 9TOW - Liturgy Team

This week in afternoon prayer... "We prayed for Ash Wednesday. This is because we are celebrating the start of Lent, a time that allows us to reflect. We also thought about the World Day of Social Justice. This has a link to our CST focus this term which is the **Dignity of Work and Participation**. All people should be entitled to a fair and dignified life. We also prayed for CAFOD and will raise money through our Big Lent Walk so that we can support people around the world. I like Afternoon Prayer because we pray together and put others before ourselves".

By Alina Mathews 9TOW - Liturgy Team

Welcome Back

Welcome back and I hope you all had a restful half term break.

Year 11 began their important Mock 2 examinations this week and these will continue into next week.

Year 10 Parents' Afternoon will take place next week Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm and we hope to see as many parents as possible for this important afternoon.

Dates to Note

- **Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations**
Monday 19 February 2024 to Friday 23 February 2024
- **Year 10 Parents' Afternoon & Targeted Year 7, 8 & 9 Pupils**
Wednesday 28 February 2024 – 1.30pm to 3.30pm
- **Year 8 Pathways Parents Afternoon – 2.30pm to 4pm**
Thursday 7 March 2024
- **Birmingham Civil Justice Court Trip (25 Year 9/10 Pupils)**
Friday 8 March 2024 – 9am to 1pm
- **World Book Day**
Thursday 14 March 2024
- **Year 11 Parents' Evening & Targeted Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 Pupils**
Thursday 21 March 2024 – 4pm to 6pm



Oxhill Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



0121 554 1825



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

Speak Out Challenge Oracy Workshop and Competition

On Friday 9 February, 25 Year 10 pupils took part in the Speak Out Challenge Oracy competition. This competition also acted as a workshop which aimed to empower pupils to understand the importance of being able to express themselves confidently through spoken language. Pupils learnt a range of strategies and tips to help them with their oracy and in the process learnt a lot about themselves and each other. At the end of the day pupils presented back speeches to the rest of the group on topics that they were passionate about using the new skills and techniques they had gained from the workshop.

Well done to all the pupils who took part! The visitors were very impressed by the speeches given and how the confidence of all pupils grew throughout the day.

Congratulations to the pupils below who won the challenge with their fantastic speeches!

- Mercedes Johnson 10HAS
- Simran Gill 10MCI
- Kelly Odiase 10WIO
- Sarah Manu 10MCI
- Kobi Mensah 10RES

These pupils will now have the opportunity to be entered into a semi-final and potentially a regional final against other schools where they can present their speeches and have a chance at winning the competition.

The comments from pupils below show how much they enjoyed the workshop.

By Mr McIntosh

"The main thing that I will take away from the workshop is that I should be more confident when having a presentation or when having a speech so I can express my thoughts because they are important too".

By Nicola Matusik 10RES

"The workshop taught me the importance of listening to others carefully".

By Ameira Peart 10MCI

"I liked the workshop because it made me realise that I can be more confident when I try my best and have people to support me".

By Shoaib Ghalib 10RES

"The most valuable part of the workshop was when we made our own speech about a topic which is important to us. I liked this because it helped me build up my confidence".

By Zara Khan 10RES





Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations

Monday 19 February to Thursday 29 February

Week 2

Period	Monday 26 February	Tuesday 27 February	Wednesday 28 February	Thursday 29 February
Form and Period 1	Maths 2 Calculator 1 hour 30 Mins	Maths 3 Calculator 1 hour 30 Mins	Sport 1 Hour 15 Mins	Engineering Design 1 Hour 15 Mins
9:00 Start			GCSE PE 2 1 Hour	Hospitality 1 Hour 20 Mins
Break	Break			
Period 2 and 3	History 2 EEE/SP 1 Hour 45 Mins	Geography 2 Human 1 Hour 30 Mins	Science Physics 1 Hour 10 Mins	IT 1 Hour 30 Mins
10:50 Start		Spanish Listening 45 Mins	Single Science Physics 1 Hour 45 Mins	Single Science Biology R 1 Hour 45 Mins
Lunch	Lunch			
Period 4 13:50 Start	English Lit 1 hour	RE 2 Judaism 1 Hour		French Listening 45 Mins

Visit to St Mary's Coffee Club

Today was Tai Chi which pupils were very keen to participate in once they'd helped organise chairs and refreshments for guests with tea and coffee. Pupils enjoyed it so much they were given a round of applause for their efforts afterwards. Next week is a leap year party so pupils will be helping organise skittles games.

By Mrs Clayton



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Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

RESTORATIVE APPROACHES – REMINDER FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

We are aware that conflicts can occur in the school setting, between students, which can evoke a strong emotional response within the students themselves, and also their wider family. It's important that this emotional response doesn't escalate matters into incidents of violence either within school or out in the wider community.

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

In partnership with the police, we would like to remind our parents/carers and students about the following: -

- **Tell Somebody:** If you have concerns that you, or a member of your family, are being targeted with threatening or abusive language/behaviour, either face to face or via social media, speak with the school to share these concerns at the first opportunity.
- **Help to Resolve Matters:** There are a range of options to support you with this, including speaking with our *School Intervention & Prevention Officer from the Police*, who can listen to your concerns and offer advice on formally reporting the matter, accessing additional support, or arranging a restorative conversation to look at possible resolutions agreeable to both parties, without the need for further police intervention.
- **Taking Matters into Your Own Hands:** We understand that receiving abuse of any kind can be deeply unpleasant/upsetting for many of us, and it is only human to have an emotional response to such things. However, by acting on these emotions you could further escalate issues, and quickly find yourself out of your depth - We want everyone to keep themselves safe and avoid getting a criminal record wherever possible.
- **Social Media:** Don't allow your use of social media to put you at risk of grooming, exploitation, or regret in the future. Use social media positively and avoid being negative about anyone online as comments/actions may be traced back to you and you will be held accountable.

Whilst we hope that everyone enjoys safely socialising with friends and family, we also want to ensure they feel confident to keep themselves safe and away from any harm. Additional information on keeping safe can be accessed from the following links: [ONLINE SAFETY | policeandschools.org.uk](https://www.policeandschools.org.uk) | [BULLYING | policeandschools.org.uk](https://www.policeandschools.org.uk) | [RESTORATIVE APPROACHES | policeandschools.org.uk](https://www.policeandschools.org.uk)

Yours faithfully,

K Marston

Miss Marston
Headteacher
Saint John Wall Catholic School

Richard North
Chief Superintendent – Birmingham LPA
West Midlands Police



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