

# 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 11

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 24 November 2023

**Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'Year of Live Simply'.  
Termly Theme: The Common Good - Live in Solidarity  
Termly SJW Values – Compassionate and Loving**

**This week in Afternoon Prayer...** *"We prayed for World Children's Day and thought about why it is important to create better opportunities for all children around the world. We also prayed for World Day of the Poor and World Toilet Day, thinking about all those around the world who do not have access to good sanitation facilities. On Wednesday, we celebrated Red Wednesday. On this day, we prayed for all those in the world who are persecuted for following faiths. Afternoon Prayer is a peaceful way to end the day."*

**By Adunoluwa Adesola 7HAL**

**This week in our Weekly Worship...** *"Our Chaplaincy teams lead our Weekly Worship on our Advent Appeal Launch. The scripture in our Weekly Worship focused on how we can use the gifts and talents that God has given to us. We also discussed what charities our school will be supporting this Advent. By donating to the charities, we are showing our values of being loving and compassionate as we are helping those in our communities who are most in need. The charities we are supporting are a local SVP group, St Chad's Sanctuary and SIFA Fireside. This Weekly Worship allowed us to see the importance of helping others."*

**By Seth Holder 7PAL**

*"This week we went to Mass as a class, and it was very interesting. I got to read from the Altar and we listened to the words from the Priest."* **By Akhil Ram 8JAS**

*"Mass this week was great. There were members of the public there and the Priest said that we all did very good. We took a picture as a class as we had a tour of the Church."*

**By Kimora Williams 8JAS**

### Dates to Note

- **Year 7 and Year 9 Assessment Week**  
Monday 27 November 2023 to Friday 1 December 2023
- **Year 11 Parents' Evening and invited Year 10s**  
Thursday 7 December 2023 – 4pm to 6pm
- **Christmas Show – Cinderella**  
Monday 18 December 2023 & Tuesday 19 December 2023  
5pm to 7pm
- **Christmas/ Joyful Jumper Day**  
Tuesday 19 December 2023
- **INSET DAY – School Closed to all Pupils**  
Friday 22 December 2023
- **Christmas Holidays**  
Monday 25 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024
- **INSET Day – School closed to all Pupils**  
Monday 8 January 2024

### Welcome to new member of Staff

#### Part-time Site Assistant

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*"Hello, my name is Mr Hayward, I've worked in the leisure industry for a number of years. I am looking forward to meeting/working with all the new staff and ensuring the site is safe and also supporting the pupils if the need arises."*



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## Banned Items – Vapes and GEEKBARs

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

By Miss Timmins



## St Mary's Coffee Club

Pupils had the opportunity to make some Christmas pottery along with chatting to guests. They've also helped with tea and coffee so it's been a busy morning. Our next visit is for Christmas poetry so pupils will have the opportunity to practise their public speaking.

By Mrs Clayton

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## Chance to Shine Street

On Tuesday, we had a coach from Edgbaston cricket, Zak. He came to deliver taster sessions to all boys in Year 8 and our GCSE and Sports Studies KS4 pupils. Zak runs a programme called Chance to shine street which is held at King Edwards Handsworth school on Saturdays 9am - 11am. These sessions are free, and equipment and coaching is provided for free too. This is a fanatic local opportunity for our male pupils to attend.

By Miss Young



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*"It was an inspiring opportunity participating in a cricket taster session. We enjoyed having Zak at school to coach us. Thank you to Miss Young for arranging it."*

By Hero Dania 8ESM

*"I play cricket outside of school, so it was really fun to have Zak in to coach us."*

By Sartaj Singh 8LEV



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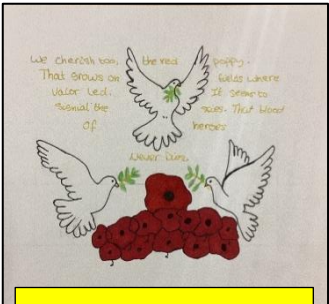
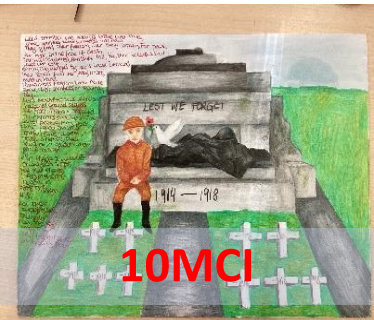
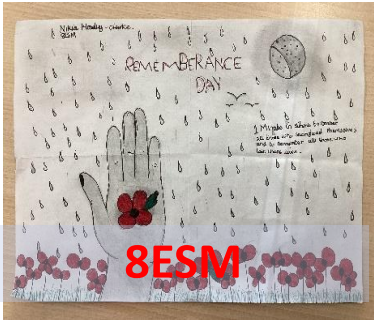
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# Postcards for Peace

The month of November is an important time for us here at Saint John Wall as we remember and commemorate those who have given their lives in service to protect the hard-fought freedoms that we have today. To help commemorate this, pupils across the school have been taking part in the Humanities House Competition. Pupils were given the task of creating 'Postcards for Peace'. Essentially pupils would design a piece of artwork to go on the front of the postcard, this artwork would symbolise the importance of peace. On the back of the postcard pupils would write a message that emphasised the need for peace in our time, this could be a poem, prayer or quote. The competition aimed to inspire pupils to express their vision of peace, reflect on the act of remembrance and create postcards that would promote the importance of unity, tolerance and understanding. Pupils rose to this challenge very well and this is reflected in the fantastic designs shown below. Congratulations to our winners and everyone who entered. It was great to see how attentively pupils responded to this competition. **By Mr McIntosh**

Thank you to Mr McIntosh for facilitating this competition for such an important time of reflection and commemoration for those who gave their lives in service. I am thoroughly impressed with the entries from forms and our special mentioned pupils' **By Miss Young**



By Karina Banger 9BAK



By Kelly Odiase 10WIO



By Kelly Pham 7BRS



By Mawra Hussain 10BRK



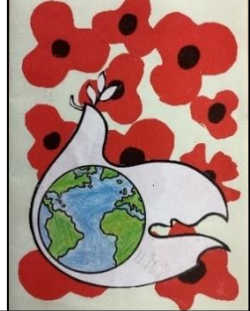
By 8REG



By Nikodem Siatkowski 9TOW



By Sara Antony 8ESM



By 8REG



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## Year 8 Aston University Trip

On Wednesday, 30 Year 8 pupils went to Aston University in Birmingham City Centre to learn more about university and higher education, the importance of your GCSE's and education, and tips and tricks on how to revise effectively and choose your GCSE's. This is a very important year for the Year 8 pupils as they are going to be choosing their options for their GCSEs as part of the SJW Pathways process. It is important that all our pupils have access to outreach opportunities such as this to make sure that they are thinking about their future and what they want to do when they complete their GCSE's. Pupils also got a chance to see the some of the university campus, and they were very impressed with the size and facilities it had to offer.

By Mr Hayaat



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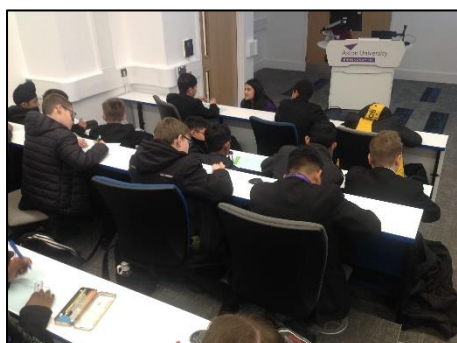


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*"The trip was very good. I learnt that you need to do your GCSEs to get to university."* By **Ernesto Breton Johnson 8LEV**

*"I found the trip very educational and helpful towards what my options are for GCSEs. This also showed me how university works and what courses to choose."* By **Parampreet Singh 8JAS**

*"The Aston University trip was really amazing. We got taught about the courses and the way students learn. The tour around the campus showed us the student union and so much more. The environment was pleasing and made me want to go to university."* By **Lamaro Wright Ashley 8ESM**

*"The university was very interesting, and it makes me feel excited to go university."* By **Demi Lee-Hulme 8RAH**

*"I really enjoyed the experience. It gave me a chance to think about my future careers and goals."*  
By **Gloria Osavbie Osazemwinde 8JAS**



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## Athletics Event

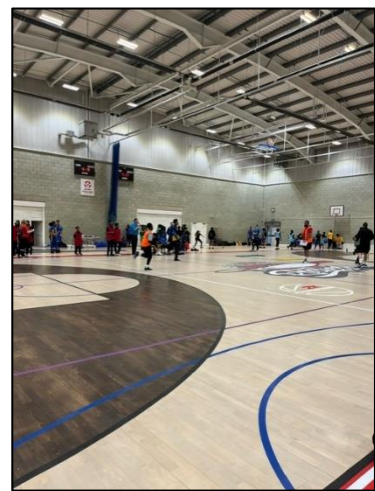
On Thursday, a select group of pupils from Year 7 and 8 attended the Sports Hall Athletics event at Nechells Wellbeing centre with Mr Patel and Mr Bakshi. The pupils had a fantastic time and took part in various events such as relay running, shot put, triple jump, vertical jump and much more! Pupils represented our school and were attentive and discerning throughout.

- Year 7 girls 5th place out of 11 schools
- Year 8 girls 7th place out of 11 schools
- Year 8 boys 5th place out of 8 schools.
- Year 7 Boys 8th out of 9 schools.

It is fantastic to see our talented PE pupils engaging in a competitive athletics competition with brilliant results. The school games programme offers these fantastic events throughout the year FREE to all pupils. Please continue to demonstrate good behaviour and consistently meet our schools' expectations so we can take you on these amazing opportunities.

**By the PE Department**

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