

THE KEY STAGE 3 POST



A final message from your Head of Year...

I hope you and your families are well.

It saddens me to say that this issue of the newsletter is the final one I will write as your Head of Year. The time has come for you to reflect on the year we've had together and to begin preparing for the changes that lie ahead. Change can be defined as "an act or process through which something becomes different". In Year 9 you will have a new Head of Year, new form tutors, new teachers, new subjects to study and new classmates. Although these changes may seem daunting at first, it is an exciting prospect and the opportunity to make a fresh start.

This year has been a difficult time for us all and, like always, there have been bumps in the road. You have come a long way from your days in Year 7 and matured into kind, caring and independent young people who have worked hard and made me proud. We have overcome any barriers together and it is a great shame that our journey didn't end by celebrating your achievements as a cohort at your Graduation ceremony in June.

I'd like to share with you some successes from your time in Year 8 and congratulate those form groups and individuals to the right for their outstanding effort all year. A special mention must also go to the following students who have excelled in their home studies since the school closure: Elliott B (35 GC), Lily P (31 GC), Naomi E (29 GC), Gustas K (27 GC), Katerina N (27 GC), Nathan T (27 GC), Ethan T (27 GC), Anu O (26 GC), Sophie T (26 GC) and Jessica L (24 GC).

The next named students all have one thing in common – they did not receive a single BC in Year 8; they have shown focus and dedication to their studies throughout. Well done to Jessica L, Mia R, Alisha A, Krhys S, Skye G, Jashanpreet S, Japjit S, Neo R, Summer C, Kadisha D'S, Joseph K, Katerina N, Manraj B, Niamh S, Kitty A, Diana P and Annabel H. A phenomenal achievement!

So what will you do differently next year to make the best possible start in Year 9? Will you embrace the changes and reap the benefits of a new start, or will you sit back and let the opportunity pass you by? The decision is yours! Next week's issue of the newsletter will be written for you by Mr Magee – your new Head of Year. I'd like to finish my message by thanking Mrs Hodges and Mr Khan for their continued support over the year and leave you with some quotes to think about.

**YOU NEVER GET
A SECOND CHANCE
TO MAKE A GOOD
FIRST IMPRESSION.**

**NOBODY SAID THAT
IT'D BE
EASY
THEY JUST PROMISED
IT WOULD BE
WORTH IT**

**OPPORTUNITIES ARE
NEVER LOST;
SOMEONE WILL TAKE
THE ONES YOU MISS.
SEIZE THE MOMENT!**

**SUCCESS AT ANYTHING
WILL ALWAYS COME
DOWN TO THIS:
FOCUS AND EFFORT,
AND WE CONTROL
BOTH.**

Take care, keep safe and I wish you every success for the year ahead,
Miss Munns.

Form Winners 2020



Lockdown Winners



Attendance Winners 2020



Top 3 Students 2020



Bringing the community back together...





Form Tutor Messages

8MNM

Dear 8MNM,
I wanted to thank you all for your hard work and efforts during such turbulent times; 8MNM really is the best Year 8 form, in my humble opinion!

School is important but so is your health. Take care of yourself and each other and remember, in a world where you can be anything, be kind! And, no matter what happens next year, be proud of yourself, your resilience, and your ability to adapt to extreme circumstances. I am proud of each and every one of you.

Miss Noor.

8CCA

Dear 8CCA,
Firstly, let me congratulate you on a weird but wonderful year. When I considered what you were like a year ago to now, you have made a huge progression through my constant moaning! Your attendance has improved, your GC went up and everyone had complete learning kits every week. I am incredibly proud of you and know you will go on to do great things. Keep up the good work! Remember what is important and consider what you can do now and how that will benefit you in the future.

Miss Comiskey.

8JPA

Dear 8JPA,
It has been a pleasure to be your form tutor this year. We've learnt a lot together this year, from the 'Golden Ratio' to Jonah and the Whale in 'Veggie Tales'.

Remember, stay organised, stay hungry to be the hardest worker in the room.

To each and every one of you I wish you the very best of luck as you go forward into Year 9. Your future is how YOU shape it.

Best wishes,

Mr Parker

8CRC

Dear 8CRC,
This is a quick message to you all just to say good luck! It has been lovely being your form tutor for the year and you have all been so amazing! Keep working hard and focusing on school, you have so much to look forward to! Year 9 will be really good as long as you keep working hard! I will miss you all but don't forget that I am always here if you need a chat!

Miss Ratcliffe

8GOC

Dear 8GOC,
I have been missing the best form in Year 8. I have been lucky enough to have been the form tutor of the kindest children in Year 8 – so many of you helping out your peers with equipment so that everybody has pencils, pens, rulers etc. I have NEVER given less bad comments to any Year 8 form, so you must have been doing something right! I hope your families are keeping safe. Good luck in Year 9!

Mr Osborn.

8SWP

Dear 8SWP,
Firstly I'd like to thank all of you for being absolutely fantastic for me in this past academic year. You have been an absolute credit to Year 8 and it's been wonderful to spend time with you every morning before you start your school day. I like the fact that we had some humour in the morning and maybe a little bit of drama every now and again, but all of you have been brilliant. Especially as we have been the only form group in the open area, you rarely got distracted by other classes. A particular highlight for me was our 'who could balance their learning kit on their head for the longest' competition! I hope you enjoy Year 9, work hard and achieve everything you set out to achieve here at St John's.

Mr Warwick.

8SHP

Dear 8SHP,
"Congratulations Year 8!
Today is your day.
You're off to great places!
You're off and away!
You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go!" ~ Dr Seuss

To my lovely, funny, boisterous, and sometimes mischievous form group... I wish you all the luck and best wishes for Year 9 and your future at St John's! Work hard and strive to achieve your goals! I hope you are all safe and well, I look forward to seeing you in the new academic year! Be good, stay safe & see you all soon!
Mrs Gibbons.

Well-being Tasks

“We have learnt that amid the fear, there is also community, support and hope!”

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness”

Given the fact that we are reaching the end of the school year and it has been a great challenge adapting to home learning, it is time to take a small step back and take time to reflect on all that has happened and how you, as young people, can grow and develop through this challenging time.

Your task throughout this week and the remainder of the month, will be to take some time and look after yourself. Follow the resilience calendar throughout the month and see if you can make positive steps into improving your mindset and continue to develop throughout this difficult time.

Try your best to implement these changes and resilience guidelines in your day-to-day lives and find that light amidst the strange times we are currently in.



[Click HERE](#) for the resilience calendar.



HOME – SCHOOL SUPPORT

Dear Parents/Guardians

As a school, we recognise that your experiences of lockdown, just like our own, would not all have been plain sailing. We also understand that, for some of you, there is a real danger of feeling isolated from your friends, family and community at this uniquely challenging time.

Whilst we, at St John’s, have been working hard to try to further enhance our communications with you through our weekly Newsletters, we understand that isn’t necessarily the same as speaking to a member of our community or hearing a familiar voice.

Therefore, from this week onwards, we are offering you the opportunity to contact the school to request a ‘call back’ from a member of our Year Group Pastoral Team. Whether it is a concern you may have with Home Study, a particular problem that you or your child is going through or even an opportunity to have a general chat with someone from St John’s, if you would like to speak to a member of our Pastoral Team, please email your request through for a ‘call back’ to the relevant pastoral manager email address below and we will get in touch with you in due course.

We would love to hear from you, so please do make use of this opportunity.

- Year 7 - Miss J. Styles: jstyles@stj.kent.sch.uk
- Year 8 – Mrs Hodges: lhodges@stj.kent.sch.uk
- Year 9 - Mrs L. Buckingham: lbuckingham@stj.kent.sch.uk

Show My Homework is changing its’ name!

There will be:

- ✓ A new app icon and website logo (see below)
- ✓ **NO** changes to the way you currently use or access the app and website.



This Week’s Prayer

*Father, I thank you for the “March winds and April showers that bring May flowers.” Father, You know what is necessary to prepare me for what You have in store for my life. Help me to receive what You have for me. Prepare me as You prepare the seeds. Grow me strong, nourish and protect me with Your truth so that I can break through the dirt, sprouting into a healthy “flower” that radiates Your glory in the earth.
Amen*

Bringing the community back together...

