

Dear Parents & Carers, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the July edition of our Newsletter.

As we come to the end of another academic year at St John's – my first full year back after my injury – it is with great joy that I reflect on what has undoubtedly been an incredibly positive year for our school. This year has been filled with numerous enriching opportunities for our students, allowing them to flourish both academically and personally. From educational trips that have broadened horizons, to extra-curricular clubs that have ignited passions, alongside the wonderful academic and spiritual provision that are afforded to our students every single day.

In January, we were delighted to receive an extremely positive Ofsted inspection report, which reaffirmed the dedication and commitment of our staff in providing an exceptional learning environment for our pupils. The feedback received not only highlighted the high standards of education at St John's but also underscored the strong sense of community that permeates our school. This recognition serves as a testament to the hard work and perseverance of both our students and staff.

It has also been incredibly heartening to see the popularity of our school continue to go from strength to strength within our local community. This year, we received over 800 applications for our 196 Year 7 places, reflecting the high level of trust that families place in us to provide a quality education for their children. In addition, our sixth form also remains heavily oversubscribed which, again, is extremely pleasing as we continue to support and nurture students through their important post-16 years. This growing interest is both humbling and inspiring, fueling our ambition to continue to maintain and enhance our standard of education and build on the wider opportunities available to our pupils.

As we prepare to bid farewell to our school leavers, we extend our warmest wishes to each and every one of them. We hope that, as they embark on new journeys, they carry with them wonderful memories and a genuine fondness for their time spent at our school. The friendships made, the lessons learned, and the challenges overcome will undoubtedly serve as a solid foundation for their futures.

Additionally, we extend our heartfelt best wishes to those students who about to receive their external examination results this summer. We have witnessed first-hand the immense effort and resilience they have demonstrated throughout the year, and we are confident that their hard work will be rewarded. The unwavering support from our dedicated staff has also played a vital role in preparing them for these important outcomes, and we eagerly anticipate celebrating their achievements together.

As we approach the summer holidays, I would like to wish everyone in our St John's community a restful and enjoyable break. This is a well-deserved opportunity for rest, recuperation and fun, after a demanding year. We encourage our students to embrace the summer sun, explore new interests, and take time to rejuvenate before the new academic year is upon us once again.

Thank you as always for your continued support and commitment to our school, and I very much look forward to welcoming our students back in September (after a restful holiday of course!) Take care & God bless,

Matt Barron, *Headteacher*

## KS3 Students Conquer Ninja Warrior Chatham!

As a well-deserved reward for their hard work and positive attitudes shown throughout this year, our KS3 students recently enjoyed an exhilarating trip to Ninja Warrior UK in Chatham—and what a day it was!

From scaling warped walls to navigating tricky balance obstacles, the students tackled the iconic course with courage, energy, and plenty of laughter. It wasn't just a physical challenge—it was a chance for them to bond, support one another, and celebrate their efforts this term.

The event highlighted not just the students' resilience and team spirit, but also their ability to dive into new experiences with enthusiasm. Staff were impressed by the determination on display, and many left with sore muscles... and big smiles!

We're proud of all our KS3 students and look forward to offering more exciting adventures like this in future. Well done, everyone!

Mr E Sumner, *Head of Year 7.*



## Lyric Theatre

English Literature and Classical Civilisation students from Year 11 and 13 recently attended a wonderful performance of *Hadestown* at the Lyric Theatre in London. The story merges myths of doomed Eurydice and Orpheus, as well as Hades' abduction of Persephone in the Underworld.

Set in a Great Depression era landscape, the folk, jazz, and blues-inspired score was incredibly powerful. Songs like *Wait for Me* and *Why We Build the Wall* explored love, sacrifice, and authority, sparking great discussions amongst the students.

All in all, it was a fantastic educational and cultural experience. Students returned inspired, with new insights into theatre, music, and storytelling. If you ever get the chance to visit the Lyric for *Hadestown*, it's well worth making the trip!

Mrs C Bishop, *English Teacher.*

## Year 12 Social Science Canterbury Christchurch University Workshop



On the 19th and 20th of June, Year 12 Social Science students had an exciting opportunity to attend an interactive workshop at Canterbury Christ Church University. The session offered a deep dive into how psychology continues to revolutionise and modernise the criminal justice system.

Led by academic and postgraduate ambassadors, students followed the journey of a suspect through a simulated arrest, police interview, trial, and even a walk through a real prison yard, where they experienced each stage of the justice process from multiple perspectives.

Using the university's specialist facilities, including the justice suite (mock police station), the old

courtroom, and the prison grounds, students enthusiastically embraced a variety of roles such as criminal, lawyer, juror, and judge. This immersive experience helped them explore the critical role forensic psychology plays in shaping fair and effective justice systems.

Students demonstrated excellent engagement throughout the workshop, which proved to be a powerful and memorable learning experience. They left with a richer understanding of the criminal justice system and the vital role psychology plays within it.



Mrs O Collins, *Social Sciences Teacher*.



## Lego Challenge

60 students from Year 7 participated in a 'Lego Challenge' which culminated in students designing their own Lego structure, first from a paper plan involving plans and elevations, with each brick having its own cost which they had to keep within a budget.

Teamwork, communication and leadership skills were all used in the challenge, which students also learnt are sought-after skills in STEM careers that were introduced to the students too.

The winning team were Ikechukwu, Nathaniel, and Darius. Well done gentlemen!

Mr Q Smith, *Mathematics Teacher*.

## Hayling Island Geography Field Trip

Year 12 A Level Geography students attended a field trip to Hayling Island in Hampshire to investigate the impact of human intervention on physical processes at the coastline. The students braved the elements (and the early start!) to collect data relating to longshore drift, spit formation and coastal management. The information that they have collected, and the techniques they have learnt, will be used to support the non-examined assessment (NEA) in Year 13, which is 20% of the students' final grade.

Mr B Thilthorpe, *Head of Geography*



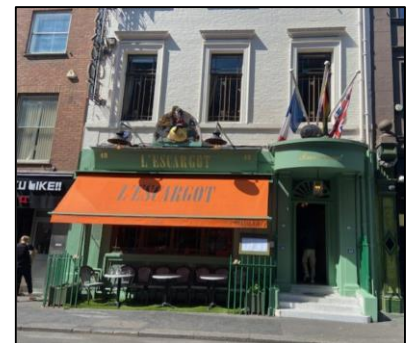
## Food Department Pop-Up Bistro

A selection of Year 10, 11 and 12 Food students have been working on a French themed project to conclude the academic year. They researched the cuisine, visited the oldest French restaurant in London, called L' Escargot, and designed a 2-course meal to serve in the Food Department's Pop-Up Bistro. Each student carefully selected and planned a 2-course meal for a teacher of their choice, along with an additional guest. A range of traditional dishes were served including French Onion Soup, Chicken Chasseur, Duck a l'Orange and Apple Tarte Tatin. Students and staff all enjoyed the event, with service and dishes highly praised!



## KS4 Food Trip - French Eateries in London

A number of Year 9 and 10 Food students visited London to explore French cuisine in the capital. We toured a variety of French-themed cafes and bistros in the morning and then headed to L' Escargot, London's oldest French restaurant. L' Escargot is a world-renowned French restaurant which is part of the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts and an extremely prestigious establishment. Students were treated to a meet and greet with the restaurant owner Brian Clivaz, a tour of the business with General Manager David Seccombe, a cocktail masterclass, a patisserie demonstration as well as a food service workshop. They then enjoyed a French 3 course meal with sides, which some students were lucky enough to help prepare!



Miss S Gosling, *Head of Food Technology*.

## Science Museum Visit

The visit to the Science Museum in London always seems a bit like an adventure. We have the dash to the station to get our train, before negotiating the London Underground with its crowds before we even arrived at our destination.

The Science Museum was busy as always, even though some of the exhibitions were unavailable. We toured the space, medicine and 20<sup>th</sup> Century sections and students each appeared to have their areas of interest. For some, it was the brain in the jar, for others it was the space suits or the car stack. Some managed to engage in interactive games in the museum - but were initially surprised when they realised not all was as it seemed. Many seemed grateful for the lunch break in the indoor "picnic area," as it was a time to sit and socialise for a few minutes and reflect on the day's experiences. It was also at this point incredibly noticeable just how many had made such good friendships since Year 7 – ones that are likely to endure well beyond their time accessing our Transition Department lessons.

Mr P Coode, *Transition Teacher*.

## Adela's Great Achievement in Science

The Transition Department is incredibly proud of Adela (Year 8), who recently took part in the prestigious national competition, 'If You Were an Engineer, What Would You Do?'

This year's competition saw an overwhelming response, with approximately 75,000 entries submitted by pupils from all across the UK. Each student responded to the prompt by designing an innovative solution to a real-world problem.

The judging process is rigorous. Professional scientists first review and shortlist submissions. Then, two winners and two highly commended entries are selected for each age group. Following this, university and industry partners choose a very small number of outstanding designs to be developed into working prototypes. These are then brought to life by university engineering students or research teams.

We are delighted to share that Adela's brilliant idea, the Medical Calendar, was chosen to be turned into a real-life prototype — a remarkable achievement out of tens of thousands of applicants. Adela's creativity, problem-solving, and passion for science truly stood out.

It has been an honour to witness her journey, and we are thrilled to celebrate this success. A heartfelt thank-you also goes to Mr. Walton, Associate Headteacher, for attending the final ceremony at Canterbury University in support of Adela.

Congratulations, Adela — the entire Transition Department is so proud of you!

Mrs L Slamkova, *Transition Teacher*.



## Tate Modern Visit

In previous years, the Transition Department have taken our Year 7 classes to the National Gallery to see its priceless collection there. This year we decided to break that tradition and explore the Tate Modern - a risky change as not everyone is inspired by modern art. It was, however, great to see the students interested and receptive of the works on display, reflecting so maturely on what they saw. In fact, throughout the day, their behaviour was a credit to them and the school.

The visit was not just about Art and communication though; it also offered a wider range of experiences, including travelling by train with friends and negotiating the prime tourist area between the station and the gallery. The pupils clearly appreciated the chance to see some of the sights on the way and to catch up with friends in a different setting. They all remembered the 'stay safe' work we had undertaken in school before the visit, which enabled them to fully enjoy the visit.

Back at school, they showed that they had each enjoyed the learning opportunities offered with each pupil bringing back their own favourite memories of their day out.

Mr P Coode, *Transition Teacher*.



### Larkin Farm Rural Activity Centre

A small group of students across Years 7 – 10 enjoyed an exciting opportunity, gaining first-hand experience of caring and working with animals, on our visit to Larkin Farm's Rural Activity Centre. Pupils experienced life on the Farm, meeting the animals, clearing stables, feeding the Alpacas, and grooming the Shetland Ponies.



Pupils worked well alongside each other and across year groups, to provide animal care and to experience a wide range of jobs on the farm. Staff were extremely impressed by our pupil's interest, as well as the skills and the hard work they demonstrated over the morning session.

Well done to all those pupils who took part and for representing St John's so well throughout all activities.



Miss T Ficchi, *SEND Manager*.



**Old Clothes for Own Clothes**

Year 9 is once again collecting clothes that you and your family are no longer using, to donate to Ellenor who support patients and families facing life-limiting illness

**Service to Others**

Year 9 students in orange t-shirts holding a banner that says: 'Proudly supporting patients and their families facing life-limiting illnesses.'

- ✔ What to bring: Lightly used clothing, shoes and accessories
- ✔ If you don't have any clothes to donate, you can make a cash donation instead (minimum of £1)
- ✔ In return you get to wear your own clothes for the day!
- 📍 Where: Donations will be collected in the heartspace.
- 📅 When: Friday 27th June 2025

 **ellenor.x**  
 Hospice care in your home or ours.

## Year 9 'Old Clothes for Own Clothes' Charity Day

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June, Year 9 students once again led the popular 'Old Clothes for Own Clothes' event in support of the Ellenor Hospice. The school community responded generously, donating enough clothes to fill an entire minibus.

Year 9 students played a key role in collecting and organising the donations, before helping to deliver them directly to the Ellenor collection point. In addition to the clothing, the event also raised well over £500 to support the hospice's vital work.

The school received the following message from Tina Dyson, Event Fund Raising Officer, Ellenor Hospice.

'Huge thanks to you all for dropping off the huge amount of donations to our warehouse today.

Thanks to every single student & staff member who donated, be it money or clothing, it will all make a huge difference and will help us care for so many people in our local community.'

## Year 10 Students Help Clean Up Minnis Bay

As part of their work experience, a group of Year 10 students from St John's volunteered to take part in a beach cleanup at Minnis Bay. The students showed great enthusiasm and teamwork as they collected litter and plastic waste, filling around 10 sacks in total. It was a rewarding experience and made more special by beachgoers who thanked them for their efforts in cleaning the beach, which meant a lot to them. Not only did the students contribute positively to the environment, but they represented the school with pride and great community spirit.



'Overall, today was very enjoyable and sunny, and I personally had a lot of fun. Not only was I spending time with my friends, I was also helping out the community and the sea life by getting rid of as much plastic as possible. The local people are also super kind, thanking St John's students for their efforts, and the beach itself is so pretty'. (Natalia M – Year 10).

Mrs H Rooke, Pastoral Manager.

## Turbulence



On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June, St John's Gymnastics Squad put on a showcase, "Turbulence," with guests from St John's Catholic Primary School and Sir Geoffrey Leigh, Dartford. After all the hard work of this academic year, it was an opportunity to demonstrate the outstanding skills of the gymnasts and have some fun. Many of the acts were choreographed by the gymnasts themselves, making it an extra special event.

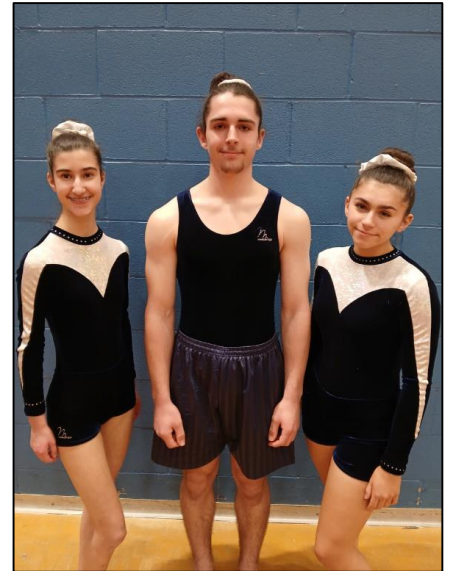
Well done to all the gymnasts involved and thank you for Istead Rise Gymnastics Club for the annual loan of the air track.

## National Gymnastics Finals



Following a successful performance at the regional competition in December 2024, St John's Gymnastics Squad represented the South East region at the National Finals of the Milano Team Trio Competition in Stoke-on-Trent across Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Both teams performed exceptionally well, with the Under 13 Mixed team achieving 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the Under 19 Mixed team achieving 9<sup>th</sup> place. Very well done to everyone involved!

Under 13 Mixed: David, Imogen, Ivy, Jenelle  
Under 19 Mixed: Bruno, Molly, Eva



Mrs L Weller, *Assistant Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)*.

## Chess Champions

This week we celebrate the conclusion of the St John's Chess tournament that pitted student against student, staff against staff, and ultimately staff versus student in a game of wits.

Year 7 winner: Louisa W, Year 8 winner: George B, Year 9 winner: Aydaan B, Year 10 winner: Xian S,  
Year 12 winner: Mark B

Overall student winner: Xian S, Staff winner: Mr Barron  
Champion of Champions: Mr Barron.

Mrs S Taylor, *Mathematics Teacher*.

## The Powell-Cotton Museum



Earlier this summer term, our First Year Arts Award students were taken to The Powell-Cotton Museum near Margate, to further support Part B of their qualification. They took part in a coil pot ceramic workshop, linked to the South Sudanese ceramicist, Mbitim. They were also able to see and photograph the taxidermy dioramas assembled by the Powell-Cotton family from 1896 – 1947. They will use these images in a forthcoming Natural Forms project in Year 2.



We also had the opportunity to walk around the gardens after lunch and were given a wonderful display by the very much alive Pinfold the Peacock, who posed and spread his feathers for the admiration of all!

Mrs L Gabriel, *Arts Award Teacher*.

## Royal Courts of Justice

Students from Y12 A Level Law visited the Royal Courts of Justice on Tuesday 28th January. They were able to go inside to observe a very interesting cross-examination inside the Central London County Court.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the trip and were still talking about it in their lessons the following week.

Mr Q Smith, *Mathematics and Law Teacher*.



## Duke of Edinburgh

Our Duke of Edinburgh students completed their Silver Practice Expedition across the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> of March. Students coped very well in all aspects of the expedition, including walking over 30km, navigation, camping and sleeping in freezing conditions, as well as being self-sufficient with all meals.

Miss H Thomson, *Director of Alternative Provision*.

## GOODBYE YEAR 11!

After a tough and challenging academic year, Year 11 threw themselves enthusiastically into celebrations to mark the end of their examination period before they officially departed for a well-earned break. It is always a bittersweet occasion saying farewell to our leavers after all the hard work that Year 11 entails. Needless to say, we are immensely proud of them all for their conscientious efforts and dedication throughout this year; the students have been a real credit to St John's.

Our leavers were sent off in true St John's style; pupils thoroughly enjoyed their Leavers' Mass, Celebration Assembly and BBQ on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, and of course the highlight was the Year 11 Prom held two days later at Redlibbets Golf Club.

Mass is an important occasion for students to give thanks and reflect together on their personal journey through St John's. The celebration assembly, which followed Mass, was an emotional one but it also gave the opportunity for staff to show their appreciation to Year 11 for the commitment to their studies, and to wish them well in their future adventures via the well-received staff video. Students then headed outside in the sunshine to participate in the ritual 'shirt signing' and for a BBQ with staff. It was a glorious afternoon and one which was enjoyed by all!

Prom 2025..... Year 11 students looked amazing in their new attire, and the staff didn't look too bad either! It was a lovely occasion to mark the students' time at St John's with a hot finger food buffet followed by throwing some shapes on the dancefloor. We would like to thank our students for a wonderful evening and their exemplary behaviour.



We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Year 11 students for their hard work and determination displayed throughout this year. We very much hope that this is reflected when their results are released in the Summer and we look forward to sharing their successes with them to recognise all that they have worked so hard to achieve.

We wish them the best of luck in their future pathways and look forward to welcoming very many of them back to the Sixth Form next year.

Finally, always remember as you move into the 'big wide world' that you will always be part of a much bigger community - the St John's community.

The Year 11 Team.



**Exam Results 2025**  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

For collecting results, students should enter via the Service Yard (before the MUGA) and enter the Sports Hall by the fire exit door on the service road.

**From 9:00am to 11:00am = Year 11 GCSE and Level 2 BTEC/Vocational.**  
**Sixth Form Enrolment 9:00am to 1:00pm.**

**From 10:30am to 12:00pm = Year 10 GCSE and Level 2 BTEC/Vocational.**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find some useful information in relation to online safety:

**For Parents - Holiday Conversations**

The holiday period is an ideal time for parents to sit down with their children, play their games and use their apps to get to know the endless fun but also the potential risks. Conversations can be difficult, especially if the parent isn't a user of tech, but conversation is the most powerful risk mitigator of all. So where do parents start?

The NSPCC have put together a fabulous page full of information such as:

- Age-appropriate conversations taking into consideration different ages.
- Resources such as tips and quizzes.
- An understanding of some of the risks.
- And tackling difficult conversations.

Please follow this link for more information: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

If your child is looking to get a new app, don't be fooled yourself by the age ratings in the app stores, be aware that you need to either read the terms and conditions or use Common Sense Media for lots of useful information about a particular app/game: <https://www.common sense media.org/app-reviews>

**For Parents - Moving to Secondary School**

For many children, the move from primary to school has many 'firsts', including digital firsts. Internet Matters have a wonderful guide for parents to help with that transition from primary to secondary school, all digital and online related.

You can find the guide <https://esafety-adviser.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cbd59b76f0e1ad9db768db345&id=fe29250ef9&e=a3b9e72ba5>.

### **For Parents - Fall Guys Parental Controls**

Fall Guys is a very popular game with children. It has a PEGI 3 rating and falls under the massive multiplayer battle royale genre of games, meaning there are things like chat, in-game spending, friends lists and more. It's important that games like this are set up correctly in accordance with the age of the child playing. For example over 13s have default access to party chat groups.

Internet Matters have a really good guide detailing all the parental features: <https://esafety-adviser.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cbd59b76f0e1ad9db768db345&id=74c0f840bc&e=a3b9e72ba5> and Wayne Denner has just published an article about a new voice reporting feature which is available within Fall Guys and also Rocket League, another really popular game with children. You can find Wayne's article here: <https://esafety-adviser.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cbd59b76f0e1ad9db768db345&id=733f1a7819&e=a3b9e72ba5>.

Mentally Healthy School have published some information that you may also find useful:

Self-care is about the things we can do to look after our own mental health. Young people told us that when they are struggling, they are usually told to see a professional. They don't often get much advice about how they could help themselves.

<https://www.annafreud.org/resources/children-and-young-peoples-wellbeing/self-care/>

Self-care top tips for young parents and carers booklet

<https://d1uw1dikibnh8j.cloudfront.net/media/12208/selfcarepc-final.pdf>

Nature and mental health booklet for pupils aged 16+ and adults. It explains how nature can help your mental health

<https://www.mind.org.uk/media/9648/nature-and-mental-health-2021-pdf-for-download-pdf-version.pdf>

A mindfulness relaxation exercise for older students, helping to clear thoughts and release tensions

<https://www.meditationinschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Mindfulness-Relaxation-Exercise-Script.pdf>

I do hope you have a restful and relaxing summer

Mrs O Kelham, *Senior Assistant Headteacher Designated Safeguarding Lead & Mental Health Lead.*

## A Celebration of Success: St John's Awards Evening 2025

On Tuesday 24th June, St John's proudly hosted its prestigious annual Awards Evening, an event dedicated to recognising the tremendous hard work, determination, and achievements of just some of our amazing students. With over 1,300 pupils enrolled at St John's, receiving a nomination alone is an outstanding accomplishment, and on the night, around 120 students were presented with awards, with several honoured more than once for their dedication across multiple subjects.

Staff from all curriculum areas nominated students across all key stages, acknowledging excellence not only in academic performance but also in effort, progress, and contribution to the wider life of the school. Each award serves as recognition of individual students' commitment and growth over the past academic year.

We were delighted to welcome a number of special guests to the event. Families of past students and staff members, in whose honour some of our awards are named, joined us to celebrate this year's recipients. Their presence served as a reminder of the rich history and community spirit that continue to shape our school. We were especially honoured to welcome Canon Victor Darlington, who presented the prestigious "Special Awards" and offered words of inspiration to both students and parents.

Our Awards Evening reflects St John's ongoing commitment to creating a positive rewards culture, celebrating student success regularly and meaningfully. Over recent years, recognising and rewarding pupil achievement has become central to school life, and this evening stands as a highlight, the culmination of all that our students work so hard for throughout the year.

The "Special Awards" presentation was undoubtedly one of the evening's most significant moments. These awards recognise students whose contributions and accomplishments stand out even among the school's best. Their names will now join past winners, engraved on the school's shields and trophies to be remembered in St John's history for generations to come.

We extend our congratulations to every student who received an award or nomination; your achievements are something to be truly proud of. A full list of award recipients and nominees can be found below.

Thank you to all who attended, supported, and contributed to what was a truly memorable evening. We look forward to celebrating even more student successes in the year ahead.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Stage/Year/Award</b>	<b>Name</b>
Art	KS3	Lucie B
Computing	KS3	Teyte H
Computing Enrichment	KS3	Reuben G
Dance	KS3	Sayde M
Design Technology	KS3	Alison H
Digital Information Technology Enrichment	KS3	Cameron W
Drama	KS3	Lily F
English	KS3	Freddy M
Food Technology	KS3	Carlyle N
Geography	KS3	Ava P
History	KS3	Aaron W
Maths	KS3	Terell A
Music	KS3	Melissa E

Physical Education	KS3	Holly M
Religious Education	KS3	Ikechukwu N
Science	KS3	Emma Z
French	KS3	Esther H
Spanish	KS3	Pavlo N
Transition Year 8	KS3	Leonie H
Transition Year 7	KS3	Cristina A
Most Good Comments - Year 7 (567)	Year 7	Teyte H
Star of the Year	Year 7	Riley C
The Positivity Award	Year 7	Ava M
The Resilience Award	Year 7	Imogen U
Most Good Comments - Year 8 (421)	Year 8	Leonie H
Star of the Year	Year 8	Saerd B
The Positivity Award	Year 8	Ava P
The Resilience Award	Year 8	Sayde M
Most Good Comments - Year 9 (250)	Year 9	Zach I
Star of the Year	Year 9	Bryony W
The Positivity Award	Year 9	Danny-Lee J
The Resilience Award	Year 9	Mohamed B
Art	KS4	Simran K
BTEC Home Cooking Skills	KS4	Elesha-Mai T
Business	KS4	Rapolas K
Car Motor Maintenance	KS4	Anthony R
DIY Skills	KS4	Bella I
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	KS4	Adrian P
Child Development	KS4	Alesha-Jane K
Citizenship	KS4	Jasveer S
Computer Science	KS4	Julia P
Creative Media Studies	KS4	Precious N
Dance	KS4	Sophia H
Design Technology	KS4	Aaron G
Digital Information Technology	KS4	Millen D
Drama	KS4	Nancy T
Spanish	KS4	Miya G
Engineering	KS4	Nyomi S
English	KS4	Lillie-Mae S
Geography	KS4	Alia W
Health & Social Care	KS4	Shenayi B
Psychology	KS4	Djamila T
Sociology	KS4	Jayden W
History	KS4	Genevieve W
Maths	KS4	Aaron P
Music	KS4	Isla H
Photography	KS4	Judyta K
Physical Education	KS4	Olivia K
Science	KS4	Simran K
Religious Education	KS4	Djamila T

Sports Activity & Fitness	KS4	Lacie-Lou O
Sports Leaders	KS4	Micaela M
Textiles	KS4	Amelia H
Most Good Comments - Year 10 (177)	Year 10	Anuj S
Star of the Year	Year 10	Torran P
The Positivity Award	Year 10	Zara B
The Resilience Award	Year 10	Paulina M
Most Good Comments - Year 11 (175)	Year 11	Leyla A
Star of the Year	Year 11	Vilte G
The Positivity Award	Year 11	Franciszek D
The Resilience Award	Year 11	Charlie P
Art	KS5	Michelle J
Biology	KS5	Temi A
Business	KS5	Ranjot S
Chemistry	KS5	Monika R
Children's Play, Learning & Development	KS5	Harelina K
Criminology	KS5	Tristan B
Sport	KS5	James R
Dance	KS5	Daisie M
Drama	KS5	Honey C
Engineering	KS5	Taj S
English	KS5	Joseph K
Geography	KS5	Nathan A
Government and Politics	KS5	Alisha A
Health & Social Care (Diploma)	KS5	Lexie W
Health & Social Care (Extended Certificate)	KS5	Jeena B
Science (BTEC)	KS5	Mae W
History	KS5	Elliott B
Information Technology	KS5	Derin T
Law	KS5	Luke G
Maths	KS5	Amy H
Creative Media Studies	KS5	Ethan T
Music	KS5	Oliver B
Personal Finance	KS5	Deenadhayalan G
Photography	KS5	Hannah S
Physical Education	KS5	Thomas L
Physics	KS5	Daniel O
Product Design	KS5	Rayan L
Psychology	KS5	NG O
Uniformed Protective Services	KS5	Danni T
Religious Education	KS5	Lilly C
Sociology	KS5	Tosin S
Excellence for All	KS5	Monika R
Inspired by Christ	KS5	Nathan A
Outstanding A2L	KS5	Matas P
Service to Others	KS5	Angel M
Star of the Year	KS5	Hollie T
The Positivity Award	KS5	Joseph K

Learning Champion	KS3	Fatima A
Learning Champion	KS3	Jakob S
Learning Champion	KS3	Max M
Learning Champion	KS4	Ava L
Learning Champion	KS4	Ronnie H
Learning Champion	KS4	Skylar S
Learning Champion	KS5	Noah W
Learning Champion	KS5	James R
Progress and Resilience	SENCO Award	Nayim M
Progress and Resilience	SENCO Award	Emmanuella I
Ambrose House Award	House Award	Ethan H
Patrick House Award	House Award	Carlyle N
Clare House Award	House Award	Sophie S
Artist of the Year	Special Award	Katerina N
The Community Shield Award	Special Award	Elliott B
Entrepreneurial Award 2025	Special Award	Summer R
Sports Shield (Andy Bradley)	Special Award	Scarlett C
Ashleigh Wallis Award for Resilience	Special Award	Rosie C
Natalie O'Shea Award (Service to Others)	Special Award	Stefano M
Ricki Neil-Jones award for 'Role model'	Special Award	Jason D
Colm Murphy Award	Special Award	Noah W
The Nijole Kelly Award for Student	Special Award	Tarique T

Mr J Steadman, *Senior Assistant Headteacher i/c Pastoral.*

### Sixth Form Homeless Sleep-out

Last night, over 50 of our new Year 13 pupils, along with 8 members of St John's staff, participated in our annual Homeless Sleep-Out to raise awareness and funds for Gravesham Sanctuary, a local Homeless charity, embodying our school values of 'Service to Others' and 'Inspired by Christ.' Through prayer, reflection, and a small taste of the challenges faced by those without homes, they witnessed the call of Catholic Social Teaching to see Christ in all.



This was quite an event as pupils created a cardboard city underneath the Art Loft, with the number of participants involved just simply amazing – a real testament to what an incredible cohort our new Year 13s are. Pupils were visited by Lorna Nolan, representing the Gravesham Sanctuary and Dr Lauren Sullivan MP of Gravesham.

After their night's sleep-out, rather than leaving the school site to refresh and refuel for the day ahead, a number of students stayed with their cardboard homes to raise further funds and awareness as the wider school arrived for the final day of term. Through their efforts, pupils have so far raised over £2000 for the Gravesham Sanctuary – an incredible amount. Well done Year 13s! We're so proud of your compassion and care!

Susanne Gibbons, *School Chaplain.*

## Chaplain's Corner

And breathe!

Can you believe we are about to close the doors on another school year?

It's so tempting to rush headlong into the summer break with lists of things to do, places to go and people to see. Society makes us feel we must fill every moment of every day 'living our best lives' or 'making memories!' Every time I see such a declaration on social media platforms, I want to scream!

Then the self-doubt sets in. Why am I not travelling the world? Should I be constantly surrounded by people, posting photos with others as if life is one long party? Do I need to be informing all I meet of how incredibly busy and full my life is?

This is where I need to take the advice I am about to give to you. To stop, breathe and connect to what is really important.

You will see from the newsletter that this has been a year full of effort, laughter, challenges and growth. Not only for the pupils, but also staff and (I am certain), families alike. We have seen countless moments of kindness, perseverance, joy and hope. Pupils sitting public exams, choosing options and making decisions about their future. Our new Year 7 pupils have now progressed to Year 8 pupils, and I have no doubts that parents have seen them grow and mature over the past year. At the heart of it all, are our school values: Excellence For All, Service To Others, and Inspired By Christ. Pupils striving to be the best they can be, serving God's family here in our community and in the wider world with many charitable events, and always knowing Jesus Christ is at the root of all at St John's.

During the summer we can all be inspired by our school values. Now, that doesn't mean charging around looking busy, making our lives look like a race around the world. Excellence and service can take on a gentler form. Perhaps it's found in spending time with loved ones, caring for our own wellbeing, or being present to someone who just needs a listening ear. Don't forget, Jesus often stepped away from the crowds to rest and play.

So, this summer, take time for yourself and your loved ones. Maybe, take a moment before posting blow-by-blow accounts of your every move. What purpose does this truly serve? Find time not to collapse, but to pause. Not to just escape, but to reflect. Not just to recharge, but to reconnect with ourselves, and those we love.

Over the next month or so, maybe the one thing you can do is waste time. Sit quietly with a cuppa or something chilled. You may just find Jesus Christ there, happy to waste time with you.

I wish you and your families a peaceful, hope and laughter filled summer, where you might just waste time with Christ.

Susanne Gibbons, *School Chaplain*.

