



## Theme:- Action

Last week we considered 'Lack and Abundance' in light of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty which led into the theme of 'Action' this week. The key messages was: *If not you, who? and if not now, when?* Jesus encourages us to be ready with our 'lamps lit' and 'dressed for action' (Luke 12) and we have the same message for all at SJF. We have many opportunities throughout the year to take action for the common good and we encourage all to be involved.

## Half Term

It has been a very long half term and much has happened. Thank you for all the hard work and I wish everybody a restful and safe week away from school.

*Kate Pereira*

## Half term

We hope that you all have a wonderful half term week. Although we know that Year 11 and 13 will be revising for their Pre-Public Exams (PPEs), we trust that all will have a restful break so that they are refreshed and ready for the return to school on Monday 4 November.

## Transition

As part of our transition work with feeder primary schools, we welcomed Year 5 St Thomas More students into school this week to complete a Drama workshop with Mr Chappel. It was a great opportunity for the younger students to experience the school and a lesson.

*Mrs Wilmore, Head of School*

Upcoming Events	
4 November	School returns.
4 November	PPE's continue
5 November	Remembrance Mass
19 November	Year 8 & 12 Parents Evening 2.30-6.30pm. School closes at 2pm.

## Academic Tutoring

### Year 10

**4 November – 15 November 2024**

## Remembrance Mass

Our Remembrance Mass, for all the departed is on Tuesday 5 November 2024. This is a voluntary Mass for students and staff. Parents are welcome to join us. Please arrive early to sign in as the Mass will begin promptly at 8:40am.  
*Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain*



## Year 10 Work Experience 2025



We are launching our Year 10 work experience programme after half term with a parent information evening. Parents of Year 10 students are invited to school on Wednesday 6 November at 5pm, to find out information about the process of finding a placement.

We are always looking for business connections, if you are able to offer a work experience placement to Year 10 or Year 12 students please contact our work experience coordinator Miss Reeve for more information [louise.reeve@stjohnfisherschool.org.uk](mailto:louise.reeve@stjohnfisherschool.org.uk)  
*Miss Reeve, Careers Teacher*

## Attendance

Outstanding attendance means not only maximising classroom learning, it means creating positive habits that will stand our young adults in good stead when it comes to employment. The link between high attendance and high achievement is clear and the role of parent and carer in this process is every bit as important. Please continue to support your child in maintaining outstanding attendance. To maintain excellent attendance medical/dental appointments for students need to be made outside of school hours where possible and we ask for proof to be provided if students attend appointments during school hours. If you have any concerns or require further support; please get in contact with your child's House Pastoral Team.

*Mr Bates, Deputy Headteacher*

## Consideration for our Neighbours

Please DO NOT block the driveways of our residents when dropping or collecting your child from school.



## Focus Day

Friday 18 October was our first Focus Day of this academic year. On these days, all our students have the opportunity to learn in different and often creative ways.

**Year 7:-** Spent the day at Belton House exploring the grounds, experiencing both flora and fauna in the Autumn and learnt about life in Victorian England through guided tours of the house.



**Year 8:-** Took part in a Space Project, with activities which included a talk from Dr Matt Bothwell, an astronomer from Cambridge University to using their scientific understanding to create and test egg landers and rockets.

**Year 9:-** Had a very busy day which began with a motivational talk from Ben Mouquet, an International Sales Director, who is based in Paris and in London, on the opportunities that learning a foreign language can open up for our young people. They then had the opportunity to take part in creative activities in languages such as French, Spanish, Italian, Thai and German. Their day then continued with the Technology faculty, where they were able to research how fabrics can be recycled and reused. Building on their research students were then able to put this into practice and use their creative skills to make Suffolk Puffs from scraps of material.

**Year 10:-** Spent the day focussing on Healthy Lifestyles with the Faculty of Expressive Arts. Students took part in a fitness boot camp with a personal trainer, boxercise and learnt how to create a healthy diet plan. Avid songwriters worked on their songwriting skills to produce a healthy living song. Keen dramatists took part in the Dragon's Den Challenge to produce a healthy living awareness campaign.

**Year 11:-** Spent the day focussing on their wellbeing. With the ever-increasing pressure of GCSEs they focussed on how to look after themselves, maintaining a healthy mind and a healthy body in this crucial year for them. They learnt about the importance of sleep and the interpretation of dreams and even had the chance to learn a new hobby, which included, Ballroom Dancing, Crochet and Embroidery.

*Mrs Helcoop, Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum*

## Breakfast - Free Bagels

Why not start the day with a filling breakfast. Our Breakfast club runs every day between 8.10am and 8.30am all students are welcome to come and join us in the Dining Hall for a free bagel.



## Year 12 Retreat to Clare Priory

Last Friday, as part of our focus Day, the Year 12s attended a Retreat at Clare Priory in Suffolk. It was established in 1248 by Richard de Clare, 6th Earl of Gloucester as a house of the Augustinian Friars. Not only is it a beautiful place, but the students also experienced a wonderful day filled with prayer and reflection around the theme of 'Journeys'. They looked at what is important in their own lives and looked at the journeys of refugees, reflecting their interest in social justice. We are



extremely grateful to all at Clare Priory for their kindness and to IGNITE, our Diocesan Youth Team, for leading the activities and to all the staff involved. Well done to all of Year 12 for their respect and engagement!  
*Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain*

## Year 13 Focus Day

On Friday, Year 13 welcomed an ex-student, Clive Sheridan, who now works for Anglia Ruskin University to discuss Apprenticeships as an alternative to University. He provided lots of information about the different levels of Apprenticeships and particularly the Degree Apprenticeships that are available in the city. This was then followed by a research session where students were able to research into their Post 18 Options, some choosing to look at travel and student accommodation prices, whilst others updated their CVs and searched for local apprenticeship opportunities. In the afternoon, Year 13 went bowling where it was great to see their competitive sides and enjoy some time together as a year group away from the classroom.



*Mrs Reay, Assistant Headteacher*

## New to You Uniform

As a school we are aware that the current cost of living is a concern for many of us. We are hoping to trial selling good quality second hand uniform 3 or 4 times a year. To be able to do this we are asking for any uniform your child has grown out of be donated to school. This can be sent in with your child or dropped off at reception. Obviously, it will take time for us to build up a good supply, so when these sales take place will be dependent on how much uniform is donated. Hopefully this will benefit lots of our students and we will be very grateful for any items.

*Mrs Reid and Mr Cowlin, Student Support Officers*

