



Theme: Strength and Self-control

Our assemblies this week have focussed on the importance of kindness and the impact one kind act can have on others. The message was clearly that we should support one another because we are all special and made in the image of God. We also commemorated Armistice Day on Monday by holding two minutes silence at 11am and laying wreaths of poppies in the courtyard. Thank you to everyone involved.



Kate Pereira

Opportunities

All students and staff respected the 2 minute silence in memory of all those who lost their lives in WW1, WW2 and other conflicts. Year 8 'Met the Professionals' this week giving them the opportunity to meet people who work in different sectors, ask questions and learn about the career. Unifrog is an online tool which we use for all our students at SJF to help create a portfolio of skills and to find out about university and apprenticeships. Year 7 also had their singing assembly this week and we launched the 2-week work experience with Year 10 students. Other opportunities have been available for Year 7 with NEACO, Year 8 Insight Discover and football tournaments! As always, there is plenty for our students to be involved in and we encourage them all to join in!

Early Closure

Please be aware that we will be closing at 2pm on Tuesday 19 November for our Year 8 and 12 Parents Evening which starts at 2.30pm. All students will leave the site at 2pm.

Natasha Wilmore, Head of School

Safeguarding Support

We know most students in school have access to Wi-Fi at home. You as parents and carers can control what they have access to. The link below will take you to instructive videos from the major internet providers showing how you can set up parental restrictions on your Wi-Fi. This will help keep your children safe from inappropriate material when online.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider>

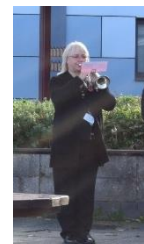
Mr Olan, Deputy Headteacher

Remembrance Day



On Monday we marked Remembrance Day with 2 minutes silence. This was attended by our Chaplaincy Ambassadors, Student Leadership team, Mrs Chambers class and staff. Grateful thanks to Mrs Chambers for playing the cornet, sounding both the Last Post and the Rouse to make this a very special occasion of reflection and prayer for all those who have lost their lives in conflict.

Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain



Used Uniform

At the Year 8 & 12 Parents Evening on Tuesday 19 November, we will be selling used school uniform. Blazers will be £5 and skirts £3. If your child needs a blazer, please see their Student Support Officer as you sign in.

Mr Bates, Deputy Headteacher

Sixth Form Star Students

October's Star Students are Urte Ginkute (Year 12) and Claudia Rodrigues-Pires (Year 13). Urte has made a great start to Sixth Form and Year 12. She has shown that she is a responsible and committed Sixth Form student and made positive contributions in Health and Social Care. Claudia has also made a great start to Year 13. She is going above and beyond in her studies in Health and Social Care, can be relied upon to help out with lunchtime supervision and has shown great dedication to supporting Mrs Maudsley with the school netball teams.

Congratulations to both students, keep your eyes peeled for November's Star Students.

Mrs Reay, Assistant Headteacher



Academic Tutoring

Year 8

**15 November – 29 November
2024**

Year 5 St Thomas More Drama Workshops

On Wednesday 23 October and Wednesday 6 November, we were proud to host drama workshops for all Year 5 students from St Thomas More Catholic Primary school. Students had a chance to practice small group performances and developed skills they need for their Nativity show. Thank you to Mr Chappell for planning and delivering the sessions. We look forward to hosting more workshops for primary students across the year.

Mrs Davis, Primary Liaison

Meet the Employer Event

On Wednesday, Year 8 had a careers event learning about different sectors and related jobs,



to begin their careers journey. They had a classroom-based activity exploring sectors like Hospitality, Education and Farming. The next session in the sports hall, students had the opportunity to hear from different employers from some of the sectors and had the opportunity to ask questions. We had employees from ARU, Orton Hall Hotel, Cadent Gas, Anna-Ca-Soo Nursery, Delivery Management, Bedfordia Group, Belvoir, YDP and Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Students were engaged in the activities and they can now use Unifrog to continue their careers learning.

Miss Reeve, Careers Teacher



Upcoming Events	
19 November	Year 8 & 12 Parents Evening 2.30-6.30pm. School closes at 2pm.

Year 6 Winner

Congratulations to Leona Hammond from St Thomas More for winning the competition on the Year 6 Welcome Evening. Leona wins an Amazon Gift Voucher.

Christmas Hampers

Each year we create hampers for our local elderly care home. We also have a competition for the best decorated hamper! If you have any tinsel/cotton wool or anything we can use to make our boxes look festive, it will be gratefully received! We fill our boxes with goodies from students and staff to bring joy to those who may feel lonely or isolated.

Emergency School Closure Arrangements

Should there be a school closure for any reason, for example bad weather, particularly snow – please note the following:

- Staff/students/parents will be notified by Text to their Mobile Phone.
- Messages will also be sent via email to school email addresses and to parents if an email address is on record.
- The school website will be updated with any school closure information.
- The school answerphone will also be updated with any school closure information.
- Local Radio will be notified for announcements to be made.

Any decision to close school will be made before 7am, however, this will always be as a last resort and school will remain open wherever possible.

Student voice

The remembrance service was beautiful and very well organised. Staff and students did a great job and it was a great day to remember all those who gave their tomorrow for our today.

Helana, Year 10

School Information – Edulink One



- Provide all information in one place
- Reduce amount of paper produced
- Easy to use for parents
- No need for students to bring cash into school
- Parents evening bookings available on your mobile, no need to print appointment sheets
- Student reports available for you to view
- Easy for parents to provide details of absences and communicate changes to personal details with us

If you have not already done so, **download the app called Edulink One** on your Android or IOS device and register or

For Laptop / computers

Sign up by visiting the following website:

<https://edulinkone.com/>

Catering - SchoolGateway



- Easy to use for parents
- Parents can pay for catering via the app
- No need for students to bring cash into school
- Details of your child's food choices available for you to see

Guidance on SchoolGateway can be found on Pages 14-15 of the Information for Parents booklet.

