



Headteacher's Message

Dear Reader,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026; I hope that you and your families have had an excellent start to 2026.

It is a pleasure to share with you some of the events from the past term within these pages. I hope that you enjoy reading about our exam successes, both for our youngest Year 7 and 8 students as well as those of our sixth formers completing GCSE resit qualifications. Our students have been on a wonderful array of trips, including spiritual retreats to Aylesford Priory and Knock, Languages trips to Bath and Lille, and theatre trips to London. It is good, too, to see that the extracurricular life of the school is thriving.

School life also offers our students many opportunities to give back to our wider community, and inside you will read about the valuable work of our student ambassadors, as well as students serving afternoon teas to the patrons of a local charity and Duke of Edinburgh volunteering.

Finally, you will notice that this term's edition begins with an extensive account of the prayer life of SJF. Prayer is at the heart of school life: it is the first thing we do in the morning, the way that we start each lesson, and the way that we mark important heartbeats of our school community. We wanted to share just a few of those pulses with you:

“Lord, thank You for the gift of this past year. Thank You for the joys and the challenges, for the lessons learned, and for never leaving my side. May my heart always remain grateful as I step into the new year with You.” St John Fisher pray for us.

God Bless,

Mrs Lennon

Mission Statement:

‘St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School inspires students, spiritually and educationally forming them through Faith so that they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community’
St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School, City Way, Rochester, ME1 2FA
Ph: 01634 543123 e-mail: office@stjohnfisher.school



Chaplaincy and Prayer at SJF

Daily prayer is central to life at St. John Fisher and we wanted to take this opportunity to share with our wider community how we routinely pray at school.

All form groups begin their day in shared intentional prayer. All form tutors receive the daily prayers, as do all staff through the weekly Chaplaincy update email. Prayers are based on the scripture and theme for the week. Similarly, assemblies are delivered on the same theme and scripture, beginning with prayer. Prayer slides reflect the rhythm of the liturgical calendar both in colour, season and feast days. In accessing daily prayer at the beginning of the day, all students and staff are brought together as one spiritual community.

Additional opportunities present themselves for prayer in lessons and meetings throughout the day, as well as organised services. Students and staff also have full access to the Chapel for private prayer before school, at break, during lunchtimes and after school.

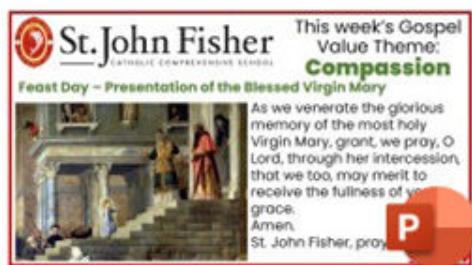
On a Wednesday lunchtime, prayer ambassadors (as well as other students who choose to drop in) meet. They offer prayers for their own intentions and those of the school, the world and our local community. This 'off-timetable' session allows students to spend time in prayer, and discuss scripture, as they choose. These students are currently engaged in writing the next series of whole school prayers for form time sessions and the upcoming services and Masses.



19-11-25



20-11-25



21-11-25



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Our Celebration of the Word Chapel Services continue twice weekly. These take place in the Chapel within form time and offer students opportunities to be actively involved in planning them. This allows all form groups to visit the Chapel periodically over the academic year. Just as you would expect in any Liturgy of the Word Service, students are asked to consider the scriptural reading of the week, reflect with an examination of conscience, alongside; time for prayer and personal intentions. Additionally, students light a candle for their intentions and students write or choose a prayer or poem to be read at the service. This prayer or poem is themed to reflect our weekly Gospel value.

The importance of prayer, Masses and Services is reflected in staff and student voice. One attendee commented that the services are important because “They help strengthen my faith, they are an opportunity to participate in the liturgical year of the Church. They are the heart of the life of the school.” Another explained that “They are important as they allowed me to learn more about God and live my life in a Christian way. They helped me have a close relationship with God.” For another person, “It helps me to feel part of our Catholic community and gives me time to pray and reflect.”

Chaplaincy Visits and Retreats

On Wednesday 25th September, students from St John Fisher were joined by St Mary’s, St Benedict’s and St Michael’s primary schools. We all travelled together to St George’s Cathedral in Southwark for the annual Diocesan Schools’ Mass.

Archbishop John’s homily was on the Jubilee Year theme of Hope and the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. Special congratulations to Shannon who went up to the sanctuary to share with Archbishop John Wilson what hope means for Christians, which led him to comment that she should help him more often!



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Chaplaincy Visits and Retreats (continued)

In September, we ventured on our annual pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory with our new Year 7 students. I'm delighted to say that this year, the weather was firmly on our side and the sun shone as we spent time as a community exploring the priory. On arrival we were greeted by Prior Michael who warmly welcomed us at the main shrine, regaling us with tales of the past and the history of the priory.

We then visited some of the Chapels before coming together for Mass which was celebrated by Father Kiw. The readings of the day, together with our student readers, in participation with the whole year group and some of our parents helped us to further come together as a community. Father Kiw reminded us in his homily of the importance of listening, to God, our parents, teachers and each other. The Responsorial Psalm was very fitting in its response: "The LORD takes delight in his people."

After games and lunch, we continued our exploration of the priory looking at the various forms of expression of artwork and reflecting on how these might express beliefs and Bible stories.

This annual day allows the students to make firm friendships outside the classroom setting, spend time in reflection and learn from each other as we appreciate the beauty in what we see around us.



At the end of September, we embarked on our biggest Chaplaincy adventure to date. Sixth form students, accompanied by Mrs. Drain, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Jolly and Mrs. Lennon flew to the West of Ireland, Knock, to visit the Marian Shrine at Knock and see the wider local area. We spent time in prayer and reflection and in communion with one another.

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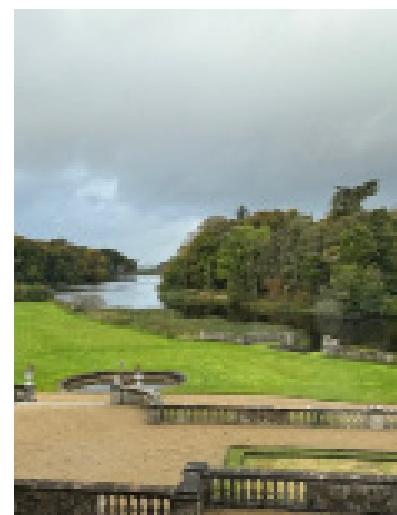
'St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School inspires students, spiritually and educationally forming them through Faith so that they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community.'



The experience (despite the rain on some days) was truly uplifting. The staff and retreat guides at Knock Shrine were exceptionally welcoming and even the local restaurant, bus drivers, shop keepers and tour guides were keen help us make the most of our time and experience the delights of the local area.

It truly was a Pilgrimage of Hope in every sense!

All the staff and students felt that the pilgrimage was a valuable and enriching experience. One said that “It brought me closer to God,” while another felt that “It helped me understand myself as a person and how to improve my relationship with God.” Others appreciated the opportunity for quiet reflection, stating that “It is important to do less and just spend time.”



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Staff Spiritual Development

On Wednesday 8th October, we were proud to host the Deanery Schools' Staff Mass. Bishop Paul Hendricks kindly celebrated this Mass for us, speaking of his own experiences of education and the responsibility that this bears, thanking staff and governors for their dedication to young people. The reading from St Paul to the Corinthians reminded us that we receive the gifts of the Spirit and are to use them wisely for the good of all those in our care; 'The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.'



A representative from each school was called forward to light a candle from our own Jubilee of Hope candle to mark our mission, and the light of Christ in our lives. Each school was then commissioned to take this light from the Mass into the wider community. The candles this year bore greater significance as they included a medal of Our Lady of Knock. These were gifted to our Deanery schools from our recent SJF Pilgrimage of Hope to Knock, Ireland.



In the commissioning statements, staff and governors made promises: to reflect the awe and wonder of creation in all teaching, to serve a life inspired by the Gospel, to promote forgiveness and healing, and offer themselves in love and service

Prayers were offered for staff, governors, and students, past and present and for all those in our local communities that we serve. It was a prayerful occasion for all involved.

As the year drew to a close, staff came together again in December to celebrate the achievements of the year and to pause and reflect in prayer, giving thanks to God. The Gospel message of the service reflected on the openness of children to hear and act on the Gospel and its values.

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All Souls and Remembrance Services

On All Souls Day we held our annual memorial service for those who have gone before us. Just as the Church does in November, we continue to remember the dead, and all staff and students have an opportunity to light a candle for someone they wish to remember.

During the service in St. John's Gospel we heard; "I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

On the 11th November at 11am we took part in the annual Act of Remembrance for all those who have lost their lives in conflict. We were privileged to be accompanied by our own trumpet player Mr Kallend who played The Last Post and Reveille to mark the beginning and end of the silence.



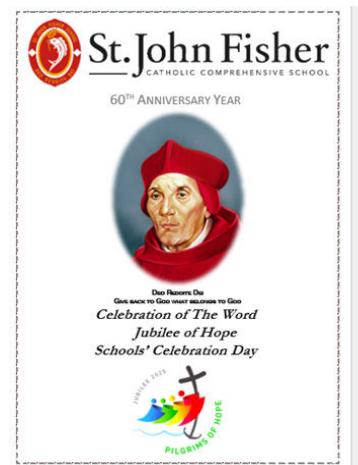
**When you go home, tell them of us and say,
For your tomorrow, we gave our today.**



The Pilgrimage of Hope

Friday the 21st November was Schools' Jubilee Celebration Day for the year of the Pilgrimage of Hope. To mark this occasion, we held a Celebration of the Word Service to give thanks for all that we have done and received, and to reflect on the message of Hope we continue to bring as Pilgrims of Hope. We reminded ourselves of our Jubilee Pledge and that the message of Hope does not end but is carried forward into all that we do.

This service was a joyful way to begin the day and we were accompanied by beautiful singing to enhance the liturgy.



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Advent

Advent began on Sunday 30th November. From early December, our Charity Ambassadors delivered assemblies to all year groups, opening the season of Advent and lighting the first candle of our Advent wreath. In these assemblies, students focused on the message of Hope, on what it means to them in Advent and the hope offered in the birth of Christ. Ambassadors launched the Advent charity activities to raise funds for global, national and local charities.



Throughout the Advent season, staff and students took part in a variety of activities including a bake sale, a hamper raffle and Christmas crafts. The impact of these charity drives and fundraiser events was relayed to our students in subsequent assemblies in January. We are pleased to announced that over £150 was raised for our chosen charities in addition to collecting donations of toiletries, toys and clothes which were donated to local charities. Special thanks to our sixth form helpers, Mr Harris and all his Christmas elves!



Also at the beginning of Advent, Mrs Drain and Ms Turner had the privilege of attending the Mass of Induction for Father Godwin Alkali on Thursday 4th December. We keep Father Godwin in our prayers as he begins his priestly journey with St Michael's Parish, Chatham as the new Parish Priest. Father Godwin is new to the parish following the sad retirement of Father Peter Ehinmiro who also remains in our prayers.



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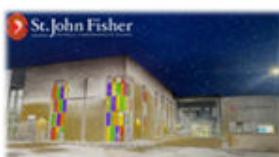
Reflections continued throughout Advent with weekly Masses and Celebration of the Word services. Masses were celebrated by Father Neil Vincent from Rochester parish. Staff, students and parents were welcome to attend these morning Masses where we heard the scripture leading to the nativity from St Matthew. Each week, we were lighting the candles on our Advent wreath, marking our progress through Advent. After Mass there were opportunities for individual confessions. Many thanks to Fr. Neil for his support.



The culmination of our Advent celebrations was our annual Advent Carol Service which was held on Friday 12th Dec. Father Godwin Alkali kindly offered to be our celebrant for the service. With joyful carols, poignant prayers and scripture readings relevant to the nativity, Father Godwin blessed our crib as we lit the candles of our Advent Wreath, sang and rejoiced. We were accompanied by our brilliant staff and student choir, and this was followed by mince pies and hot chocolate, with donations to our charities. Thanks to all those in attendance who made this such a memorable occasion. We welcomed staff, families, past pupils, governors and former governors including Fr. Baker and Clive Mailing.



St. John Fisher
CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL



Advent Carol Service
December 2025

St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School educates students, spiritually and educationally forming them through Faith so that they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community.



Order of Service

Opening Carol	Once in Royal David's City - verse 1 to be sung by the choir, with congregation from verse 2
Lighting of Advent Wreath	Students
Opening Prayer	Father Godwin
First Reading	A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah - read by student
Second Reading	A Reading from St Luke - read by student
Carol	O Little Town of Bethlehem - choir and congregation
Third Reading	A Reading from St Luke - read by student
Blessing of the Crib	Father Godwin
Choir	My God, My God, Why Have You forsaken Me? - choir
Fourth Reading	A Reading from St Luke - read by student
Carol	Hark the Herald Angels Sing - choir and congregation
Fifth Reading	A Reading from St Matthew - read by student
Carol	O Come All Ye Faithful - choir and congregation
Sixth Reading	A Reading from St John - read by student
Carol	Silent Night - verse 1 to be sung by the choir, with congregation from verse 2
Closing Prayer	Father Godwin
Year 12 Ensemble	Christmas Medley - choir
Choir	Santa Claus Is Coming to Town - medley

Once in Royal David's City - 2nd Verse Choir only

Once in royal David's city,
where a lowly cattle stood,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for her bed;
Mary was his mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

2 For he is our childhood's pattern,
day by day like us he grows,
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knows;
and he shares in all our afflictions,
and he shares in all our gladness.

3 Once in royal David's city,
when a lowly cattle stood,
and his mother was a widow,
and his cradle was a stall,
with the poor and meek and lowly,
and on earth our savior lay.

4 And through affliction, want, disease,
and death, his body bled, his bones,
and his heart with grief was sore;
in which tender arms he lay
Christians children, all should be
kind, obedient, good, like.

5 And in that poor lonely stable
with the oxen standing by,
and the cattle lowing in the stall,
out at lonely night hand on high,
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath



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Year 7 and 8 Complete Their PPEs with Confidence

This term, Year 7 and 8 students sat their Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs), an important milestone in their secondary school journey. This was a key opportunity for our younger students to practice sitting their exams under test conditions, with similar arrangements to those that they will one day experience during their GCSE examinations. For Year 7, this was especially challenging as it was the first formal assessment they had experienced since their Key Stage 2 SATs, and they approached the week with maturity, determination and a genuine willingness to do their best. To support families, timetables were sent home well in advance, ensuring parents and carers had all the information they needed to help students prepare. In lessons, teachers across every subject area dedicated time to revisiting key topic areas, modelling exam techniques and building students' confidence ahead of the assessments.

Despite some initial nerves, the students demonstrated impressive resilience. One student shared: 'I was a bit anxious before the exams, but once I sat down, I felt much more settled.' Another student commented that, 'The prayers before the exams really helped to settle me down and remind me that I could do it.'

Throughout the week, students conducted themselves beautifully. They gathered calmly in the canteen, listened carefully to instructions, and moved into the exam hall with confidence—remembering their seat numbers and showing excellent focus. For students with special arrangements, exams were held in a smaller room where they were supported to perform at their very best.

We were especially pleased to receive positive feedback from the external invigilators, who praised students for their exemplary behaviour, readiness to learn and respectful attitude during every exam session. This experience has given students a valuable insight into formal assessments and has highlighted their growing resilience and independence. We are incredibly proud of how both year groups approached their PPEs and look forward to building on these strong foundations in the months ahead.

Thank you to every student who revised, worked hard, and did their best to raise their academic attainment in 2025. We hope to see more success from you in 2026!

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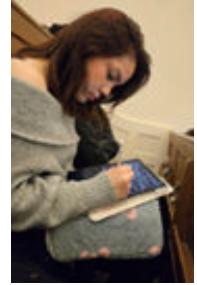
Religious Education Update

Happy New Year from the Religious Education department! Last term, Year 7 students explored the significance of scripture and the various ways the Bible can be interpreted. They examined the differences between the authors of the Old and New Testaments and discovered how scripture is used in practice—both during Mass for teaching and through the artistry of illuminated manuscripts.

Year 8 focused on the theme of prophecy, studying Old Testament prophets such as Amos and Jeremiah to understand how God communicated with His people. They reflected on how these prophecies continue to shape Christian teaching today, inspiring care for the poor and the pursuit of forgiveness.

Year 9 delved into the role of women in the Gospels, considering figures such as Hannah and her importance in scripture. Mary and the Magnificat featured prominently, alongside discussions of how holy women sustained the hope of salvation throughout history.

At the end of November, our Year 13 A Level students attended an inspiring Masterclass Conference, where they engaged with thought-provoking lectures delivered by professors from Oxford and Cambridge. Topics explored included complex ethical and philosophical questions such as euthanasia and the existence of God. A highlight of the event was a lecture by Daphne Hampson, an acclaimed 81-year-old philosopher, who spoke passionately about the continuing importance of gender rights in today's society. Students also relished the chance to participate in lively debates with their peers, tackling challenging issues such as consent.



In December, twelve of our Year 12 History and Philosophy and Ethics students enjoyed a fabulous visit to Canterbury Cathedral. The trip allowed students to encounter the rich history of the medieval Catholic Church in England, as well as the lives of Catholic saints such as St Thomas Becket and St Anselm. The Year 12 Philosophy class once again joined forces with the A Level History class for an enriching visit to Canterbury Cathedral.

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Canterbury Cathedral and Archives Trip. 17th December, 2025.

Students explored the Cathedral's archives, where they examined remarkable historical documents, including texts dating back to Tudor times, a manuscript authored by St John Fisher, and the Kent edition of the Domesday Book, alongside examples of the vellum (a form of paper made from calfskin) from which these manuscripts were produced.

The students then toured the cathedral and crypt, and discussed the ways in which religious art and architecture have been used to tell the Christian and Catholic story over time. As part of their guided tour, students stood at the site of St. Thomas Becket's martyrdom and admired the chapel dedicated to St. Anselm. Alfie Furlong, one of our Year 12 History students, said: "I particularly enjoyed the beautiful architecture of the cathedral. It was a really lovely day."



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A ‘Lille’ Day out to the Christmas Market

On Thursday 11th December, 45 students from Year 9 and Year 10 French classes set off for a Lille adventure at the Christmas Market, accompanied by Mr Nicholas, Ms McHugh, Dr Igusi, Mr Kallend and Ms Kassongo. They took the coach and used the ‘Le Shuttle’ (Eurostar train) to cross the Channel to France.

The trip wasn’t just about festive fun — students practiced their French speaking skills in real-life situations. Phrases like “Combien ça coûte?” (“How much is it?”) echoed through the bustling stalls as they bought treats and souvenirs.

The market was alive with twinkling lights, delicious smells, and holiday cheer. Students explored the stalls, sampled festive delights, and even soared above the city on the Ferris Wheel.

It was truly a Lille day out with a lot of joy — the Christmas spirit was everywhere!

Students commented that the food was “very nice”, and while another really enjoyed “that I got to speak French in real life!” A third student commented on the educational value of the trip, saying, “I learned how to use French phrases to buy things and ask how much they were in French.”



Physical Education Update

During Term 3, Key Stage 3 students have enthusiastically taken part in a variety of sports. The girls’ groups enjoyed developing their skills in dance and basketball, while the boys actively participated in football sessions. At Key Stage 4, students engaged in a range of small-sided games, including football, basketball, and badminton, promoting teamwork, fitness, and enjoyment.

Outside of core PE lessons, the department has provided numerous opportunities for students to take part in a wide range of competitions across different year groups and sports. Year 7 and 8 girls showcased their talents in football and netball fixtures, while the Year 7 and 8 boys demonstrated great effort and determination during their football matches.

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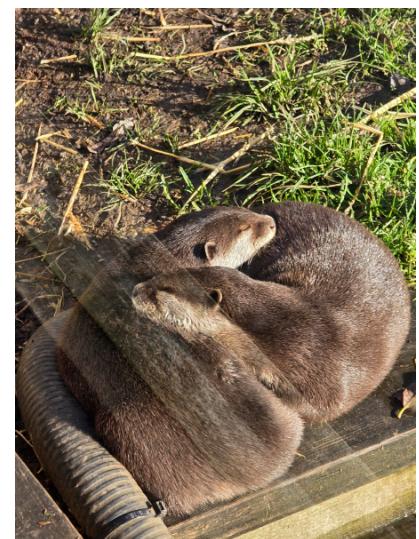
Sixth Form Eco Ambassadors Visit Fenn Bell Conservation Zoo

Sixth Form Eco Ambassadors recently visited Fenn Bell Conservation Zoo to deepen their understanding of wildlife conservation and environmental responsibility. The visit provided a valuable opportunity for students to explore the zoo's unique animal collection while learning about the vital role conservation plays in protecting endangered species.

During the visit, students were introduced to a range of animals, including several species that are currently close to extinction. Zoo staff shared insights into the threats these animals face in the wild, such as habitat loss, climate change and illegal wildlife trade, helping students to understand the global challenges surrounding biodiversity.

The Eco Ambassadors also learned about the zoo's conservation techniques, including ethical breeding programmes, habitat enrichment, and education initiatives designed to raise awareness and support long-term species survival. These real-world examples allowed students to see how conservation theory is put into practice.

The experience inspired students to reflect on their own impact on the environment and reinforced the importance of sustainability and conservation efforts. The visit to Fenn Bell Conservation Zoo was both educational and motivating, supporting the Eco Ambassadors in their ongoing work to promote environmental awareness within the school community.



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MFL Department Trip to Bath

Recently, the Languages Department organised a highly successful educational trip to the historic city of Bath for Year 10 and Year 11 Latin students. Designed to deepen pupils' understanding of Roman life in Britain from the first century AD onwards, the visit brought classroom learning vividly to life through first-hand experience.

Known to the Romans as Aquae Sulis, Bath proved to be an exceptional learning environment. Students explored the Roman Baths complex, discovering fascinating insights into Roman engineering, religious practices, leisure activities, and daily life. Encountering original Roman architecture, artefacts, and inscriptions allowed students to make meaningful connections between their studies and real historical evidence, bringing the ancient world to life.

The visit was carefully structured to support preparation for the Eduqas GCSE Latin examinations. Activities linked directly to all three components of the specification. Component 1 (Latin Language) was reinforced through exposure to authentic Latin inscriptions and contextual vocabulary. Component 2 (Latin Literature) was enhanced by connecting literary texts to their historical settings, while Component 3 (Roman Civilisation) formed a central focus, with students gaining valuable insight into Roman religion, society, technology, and leisure in Roman Britain.

Throughout the trip, students demonstrated exemplary behaviour and enthusiasm. They engaged thoughtfully with the exhibits, asked insightful questions, and showed a genuine curiosity about Roman history. Feedback from students reflected increased confidence and a deeper understanding of Roman civilisation and its relevance to their GCSE studies.

Reflecting on the experience, Maxwell Burford (Year 11, St Lucy) commented: "By the end of my trip, I understood why Bath is considered one of England's most beautiful and culturally important destinations. Its unique combination of Roman history, medieval spirituality, Georgian refinement, and contemporary vibrancy creates an experience that stays with you long after you leave. Visiting Bath felt like stepping into a living story—a place where the past is not only remembered but felt in every cobblestone and warm stone façade."

Overall, the Bath trip was both educational and inspiring. It significantly enriched students' understanding of Roman Britain while providing valuable support for their GCSE Latin studies.

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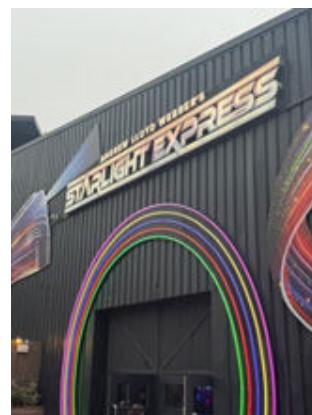
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Starlight Express Trip – Thursday 8th January 2026

On 8th January, Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Drama students went to see a spectacular production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Starlight Express' at the Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre. Rusty, the steam train, is desperate to win the race against diesel train Greaseball, and electric train Electra, and in the process win the heart of the new girl, Pearl.

The costumes were incredible, the lighting amazing, and by the end everyone in the theatre was cheering on our hero as he flew through the stunt-filled race. With the whole cast on roller skates or scooters, it was an adrenaline filled production, and may have inspired some of our students to take up skating – or at least to listen to the soundtrack on the way home!



Sixth Form GCSE Resit Results

The sixth form has achieved exceptional GCSE English and Mathematics resit results this year, demonstrating the resilience, commitment, and ambition of both students and staff. These outcomes reflect the impact of focused intervention and high-quality teaching across the provision.

In particular, the students studying English GCSE resit deserve special recognition for significantly exceeding expectations, with almost two-thirds of the cohort achieving a grade 4 or above. Congratulations to all students concerned!

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Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening

Our first Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening of this academic session, held on Tuesday 3rd December from 4–7pm, was a truly positive and productive event. We were delighted to welcome so many parents and guardians into the school to engage in meaningful conversations about their children's progress and next steps.

Throughout the evening, families received a comprehensive support booklet designed to equip them with everything needed to guide their child through the months ahead. This included all subject specific information and revision guidance. Each student was also given their Question Level Analysis (QLA), offering a clear breakdown of strengths, areas for development, and personalised targets in every subject.

One of the highlights of the event was the opportunity for parents and guardians to meet with all of their child's teachers. These conversations allowed for open discussion about progress, concerns, and strategies to improve before the next Pre Public Examinations (PPEs) in February 2026. The commitment shown by families and staff alike reflects our shared determination to support every student in achieving their full potential.

The atmosphere throughout the evening was warm, collaborative, and focused on success. Based on the high level of engagement and the positive feedback received, we are pleased to say that the event was a success.

Thank you to all parents, guardians, students, and staff who contributed to such a valuable evening. Together, we continue to build strong foundations for Year 11 as they move confidently towards their final examinations.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Update

The current Year 9 bronze award students have been working hard this term on completing their physical, skill and volunteering sections. We have felt huge joy in seeing the evidence being uploaded and our students are taking great pride and enjoyment in the activities they have selected. The vast array of talents that our students within the Year 9 cohort demonstrate is eye opening and I would like to congratulate them on their time and dedication to their bronze award.

Students are being encouraged to ensure that they have completed their physical, skill and volunteering sections by May 2026, to make them eligible to attend the practice expedition in June 2026 and assessed expedition in July 2026.

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The Impact of Our Student Ambassadors

This year, our Student Ambassadors have shown what it truly means to lead with purpose, compassion, and faith. In addition to our Eco and Charity Ambassadors, whose work is described elsewhere in this newsletter, we have been proud of the contributions of the following groups:

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors delivered a strong and confident message that bullying has no place in our community. Linking their work to the theme of 'Power for Good', they challenged us to stand up for others and to build a culture rooted in respect and solidarity.

Our Eco Ambassadors, inspired by the idea of being "Earth's Young Gardeners," have led by example through tree planting and environmental action on the school site. Their work reflects Pope Francis' call to care for our common home and the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Stewardship of Creation.

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors marked World Mental Health Day with a hugely successful cake sale, selling out in just fifteen minutes, raising an incredible one hundred and fifty pounds. The whole school was also encouraged to wear yellow in support of mental health awareness. Their efforts highlighted the importance of community, compassion, and looking after both ourselves and one another.

Our Prayer Ambassadors have grounded us in reflection, reminding us that we are responsible for our choices and called to live out our faith through action. Their leadership has helped us pause, pray, and reconnect with our values.

Our Politics Ambassadors delivered an assembly on democracy, emphasising that every voice matters and that we are all active citizens. Their message encouraged students to recognise their role in shaping a fair and just society.

Finally our History Ambassadors led us in honouring those who served and sacrificed, setting a thoughtful and respectful tone for Remembrance. Their work helped our community reflect on gratitude, peace, and the lessons of the past.

Across all these assemblies, our ambassadors have woven together Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and student leadership to inspire meaningful change. Their dedication shows the strength of student voice in shaping a community that is compassionate, informed, and rooted in faith. Their impact is already being felt and their example continues to guide us forward.

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**Anti Bullying
Ambassador's Assembly**



**Our Eco Ambassadors-
Earth's Young Guardians**



Prayer Ambassadors



Wellbeing Ambassadors



Charity Ambassadors



Politics Ambassadors



History Ambassadors

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Careers Fair

We're delighted to share that our recent Career Fair was a tremendous success. Thanks to the dedication of our students and staff, along with the generous support of the professionals who joined us, the event offered an invaluable space for students to explore future career pathways, ask thoughtful questions, and gain meaningful insights into a wide range of industries.

Almost twenty professionals representing fields such as healthcare, technology, business, education, civil service, banking, army, engineering, medicine and more took part. More than 100 students, parents, and carers attended the fair; students engaged in one to one conversations, participated in interactive workshops, and explored a variety of career resources. The event fostered valuable networking opportunities and encouraged students to reflect on their aspirations and long term goals. with feedback from attendees indicating they were thrilled with the event.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the parents, community members, and professionals who volunteered their time and expertise. Your support plays a vital role in shaping our students' futures and creating opportunities that truly make a difference.

Afternoon Tea with Kasbah

In late November 2025 the Year 12 Hospitality class and the Health and Wellbeing Ambassadors hosted a Christmas themed afternoon tea for invited guests from the charity KASBAH, which provides support services to people with physical and/or learning disabilities throughout Kent.

The Health and Wellbeing students set up and led 3 activities, icing gingerbread biscuits, making Christmas tree decorations with wool and card and colouring Christmas cards.

For part of their BTEC Coursework, the Hospitality students planned, prepared and served the afternoon tea which included a range of delicious sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, cakes and biscuits. One of our Year 13 students played the piano during the event to add to the Christmas atmosphere. All of the guests had an amazing time, and we received emails for the staff at KASBAH praising our students for the event. We look forward to hosting KASBAH again next year.



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A Magical Trip to the Pantomime!

In December, SJF's Year 9 and Year 12 students enjoyed a truly magical festive outing as they headed to the Central Theatre in Chatham to see the much-loved pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'. With excitement building from the moment they arrived, the trip promised laughter, colour and a wonderful taste of theatre tradition — and it certainly delivered!

The Central Theatre was buzzing with energy as students took their seats, ready to be swept away into the world of fairy tales, heroes, villains and, of course, plenty of audience participation. The students quickly found themselves joining in with timeless pantomime calls, from the first cry of "He's behind you!" to the last enthusiastic shouts of "Of no, it isn't!"

The performance of 'Sleeping Beauty' was filled with humour, spectacular costumes and toe-tapping musical numbers, keeping everyone thoroughly entertained throughout. It was a brilliant opportunity for students from different year groups to come together, share an experience, and celebrate the festive season as a school community.

For many, the trip was also a chance to experience live theatre in an historic local venue, highlighting the importance of arts and culture within our community. Smiles, laughter and plenty of memorable moments made this a trip to remember.



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Extracurricular Activities Term 3 2026

3Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime	Lunchtime
Quiet and Calm Room For all year groups Miss. Paul - G.37	Quiet and Calm Room For all year groups Miss. Paul - G.37	Quiet and Calm Room For all year groups Miss. Paul - G.37	Quiet and Calm Room For all year groups Miss. Paul - G.37	Quiet and Calm Room For all year groups Miss. Paul - G.37
Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Eco Ambassadors Club For all year groups Ms. Field and Mr. Harris - G.63	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36
Reward Ambassadors Club For all year groups Mr. Nicholas - Rm 1.25	Key Stage 3 Film Club For Years 7-9 Ms. Locke and Ms. Karim - 1.38	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Key Stage 3 Film Club For Years 7-9 Ms. Locke and Ms. Karim - 1.38	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36
Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Politics Club All year groups Mrs Bowler G.60	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36	Chess Club For all year groups Mr Cunniff - 1.36
Learn to type club KS4 and 5 Mr Al. G.51	Learn to type club KS4 and 5 Mr Al. G.51	After School	After School	After School
After School	After School	Homework Club For all year groups SEND team - Library	Homework Club For all year groups SEND team - Library	Homework Club For all year groups SEND team - Library
Homework Club For all year groups SEND team - Library	Art Clinic For Year 11-13 Art students Ms. Slater - Williams - 2.22	Art Clinic For Year 11-13 Art students Ms. Slater - Williams - 2.22	Key Stage 4 Film Club For Years 10-11 Ms. Locke, Mr. Dodds and Ms. Tabri - 1.38	Basketball Year 11 & Sixth Form Mr. Nicholas - Sports Hall
Basketball Year 7-10 Mr. Nicholas - Sports Hall	Drama Club For all year groups Mr Freeman - Drama Studio	Year 10 History Challenge For Year 10 History students Ms. Dennis - 1.35	Year 10 History Challenge For Year 10 History students Ms. Dennis - 1.35	
Football For all year groups Mr. Williams and Mr. Jolly - 3G Pitch	Computer Science Intervention Year 10-13 Mr. McCann - Rm 243			
Netball For all year groups				

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Medway SENDIASS

January - March 2026 Information Sessions

Medway Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Information, Advice and Support service (SENDIASS) have a number of information sessions this year, so please come along and see us if you require information or advice.

No need to book, just turn up.

Please note, if you require support in relation to EHCP applications or appeals, please contact the service separately as these sessions are not suitable.

Strood Children and Family Hub
27th January - 12.30 until 14.30

Chatham Children and Family Hub
24th February - 10.00 until 12.00

Gillingham & Twydall Children and Family Hub
25th March - 10.00 until 12.00

 medwaysendias@family-action.org.uk

 01634 566303

 www.medway-sendias.org.uk

SENDIASS hosted by



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Term Dates for Academic Year 2025-2026

	START	TO	FINISH
TERM 1	Monday 1st September	to	Friday 17th October
Autumn Break	Monday 20th October	to	Friday 24th October
TERM 2	Monday 27th October	to	Friday 19th December
Christmas Break	Monday 22nd December	to	Friday 2nd January
TERM 3	Monday 5th January	to	Friday 13th February
February Break	Monday 16th February	to	Friday 20th February
TERM 4	Monday 23rd February	to	Thursday 2nd April
Easter Break	Friday 3rd April	to	Friday 17th April
TERM 5	Monday 20th April	to	Friday 22nd May
Bank Holidays	Monday 4th May and and Monday 25th May		
May Break	Monday 25th May	to	Friday 29th May
TERM 6	Monday 1st June	to	Friday 17th July
Please note that in accordance with the local and national guidelines, St John Fisher do not authorise holidays during term time.			

Follow us on socials ?



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