

Saint John Wall Catholic School

A Catholic School For All



Mission Statement

'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Issue 38

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 12 July 2024

**Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'Year of Live Simply'.
Termly Theme: Care for Creation
Termly SJW Values – Curious and Active**

This week in Afternoon Prayer... *"We prayed for Global Forgiveness Day. This is a day where we can focus on all the things we have done wrong to the earth and also think about the wrong we have done to people around us. We can use this day to think about how can live sustainably on the earth. It is important to forgive so we can give peace to others and ourselves. This week in Afternoon Prayer, we also prayed the Our Father. As part of the Year of Prayer, Pope Francis said we are all brothers and sisters. This is important because God told us to love others just as loves us and so we should everyone with this respect. I like Afternoon Prayer because it is a calming and peaceful way to end the day".*

By Rayden Nguyen 7HAB

This week in Weekly Worship... *"We focused on Witness Week. Witness Week is a celebration of all the hard work and achievements of everyone in our school. As part of this, we focused on our school mission statement. Our mission statement is 'to educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be.' During Witness Week, we can use our mission statement to focus on our values and attitudes and reflect on all the skills, gifts and talents that we have shown this year. It can also help us to focus on the importance of being kind to each other and to think about the acts that Christ himself carried out. We can think about all the things we have learnt in school and work on these in our future lives. We can be curious and active this week by taking part in all the activities and getting involved. I like Weekly Worship as it is another opportunity to pray and get close to God. We also learn something new each week".*

By Nicola Matusik 10RES

Dates to Note

- **Witness Week**
Monday 15 July 2024 to Friday 19 July 2024
- **SJW Fete Day – Pupils will finish at 2.50pm**
Monday 15 July 2024
- **Year 10 Work Experience**
Monday 15 July 2024 to Thursday 18 July 2024
- **Graduation Event at University of Birmingham (13 Year 8 pupils)**
Monday 15 July 2024 – 9am to 3.30pm
- **London IFS Trip (37 Year 9 pupils)**
Monday 15 July to Tuesday 16 July 2024
Leaving at 8.10am returning at 4pm approx.
- **Weston-Super-Mare Trip – All Year 9**
Tuesday 16 July 2024 – 8.30am to 4.30pm
- **SJW Celebration Day (See poster at the end of the newsletter)**
Pupils will finish school at 11am
Wednesday 17 July 2024
- **Manchester Trip to Science & Industry Museum – All Year 8**
Thursday 18 July 2024 – 8.30am to 4.30pm (expected time to leave Manchester – 14.30pm)
- **Botanical Gardens Trip (30 Year 8 pupils)**
Thursday 18 July 2024 – 9am to 3.30pm
- **Sandwell Valley Trip - All Year 7**
Thursday 18 July 2024
- **End of Term Services & Summer Holidays Begin**
School will close to all pupils at 12.45pm
Friday 19 July 2024



Oxhill Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



0121 554 1825



enquiry@sjw.bham.sch.uk
www.sjw.bham.sch.uk



Theatre Trip

This term, the Performing Arts Department have been very lucky to give over 70 pupils the opportunity to witness live theatre. At the start of May seen Year 8 and Year 9 pupils watched Willy Russel's famous play 'Blood Brothers' and then last week Year 9 and Year 10 got to go and watch the West End Tour of 'Hamilton'. Both performances have been studied in school and provide every pupil with amazing opportunity not just to watch live theatre but take inspiration for their own performances in Music or Drama. It was amazing to take pupils to the theatre and listen to them make links to what they have studied or make links on what performance skills they could use in their own practical work.

By Miss Cummings

Pupil Comments:

"I really enjoyed watching Blood Brothers because it was fun watching a live performance and at times the story was scary".

By Dante Blair 8CAL

"The Blood Brothers trip was really fun! The story was about twin brothers being separated at birth and living two completely different lives. One of the brothers was the son of a rich family and the other brother was from a poor family. The two met and became friends but tragedy struck and both were killed. The show was amazing, the guns sounded real as it shook the whole room. We also got free ice lollies!"

By Ameera Arogundade 8REG

"Blood Brothers was about two brothers who were raised separately. One was rich the other was poor. They didn't know they were brothers until just before they both died. My favourite part was when they met each other for the first time".

By Billy Harrison 8REG

"Hamilton is a spectacular West End production which has won so many awards over the past 10 years. Being able to witness a show live has been a privilege and joy. Experiencing the showcasing of the actors true and raw talents has helped me to appreciate the beauty of theatre. The music was captivating and out of this world and I often find myself listening to the songs. It was unparalleled and unique experience I will always remember".

By Kelly Odiase 10WIO

"I went to the theatre to watch Hamilton, it was good because of how amazing the singing was and how the stage would spin. The actors were really good as well as the dancing, the story was great too".

By Shoaib Ghalib 10RES

"The story of Hamilton was exciting and there was lots of music that was upbeat and helped enhance the story. The story was about a young man who was in a war and later became vice president but he was too arrogant and selfish and made a lot of bad decisions like cheating on his wife".

By Borys Morawski 9TOW

Symphony Hall Orchestra Audition

Joseph Chanda Year 11 had his audition for the Symphony Hall orchestra last Wednesday and he secured a place! So, he will now be a part of the Birmingham Youth Symphony Hall Orchestra which involves weekly rehearsals and massive performances at Symphony Hall across the year!

Joseph achieved a Merit in his grade 5 violin exam which he took last Tuesday. So, he can now do A-Level music at his college.

Well done Joseph!

By Miss Antonucci



Gardening Club Stewards

Our final gardening session for Summer 2024 in our SJW peace garden took place yesterday. It has been an honour to work with the Year 7 group who have been committed and enthusiastic throughout! They have enjoyed our time with the sunflowers, tomatoes, green beans, flowers, all of which are growing nicely, we did build bug houses as well. Finally, we filled the bird feeders to make sure lots of different wildlife come and visit us. We cleared the garden and prepared for Saint John Wall Day next week.

By Mrs Begum





Saint John Wall Celebration Day

17 July 2024

You are invited to spend a morning
with your child at Saint John Wall
Catholic School

- Experience life at the school
- Learn about our history
- Enjoy break time refreshments

8:30 am to 11:00 am



**Please attend school with your child
at their normal arrival time.**

All parents and pupils will leave by 11:00 am

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July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence

I am taking this opportunity to write to inform you of some important changes the Department for Education is introducing regarding school attendance and the issuing of penalty notices when children are absent from school.

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices has been being introduced. The new regulations will come into effect from the 19th of August 2024. The aim is to improve consistency in the use of penalty notices across England.

The national framework includes:

- A single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered of ten sessions (usually equivalent to five school days) for any unauthorised absence within a rolling ten school week period. The 10-week period may span different terms or school years. For example, two sessions of unauthorised absence in the summer term and a further eight during the autumn term.
- An increase to the rate of a penalty notice from £120 to £160 if paid within 28 days and £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days. If a second penalty notice is issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling three-year period, the notice will be charged at the higher rate of £160 with no option for this second offence to be discharged at £80.
- A national limit of two penalty notices that can be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling three-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another tool must be considered (such as prosecution or another attendance legal interventions).

This means that if you have applied for a leave of absence to take place from September 2024 and the school has not agreed to authorise it, you may receive a penalty notice at the level prescribed by the new framework.

Please be aware that new legislation does not allow schools to authorise any holidays in term time or authorise leave retrospectively.

The local authority is in the process of consulting with schools and partner agencies to develop a revised local code of conduct. The document will be published on Birmingham City Council's website.



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The Council believes good attendance is essential to support your child in getting the most out of their education and we thank you for your continued support.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact the school who may be able to offer support for your child and family.

Yours sincerely

Sue Harrison
Strategic Director of Childrens and Families

