

# St John Plessington Catholic College

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12 July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

## **SJP Experience Week: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

As part of our Catholic ethos, we take very seriously our role as educators to ensure that children leave the College with a strong sense of their own mission and calling. We want our students to leave SJP with a desire to serve and to become the next generation of leaders. We call the preparation for this 'The SJP Experience' which aims to develop the academic, professional and character skills needed to be successful in life, so that all students can make the most of their abilities and interests and fulfil their true potential. The SJP Experience begins as students join our community in Year 7 and becomes a journey throughout their time at SJP.

In line with our motto 'Aspire not to have more but to be more', enrichment activities provide our students with the opportunity to broaden their horizons through participation in new experiences, extending their learning outside of the classroom through curriculum linked projects, trips and extra-curricular activities. These experiences will also allow them to build relationships within our College Community.

To enhance 'The SJP Experience' further we continue to hold 'SJP Experience Days' at the end of the summer term. The Experience Days this year are to be held next week, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July. During this time, the normal school timetable will be collapsed and students will work within a wide range of activities based around the theme of 'Awe and Wonder'. A key element of the Experience Days will be allocated time for reflection, allowing students to not only participate in exciting and inspiring activities, but to also consider what they have learnt and how it has impacted upon them.

In order to give the students the opportunity to experience a sense of 'Awe and Wonder' the activities have been split into 4 areas and students will rotate around these 4 areas each day. On the Friday, each Year group will have a special showcase assembly which will bring together everything they have learnt, understood and experienced throughout the Experience Days.

- ★ **Creative Area** – students will work around activities focusing on different countries. Within these activities, students will be encouraged to find and develop their own creativity through workshops such as Zentangle (Japan), Interactive Theatre (Germany), Hot Air Balloons (France), Masquerade (Italy), Hollywood Blockbuster (USA) and Diwali (India)
- ★ **Global Area** – students will work with the MFL, Geography and Maths departments to learn about the Awe and Wonder of the Natural World. Students will look at potential disasters such as earthquakes and how human spirit can overcome difficulties. Throughout the day, students will take part in activities such as a social media campaign, *Escape Room* challenge and *I'm a Celebrity* 'bushtucker trial'.
- ★ **Physical Area** – activities led by the PE and Science departments will allow students to challenge themselves and understand what Awe and Wonder is through physical activities. Within this area students will participate in Water Olympics and Sports Challenges, developing their ability work as part of a team. This will also involve understanding the properties of water and how this links to the dynamics of movement.

Head Teacher: Mr S J Rylance BEd (Hons) NPQH

Deputy Head Teacher: Ms M Sharratt BA (Hons) NPQH Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs C Singleton BA (Hons) NPQH

A Catholic Voluntary Aided Academy, part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust

- ★ **Reflective Area** – Workshops are designed to set a calm and relaxing environment, enabling students time to reflect upon their experiences and what they understand about 'Awe and Wonder'. Activities include meditation/mindfulness, Awesome You (focusing on the gift that they are), Awesome People (looking at the work of ordinary heroes in our world), The Fruits of Creation (a sensory experience exploring gifts of God's Creation in the Peace Garden), God's Stewards (a planting activity linked to the Parable of the Sower) and A Gift to Others (exploring the origin of friendship bracelets).

A key feature is to enable students to develop their own character and their understanding of the virtues of compassion, honesty, gratitude, integrity, justice, humility and respect throughout the Experience Days. Students will have opportunities to demonstrate application of these virtues, as well as improving their own self confidence.

Attached is a personalised itinerary for your child. The itinerary will be their timetable for next week so it is essential that they bring this with them each day. This outlines which area they will be in each day, what they need to wear and the rooms they will be in for each session. Special assemblies have been held to explain the structure and expectations for next week and form tutors have also gone through this in detail with students, can I also ask you to go through the itinerary with your child to ensure they are fully aware of the plan for next week.

Please be aware, that even though alternative activities will take the place of normal lessons next week, the expectations of the children are still exactly the same as the normal school day.

If you have any questions regarding 'The SJP Experience' please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Learning at [schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com) or by phoning the school office on 0151 645 5049.

Yours sincerely



Mrs V Harris-Jones  
Assistant Headteacher

**SJP Experience Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019 (Itinerary)**

**This will be your timetable for the SJP Experience Week, remember to bring it with you each day next week**

**Write in the correct day you will be in each area**

**Write down the correct classroom you will be in for each session**

	<b>CREATIVE</b> (Day.....)	<b>GLOBAL</b> (Day.....)	<b>REFLECTIVE</b> (Day.....)	<b>PHYSICAL</b> (Day.....)
<b>UNIFORM or PE KIT</b>	<b>NORMAL UNIFORM</b>	<b>NORMAL UNIFORM</b>	<b>NORMAL UNIFORM</b>	<b>PE KIT</b>
<b>Meeting Point</b>	<b>Session 1 classroom</b>	<b>Session 1 classroom</b>	<b>Session 1 classroom</b>	<b>Fire Drill area</b>
<b>Session 1</b>				
<b>Session 2</b>				
<b>Session 3</b>				
<b>Session 4</b>				
<b>Session 5</b>				
<b>Session 6</b>				
<b>Session 7</b>				
<b>Session 8</b>				

***Physical Day:***

- ★ Full correct PE kit is expected. You must arrive to school in PE kit like you did for Sports Day.
- ★ You must either wear your PE hooded sweatshirt or your blazer over your PE kit. No other hoodies or jackets must be worn on this day please.
- ★ You will need your school bag with a towel and a spare PE top as some of the activities do involve water.

	<b>MONDAY 15/7</b>	<b>TUESDAY 16/7</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY 17/7</b>	<b>THURSDAY 18/7</b>
<b>Year 7</b>	CREATIVE	REFLECTIVE	PHYSICAL	GLOBAL
<b>Year 8</b>	GLOBAL	CREATIVE	REFLECTIVE	PHYSICAL
<b>Year 9</b>	PHYSICAL	GLOBAL	CREATIVE	REFLECTIVE
<b>Year 10</b>	REFLECTIVE	PHYSICAL	GLOBAL	CREATIVE