



SJP

NEWS

18 December 2020 | Christmas Edition

The college will re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Ready

Respectful

Safe

Merry Christmas from St John Plessington Catholic College

Dear Families

Welcome to our end of term newsletter. It's my pleasure and privilege to be able to share this snapshot of our pupils' achievements, success stories and events over this term.

As always, I would like to thank you for your continued help and support. I hope you and your family have a restful, peaceful break and enjoy this holiday period. I look forward to seeing your children refreshed and ready to learn in January.

Ms M Sharratt
Headteacher



Hot Chocolate Fridays

Those pupils who have gone 'over and above' in making a positive contribution to our SJP Community are invited to Hot Chocolate Friday.

We look forward to seeing more pupils taking part in Hot Chocolate Friday over the coming year.

Well done to our pupils for going over and above. You make such a positive contribution to our SJP community and we are very proud of you.





Subject Spotlight

Here we highlight some of our pupils' work across the curriculum.

MFL

Our Y12 pupils have been working really hard this term at the start of their A level journey. Today we decided to end the term with an escape room! Los Reyes Magos (The 3 Wise Men) had gone missing and we needed to solve the clues in Spanish to find them. All of the instructions and clues were in Spanish, so we're very proud of how much progress our Y12 have made since September. Naturally we had to have a Spanish breakfast to fuel our brains for the task!

**¡Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



Music Stars

Over these last few weeks in Music we have been celebrating the hard work of our pupils using our 'Recognition Tree'. Following on from the schools 'Recognition Boards', the Music Department used this and made it to make it slightly festive.

Pupils' names on the stars will be awarded positive points by Miss Jeffers for going over and above this year so far. Year 7 and 8 have been looking at the musical 'Hairspray' whilst Year 9 have been exploring 'Film Music'. Also featuring on our tree are our wonderful KS4 and KS5 classes who have been working brilliantly towards their January exams.

Music has been slightly different this year so far, due to not being able to part in extra-curricular.

However, we would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our wonderful pupils and staff who took part in the school virtual choir for our annual Christmas Advent Service. It has been wonderful to perform together again as a school community.



DT

Pupils in Years 7 to 13 have been working hard in Design & Technology this year, designing, developing and making a range of products including a block bot in Y7, ergonomic bottles in Y8 and board games in Y10.

Y9 have been developing their technical drawing skills and understanding of communication in architecture and all year groups have developed their understanding of cooking and healthy eating. Years 11, 12 & 13 have impressed us with their dedication to their coursework. There has been some outstanding work from some of our Y13 students in



particular and we have celebrated their efforts with a Hot Chocolate Friday! We are also really impressed with the enthusiasm of our KS3 classes when we worked together to produce collaborative posters featuring a range of icons throughout Black History Month. Well done all!



Geography

Over the course of this term, Year 8 students have been looking at young climate activists from around the world. Inspired by Amy and Ella Meek who started the award winning, charity Kids Against Plastic. Set yourself a target to reduce your impact on climate change.



Science

In Science this term we have been extremely proud of all of the year groups engaging really well with their studies. A particularly good news story was that of two of our students Joel and Isabel in Year 13 who have secured and completed formal interviews with Oxbridge universities. They are applying to study Physics and Chemistry based degrees and we wish them, along with all of our Year 13 students, the best of luck in their applications.

Media

We are incredibly proud of our pupils this year, as always, and have been particularly impressed with the resilience they have shown under such unusual circumstances.

Year 13 A Level groups have completed their NEA coursework by making a music video and accompanying website for their band/artist which has taken extraordinary planning to work around issues including lockdown, tier restrictions and self/peer isolations. We will be able to showcase this work early next year to demonstrate the high level of commitment to the course as well as a deep understanding of the subject that the pupils have shown.

Year 12 have started their Media journeys with the same high level of passion and enthusiasm we have come to expect from pupils at SJP and have already showed incredibly detailed understanding of media

concepts through insightful analyses as well as getting to grips with the filming equipment as they've created their own unique preliminary tasks. We can't wait to continue your learning journey next year!

The festive spirit is in abundance on the Media corridor as the pupils provided a real tree this year and were in the process of each bringing in a bauble to decorate it as the weeks went by. In the meantime, many thanks to Max Wise who spent far too many minutes of his time creating a tree of coffee cups in MS1 to add to the festive spirit! It was very much appreciated and as some of the cups (clean of course!) were left with us by SJP Media Alumni. It was a lovely way to bring past and present Media pupils together at this time of year.

Building on that community spirit, it is also worth recognising names of pupils on our Media Walk of Fame (Harry & Joe) this week who don't study the

subject but have gone over and above to help their peers to complete their production work in very trying circumstances.

Thank you, gentlemen! The recognition wall has been full of names each week of pupils continuing to demonstrate their ability to be Ready, Respectful and Safe and we can't wait to see even more names on there in the weeks to come in 2021!





“No one ever made a difference by being like everyone else.” - P.T. Barnum, The Greatest Showman

Drama

This is at the heart of the drama department's aim this academic year. To encourage creativity and imagination and allow our pupils the time and space to express their thoughts and opinions; to mould themselves in to the creative leaders of tomorrow.

Since returning in September, drama and performing arts pupils at SJP have thrown themselves into every challenge and we could not be prouder of them as a department. We have launched a new and exciting KS3 drama curriculum and pupils have been outstanding as they have explored different pieces of stimulus, navigated the works of Shakespeare, delved into the theories of well-known and influential practitioners and brought their interpretations of scripted work to the stage.

Their imagination and innovation are astounding!

At the centre of all we do this year is “catching our students getting it right!” We want to acknowledge and recognise the outstanding work that goes on in drama on a daily basis. #hotchocfri has been launched with the Head of Department to celebrate the work of all key stages and reward pupils for their excellent attitude to learning and performing. We are really looking forward to celebrating with more of our wonderful pupils in the New Year!

Pupils have fully embraced the online opportunities available to them and have found new ways to connect with universities, sharing their ideas and learning from industry professionals. Workshops with LIPA over zoom has been a particular favourite with our 6th form pupils. Work at KS4 and 5 continues with pupils working hard on the development of their scripted pieces as well as completing preparation for their upcoming exams.

However, in true drama style, pupils found the time to support the department in filming for our promotional videos as well as producing excellent pieces for this year's Advent service. We are so thankful for the contributions of all of our pupils and a special “Thank You” for going over and above in this challenging year.

We are really excited for 2021 and the work our pupils will produce. We can't wait to see you all back in the New Year.





Anna Freud National Centre

Pupils from year 10 and 12 have been involved in training with the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families. We look forward to these mentors working with our pupils to establish a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing making sure that all members of the school community can play a part in promoting positive mental health.

Reflective Advent

Staff in school have also been involved in creating a reflective advent calendar. This has been shared with our staff and pupils to allow them to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

Staff and pupils have also taken part in the reverse advent calendar. Pupils and staff will be dropping this food off next week.



HFCMAT Liturgy

We look forward to welcoming you at our Christmas Liturgy. Due to Covid-19, unfortunately this year you are unable to join us. You can watch our virtual liturgy on our website from Friday 18th December at 5pm. www.stjohnplessington.com



Autumn Term

We have had a very productive Autumn term at SJP. We welcomed our new year 7 pupils who have settled in exceptionally well and are making a positive contribution to our community.

All of our pupils have returned to learning and they have impressed us with their enthusiasm and dedication to their studies.

Pupils from Y7 to Y13 have been taking part in several events throughout the term; Black History Month, Remembrance Day, Mental Health Awareness Week and Anti-Bullying week. At the end of term, we have come together to create a Nativity production with our family of schools.



Covid-19

All Students should adhere to the following guidelines:



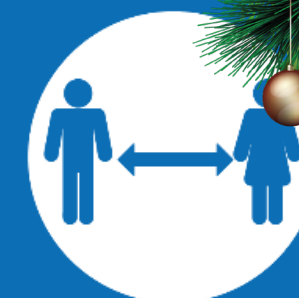
HANDS

Wash Hands regularly for 20 seconds or more and use the hand sanitiser on entry to and exiting from classrooms.



FACE

Use a face mask during lesson changeover, in indoor communal areas (where social distancing is hard to achieve) and on buses



SPACE

Keep a minimum of one metre from other students and two metres from staff, except when sitting next to each other in class.

Ready

Respectful

Safe

Upcoming Events

18 Dec	Christmas Break
05 Jan	Pupils Return
27 Jan	Career/Industry Day
29 Jan	Review Day - Yr 9 & 11

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Meet our Junior Leadership Team

At SJP, we believe that providing genuine leadership opportunities builds a stronger community and empowers pupils. Junior Leadership instils a sense of pride pupils feel about our school and prepares them to take on leadership roles beyond school.

After a rigours application and interview process, Ellie Dinnen and Joel Mahabir have been appointed Head Girl and Head Boy.

Annah Smith, Lydia Evans, Jess Toner
Chloe Peketh, Abbey Mulrooney, Abigail Jones, Joe Connolly, Sam Loach and Jack McCrindle are deputies. The JLT will represent the College at events, help shape and run activities in school, provide support and importantly be role models across the College Community.

There are many leadership opportunities across the College - watch this space.



Supporting our community!

Sincere thanks to Travis Perkins, Hoylake for their generous donation to our Christmas hamper appeal. Katie Belcher, Manager of Travis Perkins, Hoylake, pictured with our Headteacher and their driver, Ned Shannon - was keen to support our school and families and the company responded very positively to our request for support.

Their donation will go a long way to making a difference for our families this Christmas!



**From everyone at St John Plessington
Catholic College!**

**Enjoy the break and we will be back on
Tuesday 5th January.**