



# SJP

# NEWS

17 December 2021 | Christmas Edition

*The college will re-open on Tuesday 4th January 2022.*

Ready

Respectful

Safe





# Hot Chocolate Fridays

During the Autumn term, students 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 students taking part in Hot Chocolate Friday over the coming year.

Well done to our students 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 our students' actions and work from around the classrooms and extra-curricular activities.

## Art

Students and staff across our school community recycled and repurposed materials to create a decorated tree to represent SJP for the St. Andrew's Christmas tree festival. Students in 8TL and 8SB were the architects of the decorating supported by sixth formers and staff.



## Health & Social Care

We are coming to the end of a very busy term of assignment writing and exam preparation in Health and Social Care. Students in year 10 have been investigating growth and development across the life stages and have created some fantastic PowerPoint presentations investigating the life of Miley Cyrus. Year 11 students have been busy preparing for their upcoming February exam, researching the ways our health and wellbeing can be impacted and writing health improvement plans for a variety of different case studies.

In Child Development we have also been busy – year 10 have created fantastic booklets investigating the growth and development of children aged 0-5 years and are now investigating factors that could impact those important early years. Year 11 are also busy preparing for their February exam, researching factors that impact the health and wellbeing of children aged 0-5 years including play and learning/behavioural difficulties.

## PE

30 students accompanied by Miss Obermuller and Mrs Spicer enjoyed an evening of bowling and pizza as recognition to reward their attendance and participation in our netball extra curricular club. Well done for your participation this year so far!



## Business/ICT/Computing

Our Year 10 students had a fantastic digital day with Dr David Tully from Scenegrph Studios. They had the opportunity to use VR headsets, then the students created and pitched an idea on how we can use technology and digital solutions to make it easier for people to understand the true environmental footprint of products and services, allowing households, schools, universities and businesses to make choices that are good for the planet.



## Science

A Merry Christmas from everyone in the Science Department. This term has been a fantastic one for learning in Science. From Year 7 learning all about the importance of sustainable palm oil farming and the positive impact it has on biodiversity, to our Year 11 learning about how delicate the climate is and the effect that fossil fuels have on it. Our natural environment has been a big focus in our curriculum so far this year and we hope that we have instilled a sense of purpose in our students, in line with the mantra of COP26. We hope you have a safe and wonderful Christmas break! Please enjoy this Chemis-tree...



## Music

### Instrumental Lessons

We are excited to announce that our instrumental tuition will be starting in January. Letters will be sent home to all students who have signed up for lessons inviting them to a meeting in January to explain how things will work. We can't wait to watch our musicians develop.



### Little Shop of Horrors

Rehearsals are well underway for our whole school production of 'Little Shop of Horrors', we have been so impressed with the dedication and performance of the cast so far. Tickets will go on sale for this in January and we hope to see lots of you there!



## English

### 'Books & Biccies' club shares in Festive Fun!

Students from KS3 participated in some festive fun led by Ms Patino last Thursday for the English department's after school 'Books & Biccies club'. They shared in a deluxe hot chocolate filled with cream and marshmallows, along with festive treats such as mince pies and chocolate coins! Students hand-crafted their very own Christmas cards which displayed a poem written by themselves; showcasing their creative writing skills! Most students wrote a poem relating to Christmas and what they hoped this year

would bring, adding a delightful touch to their personalised cards.

'Books and Biccies club' is a club run by the English department that takes place every Thursday, where students from years 7 and 8 get together to share in their love of reading; mentored by our sixth formers. The club is an engaging and fun way to meet new friends and participate in a reading club that helps encourage a love of reading and improves students' literacy and English skills!

## DT

Students in D&T have been excited to get back into the workshop, designing and manufacturing a range of innovative products from board games and ergonomic bottles in Graphics to speakers and lamps in Product Design and bags and garments in Textiles. Hospitality and Catering students have produced a range of tasty dishes including sausage rolls, bagels and mince pies for the festive season. We are all really proud of your efforts!



## DT Food

Sixth Form Food Science and Nutrition students have ended the term on a festive note by making stained glass gingerbread. Students have been exploring the scientific properties of different confectionery and looking in particular at boiling temperatures of sugar and how it affects the texture and structure of a product. They have used the soft ball stage to make fudge, have looked at the reaction of chemical raising agents to make honeycomb and have finished the term with some very festive gingerbread exploring the high temperatures needed to make hard crack boiled sweets.



## Reading success in Social Science

Since adding more books to our Social Science collection, many students have been quick to read some of our most popular titles. Psychology and Sociology have such well-established links to society such as inequalities in society and human behaviour. Many of our students have been collecting books during academic review and during their study periods to extend their knowledge beyond our curriculum. Popular titles include 'Natives' by Akala and 'talking to Psychopaths' by David Wilson. On the back of this success we will be introducing our Social Science reading club in January. Look out for when this starts and we hope to see many of our students there!



## DT Textiles

Year 12 textiles have worked really hard to make creative bags based on a designer of their choice, they have learnt new skills in printing and embroidery. They have shown a fantastic level of creativity.



## PE

30 students accompanied by Miss Obermuller and Mrs Spicer enjoyed an evening of bowling and pizza as recognition to reward their attendance and participation in our netball extra curricular club. Well done for your participation this year so far!



## Drama

We have had the pleasure of inviting LIPA into school to complete workshop performances with our Y9s. Students learnt all about the heritage of Liverpool and students also got involved with the performances!







### **Musical Theatre Trip**

SJP Performing Arts took over The Light Cinema, New Brighton to have a private viewing of 'Dear Evan Hansen' as part of the into film festival.

### **Christmas Dinner at SJP**

On Thursday 9th December we had our Christmas Dinner day at SJP! Many students and staff enjoyed festive music, crackers, and a traditional Christmas Dinner!



### **Kickboxing**

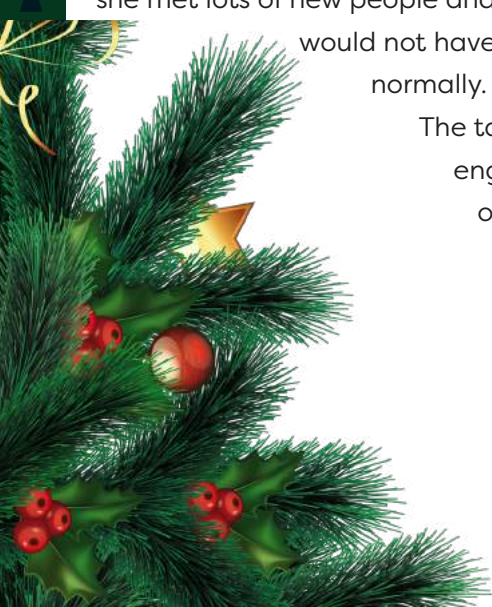
Congratulations to our very own Yr9, Kayden, who competed in an in-house kickboxing competition last weekend! Competing against Kickboxers at the Bebington Kickboxing Club, he won the bronze medal for his weight category!

### **Tall Ships Programme**

During September, Lily took part in the Tall Ships Programme. She sailed from Portsmouth via the Isle of Man and then returned to Liverpool. Lily would recommend anyone apply for this programme as she met lots of new people and went to places she would not have travelled to normally.

The tall ships do have engines but the majority of her journey was powered by the wind

via the many sails. Lily and her team on board shared responsibility for many tasks including putting the sails up and making meals for the teams on board. Whilst on board, Lily saw a lot of wildlife including a pod of dolphins and many seals. Lily really enjoyed this experience and urges other people to apply for this annual event.







## No Pen Day

Students have enjoyed developing their oracy and debate skills for No Pen Day in RE! We have debated different topics with students taking on different roles of Judge, Witness, Prosecution and Defence #NoPenDay #DropThePens



## Bronnie

Our Year 7 students were treated to amazing performances from Bronnie, along with key messages around mental health and well-being, equality, body image, and anti-bullying.



## Dance

A huge congratulations to SJP student, Chloe who competed with her dance team representing 'Complete Works Performance School', at the "That's Showbiz" competition last weekend.

During the competition their group achieved:  
1st - Highest marks for their genre.  
1st - Best Small Group  
1st - Best in their age group  
& OVERALL winners of the competition. 1st out of 41 groups.

A huge well done from everyone at SJP!



## Year 7 Mass

Fr. Bernard came to SJP to celebrate our Y7 Mass of Welcome with us. Our Year 7s enjoyed a liturgy, music and were encouraged to reflect upon how they could both individually and as a year group achieve their best during their time at SJP.



### Under 16s Cheshire Tumbling Champion!

Congratulations to Lakeisha in Year 10 who won the under 16s Cheshire Tumbling Competition. You can watch her winning performance here: <https://www.facebook.com/SJPHeadTeacher/videos/624064838721524>



### Year 7 'Inside-Out Days'

Over a two week period, each Year 7 student spent a day working with the Diocesan Youth Mission Team, who led an 'Inside-Out' day. Each form completed team building activities and focused on working together as a community. The 'Inside-Out' days helped to prepare all students for their Welcome Mass which had a focus on Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato Si, on the importance of looking after our common home.

### Show racism the red card

At SJP, respect and compassion underpin our curriculum inside and outside the classroom. That is why we are committed to working with Show Racism the Red Card SRtRC. Through a series of engaging workshops, the team is helping to educate and challenge all members of our SJP community, staff and students alike. We believe that through our work in education with SRtRC we have the power to change the world for the better. All year groups and staff have been involved in workshops throughout the week





# Meet our Junior Senior Leadership Team

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

For September 2021, we have moved away from the structure of head boy and head girl to a more inclusive model reflective of the organisations that our young people will be working in and leading.

After a rigorous application and interview process, Ellie Armour was appointed Chair and Pranav Sabuji was appointed Vice Chair.

Other members of the leadership team include, Megan McCready, Zak Ogley, Cameron Clarke, Ellie Linge, Erin Morris, Abigail Porter, Loise Samuel, Miranda Higgins, Sophie Mitchell, Mary Tootill, Ellie Major, Alyx Williams, Eloise LM, Tomas Vega, Aimee Reid, Anna Gomm, Jessica Garvey, Kaitlyn Rhodes, Holly Whitfield, Manon TB, Ed Cartmel

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.











## Our HFCMAT Nativity

This week, we share a MAT-wide nativity that has been prepared and presented by children and clergy across our Trust. We hope that you will watch with the family and join us in preparing for the birth of Jesus. You can find this on our YouTube channel here. [https://youtu.be/PsjDjwjqf\\_Q](https://youtu.be/PsjDjwjqf_Q)

The Wirral Foodbank Volunteers are working tirelessly to ensure that everyone who needs it, has food this Christmas. You can download the tracks from our Nativity at [hfcmat.bandcamp.com](https://hfcmat.bandcamp.com). All proceeds raised will go directly to the Wirral Foodbank to support their amazing work!





## Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is always a day of reflection and an opportunity for the Art Department to create a community art piece. The dress started its development during open evening, where members of the community who visited created a poppy, both children and adults! This was supported by a fabulous team of year 8s and Year 13s & 10s. Then, the challenge widened to the whole school. Thousands of poppies were made by every year group and attached, sewn and glued together by staff and students - we had white, purple and red poppies - this was a real achievement and a proud moment for the dept. Finally staff, came together to put the finishing touches to the installation. Two uniforms representing both male and female armed forces were displayed too. Photos and letters from the war were hidden within the poppies and the lights of the candles were lit to remember how their memory lives on. A reflective time which the Art Department was proud to facilitate. Thank you for all your support in creating this year's piece.

SJP students & staff gathered virtually in an Act of Remembrance. The Last Post was sounded by Mr Richard Austin, followed by a period of silence during which we remembered those who lost their lives in war. A poppy wreath was laid by members of the Junior Leadership Team.





## Unicef Rights Respecting School Award

We are very proud to be working with UNICEF, the world's leading charity working for children and young people across the world. The goal is to be recognised as a Rights Respecting School - a school where children and young people's rights are respected, promoted and protected by everyone. The **Rights Respecting Schools Award** involves adults and young people teaching and learning:

**ABOUT** the rights set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child **THROUGH** rights so that everyone respects the rights of others

**FOR** the rights of others so that we stand up for rights and help make our school, our local and our global community a fairer place.

Every student and member of the staff will be finding out what it means to be a rights respecting global citizen and how to make a difference to children's lives locally and globally, so more children can enjoy their basic rights to be healthy, educated, safe and protected.



## Christmas Jumper Day

A Huge thank you to all the SJP staff and students who contributed to this year's 'Christmas Jumper Day'. We have seen some fabulous jumpers. We are delighted to have raised over £500 during our Christmas Jumper Day. All the funds raised will be donated to Merseyaid.



## In the Zone Day - Year 9

As part of our Personal Development programme, 9 alpha participated in a day of workshops organised by our safer schools Police Officer Elaine Cowen. The workshops were led by Merseyside Police and other key community agencies. Each session enabled students to engage in discussions and activities focusing on key topics such as cyber safety, knife crime, county lines, substance misuse and hate crime. Students in 9 beta will participate in January. We want to equip our students with the knowledge and skills to keep safe online and in the wider community and will continue to provide these opportunities to educate students of the pressures they can face.

# Upcoming Events

|                   |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>17<br/>Dec</b> | Christmas Break                      |
| <b>04<br/>Jan</b> | Students Return                      |
| <b>13<br/>Jan</b> | Parents' Evening - Y10<br>(3.45-7pm) |
| <b>27<br/>Jan</b> | Parents' Evening - Y9<br>(3.45-7pm)  |

## Follow Us

Follow @SJPHeadTeacher on Twitter , Facebook and Instagram for regular news and updates!

@SJPHeadTeacher /SJPHeadTeacher

@SJPHeadTeacher



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

**Enjoy the break and we see you in January**