


SJF NEWS

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Friday 11th February 2022 (Issue 21 - 2021/22)



Citizen of the Week

 This week our special award goes to **Scarlett** in **Y1** who understands, both the importance of listening and actually showing the person talking that you are listening, in line with our 'Statement of Belief' this week. Scarlet is a very sensible and mature member of our Y1 class. She loves learning and listens brilliantly to the adults in class and around school. She is also very good at listening to her friends! What a wonderful example you are!

INSET Day Reminder

A reminder that school will be closed on Monday 21st February 2022 as it is an in-service training (INSET) day. School therefore reopens to pupils for the start of Term 4 on **Tuesday 22nd February 2022**.

Update: School COVID Plan

At the start of Term 4, we will return to our September plan. This means that everyone will again enter and exit via the main pedestrian gate. There will be full mixing of pupils on-site and so important things like 'Wake Up Shake Up!', 'Buddy Time', hymn practises, assemblies and liturgies in the hall; mixed meetings of the School Council, Eco Team, Healthy Minds Champions and Chaplaincy Team etc. can all start again. There will be an important Public Health briefing for schools early in Term 4 and I hope that we will be given a steer as to if/when we can reopen fully and invite parents and carers back in. I will continue to keep you all informed.

Important Uniform Reminder

Please ensure that your children wear the correct uniform to school. A reminder that the wearing of jewellery, including earrings/studs is not allowed. The wearing of appropriate watches is encouraged. Children are expected to wear proper school shoes in school. Trainers (including all black ones) must not be worn in school. Children can bring them to wear at breaktimes when they are playing football for example, as long as they have shoes with them to change in to. Trainers can be worn on PE days.

Summer dresses should not be worn until the start of Term 5, which is straight after the Easter break, and we ask that they are worn with plain white socks or tights, not grey.

Please ensure that your children wear the correct SJF PE uniform on their PE days. If it is not our official PE uniform, then all items must be in the correct SJF colours and **completely plain** and unbranded. No designer labels or other embellishments please.



Our school uniform is an important part of our identity and tradition here at St John Fisher and we are proud of it. We appreciate your support in helping us to maintain our high standards. All items can be purchased from our official suppliers; **Logo Leisurewear** (click [here](#) for the SJF page) or **School Trends** (click [here](#) for the SJF page) or from elsewhere, but please note that only our two official suppliers are licenced to use our logo.

Confidential Support

Please contact us in confidence if you need further time or support to kit out your child(ren). We always welcome donations of good quality pre-loved uniform. We hope that regular sales of our pre-loved uniform sales will resume soon, you can contact us any time and we will offer all the help and support that we can.

SJF Calendar of Events

Please click [here](#) in order to see the weekly update on our home page or hit [LINK](#) for the 2021-22 calendar. A reminder that school will be closed on Monday 21st February 2022, because it is an INSET day. The first day of Term 4 will instead be Tuesday 22nd February 2022.



Achievements outside of School

Please share details of your children's achievements out of school, via our school email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) and we will celebrate them in our weekly newsletter. Thank you.



Term 3 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House

746

St David's House

729

St Patrick's House

677

St George's House

698

Term 3 House Champions!

Congratulations to the young people of St Andrew's House for earning the most smiles over Term 3!

100 Smilies!

Congratulations to Lucy, Jasper and Mila in **FS2** and Dylan and Heidi in **Y1** who have earned 100+ smilies!

2021-2022 Overall Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House

4th
2380

St David's House

1st
2479

St Patrick's House

3rd
2427

St George's House

2nd
2469

The Feast of St David & Yellow Day

As St David's Feast Day is on Tuesday 1st March, the members will celebrate 'Yellow Day' on **Monday 28th February** instead. A reminder that only members of St David's House are allowed to wear something yellow.

Weekly Attendance			
1 st	Y2	99.3%	Bobby will visit next week
2 nd	Y4	98.3%	Brenda will visit next week
3 rd	Y1	97.7%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
4 th	Y3	93.4%	
5 th	Y5	93.4%	
6 th	FS2	91.3%	
6 th	Y6	91.3%	
Target = 98.0%		Average Attendance = 95.0%	



Get Set, GO!		
1 st	Y2	89%
2 nd	Y4	88%
3 rd	Y3	83%
4 th	Y5	79%
5 th	FS2	72%
6 th	Y6	69%
7 th	Y1	63%
Average = 78%		

Term 3 Attendance		
1 st	Y2	99.4%
2 nd	Y5	95.7%
3 rd	Y3	95.6%
3 rd	Y4	95.6%
5 th	Y1	93.5%
6 th	Y6	93.0%
7 th	FS2	88.8%
Target = 98.0%		Average Attendance = 94.6%



2021-2022 Attendance		
1 st	Y2	98.0%
2 nd	Y5	96.8%
3 rd	Y4	94.8%
4 th	Y3	94.7%
5 th	Y1	94.3%
5 th	Y6	94.3%
7 th	FS2	91.6%
Target = 98.0%		Average Attendance = 95.0%



Attendance at school, every day, is very important, not just because it underpins academic development but also because it supports wellbeing and inclusion. All our children have been impacted by the pandemic in different ways, especially during the lockdowns, so we continue to work hard to eliminate those gaps that have emerged between them and remain focused on supporting our children to achieve their full potential. We want each to feel secure because we know that this will help them to thrive and shine. **Good attendance supports this process.** As we emerge from the COVID crisis, attendance *must* return to at least pre-COVID levels quickly, and parent/carers support to help us to achieve is key. With attendance so badly affected by the pandemic please try to eliminate avoidable absences e.g. term-time holidays. Thank you for your help.



SJF School Council Update



The Y6 councillors met to discuss plans which will later be shared with all councillors after the holiday. Here's a word from our Treasurer.

The Y6 councillors have taken a lead this term as it hasn't always been possible to meet everyone because of Covid rules. We are really looking forward to meeting with the councillors from other year groups when we come back after the holiday. We have lots to discuss with them!

Alan, Y6 School Council Treasurer

Our Catholic Life

Collective Worship Overview

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Statement of Belief Citizen Assembly (Headteacher)	SJF Virtues Assembly (Class-Based)	Themed Assembly (Staff-Led)	Weekly Liturgy of the Word (Class-Led)	Celebration Assembly (All Staff)

Parish News

Information about parish and Diocesan life including times for Christmas Masses, Confession and sacramental preparation is available via this [link](#).

February Prayer: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen



Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to the children of **FS2** who, ably supported by their **Y4** buddies, led a beautiful liturgy. Our next liturgy will be led by the young people of **Y5** on **Thursday 24th February 2022**. Recordings of all liturgies and Masses are available to watch via this [link](#).

Our Term 4 'Virtues to Live By'

Next term we will be focusing on the key virtues of **love** and **charity**.

SJF Chaplaincy Team Update: Our 'Simplicity' Virtue

We have come to our final week of reflecting on our current virtue, '**simplicity**'. This week we were thinking about what social justice is and we found this quite hard to understand. We discovered that social justice means a fair share for everybody.

By living simply we have just what we need and this means that there will be enough for everybody - especially Food and water. We know that living simply means wanting less and sharing more! We also agreed that 'simplicity' feeds directly into our Term 4 virtues, which are '**love**' and '**charity**'.

Olivia M, Isobel, Lexi and Finley (Y6 Chaplains)



Golden Children

- FS2** **Harley** for being such a brilliant example to others. She works really hard and is kind and caring to everybody. She always does the right thing during carpet time too! What a star!
- Y1** **Seren** for always being a super example to her classmates! She helps others, listens to the adults and is always so polite and well-behaved. It is definitely so great having Seren in Y1!
- Y2** **Phelan** for a really fantastic week! He is trying really hard with all his work and is participating in class discussions enthusiastically! Well done!
- Y3** **Scarlett** for being one of our *always* children. She is always one of the first to be ready and just gets on with tasks without any fuss - giving everything 100% effort too!
- Y4** **Sofia** for being such a polite and caring member of the class. She works hard and will help anyone without making a fuss! She will give everything a go and is always determined and resilient! Well done!
- Y5** **Owen** for having a very positive attitude towards his work in all areas of the curriculum. He is working very hard and has made some great progress as a direct result. Great work Owen, keep it up!
- Y6** **Lacey Lou** for the resilience and dedication she is showing in her maths learning, and for managing to maintain a positive attitude every single day! What a star you are!

Writing Champions

- FS2** **Henry** for working really hard both at home and in school in order to improve his writing. His progress has been outstanding! Well done!
- Y1** **Eliel** for producing a really fantastic piece of writing all about Stephenson's Rocketin which he used capital letters, full stops and even an exclamation mark! This is his best writing in Y1, well done Eliel!
- Y2** **Peter** for completing a write up a science experiment investigating exercise! He really tried to write independently!
- Y3** **Jai** for using great conjunctions, even ones that we had not discussed! He has even managed to use subordinate clauses in his writing linked to Roman myths and has now been awarded a pen license!
- Y4** **Sebastian** has made a great start to his Viking story, managing to include fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases! All of this was enhanced by his beautiful handwriting! Well done!
- Y5** **James** for writing a fantastic letter. He is really starting to improve and vary his sentence structures as well as his presentation! Well done!
- Y6** **Tyler** for making a huge effort with his writing this week. He really is making some brilliant and sustained progress! Keep it up Tyler!

SJF Drama & Musical Theatre Clubs

Mr Smith is setting up a new after-school drama club for children in Years 3-6. It is now going to be opened up to the whole of Key Stage 2, because of the level of interest generated following the notice in our last SJF newsletter. Sessions will take place on Monday evenings starting from **Monday 28th February 2022**, and will last from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. The cost of each session will be £1.00.

Mr Ormesher, our new Music teacher is setting up a 'Musical Theatre Singing Club', also for children in Years 3-6. Sessions will take place on each Friday afternoon, starting on **Friday 25th February 2022**. Again the sessions will be from 3.30pm until 4.30pm and the cost for each will also be £1.00.



Children in Years 3-6 are invited to join either club or both, if they choose. Our hope is that they will, at some point, be able to participate in a special performance later in the year, which will be filmed or performed in front of a live audience, if the rules at the time allow. If your child is interested in joining either or both clubs, please email us, making sure that you mark your email for the attention of Mr Smith (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) and stating clearly what your child wants to do, so we know numbers and can prepare properly. Thank you.



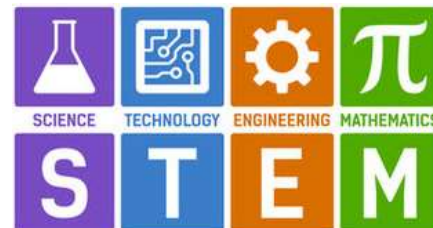
SJF Curriculum Update

Term 4 Curriculum Overviews

These will be shared in due course. Please get in touch if you require any further information or support.

STEM Week 2022

When we return it will be SJF STEM Week 2022. This will be a special week of learning designed to enable our children to work practically and with a high degree of independence as they are challenged to use and apply their knowledge and skills within the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.



Our aim is to get the children excited about these these fantastic subjects and give them a chance to consolidate and extend their understanding of each as they complete projects on their own and in teams. Children will be encouraged and supported to:

- ✓ push themselves
- ✓ trust and believe in themselves as they work on their own and cooperatively as part of teams
- ✓ be resilient and learn from what works and does not work first time
- ✓ ask the big enquiry questions
- ✓ discuss their key ideas (and those of others) critically with classmates
- ✓ hypothesise
- ✓ plan and carry out scientific experiments and investigations
- ✓ observe and then gather and represent results
- ✓ draw conclusions from the evidence obtained and compare these with their initial hypotheses
- ✓ design and create

Opportunities for Parents & Carers

A reminder that as SJF parents and carers you are invited to complete any of the free online 'Level 2' CACHE/TQUK/NCFE accredited courses listed below, which are being funded by the government. These are facilitated by 'The Aim Group' and are targeted at those of you wanting to gain a better understanding of the key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing.

1. Understanding Autism

- learn how individuals process sensory information and understand characteristics
- learn how speech, language and communication differ in people with Autism

2. Understanding Children and Young Peoples Mental Health

- understand factors which may affect young people's mental health
- understand the impact of these factors and how to support children

3. Understanding Behaviour That Challenges

- learn how to support positive behaviour
- understand the importance of effective communication and how to manage challenging behaviour

4. Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties

- understanding the characteristics of ADHD, ADD, Dyslexia & Dyscalculia
- understanding the importance of early diagnosis, assessment methods available to diagnose learning difficulties



Typically the courses will be completed over a ten-week period, though this depends on how you engage. Though there are no exams, essays or end of course assessments, courses are equivalent to a GCSE Grade C standard, so some comprehensive answers will be required for different questions. Parents/carers can do as many courses as they like, but just one at a time, and to be eligible, they must be one of the following:

- aged 19 or over on or before 31st August 2021
- UK/EU resident for 3+ years
- not already on a Government funded course (an apprenticeship for example)

The courses are free, but a drop-out fee can be charged if someone enrolls and then makes no attempt to complete the course without a valid reason. Extensions will be granted for valid reasons and/or if someone has additional needs. Click [here](#) to complete the registration and you will then be contacted by someone who will explain how the enrolment works and answer any questions that you might have.



Parking Around School



We have been contacted by a number of our neighbours as well as some parents and carers who are deeply concerned by the way some people are choosing to park around school at the beginning and end of the school day.

The parking restrictions exist to protect our pupils, your children and, of course, their families. Please park considerately, safely and lawfully.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK:

- ✗ where there are 'zigzag' markings and double-yellow lines
- ✗ in the parish and school car parks without permission
- ✗ on pavements around school
- ✗ across neighbours' drives and places where the curb has been 'dropped'
- ✗ on grass verges
- ✗ on the pavement between (or in front of) our school gates



Illegal and dangerous parking increases the potential of accidents occurring and I sincerely hope that it does not take an actual accident before the risks are taken seriously by everyone.

Inconsiderate parking also creates ill-feeling between school and our neighbours. Sadly, we continue to receive complaints from those living around school about what is seen as inconsiderate or dangerous parking by some of those dropping off or collecting SJF pupils at either end of the school day. Complaints have been from neighbours who get blocked in; about damage caused to grass verges that neighbours maintain; and about autocatons that they have sometimes had with those dropping off/collecting children. I have even received a complaint that a parent once drove on to a neighbour's property and parked on their drive!

I am aware that complaints have also been made directly to the local authority and police, who continue to monitor the situation. They also encourage anyone concerned to report issues to them. Ongoing patrols in marked and unmarked vehicles are planned in order to support compliance. Please help protect our children and their families - and support good relations with our neighbours - by parking lawfully, safely and considerately, even if this means parking a little further away from school. Thank you.

Self-Belief: Our Term 4 Learning Value

Self-belief is all about:

- ✓ trusting in your own abilities
- ✓ setting yourself challenging goals
- ✓ gaining confidence and thinking of yourself positively

The following words come to mind when we think of self-belief:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| • courage | • determination | • positivity |
| • tenacity and focus | • faith | • confidence |
| • assuredness | • inner strength | • resilience |



If you have self-belief what do you realise?

- ✓ you can reach your potential if you believe in yourself
- ✓ you should set more challenging goals to help stay motivated
- ✓ gaining confidence gives you the strength to carry on – even when it's really hard

How can you can show self-belief?

- ✓ by having a positive and determined mind set
- ✓ by setting yourself challenging goals and having the courage to try (and keep trying) to achieve them
- ✓ by really believing that you can reach your potential and achieve your goals



Our Feature Books of the Week!

Our full 2021-22 SJF book list can be accessed via this [link](#).

Our latest recommendation for our younger children is: **Little Red Riding Hood** by **The Brothers Grimm**.



Waterstones Review

From Snow White, Cinderella and Pinocchio to The Wizard of Oz and Peter Pan: twelve of the most famous children's fairy tales of all time, gathered together in a series of essential volumes, must-haves for every budding reader's library.

All children can discover or rediscover their favourite characters and identify themselves in their adventures thanks to these original texts, updated in modern, accessible language, perfect for the littlest ones as well as those already able to read on their own.

Enriching and completing the narratives are the colourful and captivating illustrations by Francesca Rossi, an artist who gives a fresh, modern touch to timeless classics.

Please click [here](#) to find out more.

This week's recommendation for our older children is: **The Rhythm of the Rain** by **Grahame Baker-Smith**.

Waterstones Review

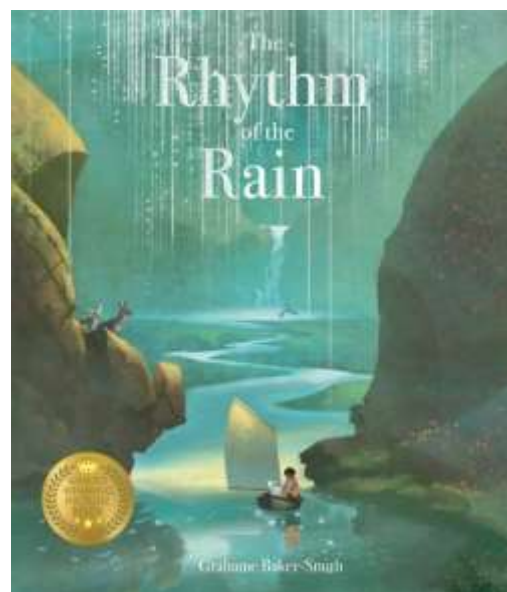
Issac plays in his favourite pool on the mountainside. As rain starts to fall, he empties his little jar of water into the pool and races the sparkling streams as they tumble over waterfalls, rush through swollen rivers and burst out into the vast open sea.

Where will my little jar of water go now? Issac wonders.

On the other side of the world, Cassi welcomes the rain to her parched village...

From tiniest raindrop to deepest ocean, this breathtaking celebration of the water cycle captures the remarkable movement of water across the earth in all its majesty.

A stunning non-fiction picture book from Greenaway medal-winner, Grahame Baker-Smith. Please click [here](#) to learn more.



Safeguarding Update: Roblox

Roblox has been in the news recently because of the serious safeguarding risks posed to its many young users by some adults who also use the site. Please click this [LINK](#) to read the BBC article and [here](#) for a parent/carer guide.



We know that a number of our young children access the Roblox platform regularly and we had to step in when one disclosed that they had accidentally accessed an inappropriate area of the site. If your child uses (or wishes to use) Roblox please make sure that you understand the risks, so that you can protect your child.

Please click [here](#) for general guidance from the NSPCC that might support you so that you can protect your child from risks linked to online games.



Safer Internet Day 2022



The children enjoyed a very interesting and thought-provoking day that reaffirmed the key messages we share constantly with them around using the internet responsibly; accessing only appropriate sites with the knowledge of parents/carers at home; being respectful to others online; recognising and understanding the risks – both old and emerging - in order to be stay safe online; telling someone trusted immediately there is a concern etc. Please click [here](#) or check out the 'News' area of our website to find out more about the children's day.



Our BYB Challenge (Week 21)

Please follow this [LINK](#) for a demonstration of our latest 'Beat Your Best' challenge demonstrated, this time, by Tyler another of our Sports Majors.

The challenge is to see how many times you can successfully, and repeatedly, bounce a ball without losing control of it. How many you can manage in 30 seconds? 60 seconds? Why not have a go and then let your teachers know what you managed? Why not see if you can beat your personal best?

Statement of Belief

Our next 'Statement of Belief' is "**I cooperate with others in work and play**".

Time to talk: What does the word 'cooperate' mean? Can you find the meaning using a dictionary?

Why is it important to cooperate in work *and* play?

What sorts of things can we do and say to show that we are cooperating?

What can happen if we fail to cooperate?

