

Dear Families,

Year 11 Keeping in Touch Evening

Our Year 11 students received their mock exam results during AR yesterday and this was followed up with positive conversations during our Year 11 Keeping in Touch last night. Students have been given time to reflect on their grades and set goals for their next set of mock exams.

Annual Awards Evening – Monday 16th December 2024 7pm

On Monday, students who attended SJT in Year 11 and 13 of the academic year 2023/ 2024, have been invited with their families to attend the SJT Annual Awards and Achievement event. We are looking forward to celebrating their achievements and hearing from our guest speaker Linda Grocott.

End of Term Enrichment Day for all students – Wednesday 18th December 2024

Students in Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 have been given the opportunity to attend events on Wednesday next week. For KS3, Jump In, Shrewsbury and KS4, the Trafford Centre. (Year 7 attended the fantastic panto at the end of November and our Sixth Form visited York last week for a cultural experience). For all students remaining in school, the timetable has been amended to a bespoke day and will include Year 7 developing their sense of belonging through a series of festive activities. For students in Years 8 to 11 who were not eligible to attend, there will be a number of refocus intervention workshops to positively reset them for the New Year. For those students who did not wish to attend their trip, they will experience a number of workshops and activities such as cookery, Christmas crafts, Dragons Den challenges and guest speakers with Sixth Form refreshing their study revision skills and updating personal statements. We are looking forward to the day which all students must attend.

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 19th December

Our Christmas Jumper day will be this Thursday, 19th December, where we will be raising money for each of our six House charities. Students can wear their Christmas jumpers over their normal school uniform for a suggested donation of £1 which will be collected during Academic Mentoring (AM)/ Tutor time by their form tutors. Any donations of Christmas jumpers would be greatly received at reception.

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 19th December

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on Thursday, 19th December 2024. An email has gone out earlier this week about how to reserve a Christmas lunch. If you have not received this email, please contact Mrs King on Lauren.King@sjt.mmat.co.uk.

Lockdown Drill

On Thursday, the school was put into a lockdown drill. Students followed the guidance given to them and we are using any feedback to improve our response should there be the need to sound the alarm in future. We would like to thank them for their support.

Mr Tim Stonall
Headteacher



Timetable w/c Monday 16th December 2024 – Week B

Reverse Advent Calendar

Today was the final deadline for the Christmas donations for the Whitchurch Trussell Trust Foodbank. Thank you for the generous donations received which can be seen displayed in Reception. If you have not managed to donate yet, and wish to do so, you can drop items in at the local supermarket. If you require the services of the Foodbank, it is open on Tuesdays and Fridays at Bargates Hall, Church Street, Whitchurch. (Back of St Alkmund's Church). [Location | Whitchurch Foodbank](#)



HAF Christmas/ Winter Programme

The 4All Foundation are hosting an exciting holiday programme this Winter, Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities and Food). From 21st December 2024 to 4th January 2025, eligible children and young people are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening across the county. For more information for the Winter HAF, click here: [HAF programme - what's on for winter 2024](#).

Recruitment

We currently have two vacancies available in school if you or any of your family members are interested in these, please click on the links for full details including how to apply:

[Access Leader \(Teaching Assistant\)](#) Closing date Monday 16th December 2024

[Student Support and Wellbeing Lead](#) Closing date Monday 6th January 2025

SERCO are working with the local community to recruit candidates for several positions that will be available at the new Swimming Centre within Whitchurch, which is planned to open in March/ April 2025. Please see below a list of positions (casual, permanent & part time) which are available. If you feel any are exciting to you, please click [here](#) to scan the QR Code.

*Trainee Lifeguards and Lifeguards *Trainee Swimming Teachers and Swimming Teachers *Fitness Instructors *Group Exercise Instructors *Membership Advisors *Customer Service Advisors *Cleaners *Duty Officer *Facility Manager.

The Shore – Mr Davies

On Monday, we hosted one of our first big House competitions with Year 7 participating in a fantastic dodgeball tournament with Redbrook coming in first place with 18 points! As you can see, students had a wonderful time and conducted themselves impeccably.

As we come to the end of the first term for our Year 7s in the Shore, it was great to see the friendships (and healthy sporting rivalries) that had been developed between the students and heartening to reflect on how well they have embedded themselves into life at SJT. We couldn't be prouder of them and can't wait to celebrate their journeys in next week's Rewards Assembly.



The Harbour – Mr Hawke

We have had a week of House-related activities in The Harbour. All year groups have had their 2nd House assemblies led by Mrs Southern, with a focus on celebrating success in our House Competitions and looking forward to next term's events. We have recently introduced a 6th House - Whixall Moss to complement our current Houses - Alderford, Blake Mere, Brown Moss, Oss Mere and Red Brook. On Tuesday afternoon, Year 8 students participated in a dodgeball House competition, with Blake Mere emerging as the winners by a single point!



The Quay – Mrs Elms

Year 10 Artists and photographers went to Liverpool on Wednesday for our annual GCSE trip. The pupils were a credit to the school, behaving wonderfully throughout the day. We explored the Albert Docks taking photographs of City life to support the GCSE photography coursework. Art students visited the RIBA gallery, Tate Liverpool, World Museum and the Walker gallery, exploring a wide range of art and natural forms for their GCSE coursework. A brilliant day was had by all.

On Thursday, we welcomed the Quantum Theatre to SJT to perform a live production of A Christmas Carol to support Year 10 students with knowledge and understanding for the English Literature exam. Year 10 were very respectful and engaged throughout the performance.

The Quay are looking forward to our rewards trip to Trafford Centre on Wednesday. Students will receive an assembly on Monday outlining the full details.



Student Support Week 13 Focus: Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)

Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that comes and goes in a seasonal pattern. SAD is sometimes known as "winter depression" because the symptoms are usually more apparent and more severe during the winter.

The following YoungMinds information is for parents and carers to support in talking to their child about concerns relating to [Seasonal Affective Disorder](#).

Our Pastoral and Safeguarding team are situated in Student Services. If a child has any concerns, they MUST report it to a member of staff who will ensure that it is directed to the correct person to deal with it.

Taylor Shaw Catering Menu w/c 16th December 2024

Our Autumn Menu and Tariff can be found on our school website in the Family Information section which is located under School Life. Or you can click on the direct link here: [Menu-Autumn-Winter-2024.pdf](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:

- 18th December – Y8/9 Recognition Trip to Jump In, Shrewsbury
- 18th December – Y10/11 Recognition Trip to Trafford Centre
- 19th December – Sixth Form Christmas Ball, School Christmas Lunch & House Christmas Jumper Day
- 20th December – End of Autumn Term

Click [here](#) to view our Term Dates.



NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.

Why not also follow us on Facebook [@SirJohnTalbotsSchool](#) for a wealth of content, from student, staff, and school celebrations to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow [@MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

