

Dear Families,

Collaboration and Professional Development Days (inc Half Term) - Friday 14th to Monday 24th February 2025

As shared over the last few weeks, a reminder that students are calendared to study from home next Friday, 14th February 2025 as part of our Trust Collaboration Day.

- Key Stage 3 will receive an 'identity' related project, where children and young people (CYP) create 'headshot biographies' about who they are and what makes them unique. It will include aspirations and hopes for the future. We will share details of this in a separate communication, next week.
- Key Stage 4 and 5 will be set work by their teachers in line with their timetabled lessons for that day (Friday, Week B) to consolidate their learning from the year so far.

This date is immediately followed by our Spring Half Term and Professional Development (PD) Day with students expected to return to school on Tuesday 25th February 2025.

Parents/ Carers Experience Survey

As communicated, our survey platform provider Edurio want to learn more about how they can help our school and the Marches Academy Trust to improve parental engagement and would be keen to hear from you through the Parents/ Carers Experience Survey by clicking the link here: [Parent Experience: Survey for Parents and Carers](#). We encourage all our families to have their say, your time and honesty is much appreciated! If you would like support completing this survey, please do not hesitate to contact the school: Admin@sjt.mmat.co.uk



Mr Tim Stonall
Headteacher

Year 10 Keeping in Touch Evening – Thursday 27th February 2025

Our Year 10 Keeping in Touch Evening takes place on Thursday 27th February 2025, details on how to book appointments have now been shared. If you have not received the communication regarding this, please contact our Data Manager, Mrs Elkin on: Bryony.Elkin@sjt.mmat.co.uk

Timetable w/c Monday 10th February 2025 – Week B

February marks LGBTQ+ History Month

The Anti-Discrimination Club (ADC) have been delivering assemblies all week to every year group to educate them about the month. The ADC focused on the 'T' of LGBT in their assemblies as they identified it was the area that some of our students lacked the most understanding. The students spoke with confidence, educating their peers on what it means to be trans, correct terminology and how to support a friend or fellow student who is trans. The ADC have worked with Miss Webb to produce a session that all students will complete during form time next week that further explores different gender identities and celebrates some trans people that inspire them.



A reminder that the ADC meets every Monday in Room 7. Week A - AM time for action planning. Week B - lunch time for an informal lunch club. Everybody is welcome, all we ask is that you are a supportive ally of challenging discrimination and promoting equality. For more information please see Miss Webb, EDIB Ambassador.

Alderfest Discounted Tickets

Alderfest returns this year at Alderford Lake on 4th & 5th July 2025. The fantastic family-friendly festival has an incredible lineup headlined by Ella Henderson and promises to be a weekend full of amazing live music, great food, and a brilliant community atmosphere. To help make this event more accessible for families, Alderford Lake are offering an exclusive 20% discount for families and staff. Please use the discount code SCHOOL20 at checkout on their website, to receive 20% off all tickets.

Harper Adams University Open Day – Saturday 1st March 2025

Harper Adams are hosting their University Open Day on Saturday 1st March 2025. The day will allow students to explore the campus and facilities, meet lecturers and current students, find out more about their specialist degrees in Technology, Business, Engineering, Agriculture and more! If you are interested in this event, please click [here](#).

Free Training Available to Families

West Mercia Police and the NSPCC have released some free workshops to families on exploitation and online safety. If you are interested, please click on the following links: [Exploitation and online safety training workshop](#) or [Online Safety Virtual Workshop](#)

The Shore and Sixth Form – Mr Davies

It's been wonderful to hear stories from our Sixth Form students, who have returned from their trip to Krakow this week. We look forward to sharing photos of this fantastic trip, but for now, I would like to thank the students for conducting themselves impeccably as always.

I would also like to thank Mrs Morcumb, Teacher of Humanities, for once again, arranging an informative, yet enjoyable trip and giving our students the opportunity to have these extraordinary experiences during their time away.



The Harbour – Mr Hawke

Following the Anti-Discrimination Clubs assemblies this week, I will be challenging each form group to plan and deliver an assembly of their choice with a positive message for students after half term.

My thanks to all students and families who made it along to our Year 9 Options / Keeping in Touch evening last night. It was a pleasure to witness and be part of really meaningful conversations about learning, next steps and students' futures. The deadline for completion of the initial preferences options form is Tuesday 25th February, with students making their final choices at Easter.



The Quay – Mrs Elms

Last night, students raised £47.25 during the Year 9 KiT evening towards their prom funds. A huge thank you to members of the prom committee who volunteered to serve refreshments. Students will be holding another cake sale at the Year 10 KiT evening, which takes place on Thursday 27th February where we will look forward to welcoming Year 10 families to discuss student's progress.

On Thursday, 55 Year 10 students visited Theatre Severn to watch An Inspector Calls. Students immersed themselves with this great opportunity to bring the text they have been studying to life. This will be great preparation for their English Literature exams.



Timetables for the next set of mock exams will be provided prior to half term. Exams will take place between Tuesday 25th February to Tuesday 11th March.

Tests and exams can be a challenging part of school life for students and their families. It is important that students know that they are not alone and their wellbeing matters. The NHS and MIND have some fantastic tips to help students and families manage exam stress and take care of themselves; from mindfulness techniques, to staying active. Please click on the following links for more information: [NHS – Mental Health](#) and [MIND – Exam stress for 11-18 year olds](#).

Student Support Week 19 Focus: County Lines

County lines is the police term for urban gangs supplying drugs to suburban areas and market and coastal towns using dedicated mobile phone lines or "deal lines". The following [Safe4Me](#) article provides advice and support for parents and carers who have concerns that their child might be involved in county lines activity.

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.

Our Curriculum

At SJT, our curriculum is at the heart of our school vision and built upon the foundations of our values: excellence, integrity, empathy, creativity, and equality. We encourage our students to have awareness of their journey of learning in each subject with learning journeys so they can navigate through the curriculum alongside their teachers. For more information, please click on the link here: [Our Curriculum - Sir John Talbot's](#)

Taylor Shaw Catering Menu w/c 10th February 2025

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- 11th February – A-Level Art and Photography trip to Birmingham
- 12th – 13th February – Y12 Geography Fieldwork Residential trip to London
- 14th February – Collaboration Day – school closed to students
- 17th – 21st February – Spring Half Term
- 24th February – Professional Development Day – school closed to students

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

NEWS

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

Why not also follow us on Facebook for a wealth of content, from student, staff, and school celebrations to competitions. [SirJohnTalbotsSchool](#)

To hear about news from across the Trust, click here [MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

