

Dear Families,

The Sir John Talbot's School Whitchurch 10K took place last Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> April on what was a glorious sunny day. This year over five hundred runners signed up for the event. The 4All Foundation, alongside school staff and students, were supported by a small army of volunteers who helped deliver a fantastic morning of events. The hard work and dedication of the organising team, marshals, community groups and onsite volunteers, contributed significantly to the success of the 2025 10K. Special thanks are extended to all of our sponsors which included: Americold, Blackhurst Garages, Get Moving Estate Agent, Hatchers Solicitors LLP, David Wilson Homes, and MODE Sport. We were delighted to be joined by the High Sheriff of Shropshire, Brian Welti JP, who awarded the winners of the race with their prize money.

Special praise is reserved for the students who generously gave up their time to support the 10K. From our Senior band that graced the stage to entertain runners and their families, to the photography students who captured key moments throughout the morning and to those who supported other activities such as the Fun Run and for applauding and cheering the runners which included the SJT Lion Sixth Form Arthur MacKay.

Check out the Sir John Talbot's School Whitchurch 10K Facebook page for more information and photographs of the day. You can also sign up to the 2026 event which takes place on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

### The Marches Academy Trust's Spring Newsletter: Celebrating Inclusion and Belonging

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter! This issue brings you a roundup of the key moments and news from the term, with a special focus on EDIB (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging) experiences in our schools. We explore how our schools ensure everyone feels they belong, showcasing examples of inclusive practices and the impactful work being done this term on EDIB. From student-led initiatives to staff training, our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment is evident in every corner of our Trust.

Additionally, this issue features an update from our CEO and the Chair of Trustees, providing insights into our strategic direction and achievements. You will also find interesting news and updates from staff and all schools across the Trust. We invite you to read the full newsletter at the following link: <https://bit.ly/MATSpring25>

### Catering balances

Our IT team have been working hard to restore the network issues affected by the cyber incident earlier this term. In the kitchen we hope to have tills back up and running as normal after Easter. We are working through the manual records of school meals so we can make the necessary adjustments to reflect any purchases made over the 3 weeks whilst the tills were unavailable. As you can appreciate this may take some time, please bear with us. In the meantime, please can you ensure that you have topped up your account ready for the Summer term and have also topped up your accounts with balances to cover the 3 weeks the tills were unavailable.

Enjoy the Easter half term and we look forward to welcoming students back, when we return on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

*Mr Tim Stonall*  
Headteacher



### Timetable w/c Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Week B

#### Whitchurch 10K



#### Badminton House Competition

Last week, we ran a house badminton competition for all years during lunch times. The competition was filled with laughter, friendly banter and a true spirit of camaraderie. Players of all skill levels came together, enjoying the friendly competition as much as the opportunity to connect with one another. Every match was met with cheers, high-fives, and smiles, as everyone embraced the fun and excitement of the game. The week formed part of creating memories, supporting each other, and having a wonderful time both on and off the court.

A score was taken each day, and we are exciting the reveal the overall score as:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Alderford (97 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Blakemere (95 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Brown Moss (74 points)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Redbrook (71 points)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place – Whixall Moss (70 points)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place – Ossmere (28 points)



#### Year group winners!



#### One Voice visit to Bradbury Care Centre

On Tuesday, students from the One Voice team visited the Bradbury Care Centre. This week's entertainment was a very tricky spring themed quiz, created by our Year 7 student's, accompanied by Easter cupcakes baked by Summer & Poppy. Students have also been raising money for a cinema room by selling raffle tickets for an Easter hamper and have raised an impressive £65.70!



#### Golden Time Reward

On Wednesday afternoon, we celebrated our 60 KS3 top achieving students for their hard work and efforts they have put into life at SJT by achieving only Lesson Grade 1s and 2s and 100% attendance, throughout the Spring term. The reward involved 'Golden Time' which allowed students to go out onto the school field and take part in an Easter egg hunt, having sports equipment out to play games and music playing to dance and sing along to, whilst enjoying an ice lolly. We feel it is so important to celebrate the students who are working to be the best model students every single day and we are proud to have them as part of our school, well done!





### House Easter Bonnet Competition

SJT have been getting into the Easter spirit in form time this week with an Easter Bonnet competition. We had some amazing entries, showing excellent crafting and creative flair. All entrants received an Achievement through Caring award, which gained House Points, well done. The winners announced in assemblies were:  
 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Darcey B - Year 8  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Hollie LJ - Year 7  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Agnas J - Year 7



### The Shore and Sixth Form – Mr Davies

On Monday, it was wonderful to be able to welcome so many families from Year 6 who will be joining us in September 2025. Building the connections with families for next year is a vital part of our work in the Shore, but the evening also served as a fantastic opportunity to reflect on how well our current Year 7s have settled into life at SJT and the achievements they make on a daily basis. On this theme, we loved celebrating their successes in Friday's Rewards Assembly, recognising a huge host of achievements and the exceptional effort across the year group

On Wednesday night, two Year 10 students hosted a Year 7 disco to help fundraise their expedition to Kenya, with Camps international in 2026. The event was an absolute blast, with students dancing, laughing, face glitter and enjoying every moment of the night. The bright lights, upbeat music, and excited energy filled the room as everyone let loose on the dance floor. The event was a perfect blend of celebration, fundraising and making unforgettable memories.



### Sixth Form

This week, Year 13 have received their Summer Exam timetables with all of the information on dates and locations for their upcoming exams. There has been a noticeable shift in the focus and application of the students, as they really start to focus in on the next period of time and making sure that they get the grades they deserve in the Summer. Seeing their determination and preparation has been really impressive, as we see them setting goals and targets to achieve over the Easter break, balancing hard work but also looking after themselves.

### The Harbour – Mr Hawke

It has been a week of celebrating success in The Harbour. On Tuesday morning, 40 Year 8 and 9 students with the highest number of Lesson Grade 1s were rewarded at our 4<sup>th</sup> 'Harbour Hot Chocolate' breakfast, enjoying pastries and hot chocolates with whipped cream in our social dining area.



On Wednesday morning, 9PC gave an outstanding assembly on the importance of kindness, in which they challenged Year 9 to display "random acts of kindness" to peers.

On Friday, we held our Spring term rewards assembly at which students were recognised for "caring for self", "caring for others" and "caring for the environment". Thank you to all families for your continued support and I wish you an enjoyable Easter break.

### The Quay – Mrs Elms

Our end of term celebration assembly was a lovely way to finish a busy term for Years 10 and Year 11. There was lots to celebrate. Year 11 teachers nominated a 'Mock Star', a student who performed exceptionally well or made a great amount of progress from the last set of mocks. The Easter treat was well received from the mock stars. Every student with 100% attendance during the last two weeks were entered into a raffle to win a prize and a winner from each form received these in assembly. Certificates were also presented for Achievement for Caring awards nominated by subject teachers and form tutors. It was great to celebrate all the events and successes over the term.

The two-week holiday provides a fantastic opportunity to rest and recharge. This is also an opportunity for Years 11 and Year 10 students to build upon their subject knowledge to allow them to be fully prepared for their upcoming exams. Staff have been providing resources both physically and on Teams and students are advised to use them. Thank you for all your support over the Spring term. We look forward to welcoming students back to school at the start of the Summer term on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

### Student Support Week 27 Focus: Homophobic and Transphobic Bullying

It's never okay for someone to treat you badly because of your sexuality or gender identity. If this happens to you, remember that you're not alone, support is available.

The following [ChildLine](#) information provides further detail and support on what homophobia and transphobia is, how to get help and stay safe, ways in which an individual can build up confidence if they have experienced bullying and definitions on different types of prejudice.

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 and Easter Newsletter

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

Our Taylor Shaw Easter Newsletter is here! To view the newsletter, please click here: [Taylor Shaw Easter Newsletter](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- 11<sup>th</sup> April – End of Term
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> April – DofE Gold Expedition
- 28<sup>th</sup> April – Students return to school
- 5<sup>th</sup> May Early Spring Bank Holiday - School closed
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – Year 11 GCSE Exams commence
- 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 8 Keeping in Touch (KiT) Evening

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

## NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles, or why not 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](#).

