

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely Easter break and that students managed to re-energise for the Summer Term. The school was buzzing with energy and hosted a number of events for the community including Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) and revision sessions.

At one of the most important times in their education, this Thursday will see the start of the busy summer GCSE and A Level exam season for our Year 11 and 13 students. Students have been working hard to reach this point over the last 5 to 7 years and will soon reap the rewards of their success. Year 10 will also sit their GCSE English Literature exam early in the season. We wish all our students the best over the coming weeks and look forward to sharing their achievements with them in August! If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance

#### Summer Uniform Policy

Please note, our Summer Uniform Policy, which is in place for the Summer Term, can be located on our website [here](#). Students are permitted to wear tailored professional style shorts with socks.

#### Year 8 Keeping in Touch (KiT) Evening – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Our Year 8 Keeping in Touch Evening takes place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 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](mailto:Bryony.Elkin@sjt.mmat.co.uk)

#### Students with medical aids following an injury

If your child has a temporary injury requiring them to use crutches or other support, please could you inform reception or their tutor, also indicating how long support is needed. It is important that we ensure access to lessons remains safe and we are aware of any issues that might affect them accessing lessons.

#### Catering balances

Our tills in the dining room are unfortunately still unavailable, but the Trust IT staff are working hard to reconnect them. Paper records have been kept, and we will shortly be in a position to update ParentPay with historical charges for meals. We expect tills to be back up and running over the next few weeks, until then, please ensure your child's account is topped up. Thank you for your patience.

**A reminder that the school will be closed this Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 due to the early May Bank Holiday. Students return to school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025.**

*Mr Tim Stonall*  
**Headteacher**



### Timetable w/c Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Week A

#### Eco Council Donations

As part of our Eco Council's application for the prestigious *Green Flag* award, students will be planting flowers and vegetables around the school grounds, to promote sustainability and biodiversity. We would greatly appreciate any donations of old gardening equipment, seeds, or plants to help us get started. If you have anything to contribute, please kindly leave your items at our reception. Thank you for your support in helping us grow a greener school!

#### The Shore and Sixth Form – Mr Davies

We were delighted to return to a fantastic piece of work that has been months in the making in the Shore this week. Earlier in the year, each our Year 7s each made their own clay tile linked to their school house. The Creativity Team have then done a fantastic job with our Site Team in creating our Shore Clay Mural which is now on display in our area. It's a beautiful marker of what can be achieved collectively with the hard work in our team, and a great legacy of our first year group in the Shore.



#### Sixth Form

It's been clear this week how hard our Y13s have been working over Easter to make sure they're in the best position possible for their upcoming summer exams. Their hard work and focus has been exceptional this week, with a tangible buzz around the Sixth Form as their final preparations take place. In the next few weeks, they'll find challenges and tough moments, but their resilience and determination puts them in a fantastic position to go on and flourish. We wish them the very best.

#### The Harbour – Mr Hawke

It has been a pleasure to welcome all our Harbour students back to school this week. In assemblies I shared the things I feel are going well in their year group, and the things I would like them to improve on collectively this term. Students being in lessons, on time, showing care for their achievement, others and the environment and treating others how they wish to be treated are the key themes.

A reminder that the school immunisation team will be visiting the school to administer the Year 8 HPV vaccinations on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The deadline to complete the consent form is 9am on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The school cannot accept consent via email, the online form must be completed, which goes directly to the immunisation team.

#### Student Success

Billy M, in Year 9 plays for Whitchurch Cricket Club and for the last 10 weeks has been invited to be part of the North Shropshire County Development Squad. He has been training once a week with them and has now been invited to continue training throughout the summer. He has also been selected to play in the team. Well done Billy!



Whitchurch Alport U14s have an important play off this month with the opportunity to be crowned League Champions. The team will also be travelling to France in June to take part in a competition. We look forward to hearing the results!

Sam Reeves, in Year 9 represented Shropshire in an Inter County Scouts Shooting Competition during the Easter break. Sam shot really well placing 9<sup>th</sup> overall. Shropshire won the Air Pistol Competition and came second overall with a score of 2422 narrowly missing out on winning by 11 points to Cheshire. Teams travelled from all over the county to enter. Well done Sam!

#### The Quay – Mrs Elms

The realisation is setting in now for both our Year 10 and Year 11 students that exams are upon us. Year 11 students completed their Spanish speaking exam this week, they all came out feeling positive. Art, Business and Drama exams take place next week. Year 11 students received postcards from staff in assembly this week wishing them the best of luck in their final exams. Students also received their exam information booklets, and it is important they have read and keep this safe as a reminder. We wish our students completing exams next week the best of luck. This is their time to shine!

Some students may start to experience exam stress. Tests and exams can be a challenging part of school life for students and their families. It is important that students know 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](#).

Thank you to all staff and students who participated in the annual Year 11 Prom fundraising event today where Year 10 and 11 students hosted an array of fun activities during lunch time including sponge a Teacher, Guess the Teacher as a baby, cake sale, water pong and many more! They raised a total of £264.26 for the Year 11 Prom. Our Year 11 students are grateful to everyone for their support and donations to help make this event another success.

#### Student Support Week 28 Focus: Emotional Abuse

Whether it's words, constant criticism, or even a silence, if you hear it often enough you might start to believe it. This is emotional abuse. If it's happening to you, don't ignore it.

The following [ChildLine](#) website provides further information and support for anyone experiencing emotional abuse.

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

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](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- 5<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday – School closed to Students
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – Year 11 GCSE Exams commence
- 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 8 Keeping in Touch (KiT) Evening
- 19<sup>th</sup> May – DofE Bronze Sandstone Trail Walk
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 8 HPV Vaccination Clinic

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](#).

