

Dear Families,

Welcome back,

I hope you managed to find time to enjoy being together over the two-week holiday.

Our staff started back on Monday for our Professional Development Day focusing on our Belonging Strategy. This comprised of two clear aims;

1. a curriculum that is ambitious and meets the needs of our students, so they feel connected to their learning
2. our students feel connected to our staff and each other in school.

The school performance tables were published before half term and we are pleased to remain in the top schools for Progress 8 in the Local Authority. However, we recognise that as a school that believes in Achievement Through Caring, we are always striving to ensure that our community is as inclusive as possible. We are looking forward to another strong half term.

Year 11 Mock Exams – Series 1 week 1 of 2 Monday 13th November 2023

The next fortnight is an important stage in Year 11 examination process. The mock exams will give students and teachers the opportunity to find out what they know and understand at this point and will allow us to identify what gaps need to be worked on for the next set of mock exams in February. An email has been sent this morning to all Year 11 families about the importance of the mock exams. We wish all students the best of luck and we look forward to having positive and production conversations with parents and guardians during our Keeping in Touch evening on Thursday 14th December.

Year 10 English Literature Mock Exam Wednesday 15th and Monday 20th November 2023

Year 10 will be completing their English Literature mock exams over the next two weeks. They have been working hard both in and out of lessons in preparation. They have been provided with resources in their English class team. Good luck Year 10.

Sixth Form Keeping in Touch' Evening (Year 12 and 13) – Thursday 30th November 2023

Students in Year 12 and 13 should now be making appointments with their subject teachers for the upcoming Keeping in Touch' Evening which takes place in school on Thursday 30th November 2023. Please encourage your child to arrange appointments early to avoid disappointment.

Friends of Sir John Talbot's School – Christmas Prize Bingo Monday 4th December 2023

Friends of the School (FOTS) are holding their first Christmas Prize Bingo event in the School Hall on Monday 4th December 2023 at 6.30pm. Tickets will be on sale at the school prior to the event. Full details will be sent out on Monday. Please join us with your family and friends to raise money to support the students and the school.

Remembrance Sunday

We are inviting students to attend school in their Cadets, Brownies, Guides or Scouts uniform. As part of a commemoration, we are holding a poppy design competition and a Remembrance Assembly will be delivered by Sixth Formers. Our minute of silence will take place on Monday at 11am.

Mr Tim Stonall
Headteacher



Timetable w/c Monday 13th November 2023 – Week A

Cross Trust trip to Iceland

During the first week of half term, Mrs Jennings and 3 Year 12 students from SJT went on the cross Trust trip to Iceland – 'the land of fire & ice'. The packed 4-day tour based in and around the capital of Reykjavík, saw stops at the Blue Lagoon geothermal pool, a tour of a geothermal powerplant and lava center. Students visited the site of the original Icelandic Parliament between the Eurasian and North America tectonic plate, the only place on the planet where you can see a constructive plate boundary. The tour continued, visiting volcanic crater lakes, geysers and spectacular waterfalls. On the final day, students visited the black beaches at Vik and walked across the Sólheimajökull glacier. A truly amazing experience for both students and staff.



Student Support Week 7 Focus: TikTok concern - new craze

A concern has been brought to the Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership's attention through the Chief Pharmacy Officer for Midlands NHS England relating to a 'TikTok' craze, where a young person takes a paracetamol overdose to see how long they stay in hospital. This has been in the media, see links below, though noting these are from August 2023:

[TikTok: Parents warned about paracetamol overdose trend | Halesowen News](https://www.nationalworld.com/news/offbeat/tiktok-paracetamol-challenge-investigation-southampton-trend-4256823)
<https://www.nationalworld.com/news/offbeat/tiktok-paracetamol-challenge-investigation-southampton-trend-4256823>

Awareness has been raised by police through the crime commissioner. TikTok are denying all knowledge of this. The issue is being raised with National Children and Young people for NHS England. They wanted to reach out to you all to share the awareness with you.

Poppy Appeal

As the UK pays tribute to those who have served and sacrificed during Remembrance this year, students will have the opportunity to purchase some Poppy Appeal items.

Merchandise recommended prices:

- Snap bands - £1.50 (students are not permitted to use these in school)
 - Traditional Poppy - donation
 - Wristband - £1
 - Keyring - £1
 - Zip pulls - 50p
- Unfortunately, we cannot provide pins to students in school.



Road Safety

Students should be reminded of the need to keep safe and be aware of their surroundings when travelling to and from school or being out socially in their communities. With the dark night's drawing in, please ensure that students cycling to school are wearing clothing that can ensure they are seen to other road users. They must wear a helmet, and bikes should have lights. For more information on road safety and bikeability training, please click on the link here: [Road safety | Shropshire](#)

RAM Leisure Free Delivery

RAM Leisure have reintroduced their free delivery to schools for any uniform orders placed before the last Thursday of each month SJT.

Career of the Week – Border Force Officer

Border Force is the part of the Home Office responsible for securing the UK border 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by enforcing immigration and customs regulations. Border Force is recruiting Officers and Apprentices to join our teams around the country. Salaries start from £24,800 for apprentices and £28,000 for Officers, with an additional shift allowance of up to £14,000 per annum depending on role and location.

To find out more information about careers as a **Border Force officer**, or alternative pathways click here: [Border Force officer](#)

We're recruiting Border Force Officers and Apprentices – Home Office Careers

Events

Work experience Y10 & 12 – w/c 1st July 2024

Post 16 and 18 Apprenticeship Vacancies

- Apprenticeship Opportunities at [Barlows](#). For more information contact Pauline Elsley: pauline.elsley@barlowsuk.co.uk
- L3 Apprenticeship in Childcare. Contact: blossomchildminding@gmail.com
- [Apprenticeship in the army](#)
- [Apprenticeship in the RAF](#)
- [Apprenticeship in the NHS](#)

To find out more information about local and national apprenticeships visit: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Taylor Shaw Catering Menu – w/c 13th November 2023

SPRING/SUMMER 2023	
Lunch Menu Week Three	
GREEN EARTH MONDAY	
Quorn Cheeseburger	
Cauliflower Cheese & Pasta Bake	
Diced Potatoes, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans, Mixed Garden Salad	
Dessert of the Day	
TUESDAY	
Chicken Tikka Masala, White & Wholegrain Rice	
Lentil & Vegetable Tikka Masala, served with Mixed Rice	
Green Beans, Baked Beans, Mixed Rice Mixed Garden Salad	
Dessert of the Day	
WEDNESDAY	
Roast of the Day	
Cheese & Red Onion Flan	
Roasted Potatoes, Sliced Carrots, Broccoli, Baked Beans, Mixed Garden Salad	
Dessert of the Day	
THURSDAY	
Chicken Jambalaya White & Wholegrain Rice	
Southern Spiced Plant Bake, Sticky Ketchup Glaze	
Mixed Vegetables, Diced Potatoes, Baked Beans, Mixed Garden Salad	
Dessert of the Day	
FRIDAY	
Battered Sustainably Sourced Fish & Chips	
Rainbow Vegetable Frittata	
Chipped Potatoes, Mushy Peas, Baked Beans, Mixed Garden Salad	
Dessert of the Day	

Click [here](#) to view our Vacancies

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- W/c 13th November – Y11 Mock exams (Series 1 week 1/2)
- 15th November – Y10 English Literature Mock exam
- 15th November – Houses of Parliament trip
- 21st November – Classical lectures
- 25th November – Whitchurch Christmas light switch on

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](#).

