

SJF NEWS



www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk | Friday 15th September 2023

★ Citizen of the Week

★ Our first Citizen of the Week the year is **Sam** in **Y6** who understands that we are all special in line with our first Statement of Belief. Sam demonstrates this understanding by the way he thinks about others; with his words; and through his actions. He has such a wonderful spirit of generosity that engages and validates those he works with or calls his friends. He is positive and optimistic too, facing challenges with a self-belief that he will cope and a trust in those who are there to help and support him both in and out of school. What a great example you share, Sam, congratulations on receiving this well-deserved award. Everyone is so proud of you!

SJF Open Morning 2023

Our Open Morning takes place on **Saturday 23rd September 2023** between 10.00am and 12.00pm. If you know anyone interested in finding out more about our special school, please encourage them to come along and meet us.

We welcome Catholic children and children of all faiths and no faith, who are interested in being part of our community.

We especially welcome the parents/carers of any children due to start primary school in September 2024.

Visitors will have an opportunity to meet our children; Headteacher and staff; as well as Governors and members of the PTFA as they look around the site and learn about what makes our school so special.



Term 1 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House	St David's House	St Patrick's House	St George's House
			
114	103	108	98
114	103	108	98
Blue Day	Yellow Day	Green Day	Red Day
Monday 27 th November 2022	Friday 1 st March 2024	Friday 15 th March 2024	Monday 22 nd April 2024

Please take note of when the colour days and remember that they are days when the members of that House (only) can dress down and come to school wearing something in their House colour rather than SJF uniform.

SJF Calendar

Our new 2023-2024 calendar is available on our website by clicking [here](#). Please take note of key dates involving your children.

Open Morning

Just another plug for the Open morning on **Saturday 23rd October 2023**. Please spread the word with your friends, neighbours and on your social media! Thank you for your support.

INSET Day

A reminder that **Monday 30th October 2023** is a staff INSET day, meaning that school will be closed. We reopen for the start of Term 2 on Tuesday 31st October 2023.



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Automatic SJF Alerts

Please sign up with us for automatic alerts directly from our SJF website, so that you make sure that you receive calendar notifications and reminders as well as news items, instantly. If you have family and friends in different parts of the UK or indeed the world, they can also sign up for alerts. You just have to tick the boxes that relate to your children's classes and enter your email address. Once you have signed up, there is no need to renew each year, as details should move up automatically. You can stop the updates any time. Thank you.

Pupil Voice

We exist, as a faith and learning community, for our children. Their views, thoughts and feelings are therefore very important. We encourage their engagement and participation in school life, in line with our school vision. As well as supporting our development as a school, these different opportunities also enable the children to develop confidence and a real sense of purpose and mission. The range of valuable experiences they gain from participating - which also link to our national UK values and our faith-based virtues - help them to build an understanding of how both can work in order to make a positive difference to others, and our world.



Our SJF School Council 23-24

At the end of the summer term, elections for the class councillors were held for children who would be in Years 1-5 this year. As reported in last week's newsletter, this process was completed with the election of five Y6 Councillors to senior roles on the School Council. Here is a message from Mr MacInness, SJF School Council Coordinator:



Following last week's **Y6** Senior Councillor hustings and elections, a new SJF Council has now assembled for the new academic year.

This week we held our first meeting, and the new councillors introduced themselves and discussed their hopes for the year ahead.

As the 2023-24 School Council, we intend to continue the fantastic work began by last year's councillors to help promote awareness of road safety and parking throughout our community.

We also hope to further our school's 'reading for pleasure' culture through fundraising and other activities and I am pleased to announce this year's council. We look forward to very fun and productive year as a council!

Chairperson Hugo	Vice-Chairperson Amelie	Secretary Ava	Joint-Treasurers Dominique & Jacob	
Y1 Councillors Aria & Esmee	Y2 Councillors Igor & Mia	Y3 Councillors Freddie & Ivy	Y4 Councillors Jack & Natalia	Y5 Councillors Jacob & Keyla



Our SJF Eco Team 23-24



Our new SJF Eco Team continues to be serious about making a big difference. Here is a word from Miss Steenson, our SJF Eco Team coordinator:



As the SJF Eco Team, we all want to focus on our local environment, as well as tackling issues around recycling in our school.

We are going to try our best to work on our school pond this year, which will hopefully attract wildlife and become a special place for many children to use in the years to come.

We also want to focus on recycling, and hope to come up with lots of ideas to help our school become more environmentally friendly.

This year's team members are Marcus, Alfie, Dominic, Enzo, Jack, Heidi, Katy, Marcus and Renae.

Our SJF Chaplaincy Team 23-24



Here is a word from our SJF Chaplaincy Team Coordinator, Mrs Broadhead

In our role as chaplains, we aim to help our school grow as a community of faith.



We encourage everyone to live their faith daily by supporting and leading liturgy, prayer and the spiritual life of our school. Our team meets on a Monday during assembly and this year's chaplains are:

Y6 Aalia	Y6 Alana	Y6 Dijon	Y6 Preston	Y6 William	Y5 Isabelle
Y5 Jack	Y5 Jenson	Y5 Rebecca	Y4 Lotanna	Y4 Niamh	Y4 Tilly
Y3 Ava	Y3 Dylan	Y2 Ashwin	Y2 Nadia	Y1 Edwin	Y1 Hattie

Our SJF Healthy Minds Champions



Here is a word from Mr Murphy, our new coordinator of the Healthy Minds Champions.

We are in the process of recruiting new champions for the 2023/2024. These new Champions will be joining our two remaining members: Jenson **Y5** and Eliana **Y6** to create a new team.



The Champions will be available to children on the playground at breaktimes to talk to about their problems or help them with other issues such as friendships, calming down and games. I cannot wait to get started with his team to help and support all our children to feel happy, safe and loved.



Our SJF Sports Majors 23-24

Our Sports Majors play an important role in sharing key messages about the benefits of participation in exercise and sport. The Sports Majors prepare and lead a special values assembly at the beginning of each of the six terms and they help organise and run our Beat You Best challenges at breaktimes. Coordinated by Mrs Broadhead and Miss Raynes, our Sports Majors are: Alfie, Bella, Luca, Poppy and Zayd.



Uniform Reminder

School Shoes

A number of children have returned wearing black trainers instead of proper school shoes. When the time comes to buy new shoes, we ask that parents/carers please buy school shoes rather than black trainers. Any trainers can be worn to/from school e.g. in bad weather or to play football **at break-times**, but everyone is expected to wear proper school shoes whilst in school. Trainers/pumps can be worn on PE days.



REMINDER: Earrings and Jewellery

A reminder that children are **not** permitted to wear earrings/studs or any kind of jewellery at school. We ask parents/carers to arrange for their children's ears to be pierced at the beginning of the summer holiday, if this is what they want, so that the holes heal in time for September. The wearing of sensible analogue watches is encouraged. Smart watches, with connectivity to 4G/social media etc. are **not** permitted.



PTFA Meeting

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PTFA! You are invited to attend a ZOOM online meeting on **Monday 18th September 2023, at 6.00pm** to hear our PTFA committee talk about all they achieved over the last twelve months to discuss their plans for the year ahead. The committee really does so much for our children and many of the highlights of the year, including, discos, family nights, Santa in School, the pantomime and enhancements to the site, simply would not happen in the same way – or at all - without them. Please show your appreciation by joining the short meeting, and encourage other parents/carers to do the same.

- **Zoom Code:** 894 3354 1533
- **Password:** PTFA

Gold Award

We are delighted to share the news that following a rigorous assessment process our school has again received a gold award, for the School Games mark. We achieved award because we have maintained what we have done previously, whilst growing the school's engagement in the 'School Games' process, delivering at least sixty active minutes on top of the required two hours of PE per week.

Our staff, Sports Majors and Young Leaders have all helped to create a range of opportunities to engage our children that involve physical activity through competition, personal challenges and non-competitive festivals. These positive experiences have been designed to engage pupils regardless of their ability and encourage motivation, increasing competence and confidence in school which reflects a clear purpose and intent to get our children moving and participating more.



The award also recognises that our school has maintained a clear focus on those key transition points: Y2 to Y3 and Y6 to Y7 and has tried to engage with lots of different School Games-recognised activities. It also recognises our ongoing efforts – that is both staff and children - to create an inclusive and organised range of positive experiences to support the character development of different targeted groups of young people. Our Sports Majors and Young Leaders led the weekly 'Beat Your Best' challenges and set up opportunities at lunchtime for all children, which was, and continues to be a key part of our offer.

Huge congratulations to everyone who has helped us secure this very special and prestigious award, including last year's Sports Majors and Leaders; Miss Barrett and Mrs Broadhead for her commitment and overall leadership of this key area of school life! We all look forward to the year ahead, and to all the exciting opportunities it will bring for continued development. Miss Raynes is now working with Mrs Broadhead to support our fantastic new team of Sports Majors with the BYB challenges at morning break.

Wake Up! Shake UP!

WAKE UP! SHAKE UP!

Come and join our very enthusiastic 'Wake Up! Shake Up!' team for five fun-packed minutes of lively fitness every morning from 8.40am.

Children are encouraged to take part and its purpose is to get them active so that they go in to the day ahead feeling happy, energised and ready to learn! The sessions are run by our fantastic 'Wake Up! Shake Up!' team, comprising of our Sports Majors, Young Leaders and of course the 'Wake Up! Shake Up!' crew as well – all coordinated by Miss Raynes. Each term the children learn easy routines to popular music. The children taking part will receive a sticker and smiley for joining in, so please encourage your children!

Get Set, GO!

'Get Set, GO!' is the name we give to the activities the children tackle each morning in between Wake Up! Shake Up! and registration. The aim of the Get Set, GO! activities is to gently challenge the children to think. They are varied and inclusive with some collaborative and others more individual. The figures reported in the newsletter show the average percentage of children who are in class and ready at the start of the Get, Set, GO! Session each week.



Term 1 Curriculum Overviews

The Term 1 Curriculum Overviews will be sent out shortly. Please contact us if have any questions of if you need our help to support your children. Thank you.



Welcome Meetings

Thank you to everyone who attended our Welcome Meetings this week. If you have any questions please get in touch. Our final Welcome Meeting for **FS2** takes place on **Thursday 21st September 2023** at 3.30pm in the Y6 classroom. Supervised childcare will be available close by. All **FS2** parents and carers are invited!

Pupil Premium Grant

If you are in receipt of income-based benefits then your child(ren) might be entitled to receive the **Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)** and **free school meals**. The grant is also available to children in care and those with parents serving in the UK armed forces. It is important to claim the PPG even if your child is in FS2/Y1/Y2 and receives the universal free school meals through the government scheme. Please speak to us if you think you might qualify.



Our Catholic Life

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to the young people of **Y5** for leading our first Liturgy of the Word of the new school year. Thank you also to their family and friends who were able to join us to support their children. A recording of the liturgy is being made available to view on our SJF website, by clicking this [here](#). Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the young people of **Y1** on **Thursday 21st September 2023**, and we invite their family and friends to join us in the hall at 9.00am.



Collective Worship

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly (Headteacher) & Chaplain's Liturgy (Years 1, 5 and 6)	'Virtues to Live By' Class Assembly (Class-Based)	Themed Assembly (Staff-Led)	Weekly Liturgy of the Word (Class-Led)	Celebration Assembly (Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher) & Chaplain's Liturgy (Years 2, 3 and 4)

Our Virtues to Live By

As part of our cycle of prayer this year, we will again focus on human virtues. Though common across cultures and faiths, we have sourced ours from the Christian tradition. This term we focus on **respect** and **courtesy** during our Tuesday assemblies.



September Prayer

Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee
Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus
Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Our Coming In Song

Ubi caritas et amour (Where charity and love are, God is there...)
Ubi caritas, deus ibi est

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding Matters @SJF

Our Safeguarding Team is:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Mr Barratt

Designated Safeguarding Deputies (DSDs): Mrs Barrett, Mrs Hadfield & Mr Murphy

Further information is available on our SJF website [here](#). Linked to this is all sorts of information for parents/carers about keeping your children safe online, which can be accessed [here](#). We will be adding information about various games and platforms as part of our ongoing revamp of the SJF website.



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Golden Children!

- FS2** All the FS2 children, for making a wonderful start and for settling in beautifully!
- Y1** **Bobby** for following instructions as soon as he hears them! We are so proud of the way Bobby has started in Y1, he is an absolute superstar!
- Y2** **Briola** for being determined to always listen to instructions carefully and for setting a wonderful example to her peers!
- Y3** **Jenson** for making such a super start to Y3! He is great at listening, participating and producing work to a good standard!
- Y4** **Caleb** for starting Y4 in an amazing manner, and for being a great role-model classmates. He works hard to help everyone around him and never stops smiling! His positive attitude is infectious!
- Y5** **Jacob H** for making a brilliant start to the new school year. He is showing great positivity and maturity as he settles in to his new class!
- Y6** **Preston** for the outstanding start he has made to life in Y6. He has worked hard, helped others and is engaging brilliantly in all lessons! Well done!

Writing Champions!

- FS2** Our new **FS2** children will join us at Celebration assembly next week.
- Y1** **Tommy** for trying so hard when labelling parts of the body, and for never giving up Tommy! Well done!
- Y2** **Ashwin** for writing very descriptive and funny noun phrases using our story 'The Troll'. Well done!
- Y3** **Shelby** for trying really hard to use her own ideas in her writing linked to our story, 'TStone Age Boy'. Well done!
- Y4** **Niamh** for working so hard in our grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) lessons, this week! Her work around the correct punctuation in direct speech has been incredible to see! Well done!
- Y5** **Kayl** for his positive and mature start to his reading and writing this year.
- Y6** **Erin** for working very hard in GPS lessons, and for the excellent presentation of her work so far. Keep it up, Erin!

Maths Champions!

- FS2** Our new **FS2** children will join us at Celebration assembly next week.
- Y1** **Hugo** for concentrating hard to achieve correct number formation. keep it up Hugo-well done!
- Y2** **Leon** has shown amazing focus and independence in Mathematics this week, well done!
- Y3** **Ethan** for showing fabulous 'number sense' in class this week. Keep it up!
- Y4** **Freya** for pushing herself since starting in Y4 - taking on maths challenges and impressing everyone with her increasingly positive attitude to learning. Keep it up!
- Y5** **Charlie** for his positive responses to reasoning problems and for demonstrating how he is using and applying his mathematical skills in his thinking. What a star!
- Y6** **Sofia** for the hard work and dedication she has displayed in her maths learning. Well done!



Week 1 Attendance			
1 st	Y4	99.7%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
2 nd	Y6	99.7%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
2 nd	Y5	99.0%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
4 th	Y3	98.4%	Billy Bear will visit next week
5 th	Y2	98.3%	
6 th	FS2	97.0%	
7 th	Y1	95.7%	
Target = 98.0%		Average Attendance = 98.3%	



Get Set, GO!		
1 st	Y5	88%
2 nd	FS2	86%
3 rd	Y3	80%
4 th	Y1	78%
5 th	Y6	75%
6 th	Y2	72%
6 th	Y4	72%
Average = 76%		

Reading Volunteers

We are in desperate need of more reading volunteers. The commitment does not have to be big and we can be flexible. If you would like to find out more, please contact us. All volunteers will be subject to appropriate safeguarding checks that comply fully with the requirements KCSIE 2023. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



Beat Your Best: Our BYB Challenge

Our first BYB challenge of the school year will be shared with the children on Monday by our new Sports Majors, and a video produced by our new Sports Majors will be uploaded to the website, so you can try the challenge at home too. Who will be the best in your family? Will you beat your best?



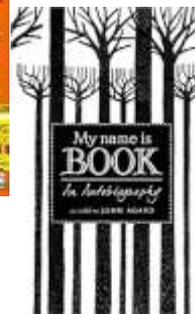
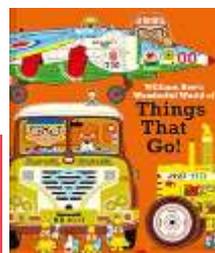
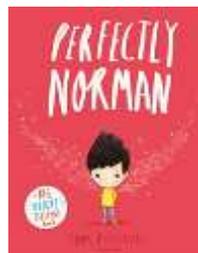
READING FOR PLEASURE

“The more you read the more things you know.
The more that you learn the more places you'll go.”
-Dr. Seuss

Our Feature Books of the Week!

Please click [here](#) to view our new 2023-24 SJF book list.

- **Perfectly Norman**
 - Tom Percival
 - click [here](#)
- **Things That Go**
 - William Bee
 - click [here](#)
- **My Name is Book**
 - John Agard
 - click [here](#)
- **In to the Dark Forest**
 - Liz Flanagan
 - click [here](#)



Achievements outside of School

A reminder to please send details of your children's achievements outside of school, with us, via our main email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) so that they can be included in the newsletter. It does not matter whether these achievements are big or small, if they are significant for your child, then we would be delighted to share and celebrate the good news!

- **Edwin** in **Y1** passed his Level 2 swimming this week and has moved up to level 3! Congratulations, superstar!



Statement to Live By

Our 'statement to live by' next week will be: **"I can say one good thing about myself"**

Time to talk: Why is it sometimes easier to say good things about others rather than ourselves?

With someone at home think about the different ways you are gifted and talented and say them out loud, or list them.

Think about the list you have made and choose the gift or talent that you are most proud of. Talk about why it is your favourite.

Why is it important to see the best in ourselves and others?

What might happen if we only look for bad things?

Think of positive words that describe you. What is your favourite?

