

THE KEY STAGE 3 POST



A final message from your Head of Year...

Sadly, this will be the last Newsletter I will be writing as your Head of Year. I must admit when lockdown started, and we formulated the idea of these weekly Newsletters, I thought I would be commissioned to do 5 editions... this is now issue 11! What a journey it has been just in the last 3 months; unbelievable really. We must have an ending of some kind, even if it isn't the one we hoped for. My advice over the next few weeks to you is that you need to start calling yourselves 'Year 8'. This Newsletter along with your final edition before Summer, is a part of that closure and the end of Year 7 for you all.

It has been an absolute pleasure to have you all as my last Year group. I know I am speaking for all the staff by saying you all have great potential moving forward, regardless of this missed time. This is not just in your academic studies but I wholeheartedly believe you will all go on to enrich the lives of the people and communities around you. I have had the pleasure of meeting some Year 6 students at St. John's Primary School this week for their leavers' assemblies. In Mr Shields' closing speech, he told a story of how one of his teacher's used to bow to his class. When the class asked why he did this, he explained that he was standing in front of future leaders. I have mentioned something similar to you before, we want you all to succeed, flourish and become the future leaders of the world we live in.

We have some amazing achievements to share. You can see to the right of this message some of our form awards. Congratulations to 7SDC who have battled all year to hit that number 1 spot. You are this year's champions! We decided to also recognise our form lockdown winners, this was extremely close. Well done to 7MJC for taking the top position over the last 3 months! 7CHP have certainly performed well during the lockdown as well, but a special mention here to Jacob H who achieved 17% of this overall total. It is also worth mentioning that Jacob was the top achiever of good comments during the lockdown in Year 7.

Moving onto attendance; I believe this is the highest total I have seen from a Year 7 form ever! 7AMA has an astonishing 98.2% overall attendance. I also do not doubt that, if lockdown hadn't occurred, this form would have stayed above the 98% mark. There were several weeks where this form achieved 100% attendance, this means every student is making the most of their learning and education.

Finally some special mentions for overall good comments. You can see to the right, the top 3 students across the whole year. Well done to Mohit D (1st place), Liam W (2nd place) and Amelia B (3rd place) for the top 3 positions out of 195 students; a superb achievement!

The next few figures sum this cohort up really; 72 students did not gain 1 bad comment across the whole year. This is nearly 40% of the cohort! You also ended your year on 21221 good comments! I wonder what the total would have been without lockdown!

Your final newsletter will be written by your new Head of Year 8. It will allow them to introduce themselves and set their expectations for the year ahead.

I will still very much be with you all and watching your progress carefully. You have my full support always and I wish you all the best in Year 8. You have made me extremely proud with the way you have tackled the lockdown and these recent unprecedented events. It shows that you have that power within and inner strength to push through any difficult times. No excuses and showing resilience are the keys to success.

Stay safe and work hard always.
Mr Steadman and the whole Year 7 team

Form Winners 2020



Lockdown Winners



Attendance Winners 2020



Top 3 Students 2020



Bringing the community back together...



Final Shout Outs

Spanish

Marilyn Y
Mykel L
Danni T
Anand N
Mannatpreet S

RE

Antonia O
Tayah D-S
Frankie B
Stephanie K

Benjamin A
Music

Daisie M
DT

Freddie P
Maths

Brandon G
Art

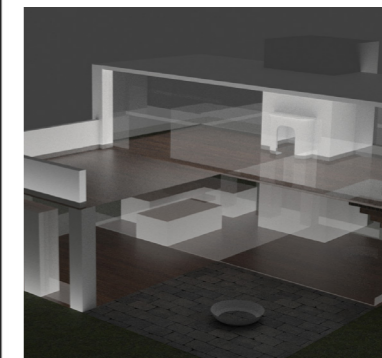
Cindy M
Computing

Science Photography Competition



The Science department set Year 7 a Photography competition for a task this week. They have had an excellent response! The aim was to take a picture and write a short paragraph on how it relates to Science. There were two winners from all those who entered. Well done to Olivia N for her images of the geranium and ladybird, and Frankie B for his image of the hairdryer and table tennis ball. Prizes will be awarded to these individuals by the Science department when you return to school. Good work!

3D Modelling



Jacob H remains busy and has now used his IT and Maths skills to start learning how to use 3D modelling software. He has created an architectural model. Well done!

Sunflower Competition



Amelia B is looking for an update on everyone's sunflowers. Share pictures and get your tape measures out! It would be lovely to see your attempts!

Bringing the community back together...





Form Tutor Messages

7AMA

Dear 7AMA,
Unfortunately, Ms McNamara has moved on to pastures new during the lockdown. I know by my past conversations with Ms McNamara that she was extremely proud of her Form - from your good comment totals to your community spirit. One of our key tenets, 'Service to Others' reverberates within your form. You look out for one another; please continue to do this!
You have been the best for attendance and have in the past won termly good comments awards. You have 3rd overall in the good comments competition which is an excellent achievement, especially as you have had the least number of students in your class. Keep up the good work and your acts of random kindness.

7CHP

Dear 7CHP,
I hope you are all well and have used your time wisely to continue your studies whilst also looking after yourselves and your families. I just wanted to say that I really enjoyed being your form tutor this year, even if it was cut short, and I hope I have the opportunity to teach you in future years. This time away from school has provided us with the opportunity to reflect and realise how much we have to be grateful for. Enjoy your summer holidays and I'll see you September.

Mrs Heap

7HB

Dear 7HB,
I just wanted to say a huge thank you for being an amazing form. Always willing to help and take part in activities within registration. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all and I am very proud of the wide range of successes you all have achieved in your first year at St John's.
You have been an absolute joy to work with and I would like to say special thanks to the following for achieving amazing good comments:
Brodie =257 and Phelim =242 -Wow!
Above 100: Olivia, Charlotte, Timmy, Harlena, Ayo, Jayden, Skye, Harmanjot, Nandini and Michael.
And to the rest of our form who have also all achieved a significant amount of good comments.
This is a clear reflection of your hard work and commitment within our school.
Thank you Abi and Harmanjot for your work in the roles of form Captains.
I wish you all the best for your future progression and hope you have a wonderful summer holiday break.
Take care and stay safe
Mrs Burgess

7MJC

Dear 7MJC,

As you know I have been a Year 7 tutor for several years now and as I have told you many times, you have been my favourite form group EVER! From the very first day you were so kind and respectful and listened carefully to everything that was said, even though it was your first day and you must have been so nervous. It was a pleasure to see you each morning (unless someone forgot to drive their car properly and an accident held me up) and I particularly liked playing games and hosting the weekly topical quiz. Hopefully during this time away from school, you have kept up to date with current affairs because most of you were a bit rubbish at answering the questions (most of you could not whisper either)!

I really hope you and your families continue to keep safe and well and that you come back to school in September with the same fabulous attitudes. I will miss being your tutor very much.

Ms Johnson

PS: we would have totally gone on to win the form with the most good comments and have definitely beaten Mr Dale's Form group easily.

7OMP

Dear 7OMP,
I hope you are all well! Just a quick message from me to thank you all for being such a lovely form class and for all the great work you have completed. It has been a pleasure being your form tutor and I am proud of what each of you has achieved this year. Good luck as you move into Year 8. Please continue your hard work and remember never to give up, no matter what obstacles you may encounter.

Have a fantastic Summer with your families and keep safe.

Best wishes,

Miss McCormack

7SDC

Dear 7SDC,
This is clearly an interesting end to your first year at St John's. Obviously, this is not how I would like us to end the year, as I have enjoyed being your form tutor so much. You have been my favourite form since I started at St John's; I have so many funny memories from our time together. From our laughs in form over silly things and watching you all grow and mature throughout the year, to reading about what you have been up to during lockdown and hearing of your recent successes. You have made me incredibly proud of you all and I know you will continue this on into Year 8 and beyond. I hope you all have a brilliant summer and I look forward to seeing you all when we get back to school in September.

Take care all,
Mr Dale.

7STA

Dear 7STA,

Mrs Taylor likes to test Mr Steadman now and then. This box can hold around 200 words. Mrs Taylor wanted to write 414 words! Where there is a will there is a way!!!!

[CLICK HERE PLEASE](#)

Well-being Tasks

“We have learnt that amid the fear, there is also community, support and hope!”

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness”

Given the fact that we are reaching the end of the school year and it has been a great challenge adapting to home learning, it is time to take a small step back and take time to reflect on all that has happened and how you, as young people, can grow and develop through this challenging time.

Your task throughout this week and the remainder of the month, will be to take some time and look after yourself. Follow the resilience calendar throughout the month and see if you can make positive steps into improving your mindset and continue to develop throughout this difficult time.

Try your best to implement these changes and resilience guidelines in your day-to-day lives and find that light amidst the strange times we are currently in.



[Click HERE](#) for the resilience calendar.



HOME – SCHOOL SUPPORT

Dear Parents/Guardians

As a school, we recognise that your experiences of lockdown, just like our own, would not all have been plain sailing. We also understand that, for some of you, there is a real danger of feeling isolated from your friends, family and community at this uniquely challenging time.

Whilst we, at St John’s, have been working hard to try to further enhance our communications with you through our weekly Newsletters, we understand that isn’t necessarily the same as speaking to a member of our community or hearing a familiar voice.

Therefore, from this week onwards, we are offering you the opportunity to contact the school to request a ‘call back’ from a member of our Year Group Pastoral Team. Whether it is a concern you may have with Home Study, a particular problem that you or your child is going through or even an opportunity to have a general chat with someone from St John’s, if you would like to speak to a member of our Pastoral Team, please email your request through for a ‘call back’ to the relevant pastoral manager email address below and we will get in touch with you in due course.

We would love to hear from you, so please do make use of this opportunity.

- Year 7 - Miss J. Styles: jstyles@stj.kent.sch.uk
- Year 8 – Mrs Hodges: lhodges@stj.kent.sch.uk
- Year 9 - Mrs L. Buckingham: lbuckingham@stj.kent.sch.uk

Show My Homework is changing its’ name!

There will be:

- ✓ A new app icon and website logo (see below)
- ✓ **NO** changes to the way you currently use or access the app and website.



This Week’s Prayer

*Father, I thank you for the “March winds and April showers that bring May flowers.” Father, You know what is necessary to prepare me for what You have in store for my life. Help me to receive what You have for me. Prepare me as You prepare the seeds. Grow me strong, nourish and protect me with Your truth so that I can break through the dirt, sprouting into a healthy “flower” that radiates Your glory in the earth.
Amen*

Bringing the community back together...

