



St John Fisher

Catholic Voluntary Academy

Friday, 9th October 2026

Christ at the centre and children at the heart

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

As we reach the end of another full and rewarding week at St John Fisher, I have been particularly proud of the way our students have represented our school both within school and across our wider community.

This week, we were privileged to take part in the 75th anniversary of the Batley Torchlight Procession. It was wonderful to see our students playing such an important role in this long-standing local tradition and representing St John Fisher with pride, respect and maturity. I would like to thank all of the students who took part, and in particular those who took on leadership roles during the procession. They were a real credit to the school.

We also welcomed our Year 7 parents and carers for Tutor Evening. It was encouraging to see so many families taking the opportunity to meet with tutors and find out more about how their children are settling into life at St John Fisher. The partnership between school and home is incredibly important, and I would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening. This is an exciting opportunity to discover more about life in our Sixth Form, the courses we offer and the pathways available to our students beyond Year 11.

Later this month, our Year 11 Aspirations Evening will provide an important opportunity for families, students and staff to come together to discuss the choices and ambitions that will shape our young people's futures. We know that students achieve the best outcomes when school and home work in partnership, with a shared commitment to high aspirations, excellent attendance and strong engagement in learning. Research consistently shows a clear link between regular attendance, parental involvement and student success. We therefore strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend, as their support and involvement can play a vital role in helping students make informed decisions, achieve their potential and secure positive outcomes for the future.

There is already a great deal to look forward to this term, and I remain incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, commitment and character our students continue to demonstrate. Thank you, as always, to our staff, students and families for the part you play in making St John Fisher such a positive and supportive community.

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter and celebrating some of the many achievements and opportunities our students have experienced.

Mr K Mackey
Headteacher



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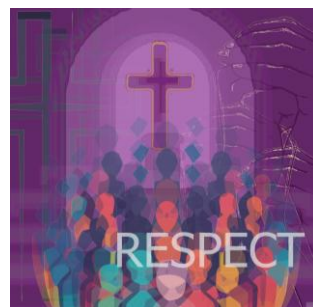
Our Virtues



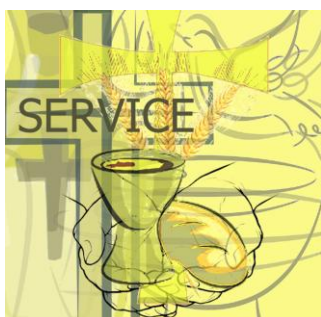
We overcome our fears and do things that are difficult.



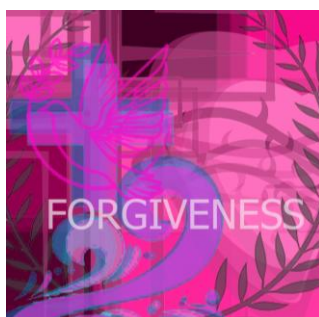
We are truthful to ourselves and others, and our words match our actions.



We recognise other people's worth and care for our environment.



We look for ways to help others.

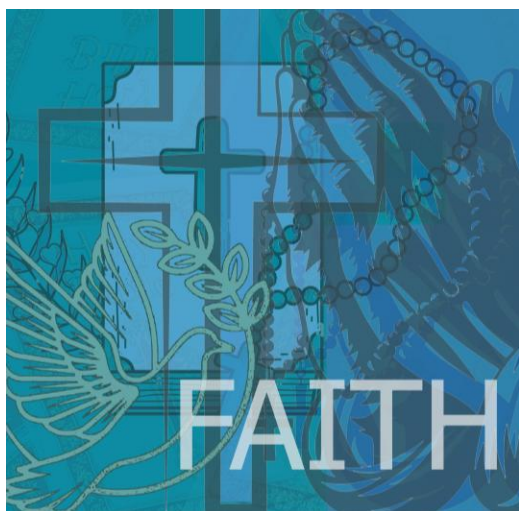


We give people another chance after they have done something wrong.



We trust God and are guided by faith in all we do.

Virtue in the Spotlight next week



Next week the virtue in the spotlight will be **FAITH.**

We trust God and are guided by faith in all we do.

Having faith that we can be better.



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Batley Torchlight Procession – 75th Anniversary

It was a great privilege for students from SJF to represent our school at the Batley Torchlight Procession, celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Our students proudly led the procession, carrying the statue of Mary, with our Head Boy following at the head of the procession and leading the Rosary on the journey to the church. He was excellent in this important role, showing great confidence, reverence and leadership.

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all of our students for the wonderful way they represented SJF within our parish community, in the presence of parents, clergy and Bishop Marcus.

We are incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves and demonstrated the values of our school throughout this special occasion.





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Celebrating Our Achievers

Year 7 Chapel Experience

Our Year 7 students had the opportunity to visit the chapel with Mrs Fiddler and Mrs Collomosse to take part in a beautiful Rosary.

The students were exemplary throughout the experience, showing great respect, maturity and reverence. Many students volunteered to take part, which made the occasion even more meaningful and demonstrated their willingness to engage with their faith and school community.

It was a truly touching and memorable experience for our Year 7 students, providing them with a valuable opportunity to come together in prayer, reflection and quiet contemplation.



Exciting Opportunities for Our Sixth Form Students! 🎓

We've had lots happening in our Sixth Form recently, with both Year 12 and Year 13 students benefiting from visits from leading universities.

Our Year 13 students were joined by a guest speaker from the University of Huddersfield, who provided valuable guidance on writing strong personal statements and making successful university applications. Students were taken through the UCAS process step by step, helping them to understand each stage and feel more confident as they prepare for their next steps.

Our Year 12 students welcomed Newcastle University, who introduced them to the Partners Programme and the opportunities available. Students learned about reduced offers for eligible applicants, explored the wide range of courses on offer and heard about scholarship opportunities for talented athletes competing in sport.

A fantastic series of opportunities for our students as they explore their options and prepare for the next chapter of their educational journey!





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Celebrating Our Achievers



Netball Success!

Well done to our Year 7 and Year 9 netball teams, who played some highly competitive matches against Westborough this week. There were some fantastic games, with brilliant teamwork, determination and sportsmanship on display throughout.

A huge well done to all the girls for their hard work and commitment.



A fantastic result for our football scholars!

Congratulations to our St John Fisher Catholic Academy football scholars on a brilliant 4-1 victory!

It's wonderful to see our students representing the school with such commitment, determination and teamwork. Opportunities like these allow them to develop their skills, build confidence and learn valuable lessons both on and off the pitch.

We are incredibly proud of their efforts and look forward to seeing them continue to grow and achieve throughout the season.

A big thank you to everyone supporting the team and helping our students make the most of these opportunities.





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World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day – Saturday 10th October ❤️

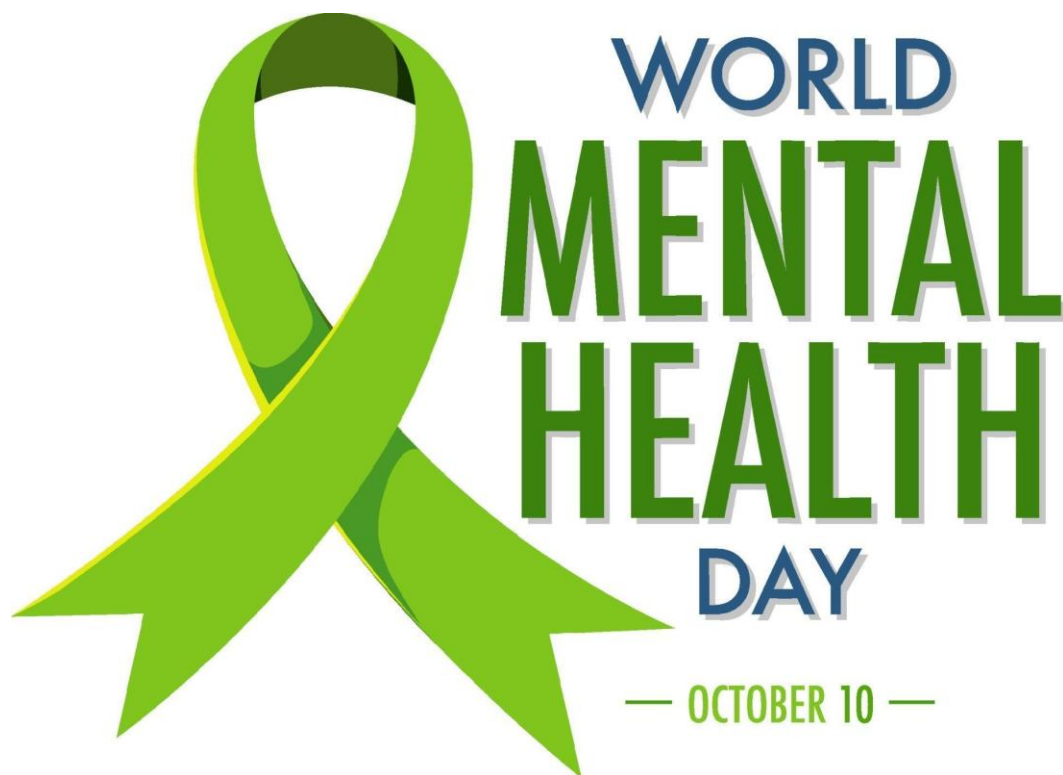
This World Mental Health Day, we're taking a moment to remember that **mental health matters**.

Looking after our mental wellbeing is just as important as looking after our physical health. Whether it's talking to someone, taking time for yourself, checking in with a friend, or asking for help when you need it — **small steps can make a big difference**.

Let's continue to create a school community where everyone feels supported, listened to and valued. ❤️

For information, advice and support around mental health, visit **Mind** via the link below.

 <https://www.mind.org.uk/>





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Important Information

As part of our arrangements for the new academic year, we are introducing a number of dates when school will close to pupils at **12:55pm, following Period 2**. These early closures will allow us to hold important staff training and development sessions and support our ongoing school improvement priorities.

The dates for the academic year are:

- Thursday 26 November 2026 – Staff Training
- Tuesday 12 January 2027 – Staff Training
- Thursday 4 March 2027 – Staff Training
- Tuesday 20 April 2027 – Staff Training
- Thursday 24 June 2027 – Staff Training

We recognise that an earlier school finish may require families to make alternative arrangements, and we are providing support for students on these days. Students who are eligible for Free School Meals will be able to access their lunch allowance at break time. A grab bag can also be collected by eligible students when they leave school at 12.55pm.

We hope that providing these dates well in advance will help families to plan accordingly. These sessions are an important part of our commitment to ongoing staff development and ensuring that our staff have the time and opportunities needed to continue to provide the very best for our students.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance gives students the best opportunity to succeed academically, socially and personally. Being in school every day supports learning, friendships, wellbeing and a strong sense of belonging.

We ask all students to aim for at least 96% attendance. If your child is absent, please notify school by 8:00am each day via Class Charts, telephone 01924 527000 (Option 1), or email - attendance@stjohnfisher.org.uk.

Students should be in form by 8:40am. If your child arrives late, please contact the Attendance Office with the reason and expected arrival time. Where possible, please arrange medical and other appointments outside school hours.

As part of our safeguarding procedures, we will contact parents if a student is absent from registration without prior notification.



Attendance Champions This Week

Top Year Group: Year 7 – 92.25 %
Top Form Class: 7E – 96.8%



Congratulations to the 663 students who achieved 100% attendance this week!

Your commitment and dedication is truly commendable.



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What's on the menu next week?

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Roast Wednesday	Thursday	Chippy Friday
Choice 1	Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Meat Lasagne with Garlic Bread		Chicken Masala with Rice and Naan	Fish and Chips
Choice 2	Sweet Chilli Roast Vegetable Noodles	Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake	Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread	Mexican Chilli with Savoury Rice	Quorn Nuggets and Chips
Vegetable	Seasonal Vegetables or Side Salad	Seasonal Vegetables or Side Salad	Seasonal Vegetables or Side Salad	Seasonal Vegetables or Side Salad	Seasonal Vegetables or Side Salad
Choice 3	Piri Chicken Wrap with Wedges	Meatball Sub with Wedges	Chicken Burger with Side Option	Chicken Tikka Sub with Wedges	Fish Finger Burger with Chips
Choice 4	Panini / Cosmo Pizza	Panini / Cosmo Pizza	Panini / Cosmo Pizza	Panini / Cosmo Pizza	Panini / Cosmo Pizza
Every Day Staples	Fresh Baked Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fresh Baked Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fresh Baked Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fresh Baked Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fresh Baked Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling
	or	or	or	or	or
	Slice of Wholemeal Pizza	Slice of Wholemeal Pizza	Slice of Wholemeal Pizza	Slice of Wholemeal Pizza	Slice of Wholemeal Pizza
	or	or	or	or	or
	Homemade Tomato and Basil Sauce with Wholemeal Pasta	Homemade Tomato and Basil Sauce with Wholemeal Pasta	Homemade Tomato and Basil Sauce with Wholemeal Pasta	Homemade Tomato and Basil Sauce with Wholemeal Pasta	Homemade Tomato and Basil Sauce with Wholemeal Pasta
	or	or	or	or	or
	Selection of Homemade Sandwiches	Selection of Homemade Sandwiches	Selection of Homemade Sandwiches	Selection of Homemade Sandwiches	Selection of Homemade Sandwiches

FREE Breakfast



We're offering free bagels to all students in the school canteen!

Come along between 8:00 and 8:30 am to enjoy a free bagel and get your day off to a great start.

Other breakfast items are available to buy:

✓ Cereal ✓ Fruit ✓ Toast



8:00 – 8:30 am
Before the school day begins



School Canteen
Come along and join us!



Free bagels
Other breakfast products are available to buy.



Faith



Service



Forgiveness



Honesty



Courage



Respect