



ST JOHN PLESSINGTON
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

*A Catholic learning community committed to
excellence in all we do...*





Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the St John Plessington Community,

As another academic year draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the incredible support you have shown our College throughout the year.

It has certainly been a busy year—one filled with challenge, change, achievement and countless moments that remind us why St John Plessington is such a special place to belong. Whilst there have undoubtedly been difficult moments, they have been far outweighed by the many successes of our students and the unwavering support of our families and staff.

Above all, I want to recognise our young people. They continue to amaze me every day. Whether inside the classroom, on the sports field, on the stage, in the community or simply through the kindness they show to one another, they have represented St John Plessington with compassion, respect, determination and justice. They should be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this year.

This edition of the newsletter captures just a small snapshot of what has been another fantastic year. We've celebrated sporting success at local, regional and national level, including students representing Great Britain, remarkable performances at Sports Day, athletics competitions and even an unforgettable hole-in-one. Our students have embraced creativity through the New Brighton Arts Festival, Art Club, music performances and spoken word, whilst others have challenged themselves through the Duke of Edinburgh Award, work experience placements, Sixth Form taster days and our SJP Experience programme, creating memories that will last a lifetime. Their generosity has also shone through, raising £1,000 for Alder Hey Children's Charity and continuing to demonstrate what it truly means to be part of a caring Catholic community.

One of the highlights of the year was our Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI) Inspection, where the College was judged to be Good in all areas. This was a wonderful affirmation of everything that

makes St John Plessington special. The report recognised the strength of our Catholic Life and Mission, the quality of relationships across our community and the commitment of our staff, governors, students, families and parish. It is an achievement of which we can all be immensely proud.

As we look ahead, there is much to be excited about. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students in September as they begin the next stage of their educational journey with us. Transition is always an exciting time, and we cannot wait for them to become part of our St John Plessington family.

We also look forward to welcoming prospective families to our Open Evening later in the autumn term, followed by our Open Mornings, where visitors will have the opportunity to experience first-hand the warmth, ambition and sense of belonging that define our school. There is nothing better than seeing our students proudly sharing their school with others.

Finally, thank you once again for your continued partnership and support. Schools thrive when families and staff work together, and your encouragement throughout the year has been greatly appreciated. Everything we have achieved this year has only been possible because of that shared commitment to our young people.

I hope you and your family enjoy a safe, restful and well-deserved summer break. Spend time together, make wonderful memories, laugh often, switch off from the routine of school and take the opportunity to recharge.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year as we continue our journey together.

With every best wish,

Mr McLoughlin
Headteacher

Sport and Achievement

A Hole-in-One to Remember

Zak enjoyed an outstanding day at Thonock Park in Lincolnshire, where he competed in a golf tournament and finished third gross and fourth nett.

The highlight of the competition came on the 17th hole, where Zak achieved an incredible hole-in-one. His achievement became even more impressive after he realised he had forgotten his golf shoes and completed the competition wearing his dad's shoes, which were three sizes too small.

Despite finishing the day with painful blisters, Zak showed tremendous determination and remained delighted with both his performance and his unforgettable hole-in-one. It was a fantastic achievement and a moment he would always remember.



Record Turnout for the SJP Esports Competition

The annual SJP Esports Competition welcomed an incredible 150 students from Years 7 to 10, making it one of the school's biggest competitions to date. Students represented the college brilliantly throughout the event, demonstrating exceptional teamwork, communication, resilience and sportsmanship. The standard of competitive gaming was the highest the competition had seen. The tournament concluded with a thrilling final between Year 10 student Max Frazer and Year 9 student Damo Edwards. Both finalists performed brilliantly, with Max eventually emerging as the 2026 SJP Esports Champion.

The event was a huge success and celebrated the confidence, strategic thinking and collaborative skills of everyone who took part.



Sports Day 2026





Students enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day filled with enthusiasm, determination and outstanding sportsmanship.

Throughout the day, students gave their best across a range of events, supported their classmates and celebrated one another's achievements. Forms cheered each other on, creating a brilliant atmosphere that reflected the strong community spirit across the college.

One of the highlights was the SJP Fun Race, which saw members of staff compete in fancy dress.

The race formed part of the SJP Fantasy Football League forfeit, with the bottom three managers required to take part and the top three nominating a further three

competitors. The 100-metre race provided plenty of entertainment, with Mr Rose, dressed as a chicken, crossing the finish line first to claim victory.

The day demonstrated that sport was about far more than winning. It celebrated teamwork, perseverance, confidence and resilience while creating lasting memories for students and staff.

Everyone who took part represented the college brilliantly and helped make it a day the whole SJP community could be proud of.

Success at the Wirral Schools Athletics Competition

SJP students produced some excellent performances at the Wirral Schools Athletics Competition.

Sam C from Year 7 secured an impressive second-place finish in the 1,500 metres, demonstrating determination and endurance throughout the race. There was further success for MD in Year 8, who delivered an outstanding performance to win the 200 metres.

Both students represented the college brilliantly and demonstrated the talent, commitment and sporting potential found across SJP.



Gold Medal Success for Huw

Year 11 student Huw represented St John Plessington Catholic College at the Merseyside Schools Athletics Games and delivered an outstanding performance to win gold in the 3,000 metres.

His success followed another impressive achievement at the British Under-18 Fell Running Competition, where he secured a top-15 finish against some of the country's strongest young athletes.

Huw was also selected to represent Great Britain in biathlon, triathlon and laser run competitions in Madeira, Portugal.

His achievements reflected an exceptional level of commitment, talent and determination. Everyone at SJP was incredibly proud of the way he represented the college at regional, national and international level.



Careers and Future Pathways

Year 12 Students Explored the World of Work

Year 12 students gained valuable experience of professional workplaces through a wide range of work experience opportunities.

Ten students participated in a medical work experience week organised by the NHS at Liverpool Hope University. The programme introduced them to careers across healthcare and helped them develop a greater understanding of the skills and qualifications required within the sector.

Other students independently secured placements across the region and beyond, with some travelling as far as Manchester. Their chosen sectors included engineering, education, law and animal care. The placements allowed students to explore possible career pathways, develop workplace skills and make informed decisions about their futures.

Year 10 Experienced Sixth Form Life

Year 10 students enjoyed two days of Sixth Form taster sessions designed to introduce them to A-level study and life beyond Year 11.

Students participated in lessons covering Religious Education, Psychology, Sociology, Media, Science, English, Business and Physical Education. Each session challenged them to engage with new ideas, explore unfamiliar subjects and experience the expectations of post-16 study.

Students approached every activity with enthusiasm and maturity. Their conduct was exemplary, and they responded brilliantly to the academic challenges presented to them.

The experience gave students a valuable insight into their future options and demonstrated that they had the potential to become outstanding Sixth Form students.



Arts and Creativity

Art Club Celebrated the Life of Frida Kahlo

The final Art Club session of the academic year celebrated the birthday, life and work of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

Students painted colourful sugar skulls, watched a short film about Frida's remarkable life and explored the ideas and experiences that influenced her artwork.

The session provided a fitting conclusion to a fantastic year of creativity. Students had approached every challenge with enthusiasm, imagination and a willingness to experiment. Their laughter, energy and support for one another had made each Monday session something special.

The group created wonderful artwork throughout the year and developed confidence in expressing their individual ideas. Their final celebration captured everything that had made Art Club such an enjoyable and memorable experience.



7 Assisi Made Their Mark Through Art

Students from the new 7 Assisi worked together to create a collection of colourful layered letters to identify and personalise their space.

The project involved far more than producing a finished piece of artwork. Students developed their teamwork, resilience and problem-solving skills while learning to embrace the creative process, including the inevitable mess that accompanied it.

Every member of the group contributed to the outcome and approached the challenge with imagination and enthusiasm.

The completed letters provided an excellent introduction to their Art journey and demonstrated how much the group had already achieved together.



SJP Students Shone at the New Brighton Arts Festival

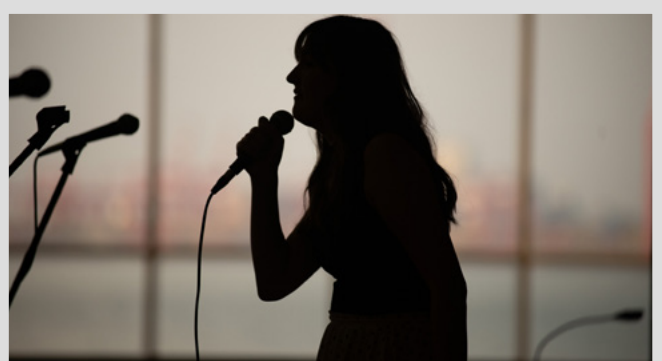
Students from SJP enjoyed outstanding opportunities to perform as part of the New Brighton Arts Festival.

School choirs took part in the sold-out Choirs by Candlelight event at the Floral Pavilion, where students performed for families and members of the wider community. Their uplifting performances showcased the strength of singing and musical participation across the college.

Students also worked alongside local poet Joseph Roberts before performing their own spoken-word pieces. Their writing explored themes including identity, hope, community and belonging, and their performances demonstrated remarkable confidence, creativity and authenticity.

The festival concluded with Friday Night Live, where SJP musicians performed in a professional venue with energy and professionalism. The experience allowed students to share their talents with a live audience and gain an understanding of professional performance.

SJP's involvement reflected the college's commitment to providing life-enriching cultural experiences that developed confidence, creativity, communication and aspiration.



Enrichment and Experiences

Year 10 Completed Their Duke of Edinburgh's Expedition

Year 10 students successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh's expedition despite facing challenging hot weather conditions.

After arriving safely at the expedition site, groups began their first-day routes and worked together to navigate their journeys. Students demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and resilience throughout the day before returning safely to camp.

Cooler evening temperatures gave the group an opportunity to rest, recover and enjoy some football before beginning the second stage of their expedition.

Students completed the second day brilliantly and returned safely to the coach for their journey back to school. Their conduct and perseverance throughout the expedition were exceptional, and every participant should have been extremely proud of what they achieved.

Students Embraced the SJP Experience

Students enjoyed two action-packed days as part of the SJP Experience, which gave them access to activities and opportunities beyond the classroom.

The programme included visits to Chester Zoo, Alton Towers, Go Ape, Manley Mere, Gravity MAX, Tag Active, the Light Cinema and attractions across Liverpool, New Brighton, West Kirby and Port Sunlight. Students also took part in bowling, laser tag, golf, beach activities and workshops within school.

The experience encouraged students to challenge themselves, try unfamiliar activities and build stronger relationships with their peers and staff. A broad programme ensured that students with different interests and needs could participate. Throughout the two days, students represented SJP with pride, respect and determination.

The programme created lasting memories while helping students develop confidence, independence, resilience and positive attitudes towards school.



Community and Charity

SJP Donated £1,000 to Alder Hey

A group of Year 11 fundraisers returned to SJP to present a £1,000 donation to Alder Hey Children's Charity.

The students met Sarah, a representative from the charity's fundraising team, who explained how the donation would support children and families receiving care at Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Ed and Lois represented the student fundraising group and learned more about the positive difference the contribution would make.

The donation reflected the generosity and compassion of the entire SJP community. Students, families and staff worked together to support an organisation that provided vital care to children from across the region.



Rewards and Celebrations

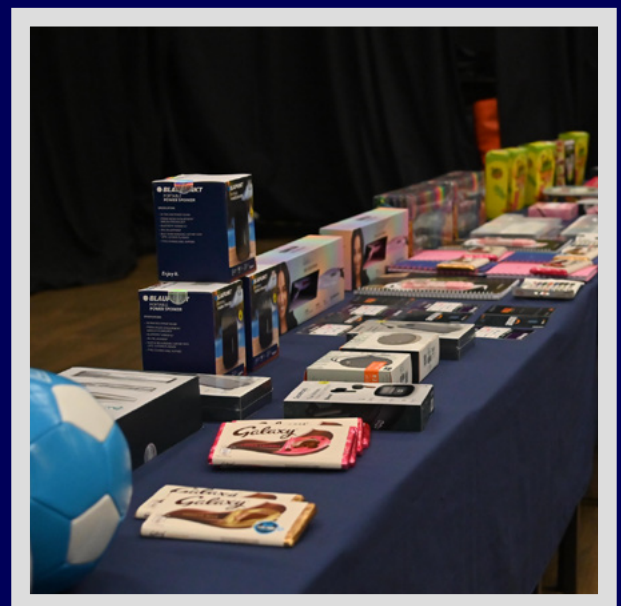
Students Were "In It to Win It"

Students received entries into the final "In It to Win It" draw for every positive point they earned during the rewards period.

The initiative recognised students who consistently demonstrated positive behaviour, effort and commitment to the values of the college. Each positive point increased a student's number of entries, rewarding those who regularly made strong choices and contributed positively to school life.

To qualify for the final draw, students also needed to attend the final day of term, reinforcing the importance of excellent attendance through to the end of the academic year.

The draw concluded with a fantastic celebration of the winning students and the many positive achievements recorded across the college.



Upcoming Events

A-Level Results Day

Thursday 13 August 2026

08:30 – 10:00

GCSE Results Day

Thursday 20 August 2026

09:00 – 10:30

Year 6 –7 Summer School

17 – 19 August 2026

School Opens for Year 7 and 12

Wednesday 2 September 2026

Year 7 – Return Wednesday 2nd September at 08:30 and Year 12 at 10:00.

Open All Years

Thursday 3 September 2026

All year groups return Thursday 3rd September at 08:30.



EVERY DAY COUNTS



Why is attendance important to my child's education?

Did you know?

90%

of young people with attendance **BELOW**

85%

fail to get good grades.

MISSING **1** DAY A WEEK



LOSING ONE YEAR OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least 97% of the time,

Target
97%



175

days are **NOT** spent in school each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.

143

Days of education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of education

90%

18 days absent

184

Days of education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of education

100%

0 days absent

SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Why poor attendance has a serious impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives less chance of success

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the best chance of success