

WEEKLY BULLETIN



Issue 39
Friday 19th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

As the academic year 2018/19 draws to a close I would like to thank you on behalf of the staff and students at Sir John Talbot's for your continued support. We are very proud to have achieved yet another successful year. This year's highlight was undoubtedly being placed as the second best school in the county for progress. Other highlights included our third Whitchurch 10K race which attracted over 1000 entrants, a record uptake of the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme, several trophies for STEM and Young Enterprise competitions and sporting successes.

Celebration Assembly

Today we hosted our final assembly of the academic year in which students received awards for achieving the highest number of reward points on behalf of their House. Reward points have been accrued for keeping clean SMART cards, good lesson gradings, taking part in House competitions and producing outstanding work. The overall winning House was Brown Moss.

Farewell and welcome

This year we say a fond farewell to Mr Sanders, Geography, who retires following his long and dedicated service. Mr Sanders has contributed immensely to school life including his dedication to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and his commitment to enhancing the opportunities for students. Miss McCausland, Head of English, moves to pastures new as does Mr Gaskell, Personal Care Assistant 1to1 Specialist Support. Peggy Mullock, leaves us following her unrelenting service to the school as a Governor. Pictured: Mr Thompson, Mrs Mullock, Mrs Gowan, Governors, with Mr Sanders, Geography and Mr O'Toole, Headteacher. I am sure you will all join us in wishing them well in their new ventures. In September we welcome new staff who were inducted last week and are set to start the year with our largest cohort as an academy with students attending from 22 primary schools.

Results

A level results will be released on Thursday, 15 August at 9am in the Sixth Form. GCSE results can be collected on Thursday, 22 August between 9am and 11am from the School Hall. We look forward to seeing all of our students when they receive their results and sharing in their celebrations.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing Year 7 and 12 on Tuesday 3 September and all other students on Wednesday 4 September, refreshed and ready for the new academic year.

Mrs Apperley, Associate Assistant Headteacher



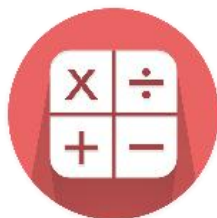
Maths Feast

On Friday 5 July, a total of 56 students from Year 9 and 10 took part in an enrichment event called the Maths Feast. This was hosted by Richard Stakes of the Advanced Maths Support Programme (AMSP).

In teams of four students were involved in a number of different problem solving challenges. Students were completely engaged in tasks set and demonstrating great teamwork. It goes without saying that they also enjoyed the spread of food (feast) that was put on for them at break time!

A special thank you to the Sixth Form students who helped out during the event and to Richard Stakes of the AMSP.

All students were a credit to the school and their teachers.



Big Bake

Students from 8S recently planned a 'Big Bake'. Their brief was to produce two baked items of their choice over the course of two lessons or alternately, students could produce one larger cake and spend the second lesson decorating their creation. This resulted in a fabulous selection of three tier chocolate cakes, Victoria sponges, hidden treasure cakes, cookie stacks, coffee cakes and blueberry muffins. The group planned and executed themselves fantastically. Their organisation skills were outstanding and Mrs Barlow, DT was very proud of them all!



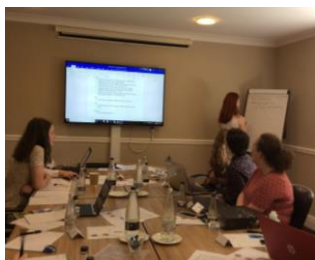
Staffordshire University

Thanks to Sixth Form Psychology students from Sir John Talbot's and the Grove School, the world is a safer place! During a visit to Staffordshire University Psychology department, students successfully completed a virtual reality bomb disposal task. They also learned how virtual reality can be used for pain management and phobia treatment. The day also involved learning about research into conspiracy theories, designing an experiment to test the impact of screen time on child development as well as trying out the driving simulator used to investigate distraction and driving.



Sixth Form Carden Park Trip

On Monday, the Sixth Form Executive Body spent the day planning for next year at Carden Park. The agenda was set by the Head Girl, Evie Williams and Head Boy, Ben Kimberley with the senior students in attendance. The day was spent organising next year's events and meeting schedules. Carden Park was the perfect location, with students having full access to the conferencing facilities, they also enjoyed a delicious lunch and refreshments were provided throughout the day. We are very proud of our Sixth Form and look forward to seeing it flourish further under the new committee.



Drama Trip

As part of their GCSE Drama exam preparation, Year 9 and 10 GCSE Drama students visited Theatre Severn to see the West End musical 'West Side Story'. Both students and staff had a wonderful evening.



Trust Newsletter

The Marches Academy Trust Summer Newsletter 2019 has been published.

The Newsletter highlights the cross Trust activities that students participate in and is available to view by clicking [here](#).



Donation

Sir John Talbot's School would like to give thanks to Whitchurch Lions Club. On Wednesday John Gunn, President and Renee Gunn, Secretary Treasurer, visited the school to handover a very generous donation of £200 to Mr Brown, Head of PE.

The school is raising money to fund new high jump equipment, to allow students to enjoy this activity alongside the other athletic sports on offer. The contribution from Whitchurch Lions Club who fundraise commendably to support local good causes is gratefully appreciated.



Air Cadets Open Evening

The Air Cadets are holding an Open Evening which takes place at the Drill Hall, Mill Street, Whitchurch on Thursday, 25 July 2019 at 7:15pm to 8:30pm.



ECO Council

It is the ECO Council and school wish that students will all use refillable water bottles from September. Single use plastic bottles will not be on sale in the canteen on a trial basis. All students will need to refill bottles at water stations and taps around the school site. Reusable SJT branded PCR bottles are on sale at £1.50 and students are welcome to bring their own.

Careers

Keep an eye on the careers page of our website by clicking [here](#). It is frequently updated with career advice, the latest apprenticeship opportunities in the area and helpful resources.

NEW Construction Sales Enterprise Limited: Junior Sales Executive Job. Closing date 31 July 2019. Click [here](#) for further details.

A Summer Engineering Club is taking place on 27 to 30 August at the Marches Centre of Manufacturing & Technology. This is open to students aged 9 to 13. Click [here](#) for further details.

KS3 Awards

On Monday students who gained subject awards in the key stage 3 rewards evening, were given the opportunity to attend a special rewards event. The students from Years 7 to 9 enjoyed a delicious, well-deserved afternoon tea.



Alumni News

Sir John Talbot's School alumni Sam Boardman has just graduated from the University of Birmingham, achieving a First Class Masters Degree in Theoretical Physics and Applied Mathematics! Sam is now going on to start his diploma, teaching Physics to secondary students in Birmingham, with the King Edwards Consortium. During his time at Sir John Talbot's Sam represented the school as Head Boy and has returned post leaving to occasionally help in the schools Maths Department from time to time. Sam would like to pass on his news and thanks, to all who helped him during his time at Sir John Talbot's School. We wish him all the best in his future career!



Sports Day

Yet again, we were blessed with the good weather for Sports Day. This year we had more students taking part than ever before with five form groups in Year 7 alone. This made the organisation more of a challenge, however, the day ran smoothly and on time. Some fantastic talent was on display! Well done all and thank you to the Sixth Form for their help.



Sports Awards

Mr O'Toole, Headteacher, was disappointed not to be in attendance at the 'Inaugural Sir John Talbot's Sports Awards'. Ms Dawson, Deputy Headteacher, delivered this message his behalf: 'Congratulations to all of our students and teams for your outstanding contribution to sport. Sir John Talbot's School is built on five key values:

Integrity – you turn up when you say you will, you work hard and can be relied upon.

Empathy – in success or defeat you respect one another and congratulate your opponent.

Equality – we encourage everyone to get involved in sport and recognise everyone's achievements. There is no place for discrimination in sport as in life.

Creativity – success comes through trial and error, practice and review, and through being imaginative with strategy and technique.

And of course, '**Excellence**' is achieved by people, like all of you who are here tonight, who are driven, committed and determined to push yourselves every day in every way.

Well done to everyone for what you have achieved. It has been a pleasure to witness the achievements through the year. Your collective achievements are remarkable and help put Sir John Talbot's and Whitchurch on the map. Keep working hard, stay motivated even in defeat, learn from every game and every challenge and strive to be even better next time.'

Students were also asked to applaud the staff and parents/carers for their dedication and commitment for supporting them in their events and fixtures.

Mr Brown, Head of PE, introduced the new county and school colour ties which students are proud to be wearing and hopes the event will inspire more students to take part in extra-curricular sport and drive up standards for the future. He said 'the night was a success.'

