



THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P E McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Peaks Hill
Purley
Surrey
CR8 3YP

9 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

In the second week of Advent we focus on the lighting of the second candle, otherwise known as the Bethlehem candle. This represents the faith and journey that Joseph and Mary took to Bethlehem. Every student at The John Fisher School is on their own faith journey, and it is our responsibility as teachers in a Catholic school to help support and nurture this. The work of the school continues to be inspired by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, with our students and staff unrelenting in their work to support our local and global communities. Today, we welcome parents/carers from the JFA (parent association) on site to pack over 30 Christmas hampers for some of our families. Next week, we welcome The Children's Book Project and Palace For Life Foundation on site to collect donations to support their work.



'You are not making a gift of your possessions to the poor person. You are handing over to them what is theirs'. Saint Ambrose (340-397 AD)



Today's mufti day, will be raising money for four charities:



Thank you to all those who have contributed so far. The total is currently just over £1,400. This will remain open on ParentPay until noon on Tuesday 13 December, for those who still wish to contribute. Students are asked to contribute £2, except for Year 7 who are asked to contribute £1 as they are in Games kit today. I will update you on the final figure next week.

The JFA continue to offer Christmas hampers to those Fisher families in need at Christmas. To raise money to maintain this, they have launched the Christmas Hamper Raffle, sponsored by Tutor Doctor. Raffle tickets cost £1 and can be purchased on ParentPay and are on sale now until noon, Thursday 15 December. The draw will be at 2.30pm on the same day. The



winner will then be notified and required to collect their winning hamper from school on Friday 16 December. <https://www.tutordocor.co.uk/>

As we move into the last week of a very busy term, we reflect on the need for this ongoing work to support others around us, especially at Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support in what has been a very busy term.

This week's news:

Deanery Mass

Thank you to alumni and now Episcopal Vicar for the South West, Canon Gerard Bradley for celebrating the Deanery Mass this week.



Sutton Sings Christmas

The choir continued their very busy schedule by taking part in the Sutton Sings Christmas concert at St. Andrew's Church, Cheam. The John Fisher School joined a number of other local schools to sing some Christmas favourites.



Sporting Success

Year 8 and 9 have joined Year 7 in reaching the national rounds of the National Rugby League Competition. We await the draw for the next round. It is an incredible achievement for all three teams to make it through to the next round, especially with such limited rugby league experience.

This followed the cross-country success this week, with our Intermediate team coming third, and our Juniors winning the Hamptons School Parlauf. In basketball, our under-18 team won the North School Invitational Christmas tournament beating North School, Whitgift and KCS Wimbledon. Well done to Jayden who was awarded the most valuable player (MVP) of the tournament.



A special mention must go to Michael C (Year 11) who has been selected to compete in the Junior Squash Gold event in Pontefract. This is an England Squash selection event which means he has a chance to represent England in the European Championship next year. Good luck from everyone at The John Fisher School.



Year 7 Animal Cell Model Competition

Well done to all of Year 7 for their outstanding models of animal cells. These were put on display this week across classrooms in the Science block for parents/carers and staff to come and see. The impossible task of picking a winner was set and one winner per class will be announced next week alongside one overall winner. As you can see from the picture, the entries were outstanding and everyone should be very proud of their efforts.



Neurodiversity Champions

The John Fisher School is proud to announce the first two Neurodiversity Champions this term: Kayne H for KS3 and Oscar D for KS4. Both of these students have grown in resilience and development and they were nominated by Lucy, our specialist Dyslexia teacher, and our Teaching Assistants. Well done to both students for their award.



Some important messages for you:

JFA Christmas Tree Sales

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who helped run the Christmas tree sale on Saturday 3 December. The JFA are vital in raising much needed funds for the school and the efforts of those giving up their time to run events is truly appreciated.

The final amount raised from the

Christmas tree sale will be communicated at a later date. Thank you also to everyone who bought a tree, wreath or reindeer!

Parent/Carer Mental Health Talks

Please see the menu of talks for parents/carers being facilitated by the South-West London and St. George's Mental Health Cluster. These include sessions on supporting your son through anxiety and teen years, as well as supporting him with exam stress. The sign up information is on the flyer attached.

Racial Justice Sunday

Please see below the following information regarding Racial Justice Sunday.

On Sunday 5 February 2023, our Archdiocese will celebrate Racial Justice Sunday. To mark this important day, Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10am in St George's Cathedral, in collaboration with the Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion which is led by Canon Victor Darlington. It will be a great opportunity for all Catholics in our Archdiocese to join together in reflecting on the importance of our oneness in Christ. All are invited to this Mass which will be celebrating our oneness in our diversity. It would

be a beautiful opportunity to see many countries and cultures represented. It is also an opportunity to give thanks for the work of our Commission for promoting racial and cultural inclusion. The clergy, parishioners, school pupils and staff, as well as leaders and members of ethnic chaplaincies are all warmly invited to join Archbishop Wilson in celebrating Racial Justice Sunday. Those attending are encouraged to wear cultural dress and are asked to be seated by 9.45am for a prompt start at 10am in St George's Cathedral.

Strep A

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is reporting an increased number of cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) compared to normal at this time of year. There is no evidence that a new strain is circulating and the increase is more likely related to high amounts of circulating bacteria and social mixing. Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents/carers should be aware of, including:

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, pinkish or red body rash that feels rough, like sandpaper

Most Strep A infections are not serious and can be treated with antibiotics. But in rare cases, the infection can cause serious problems. If your child becomes unwell with these symptoms, parents/carers should contact their GP practice or contact NHS 111 to seek advice.

If your child has scarlet fever, the advice is that they stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

More information can be found at the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-a/>

The John Fisher School Sports Gala Dinner 2023

Tickets are now on sale for next year's Sports Gala Dinner. These can be purchased at the following link: <https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/jfssportsgaladinner23>

The dinner, held on Friday 7 July 2023, will welcome a number of sporting superstars including Shane Williams (Lions and Wales) Alex Dombrandt (Alumni, England and Harlequins) and Martyn Rooney (Alumni, triple Olympian). You can find out more by clicking the link above or on the poster attached.

MCC Foundation Cricket Hub

All students aged 11-16 are invited to join the MCC Foundation hub in Croydon to play and improve their cricket skills. This is free for all and more information can be found in the flyer attached.

Train Strikes – December 2022 and January 2023

The RMT union have announced 48 hour strikes which will affect national rail services on the following days:

- Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 December
- Friday 16 and Saturday 17 December
- Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 January
- Friday 6 and Saturday 7 January

Please plan alternative ways for your son to get to travel on school days as it is inevitable that rail services will be cancelled or severely disrupted. It is also likely that services will start later on days following the end of the strike action.

Arrangements for the Final Day of Term

All students should arrive to school at normal time. Students will have a limited offer of food and drink available to them at break time; they are asked to bring a snack/drink. Students will be dismissed from 12.00pm, using their normal entry/exit gates.

Some key dates for your diary:

- **Tuesday 13 December:** First Give Finals: Year 9 (Chapel)
- **Wednesday 14 December:** Drama Production: A Christmas Carol (5.30pm in the Main Hall)
- **Thursday 15 December:** Nasal flu vaccinations for Years 7, 8 & 9
- **Thursday 15 December:** Service of Lessons and Carols by Candlelight (7.00pm in the Chapel)
- **Friday 16 December:** End of term for students – dismissal from 12.00pm
- **Tuesday 3 January 2023:** Staff Inset day – school closed for students
- **Wednesday 4 January:** All students return for Term 2

Final Prayer

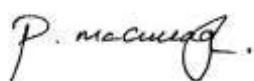
'On the feast day of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, we remember the purity of his faith, his humility and his dedication to the building of a church in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Lord, I give you all that I am this day. Please brush away my weariness, so that I may be inspired in my work. Help me to discover new ways to reveal your love to all I meet. Keep my mind clear and focused on all I need to achieve, and give me the wisdom to overcome difficulties and find solutions.'

Amen

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend,

Yours sincerely,



P E McCullagh
Headteacher



@thejfschool
@JohnFisherMusic
@fisher_hub



thejfschool
john_fisher_musi
cdpt



John Fisher Sport

Education Wellbeing Service

Wellbeing
Support Service
NHS in-School

Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents 2022/23 Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

22ND,
26TH OR
27TH
SEPT

Mental Health during the teenage years -
an introduction and overview
For year 7 & year 8 parents

9TH,
10TH OR
15TH
NOV

Supporting your teen through emotional
storms - emotion regulation skills and
strategies
For all secondary school parents

26TH,
30TH OR
1ST
JAN/FEB

Understanding and supporting anxiety
during the teenage years
For all secondary parents

13TH,
16TH OR
17TH
MAR

Supporting and managing exam and
assignment stress: top tips and ideas for
parents
For all secondary parents - year 11 and 13 focus

4TH,
9TH OR
11TH
MAY

Understanding and supporting teen sleep:
an overview of the research and
recommendations
For all secondary parents

We also provide free 1:1 support programmes for parents to support with their
child's anxiety or behavioural challenges. Speak to your school to find out more

Scan QR code with your phone's camera to sign up for free via eventbrite or
search:

www.eventbrite.com/cc/secondary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-725989





SPORTS GALA DINNER 2023



Friday 7th July, 2023

Surrey National Golf Club

7PM: CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION 7.30PM: SIT DOWN 3-COURSE MEAL 12AM: CARRIAGES

SPONSORED BY:



Josetta Toyota



CROYDON

oyster



FOR TICKETS: WWW.JUMBLEBEE.CO.UK/JFSSPORTSGALADINNER23



PLATINUM AND GOLD TABLES AVAILABLE WITH A SPORTING STAR

THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Service of Lessons & Carols

By Candlelight

The John Fisher School Chapel

Thursday 15th December 2022

7pm

Free entry; retiring collection



YOUR INVITATION TO JOIN OUR MCCF HUB CROYDON

• **VENUE:** Whitgift School Sports Centre, CR2 6YT

• **DATES:** 22, 29 January, 5, 12, 19, 26 February
5, 12, 19, 26 March, 2 April

ELIGIBILITY

Aged 11-16

Attend a state school

Committed to putting 100% effort
into all training sessions

Did not play in a County Team last
year (and not currently part of a
County Team)



APPLY

Thinking about it? Email the Hub
Manager to find out more:

Bronnie Polley

bronnepolley@hotmail.co.uk

Ready to go?
Scan the QR code and
register your interest by:
23 December 2022

WHAT IS A CRICKET HUB?

MCC Foundation (MCCF) runs a network of 77 cricket Hubs serving some 3,000 young players across the UK.
Our Hubs provide free-to-access coaching and match play for state-educated cricketers aged 11-16.

- Have fun whilst being supported to reach your full potential on and off the cricket pitch.
 - 10 weeks of high-quality intensive cricket coaching during the winter
 - Match play and talent ID opportunities over summer
 - Cricket+ including S&C, Mental Health and nutrition support
 - Completely **FREE** to attend

info@mccfoundation.org.uk

