



# THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

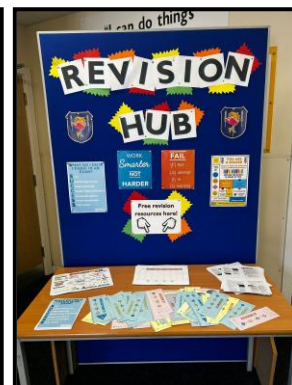
Headteacher: Mr P E McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Peaks Hill  
Purley  
Surrey  
CR8 3YP

19 May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was lovely to see so many parents/carers at last night's Year 10 Parent/Carer Teacher Meeting. As our Year 11 and 13 students continue to sit their GCSE and A Level examinations, Years 10 and 12 are now moving closer to their final years at the school. The importance of preparation cannot be underestimated and a key message last night was one of readiness and the importance of using every lesson to build up knowledge over time. We received the following email from one of our Year 10 parents:



*'I just wanted to write to say how informative, honest and helpful I found our yr10 parents evening this evening. The teachers all knew my son well, understood his strengths and weaknesses and how to inspire and encourage him to challenge himself and work to his best standard. He left understanding where he needs to make changes and knowing that his teachers want to support him to get there. I felt I was given the right amount of information and left feeling like I understood my son's academic expectations better and that I could contact any of the teachers if I had any further concerns or questions. I also wanted to congratulate the boys I came across at school on their behaviour. Obviously I know some of them, but all the boys I came across or was introduced to were very polite, engaged in conversation and were good humoured (despite being at parents evening!). I could see the Fisher gentlemen they are growing into and although I'm sure they're not always like that, I just wanted to acknowledge that they did the school proud and I am so happy my sons are in a friendly and caring school where they are happy, feel valued and safe.'*



It is Mental Health Awareness Week, and the focus this year is on anxiety. You will find some helpful information attached which I ask you to share with your son/s at home about support services which are available should they need it.

Linking nicely with Mental Health Awareness Week, this week's Collective Worship theme has been Kindness.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to today's Mufti day, raising money for three very worthwhile charities:

- **Together for Short Lives** - <https://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk/>
- **Children in Crossfire** - <https://www.childrenincrossfire.org/>
- **Rutherford School** - <https://rutherfordschool.org.uk/>

We aim to raise £1,350 so if you would still like to contribute, you can do so via ParentPay until Tuesday 23 May. We have raised £1,052 so far.

In sport, it was pleasing to see Year 7 taking part in their first ever athletics meet after school on Wednesday and well done also to the Senior Basketball team who won the finals of the U18 LISBA Cup, beating Whitgift School 70-63. A wonderful way for the Year 13 students to finish representing the school in sport.



### ***Some key information for you:***

#### **Sports Day, Friday 26 May**

Weather permitting, students will be participating in Sports Day on Friday 26 May. There will be track events only taking place on the school field and will be running from the start of Period 3 to the end of Period 5 (2:35 pm). To ensure the day runs smoothly and is enjoyable for all, it is important to highlight some key points to you.

All students in Yrs. 7 – 10, are asked to come to school wearing their Games kit including their House tops if they have them (even if they are not competing).

The current forecast is for the weather to be very mild. Please keep an eye on this in case it changes and ensure your child comes prepared for the weather on the day e.g. sun cream, hat, extra water, or jacket as appropriate.

Yr10 students will follow the KS3 timetable which means students in Yrs7-10 will be at break 10.55am – 11.15am and lunch 12.55pm – 1.40pm. Yr. 10 students will be able to purchase their food items in the Sixth Form Centre rather than the main playground to alleviate some of the pressure on the serving points. As there are likely to be long queues and wait times on this day, we would encourage students to bring a packed lunch.

All students should come to school equipped for a full day of lessons in case the event is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

A number of Yr. 12 student leaders will be involved in helping to coordinate this event. All other Yr. 12 students will be dismissed after their morning lessons and they will be asked to complete the work set on ShowMyHomework independently at home. Parents/carers of students in Yrs. 7-10 are advised that the event could over-run by 10/15mins due to the significant number of races. Thank you in advance for your support, I am sure it will be an enjoyable day for all.

#### **Festival of Sport- Family tickets available**

If you are still looking to book a holiday this summer, we have just the thing. The John Fisher School has very kindly been donated two family packages for The Festival of Sport this summer. This is being held at Holkham Park, Norfolk from Friday 11 August to Monday 14 August. The family package includes all sports and sessions for 2 x Adults and 2 x Children and glamping accommodation in a classic bell tent. You will enjoy a personal visit from rugby legend Will Greenwood. To help raise money for ongoing works at our pavilion on Plough Lane, we welcome bids from alumni, parents/carers and staff. The RRP for these packages is £2,500. Please see the flyer attached for more information on how you can bid. If you have any questions, or would like to make a bid, please email Mr. Dean at [a.dean@johnfisherschool.org](mailto:a.dean@johnfisherschool.org)

## Mental Health Awareness Week: 'Reading Well'

To further promote Mental Health Awareness Week, please find attached The Reading Agency's 'Reading Well' guide. Reading Well is a programme that provides expert-endorsed books for health and well-being. Regular readers for pleasure reported fewer feelings of depression than non-readers, and stronger feelings of relaxation from reading than from watching television or engaging with technology intensive activities.

To find out more follow this link: <https://reading-well.org.uk/>

## CAMHS Crisis Line

I am really pleased to share that the South London Partnership NHS CAMHS Crisis Line hours have been substantially extended – now operating between 9am and 11pm Monday to Sunday (outside of these areas there is forwarding to the all age NHS Mental Health Crisis Line).

This is a significant development which will allow Young People, Carers and professionals to seek immediate crisis advice, guidance and consultation, as well as direct immediate support and brief interventions over the phone for young people and/or their carers struggling with their mental health or in a mental health crisis. For more information, please see the flyer attached.



## Thank You - Attendance Survey

Please find below some communication from the Sutton Borough Schools' Attendance Team:

*'In March we asked you to share your views on school attendance with us by completing a survey. A whopping 1331 of you did! We want to say a huge thank you for your willingness to share your thoughts, feelings, and views with us. Each and every comment you made has been read and we have heard you.*

*So, what happens next?*

*The results of the survey including the comments made will be shared with your Headteachers and other leaders in Sutton. They will be carefully considered and used to help shape the borough attendance strategy and will help inform our thinking around how we support children, young people, and families to have positive experiences in education and Sutton as a wider community.*

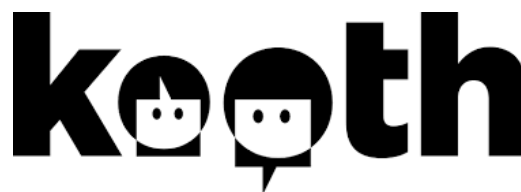
*We recognise that whilst school is a positive space for many children and young people, for others it can feel challenging. If you are experiencing difficulties and you need some help, there is a range of support that you can access which includes:*

- *Speaking to family and friends*
- *Speaking with your tutor, head of year, pastoral team and ask for some help*
- *Drop in and see your school nurse*
- *Contact 'Off The Record' for emotional wellbeing support*

*Thank you once again for your feedback, it really will help shape what we do next.'*

## Kooth Online Support

The NHS wants to remind young people that an online service called Kooth is available, which can provide extra support during this difficult time. Kooth is an online counselling and emotional well-being service for children and young people aged 11-25.



Young people can search 'Kooth' or visit [kooth.com](https://kooth.com) and get support for anything that's on their mind.

The service was introduced following feedback from young people that it is something they would find useful. A short video has been produced for young people to example how Kooth can help – you and your child/ren can watch it on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/i5lpcroFZdw>

It's anonymous and free at the point of use. Children and young people can chat to professional counsellors, read articles written by young people, receive peer-to-peer support and keep a daily journal. Qualified counsellors, therapists and support workers provide guided and outcome-focused support for each individual.

Kooth is accessible through any connected device - young people can log on wherever they are to access professional counselling up until 10pm, 365 days a year.

For more information about the service, you can visit the XenZone website [www.xenzone.com](http://www.xenzone.com).

### **Vacancies at The John Fisher School**

The school is currently recruiting for the following:

- Teacher of English
- Subject Leader of Economics and Enterprise
- Coordinator of Food Technology
- Subject Leader of Music (Maternity cover for 1 year)

Details can be found on the school's website and TES [here](#). Please do share with the wider community.

### ***Some key dates for your diary:***

<b>Thursday 25 May</b>	Epilogue, 4.00pm. (Chapel)
<b>Friday 26 May</b>	Sports Day
<b>W/b Monday 29 May</b>	Half Term break
<b>Thursday 8 June</b>	Year 8 Parent Teacher Meeting, 4.30pm – 7.30pm (SDL Building) Pre-loved uniform sale, 4.00pm – 6.30pm (LRC)
<b>Tuesday 20 June</b>	JFA Meeting, 7.30pm – 9.00 (Plough Lane)
<b>W/b Monday 26 June</b>	Yr12 Pre-Public Examinations begin
<b>Wednesday 28 June</b>	Leavers' Mass and Celebration, 7.00pm (Chapel)
<b>Friday 30 June</b>	INSET Day (school closed for students)

**Final Prayer:** May is the month dedicated to Mary, Mother of God.

*'Mary, My Mother, I offer myself entirely to thee.*

*And to show my devotion to thee, I offer thee this day, my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve.*

*Wherefore, good Mother, as I am thine own, keep me, guard me, as thy property and possession.'*

**Amen.**

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend

Yours sincerely,



P E McCullagh  
Headteacher



@thejfschool  
@JohnFisherMusic  
@fisher\_hub



thejfschool  
john\_fisher\_musi  
cdpt



John Fisher Sport



# THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

## Governing Board

Peaks Hill  
Purley  
Surrey  
CR8 3YP

19 May 2023

Dear Colleagues, Parents and Carers

I know that you will have read the news of Philip McCullagh's impending departure from his role as Headteacher with mixed emotions. No doubt some sadness that we will be losing Philip's insight and commitment after eight years; some joy and anticipation for Philip and his family as he continues and widens his contribution to education in his new role as he returns to his familial roots in Northern Ireland and no doubt some trepidation as to what the future holds for our own school.

Continuity and stability are reassuring aspects of life that rarely manifest themselves in the world of Education; so whilst a change in Headteacher can be unsettling it is by no means unusual. Fortunately our Governing Board has members who are well experienced in such circumstances and we will be amply supported by the Archdiocese of Southwark's Education Commission as we seek Philip's successor. We also have a highly experienced, dedicated and in many cases long-serving body of staff, who can be relied on to continue to support our students whatever the circumstances.

To commence the process of recruiting a new Headteacher I have convened an Extraordinary Meeting of the Governing Board that will be held on Thursday 25 May. At that meeting we will discuss the various options available to us and decide how we will take matters forward to ensure that the school has appropriate leadership in place for the start of the new academic year in September and going forward towards our Centenary at the end of this decade.

As soon as I am able to after that meeting I will write to you again. In the meantime I respectfully ask you to remember the Governors in your prayers and pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us in the decisions that now face us.

With my very best wishes,

**Andrew Theobald**  
Chair of Governors





# FESTIVAL OF SPORT

# FESTIVAL OF SPORT

11th - 14th August 2023

RRP  
£2,500

## FAMILY PACKAGE (2 X ADULTS, 2 X CHILDREN)



A weekend of family fun with sporting legends!

Centred around a programme of core sports, Festival of Sport at Holkham Park, Norfolk, provides an amazing opportunity for kids to try new sports for the first time whilst also receiving expert coaching and learning new skills in the sports they love. Sports include rugby, hockey, cricket, football, gymnastics, netball, tennis, rowing, athletics, trampolining, boxing, archery, MMA, dodgeball and many more

**It's not all about sport!**

From the welcome entertainment on Friday night to our closing party on Sunday, we will have some great entertainment on the main stage every night.

With an open air cinema to live bands and DJs...there's so much more than sport for everyone to enjoy!



## What is included?

- Glamping accommodation in a classic bell tent, fully furnished with bedding and towels.
- Personal visit from some of the Legends!
- Weekend entry tickets 11-14th August (Friday-Monday).
- Access to all activities and coaching for kids and adults.
- Access to the glamping zone with luxury loos, showers, pamper tent, 24hr reception and free tea/coffee/water.

All arrangements and logistics done for you!

**TO BID:** This package is worth £2,500 (RRP)



1. Decide your highest offer for this incredible package.  
2. Email it to Mr. Dean via: [a.dean@johnfishersschool.org](mailto:a.dean@johnfishersschool.org) by 4pm Friday 2 May.  
(Payment will be taken from the winner in June 2023)

For more info: [www.festivalofsportuk.com](http://www.festivalofsportuk.com)

