



## St Josephine Bakhita Feast Day

Our theme in school this week has been Freedom and we have been remembering St Josephine Bakhita this week in our thoughts and assemblies. St Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of anti – slavery and human trafficking and her feast day is 8 February. You may remember we had a whole day last year in commemoration of St Josephine raising awareness of modern day slavery. Students leading assemblies this week have researched the hidden signs of modern day slavery to highlight its hidden nature. Each form group have also received a special card about St Josephine Bakhita and anti – slavery work. Thank you to all involved this week.



Anyone who has any concerns about possible signs of modern slavery or human trafficking should contact the Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 0121 700 or, in an emergency, call 999.

## Year 11 PPEs

Year 11 will start their second round of Pre-Public Exams next week. Students will be expected to bring all equipment needed for each exam and to be punctual. As always, your support at home always helps immensely whether it is to make sure students get enough sleep and eat well or by just being there for your child to talk to about their revision and exams.

## Half Term

We break up for our half term holiday on Friday 14 February. Parents are reminded that Monday 24 February is a staff training day, so students will return to school on **Tuesday, 25 February**.

Kate Pereira

## Visit to Polish Embassy

This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Polish Independence. To mark this occasion there has been a project taking place around England, with schools looking at and celebrating Polish culture. Bartek and Weronika in Year 11 have been working on this project and were invited to the Polish Embassy in London last Wednesday, to celebrate the work they have done. They spoke briefly about their project and met various dignitaries. They will now complete their project, which will be on display in school later this year.



## 1<sup>st</sup> St John Fisher Guide Lottery Win!!

The National Lottery has a special Community fund, which aims to promote inclusive communities. Our Guide group has been successful in its application to this fund and has received £1000, which will enable the girls to go camping this year. This is fantastic news for the girls, who have been so committed to making our new guide venture successful. Many thanks to Ms Roberts who did the hard work in order to receive the grant.



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## Year 10 Maths Feast



On Tuesday afternoon, a steely-eyed group of eight students and two teachers embarked on a mission to take on the best mathematicians from schools in the area that included Kings, The Peterborough School and Stamford Boys School. We had to split into two teams, which maximised our chances of victory and then took on four exciting rounds of maths focused quizzing. At the end of the session we had not managed to break into the top three contenders. However, one of our teams did manage to earn the award for best team work which we believe highlights what St John Fisher School is always about; we may not always be the best but we will always help each other to be the best we can be. Applause and thanks to Ashley, Amanta, Hassan, Ema, Kenzie, Isabel, Raivo and Adrian.

*Mr O'Hara*

## Year 12 Classics Visit to Warwick Festival of Ancient Greek Drama

Last Friday the Year 12 Classics students visited Warwick University to participate in the annual festival of Greek drama. It was a busy day, with the students based in the Warwick Arts Centre, right in the heart of the university campus. The day began with an introductory talk on the historical context of tragedy. Our students had already covered much of this, however it was a good way to refresh their memories. They were then involved in two further seminars, focused on Sophocles' Oedipus Rex, which discussed possible interpretations of the play or aspects of the performance. These scholarly talks were an opportunity for the students to engage with and think about their set text, as they provided some alternative perspectives, which will be useful when writing essays and considering different scholarly approaches.

The students had some free time at lunchtime, which enabled them to go and explore the campus and sample student life in a relatively restrained fashion. After lunch and a further workshop, we watched the Classics faculty production of Oedipus Rex. It was fascinating for our students to watch one interpretation of a play that they have studied in depth, and the journey home was full of discussion about the play, critiques of the performance and much speculation about when Seyyed could eat! Thank you to the wonderful Classics group for their exemplary conduct.

*Miss Wilson*

## Sports News

### Badminton Update



We have had great success in the badminton competitions that the PDSSA has held over the last two weeks. Last week Ali Awan did tremendously well, reaching the final of the KS4 Badminton Singles competition achieving second place. This was an amazing achievement considering Ali is in Year 8. Ali performed excellently; he was match point up in the final before losing 16-14. Not to be deterred, Ali went one better this week in the Badminton KS3 Doubles competition. All participants performed really well in the Boys and Girls competition, with three pairings reaching the Quarter Finals. Ali and his partner, Zaamin Mahmood, reached the final and beat TDA convincingly. Well done on a fantastic achievement.

### Football News

SJF Boys have done the double over the Peterborough School!!!

In recent football fixtures, the Year 7 and 8 boys teams both beat the Peterborough School, keeping a clean sheet in the process. The Year 7 boys set the tone with a fantastic 8-0 win. The boys played some lovely, fast-paced attacking football. This was followed up with a very disciplined 2-0 win by the Year 8s. Both year groups are very promising and have further games coming up, so they will hopefully keep the good form going.



### Cricket Report

We started our indoor cricket fixtures this week. The U13 Team beat Jack Hunt in a thrilling game. Going into the final over we were slightly behind, before some inspired fielding and bowling from Zaamin Mahmood ensured an 8 run victory. The U15s were a close second, but will look to put things right against King's this week.



### English Student of the Month

Out of all the nominees for effort and progress in English, Tanzeel Naveed (Year 7) and Brooke Muncey (Year 13) have been selected as Students of the Month for January 2020. Congratulations to these worthy winners and well done to all the students who were nominated by their class teachers! You can expect a post-card via Schoolcomms.

**Academic Tutoring  
Year 10  
3 - 14 February 2020**