Summer Term 2024 Newsletter

JOHN PORT
SPENCER ACADEMY

In this issue:

- Letter from the Principal
- Important September Updates
- Faculty updates
- Sixth Form
- Careers
- Student Leadership Team
- Costa Rica
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Transition
- Staff, Governors, and PTA updates
- Summer Holiday and Community Activities
- Academy Dates
- Academy Information

Letter from the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another rewarding year at John Port Spencer Academy, I would like to applaud the resilience, achievements, and experiences our students have enjoyed within our school community. Our students continue to excel in the classroom as well as outside the classroom, participating in a diverse array of extracurricular activities. Whether on the sports field, in the arts, or through community service projects, our students showcased their talents and exhibited exceptional sportsmanship and creativity.

This term, Year 11 and Year 13 students completed their exams with confidence after extensive preparation, and we look forward to celebrating their results with them this summer. We also look forward to welcoming our new Year 6 students into Year 7 in September, as well as the new Year 12 students and other students joining us after the summer break.

A main event this year was the completion and opening of the Post-16 Centre and we have watched the sixth form students enjoy the building and use the facilities it offers, sometimes well after the end of the school day. Our building programme continues over the Summer and into next year with the extension to the science block, providing 4 new labs.

Our students have been exemplary ambassadors for the academy this year, and I am excited to work with the new student leaders next year. We are introducing numerous new initiatives to encourage our students to strive for excellence in the upcoming term.

A quick reminder that the uniform in September will remain unchanged. The school skirt remains a pleated skirt, and girls may wear trousers, but not leggings. We have seen a rise in the popularity of leggings in the fashion world, but these are not suitable for school. The boys' uniform will also remain the same.

It has been a privilege being Acting Principal of this Academy for the past 6 months and I will continue to work with the new Principal to take the school from strength to strength. I am looking forward to the Summer as I'm sure many staff and students are. Wishing you all a fantastic, restful, and rejuvenating break.

Mrs A Vann



Acting Principal

Important updates for September

Personal Development – Fridays

From September, Personal Development lessons will take place on Friday mornings as part of an extended registration time. Please see timings below:

The Academy Day – Fridays Only	
Registration/Personal Development Lesson	8.40am – 9.25am
Period 1	9.25am – 10.20am
Period 2 and 15 minute break time	10.20am – 11.30am
Period 3	11.35am – 12.30pm
Period 4 and 30 minute lunch break	12.35pm – 2.00pm
Period 5	2.05pm – 3.00pm

Morning Entry to the Academy

From September, the only entry into school at the start of the day will be at the front of the school and not via the leisure centre (D Block) gate/entrance.

Uniform Expectations

We appreciate the support that we receive from parents, carers and pupils to maintain the high standard of uniform at John Port Spencer Academy.

Please refer to our uniform expectations on the Academy website:
https://johnportspencer.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/JPSA-Uniform-Equipment-Expectations.pdf

A reminder that:

- Black trousers should be plain and full length. Leggings are not acceptable.
- Skirts should be knee length. Short or tight skirts are not permitted
- Jumpers should be plain without obvious branding. Hoodies are not permitted.
- Shoes should be plain black leather.

Faculty updates

English

In the summer term, our students in Key Stage 3 have inspired us with their creativity and imaginations. Year 7 have been working on the media and marketing and have created some wonderful inventions and written a persuasive sales pitch - look out Dragon's Den! Year 8 have been studying 'Animal Farm' and have written some amazing rhetorical speeches and learnt about propaganda. Throughout the year our Year 9s have been working on their creative writing, this term they have all created a class anthology of creative pieces.

This year we have been a trial school for Sparx Reader and our Year 7 students have successfully participated in using this new platform. Well done to the top readers in the Year group:
Hugo B, Martha N, Ava H, Gurleen K, Amelia B and Nalani G.

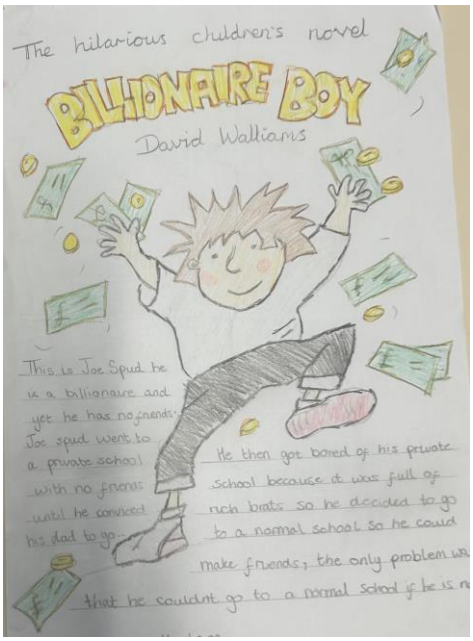
We are very proud of our Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students who have sat external exams and mock exams. They have worked so hard and revised well. We look forward to celebrating your results in the summer.

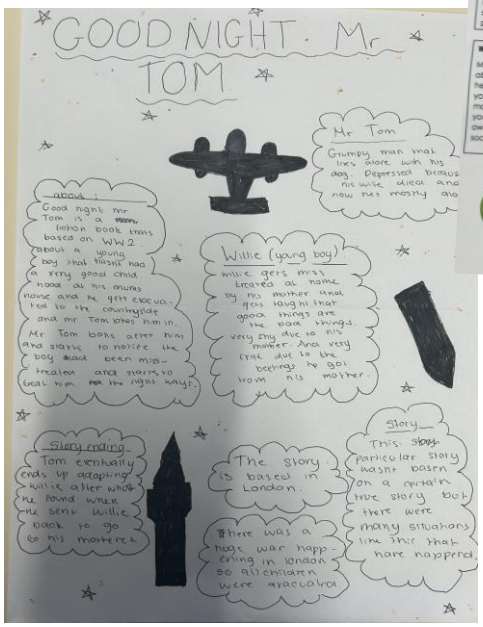


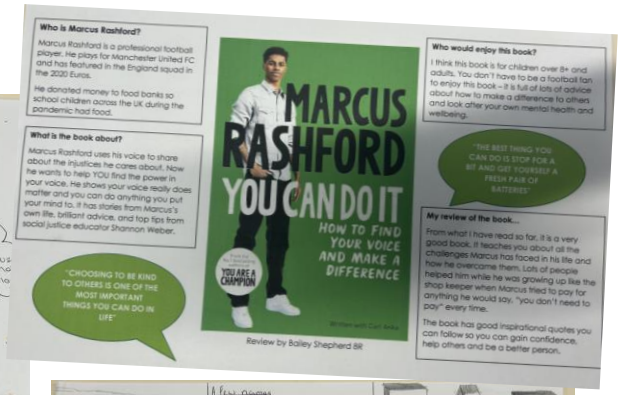
Year 8 English Homework

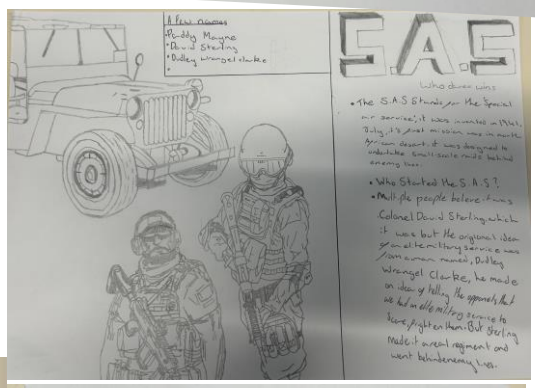
Miss Boulton has been really impressed with the amazing homework from Year 8 students this year – excellent creativity in their reading summary homework and their propaganda posters for our Animal Farm scheme of work.

Special well done to Lucy, Abel, Holly, Olivia and Sophia for their reading summary homework and Esme, Siddharth and Ruben for their Animal Farm work.

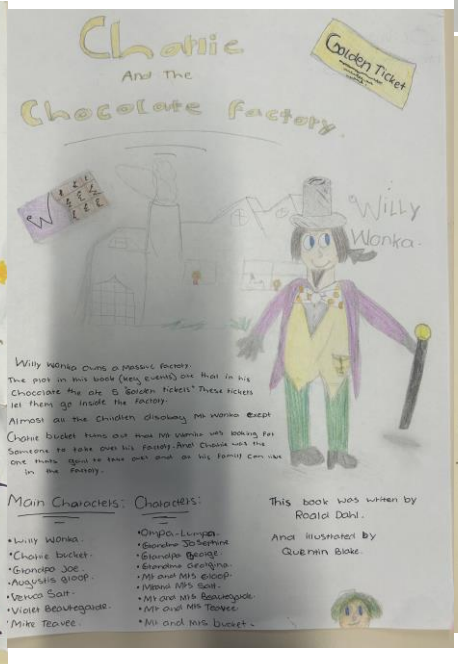


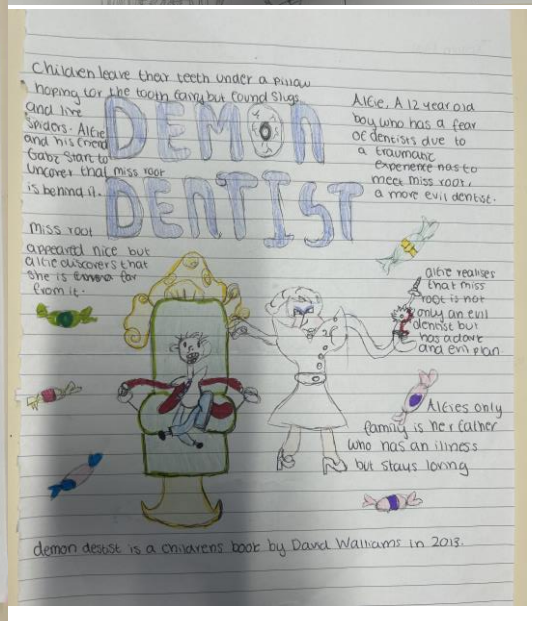












Maths



Bletchley Park

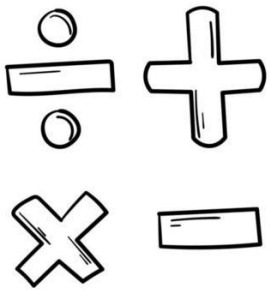
30 Year 8 pupils visited Bletchley Park on Monday 1st July. They learned about the crucial role the code-breakers and all the other people who worked there played during WW2 - in terms of saving lives and helping to win the war. Attending a workshop about cyber security taught them about how they should enjoy all their technology and apps but must be careful with their data and the risks involved. All the pupils behaved excellently throughout the whole day, participating with enthusiasm and open-mindedness, being courteous to other members of the public.





They enjoyed the day in the unique and impressive surroundings and were a credit to the school and themselves, ensuring that Mr Ashburner, Mr Perry, Mr Mitchell and Miss Stocks had no issues at all to deal with. Well done and thanks to all involved.

Sparx Maths



Well done to the following students who earned the most XP points in Sparx Maths in the last 12 months:

Year 7: Flynn B
Year 8: Emillia H
Year 9: Rohan M
Year 10: Olivia E
Year 11: Ben R

Primary Maths Challenge

On Friday 12th July, we welcomed 40 primary school children to take part in this year's Primary Maths Challenge. We had 10 teams selected from our local primary schools to take part in different maths solving activities. Students were extremely competitive, especially in the maths relay round, and keen to get the most marks in all 6 activities. Students showed good teamwork and logic skills to solve the challenging problems.

Very well done to everyone who took part, the results are:

3rd Place – Findern Wanderers with 188 points

2nd Place – Findern United with 210 points

1st Place – Hilton Wanderers with 221 points

Big thanks to our Year 12 volunteers who came in to help support the students so we could run the event.







Science

Biology Olympiad Competition

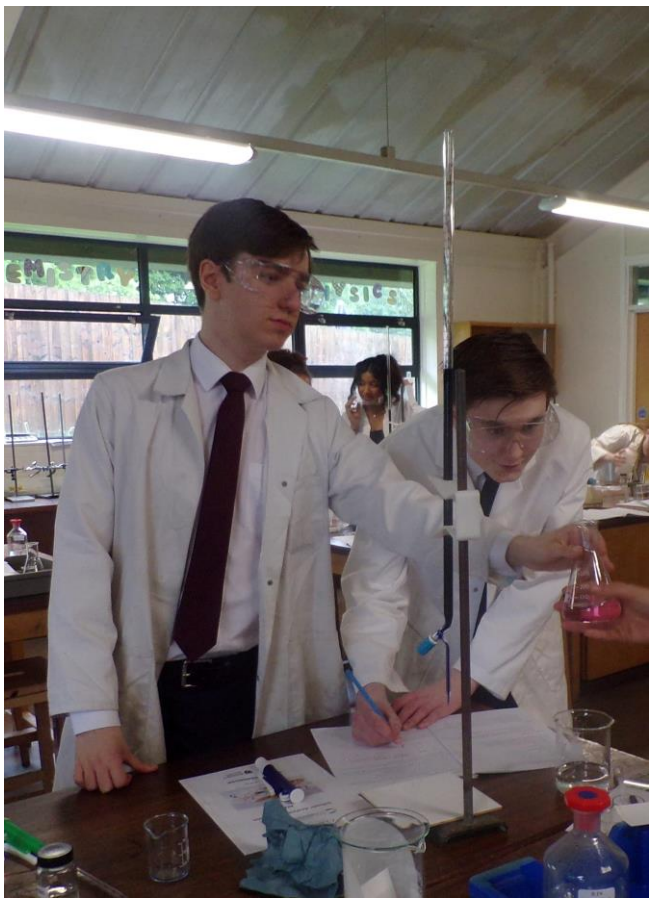
Congratulations to our Year 12 Biology students who took part in the Intermediate Biology Olympiad Competition. The competition required students to apply their biological knowledge from the first year of A level and use their problem-solving skills to answer a series of questions. Congratulations to our students who were highly commended/commended. Well done everyone!

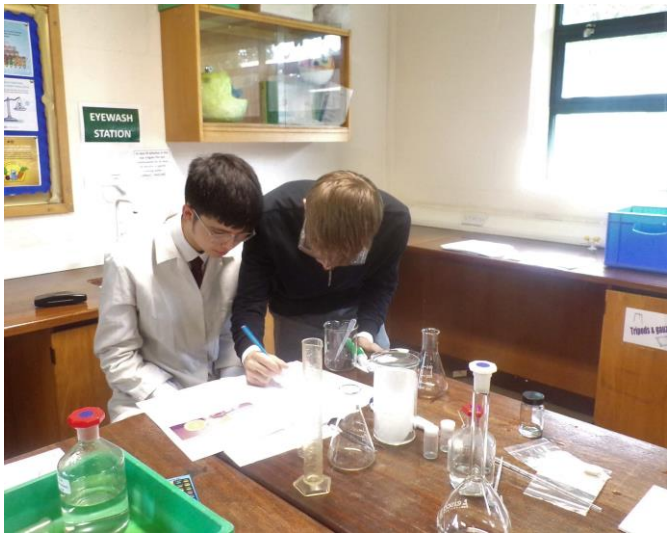
Special Well Done to:
Lara O ~ Gold
Lucia R-G - Silver
Naomi H - Bronze
Mia G - Bronze



RSC Analysis Competition

Congratulations to Team 7 Kiri, Abeeha and Rubina obtaining 1st place in the RSC Analysis Competition.

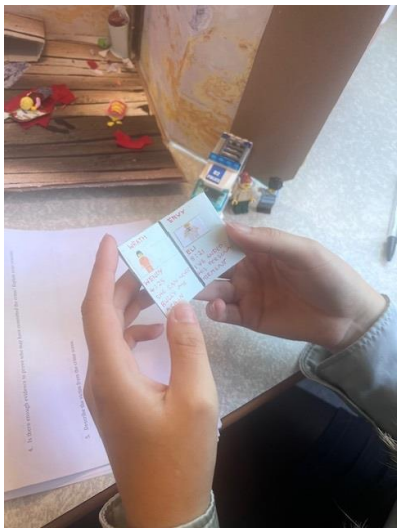




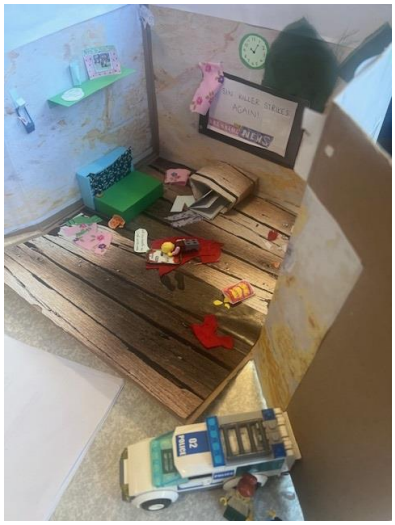
Criminology

Crime Scenes

As part of our A level Applied Criminology course, students are required to learn about the role of Scene of Crime Officers which they need to learn for their controlled assessment. We thought it would be interesting to create a crime scene in-a-box where groups worked together to create a crime scene based on a fictional crime story and produce and plant all evidence. The other groups then had to try to figure out what happened based on all the evidence before them. The students worked together really well and created some great crime scenes!



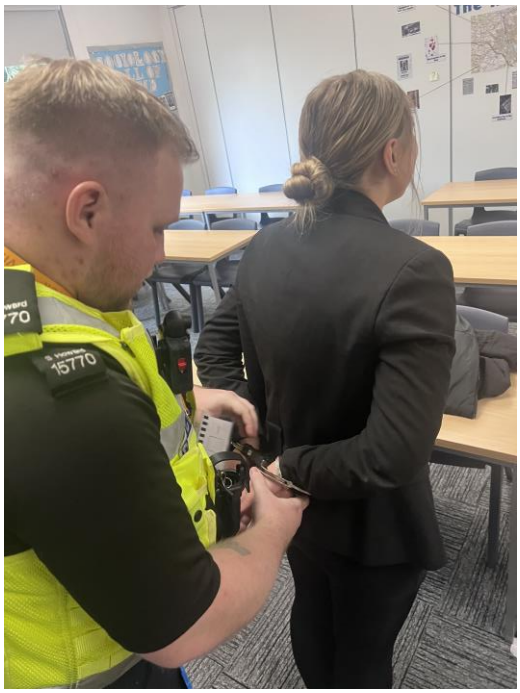




Visit from PC Howard

PC Howard kindly gave up his time to speak with our Year 12 Criminology students.

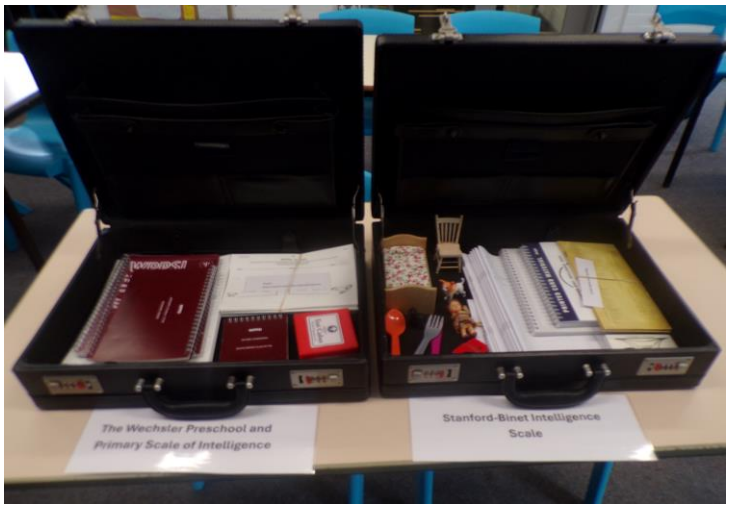
Aswell as speaking about the route into become a police officer, he spoke about what some of his days at work look like, no two days are the same! He told us all about some of the interesting crime scenes he's been called to and suspects and witnesses he has encountered. The students were given a real insight into the practical side of being a police officer, the other agencies they work alongside and the skills required to work for the police. We even got to see some of the "kit" they carry daily!



Psychology

Our Year 10 Psychology students had the opportunity to take part in a Pilot lesson for the British Psychological Society (BPS). They learnt about the history of intelligence testing, particularly the Weschler Preschool & Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI) and the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale) from the 1960's and 1970's.

These IQ tests were used to determine whether children of the Windrush generation were sent to mainstream or 'ESN' (Educating Subnormal) schools, which were under resourced and staffed. A disproportionate amount of Black Caribbean children, from as young as age 4, were sent to ESN schools due to scoring poorly on these IQ tests, which then limited their life chances. Bernard Coard, later discovered that Black Caribbean children were 4 times more likely than white children to be sent to these schools incorrectly.



Year 10 examined these old IQ tests looking at how culturally biased some of the questions were and empathised with what it would have felt like doing poorly on such an IQ test. To find out more, please watch; BBC documentary, Subnormal: A British Scandal or read; Coard, B. (2021). How the West Indian Child is made educationally sub-normal in the British School System (5th edn). Kingston, Jamaica: McDermott Publishing.



Business

Students in Year 10 Business must learn about what makes a quality product and what are quality standards. This term they completed a fun blind chocolate challenge. Students had to assess the quality of each different brand of chocolate and had to eat it after to check the quality obviously!!!!

Students identified the factors that need to be considered when making a quality product –

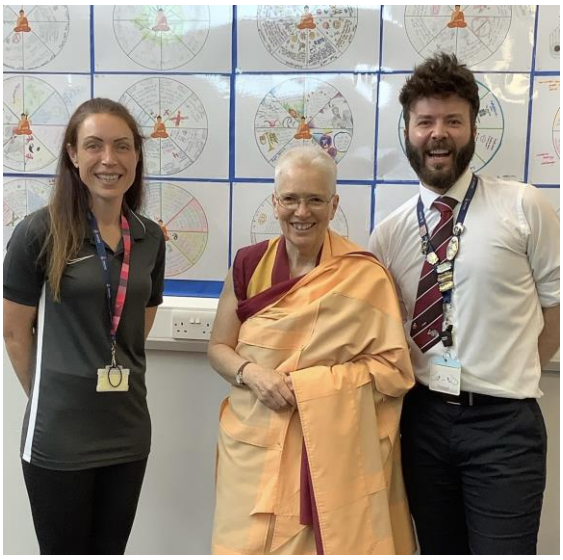
Cadburys won!





Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

Tara International Kadampa Retreat Centre



Gen Dema from Tara International Kadampa Retreat Centre visited 7P for a question and answer session, having completed the topic of Buddhism. 7P were very well organised and prepared with in depth questions, representing all 6Cs throughout the session; notably courtesy and respect. A huge thank you to Gen Dema for a great insight into the daily life of a Buddhist Nun and the journey either side.



Politics

Thirty-seven Year 13 Politics and History students had an interesting and informative educational day trip to London on Friday March 22nd. We would like to give a huge thank you to the PTA for their £600 donation to the trip as this helped to make this visit much more affordable to all our students. On arrival in London, we went to the Supreme Court on Parliament Square and saw the different court rooms of the highest court in the land and the display of artefacts in the cellar including the Magna Carta. The students were then escorted along Whitehall to see the buildings of the different departments of government including the Treasury, Foreign Office, 10 and 11 Downing Street. The students also saw Horse Guards Parade and Trafalgar Square. The students were then able to have a break around the Trafalgar Square area and then we reconvened to walk back up to Parliament and had a tour of the Houses of Parliament. One group even managed to catch the last section of a discussion in the House of Commons on the building of new hospitals from the Press Gallery. The Speaker then ended the session and removed the Mace. The students then went down into Westminster Hall which is the oldest and arguably the most beautiful part of the Palace of Westminster. This was the place where the Queen lay in state, and everyone queued up to see the coffin and pay their final respects. Finally, we had an educational workshop on how laws are passed, and the students were then able to debate the death penalty in two groups of competing teams. We would like to say thank you to our Year 13 students for doing John Port Spencer Academy proud with their exemplary behaviour throughout the trip.



Art, Textiles and Photography



Summer Exhibition

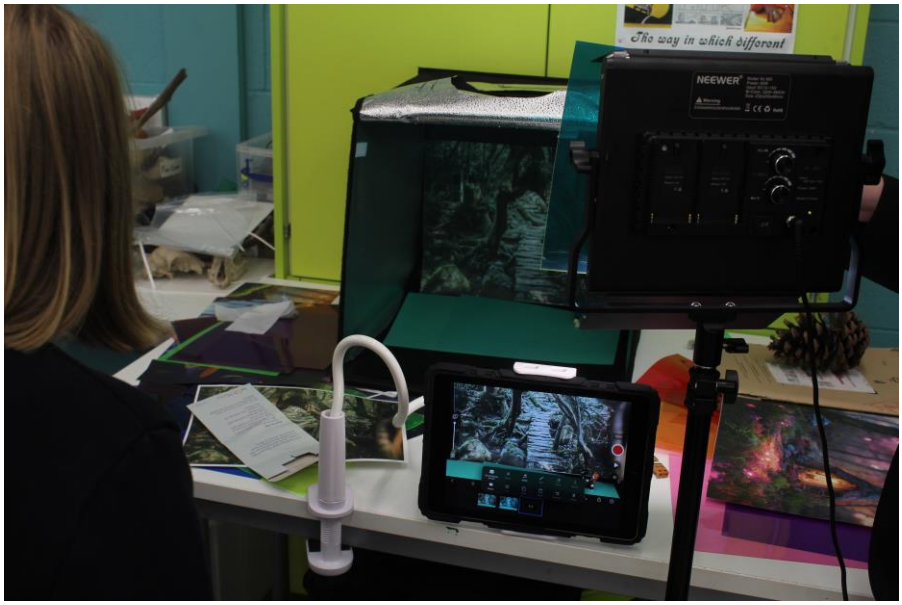
On Tuesday 4th July we held our Summer Exhibition to celebrate the work of our Fine Art, Photography and Textiles students. The standard and creativity of work was incredible.

Secret Postcard Exhibition



A HUGE well done to everyone who entered JPSA's first ever Secret Postcard Exhibition - staff, students and our wonderful community. All entries can be viewed here:
Secret Postcard Exhibition – John Port Spencer Academy

Stop Animation Workshop



On Tuesday 9th July, a member of staff from the QUAD in Derby came in to school to work with a group of Year 10 students to create stop animation movies.

Students worked in groups to come up with ideas for their animation, creating their own sets, props and characters. They then set about taking numerous still photos that were sequenced together in an app to create their moving animations. Each group worked creatively together to produce a really successful piece of work with some even recording their own audio to really bring their animations to life.





Modern Foreign Language



The MFL department hosted a Cultural Evening for Year 8 students on the 17th of June and students learned about different cultures through a quiz, food tasting, and songs.

Students started off the evening with a quiz. During the first round, they had to listen to different people speaking a foreign language and guess the language. They heard people speaking Portuguese, Japanese, Russian, Thai, Hebrew, Spanish, German among others. For the second round, students had to guess the car companies from their logo, some were able to name the country of origin as well! In the third round, students translated famous sayings from Dutch to English. And for the final round, students guessed the country of origin for some interesting traditions such as human towers or baby jumping!

Then students were invited to try some food such as German sausage and cheese, French cheeses, bread, and pastries and Italian charcuterie. While some were enjoying the European buffet, others were marking on a map places in the world they have been to and sharing their experiences abroad.

To finish, students sang popular songs in various languages starting off with "Liberée, délivrée" from the French version of Frozen. Multiple Disney songs were sung, such as the Spanish version of Coco, or the German version of Rapunzel. They finished the evening of with a German tongue twister song which challenged our experienced German teachers!



It was a lovely way for students to learn about different cultures around the world!

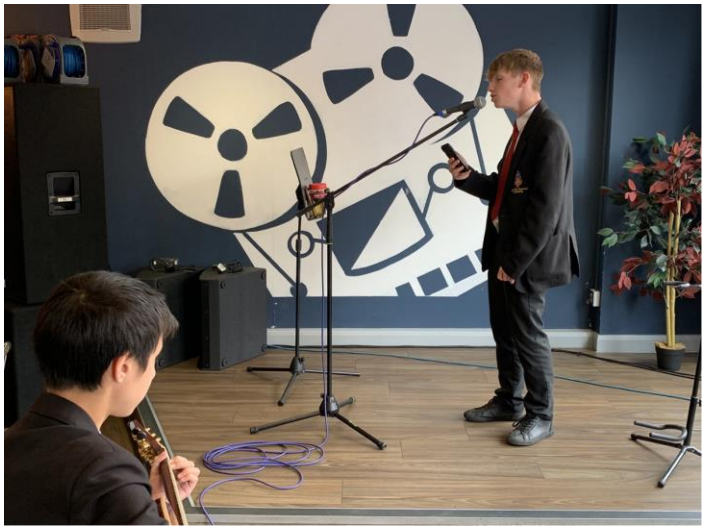
The Mandarin Chinese Lunchtime Club – Special Achievement

The Mandarin Chinese Lunchtime Club has been running for the second year and Asha B, Year 9, has attended every session, recently she sat HSK1 (Level 1 of the Chinese Proficiency Test for non-native speakers) at the Confucius Institute from The University of Nottingham and is waiting for the results.



Music

GCSE Music Dubrek Studios visit



10 GCSE Music students took part in Music Production event at Dubrek Studios, Derby, organised by Derbyshire Music Hub. Students helped set up for a recording session, selecting and positioning suitable mics for the performer and were part of the music production process in the recording studio, editing the tracks. Students then worked in groups to create and perform lyrics for a song on the theme of New York. Jamie and Ewan gave outstanding vocal performances, accompanied on guitar by Kaiyan. Students now have the opportunity to take part in a summer school at the University of Derby.

Music Performances at The Mease Academy



On Monday 8th July, 13 students made the short trip to The Mease Spencer Academy in Hilton. They performed to a mix of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 students in order to inspire the next generation of pupils to pick up and learn an instrument! The JPSA Soul Band performed Can't Take My Eyes Off You, Buddy Holly and Valerie to rapturous applause. They were then followed by Year 10 Rock outfit 'Hot Fuzz' who performed two original pieces and received a similarly excellent reception.

Summer Concert

The Music Department are proud to celebrate the achievements of our talented students in the recent Summer Concert. The audience were treated to music from String Quartet, Clarinet Ensemble, Soul Band, three rock bands – Aquarius, Static and Hot Fuzz, vocal group Rebel Clefs, vocal soloist, Junior Orchestra and Senior Wind Band, ably supported by our student Tech Team lead by Mr Owen.

All students involved were a credit to the school, but special mentions go to standout performers Grace H, Chris M, Poppy G and Macy A for accomplished musicianship, Junior Orchestra conductors Thomas S and George E, for taking on the challenge of conducting their peers, and Beth A for her efficient work as part of Tech Team.

Food Technology

We have continued to be busy within the Food Technology Department this year making over 200 dishes with Key Stage 3. We have also continued to embed food safety, analysed the functional and chemical properties of ingredients and designed fabulous dishes which link to Health Eating Guidelines and the Eatwell Guide.



We are continuing to prepare Year 10 for the start of their non-exam assessment, and we have continued to develop their practical skills making over 150 dishes this year. We also want to say a big well done to you all for achieving excellent results in your mock examinations.



Our Year 11 have now left us, and we wish them every success in their future pathways – they all showed excellent work ethic throughout the completion of the non-exam assessment and demonstrated commitment leading up to their written examination. Good luck to you all!



We have also supported the Year 6 transition days where 60 Year 6 students demonstrated their bread shaping skills. They were all amazing and we look forward to seeing and working with you in September.

We also continued to host our annual Rewards Day activity – Bake Off where 48 students ranging from Year 7 – Year 12 joined us to complete a "Tunnocks Tea Cake Challenge" and baked several dishes including Marble Cakes, Decorative Shortbread Biscuits and Pizza Pinwheels.

We know that all our students like to continue to cook over the holidays so why not try making these fabulous summer dishes at home!

Chilled Lemon Flan

Your Chilled Lemon Flan Ingredients

300ml double cream
Large can (397g) condensed milk
2 large lemons
250g plain digestive biscuits
110g butter
Fresh fruit to decorate

Flan Dish is required for the Chilled Lemon Flan – approx. 25cm in diameter



1. Melt the butter in a small pan on a low heat. Do not let it boil or burn
2. Crush the digestive biscuits using a food processor
3. Mix the biscuits in a bowl with the melted butter
4. Press the biscuit mixture into the flan dish base and up the sides of the dish using that back of a metal spoon - **place in fridge whilst you make your topping**
5. In a large bowl whip the cream using an electric whisk until it forms soft peaks
6. Add the condensed milk and mix thoroughly
7. Finely grate the zest (rind) of one of the lemons and squeeze out the juice of both
8. Add the lemon juice and some of the zest to the cream and condensed milk mixture
9. Mix together thoroughly – the mixture will thicken as you do this
10. Put the mixture into the flan base and spread out evenly
11. Decorate as desired
12. Put the flan into the refrigerator to chill

Fruity Muffins

Your Fruity Muffins Ingredients

150g plain flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 egg
60g caster sugar
100ml milk
50g butter
75g dried fruit

You will also need muffin cases

1. Preheat your oven to 190C / Gas Mark 5 .
2. Sieve the flour in a mixing bowl
3. Add the baking powder and sugar to the mixing bowl
4. Melt the butter in a saucepan
5. Mix the milk, egg and melted butter into a measuring jug
6. Now add the milk, egg and melted butter to the mixing bowl
7. Stir in your dried fruit
8. Spoon into 6 muffin cases
9. Bake for 15 mins - 20 mins until well risen and set



Physical Education

County Cup Winners

Our Year 7 girls football team played in the county cup final at Moor Farm Vs New Mills School. The game was a close-fought battle which ended up 0-0 with both teams creating chances but unable to score. The game went to penalties in which we eventually won 10-9! Even Ella (our goal keeper) scored in the shoot out! The girls have all been amazing ambassadors for John Port and should be proud of their achievements this season!



Gymnastics Success

Eight students from Year 7 & Year 9 attended the East Midlands & South Staffs Gymnastics Competition. The girls competed amazingly and showed off their gymnastic prowess. John Port came 1st overall in the team category and Poppy D was awarded silver for the individual floor category. Well done girls! The team consisted of: Poppy D, Lola R, Hope W B, Charlotte I, Sian B, Lacey B, Martha N and Florence P.



Sports Awards Summer 2024



Curriculum Awards:

Awarded for outstanding effort. Attitude and attainment in their PE lessons:

Year 7: Archie G, Jaiveer S, Erin C and Libby F
Year 8: Ben F, Ruchir K, Scarlett A and Lucy V
Year 9: Josh B, Owen D, Olivia M and Isla B
Year 10: Josh A, Jack L, Evelyn S and Evie N
Year 11: Chris S, Jack D, Tallulah M and Ella H

GCSE PE Awards:

Awarded for outstanding effort. Attitude and attainment in their PE lessons:

Year 10, Mr Jones: Mylo F and Evie N
Year 10, Mr Hodgson: Oliver W and Sienna B
Year 11, Mr Jones: Jesse B and Eva W
Year 11, Mrs Watts: Ruby C and Alex W
Year 11, Mr Hodgson: Tallulah M and Ella H



A-Level PE Awards:

Awarded for outstanding effort. Attitude and attainment in their PE lessons:

Year 12: Lara O and Josh T
Year 13: Sam C and Bethan D

Cheerleading Leadership Award - Florence P and Sian B

Sports Ambassador Involvement Award - Mylo F

Sports Ambassador Distinction Award - Tallulah M

Sports Personality of the Year:

Year 7: Archie G and Rosie B
Year 8: Lincoln S and Lucy V
Year 9: Kieran J and Olivia M
Year 10: Jack L and Evie N



Netball Awards:

Year 7 Player's Player: Evie C
Year 7 Manager's Player: Rosie B
Year 8 Player's Player: Lucy V
Year 8 Manager's Player: Caitlin S
Year 9 Manager's Player: Olivia M
U16 Player's Player: Tallulah M
U16 Manager's Player: Ruby C



Basketball Awards:

Year 7 Player's Player: Zayan K
Year 7 Manager's Player: Esah S
Year 8 Player's Player: Alex B
Year 8 Manager's Player: Lincoln S
Year 9 Manager's Player: Rufus J
Year 10 Manager's Player: Jack L
Year 10 Player's Player: Dylan M
Year 11 Manager's Player: Zac C & Jesse B

Cross Country Awards:

Year 7 Outstanding Achievement: Milly W
Year 8 Outstanding Achievement: Lincoln S
Year 9 Outstanding Achievement: Chloe A



Athletics Awards:

Year 7 Outstanding Achievement: Jamie R
Year 10 Outstanding Achievement: Henry H

Swimming Awards:

Year 7 Swimming Award: Liam T,
Brook B and Oliver M
Year 8: Theertha U and Jasraj B
Year 10: Sanath P

Football Awards:

Under 12 Girls Manager's Player: Amelia W
U12 Girls Player's Player: Ella H
U15 Girls Manager's Player: Georgia D

Year 7 Boys Manager's Player: Elliot W
Year 7 Boys Player' Player: Jamie R
Year 8 Boys Manager's Player: Sam S
Year 8 Boys Player's Player: Oliver T
Year 9 Boys Manager's Player: Ethan Y
Year 10 Boys Manager's Player: Ollie P
Year 10 Boys Player's Player: Antoni W
Year 11 Boys Manager's Player: Addison S and Lucas G



Sixth Form update



We have had another enjoyable, busy year in Sixth Form. We hope the students have enjoyed the new facilities of the Post-16 Building and it has been a delight to watch them working hard, making the most of the space and study facilities. Year 13 completed their exams and we are keeping everything crossed for them for their Results Day on 15th August. The Sixth Form Team and other staff will be there to support all students with their next steps. Year 13 had a great time celebrating their time at John Port Spencer Academy at their Prom at Derby County and we could not have asked for a more kind, respectful year group. We would like to publicly thank all students and parents/guardians for their kind cards and words. As we said goodbye to Year 13 our Year 12s started their mocks and are looking at their future plans. We would encourage our students to spend some time this summer looking at their next steps and building up their Super Curricular activities which can be found on our website:



The John Port SUPER Curriculum (google.com)

Many of our Year 12s and future students are currently in Costa Rica and we are looking forward to hearing all of their stories and adventures. We enjoyed having prospective Year 12s in for a Taster day in July and will confirm places on Results Day on Thursday 22nd August. We have also welcomed our new Student Leadership Team who have lots of exciting plans. Our Sixth Form continues to represent the school and community in so many different ways - through Subject Ambassadors, Buddy Reading, Mentoring, Charity Fundraising, Sporting Activities and the Student Leadership Team just to name a few. If your child achieves something, for example for a club or activity outside of school please do let us know so we can celebrate their achievements. We were also very proud of our Year 12s and their endeavours in their work experience week.



As we go into the Summer Holidays, please could all students check that their Business Wear is smart and appropriate. There are further details on our website about our expectations:

Uniform for Sixth Form students – John Port Spencer Academy

Wishing you and your families a safe, restful summer, The Sixth Form Team

Careers update

Year 12 Work Experience

I am delighted to say that a grand total of 139 out of 161 Year 12 students have secured at least one physical work experience placement this academic year. That's an amazing 86% of the entire cohort.

We have been working with the students since we launched the initiative back in October and it was wonderful to see the level of engagement and proactivity amongst the students. Many students have booked appointments with me for help and advice on securing a placement and we've worked together to produce high quality CVs and cover letters. In some cases, I've coached them on how to prepare for interviews and have sat in on some virtual interviews with employers.

We have had students in local placements as well as further afield, including in Belfast, London and Dusseldorf! The types of placements have been considerably varied reflecting the interests and aspirations of our students, including but not limited to: shadowing and working with court judges, crown prosecutors, solicitors, dentists, pharmacists, therapists, health care professionals, hospital consultants, the British Army, engineers, IT & computing specialists, teachers, university lecturers, scientists in laboratories, hotel and hospitality managers, accountants, commercial managers, quantity surveyors, project managers, logistics, marketing and digital media, HR personnel, performing arts & theatre specialist staff.

The feedback from employers has been outstanding and I wanted to share with you just a snapshot of some of the quotes we have received from employers and students about their experiences. (This can be viewed on students' placement records on Unifrog). A student spoke with me earlier and said "my placement was amazing and I now have a future!". Of course he always had a bright future ahead of him, he just knows what it looks like now.

Thank you to parents and Sixth Form staff for all your support with helping to secure placements this year. If you work for an organisation that is interested in providing careers or work experience opportunities in the future, please do get in touch.

Mrs Stevenson, Work Experience Lead – Sixth Form Team
sixthform@johnportspencer.org.uk

Feedback from students:

"I grew some bacteria in some antibiotics and inserted the desired plasmid DNA so that we could replicate the DNA and we could harvest the desired protein we wanted.....The placement gave me some vital and useful working experience to talk about in my application for biomedical sciences at University. I think personally this placement was perfect for me....."

"My placement has given me more of an insight into the HR and financial side to a GP surgery...and has only added to my interest within this field...The thing which I am most proud of ...is the fact that I was able to communicate with different people who I had never met before and form good relationships with them. In the future, I hope to either carry out a business related degree apprenticeship within in a business such as Rolls Royce, or carry out a business degree at University"

I was most proud of "correctly identifying the procedure that needed to be carried out on a patient and diagnose them, based off a list of symptoms when I sat in a medical school lesson at the end of the week. I was able to learn though observation, as I shadowed mutliple doctors, how the workplace functions....I was also able to talk to one of the junior doctors and a medical student..."

"I have learnt what an occupational therapist is and what the difference is between <that> and a physiotherapist. ...I was able to help people, via helping make a moulded cast, taking part in a workshop in helping people who were brain damaged to understand more about themselves after the change, and also helping to do assessments on the elderly who were on the way to be discharged....It has helped give me an understanding of what I potentially would like to do and what I wouldn't like to do."

Feedback from Employers:

The student "learnt how to write social posts in tone of voice and style of a specific brand using previous post performance to identify what resonates with the audience. She mastered website building, solving tricky coding problems on her own, she also successfully pulled data and insights from Google Analytics to inform the marketing planning, and took time to understand how the data shapes the next round of marketing activity. She was comfortable to take on taks set and when faced with tricky elements took time to work through them by herself. "

The student "is clearly a bright and determined young lady. It is clear that <she> has researched the dental profession well, is clear on her objectives and is making a great effort to prepare herself well for her future career.....I believe she will have a very bright future."

The student "spent time with various roles within the theatre and shadowed/carried out tasks. She then presented a pitch for a new show at the end of the week, using everything she had learnt throughout her time. <She> developed an intelligent creative interpretation of a play to justify her creative decisions from an economical point of view. She was able to eloquently express her ideas...."

The student "spent time working with the commercial function, learning about what contract provisions Rolls-Royce put in place on our airline contracts, He also spent some time with the Group Treasury Team in Finance and dealt directly with our banking counterparts in London and helped to set up a couple of large foreign exchange transactions.....he helped release a payment in excess of £100m. He spent his last day with the purchasing team, where he learned about the differing roles ...and had a chance to speak with the current group of apprentices. He was able to communicate with people of all levels....demonstrated clearly during the complex financial transaction....he grew in confidence as the placement progressed."

The student "joined the Engineering department understanding the role of a design engineer and using the CAD tools. <He> was asked to work through through a number of engineering activities autonomously, he achieved these in a timely manner with minimal input and fed back his findings via a presentation at the end of the placement. <He> presented himself strongly from the start. He was keen to listen, learn and took notes. He asked all of the right questions…"

Save the Date – Year 9 Work Opportunity Day – Thursday 12th December 2024

As part of our careers curriculum students in Year 9 are given the opportunity to participate in a world of workday. Year 9 students, together with their parents/guardian are encouraged to secure a work placement with a credible employer. The placement will preferably be with the employer of the parent/guardian - however we understand this may not always be possible and as such a close relative or family friend is recommended to facilitate this, at the full discretion of the parent/guardian. The Year 9 workday is being encouraged to afford students an opportunity to explore their aspirations and therefore help to signpost them towards a positive and satisfying future.

We would like to let you know about this day in advance of year 9 to help with securing and planning a day for your child.

Student Leadership Team

Your New Sixth Form Leadership Team At John Port Spencer

Dear Readers, our names are Niamh Tunstall and Louis Floch and we are John Port Spencer Academy's new Head Students. We wanted to take this opportunity within the newsletter to introduce ourselves to you all and also our new, excellent team of fellow students who are already making great strides in helping the students within this school year, and the next, feel heard and a part of huge decisions that affect their lives as well as ours.



Head Girl: Hi all, my name is Niamh and I am this year's Head Girl. I am an external student who entered this school only at the beginning of this school year and I currently take English Literature, History and Sociology A Levels. What I want to contribute individually during my time in this important role is making new and old students feel comfortable and welcome. I was lucky enough to have a brilliant experience when entering this school simply because a few students in my History taster session last July decided to be kind and help me feel welcome. I want to make your children feel that from others and also be the kind of people who have the confidence to make someone else feel like that. Thank you, and I look forward to not only working with the students but also with yourselves as parents and carers to make this environment as positively impactful as we can.



Head Boy: Hi, I'm Louis, and I am your Head Boy for this year. I have been at John Port Spencer since Year 7 and as a result I hope to be a relatable and approachable figure for everyone at JPSA, as I have been in all of your positions before, and I have been able to navigate and work through many issues and challenges that have come my way! I am currently taking Maths, Business Studies and Spanish as my A-Level subjects, and I am enjoying every part of Sixth Form life so far. I have many goals and aspirations that I would like to reach in my time as Head Boy, which include various things such as finding new ways to motivate students, giving them more ways to express themselves, and overall making school an enjoyable experience, and one that students won't forget. I am incredibly excited to get the year started, and I look forward to meeting and exchanging ideas with students, parents/carers and members of staff alike!

Mental Health: Our new brilliant and hardworking mental health leads are Alice and Erin. Alice currently studies History, Biology and Psychology and Erin takes Biology, Psychology and English Literature. Both are already working extremely hard in their roles to implement positive change for your child around their mental health and making sure it is treated with sensitivity and a direct approach. Alongside this they really want to focus on reducing any stigma around mental health and overcoming any challenges your child faces as a team, supporting them as much as possible.

Charity: Both our KS3 and KS4 charity leads, Alexa and India, have been extremely busy and successful already in multiple events they have organised including the maternity packages. India studies Physics, Maths and Geography and Alexa does Psychology, Criminology and Drama. They both want to aim high and work as hard as they can to raise money for a variety of charities that the school have previously supported and

also introduce new ones to our community to help as much as they can to give back to people in and outside of our school environment whilst also encouraging your children to partake as well.

Sports: Both of our new sports leaders are teaming well to organise activities and events such as sports day for your children to enjoy, despite the terrible weather at the moment! Charlie and Joe both have a huge passion for sports and are using this love to help students find their passion as well. Joe studies both Drama and Engineering, and Charlie takes Maths, Biology and PE. Both carry this enthusiasm into their personal lives with Joe being part of a local five a side football team, the Woodward Wanderers that they founded themselves, and Charlie winning numerous awards for swimming and rowing. Their aim this year is to continue the school spirit around current sports such as football but also introduce new sports like rugby and swimming, utilising the amazing facilities we as a school have access to.

Environment: Our environment team consists of Emily and Maisie, who both have a great passion to ingrain a love of taking care of the environment around us in the students at John Port Spencer. Emily studies Textiles, History and English Literature whilst Maisie takes Chemistry, Biology and Geography. Both contribute differently and are focusing on not only improving the JPSA cycle system but also creating new green spaces and ways to educate the students on how their impact can cause positive changes for the future of our planet.

Mentoring: Our new mentoring team is currently working hard to help your children both socially and academically. Sarah-Jayne and Naomi have a passion to ensure the students at John Port Spencer have easy access to help and support in school, whether that's with homework or solving friendship problems. Sarah-Jayne studies History, Spanish and English Literature whilst Naomi takes Maths, Chemistry, Biology and Psychology. The drive and determination that they both have combined to support the students and select suitable mentors has meant they have ensured numerous students return to take the role of mentor and has ensured the expansion of the programme in September.

Diversity: Our brilliant diversity lead, Alex, has an evident dedication to the highlighting of how important diversity is within society and how we can support others in our community to feel welcome and appreciated. Alex takes English Literature, Drama and Criminology and has said themselves that their main goal is to make your child feel safe and included no matter their background.

Student Council: Our new student council leads have worked extremely hard since they took on their role only a few months ago. There has already been evident action and follow through taken by both Madeleine and Emily as they have met with the head students and headteacher, Mrs Vann, to pass on requests that the students have made. Madeleine studies Psychology, Business and Product Design, whilst Emily takes Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Spanish. Both students have already shown extraordinary aptitude towards their roles and continue to display their desire to follow through with their student council members' requests to bridge the gap between not only students and teachers but also you as parents.

From both Niamh and Louis, we look forward to meeting parents throughout the upcoming school year through parents evenings, open evenings and various other events that we will be in attendance at. We hope to help your children have the best time possible at school and feel safe and included in an environment that should always be centred around them and their future, working around their needs. Thank you.

Camps International Costa Rica

On 11th July 34 students from Year 11, 12 and 13 set out to Costa Rica for a 28-day trip of a lifetime. They are going on expedition to do voluntary work with the local indigenous population in rural communities. They will do a variety of activities which will include wildlife conservation and building work. As a reward for all their hard work all the students will get the opportunity to learn to scuba dive and take their PADI Open Water Qualification.

The accompanying staff are: Mr Stephenson, Mrs Udall, Miss Stocks and Mr Fisher.

This will be the 4th Expedition that the school has run with Camps International since 2014, the previous trips have been to Borneo, Peru and Kenya.







Duke of Edinburgh update

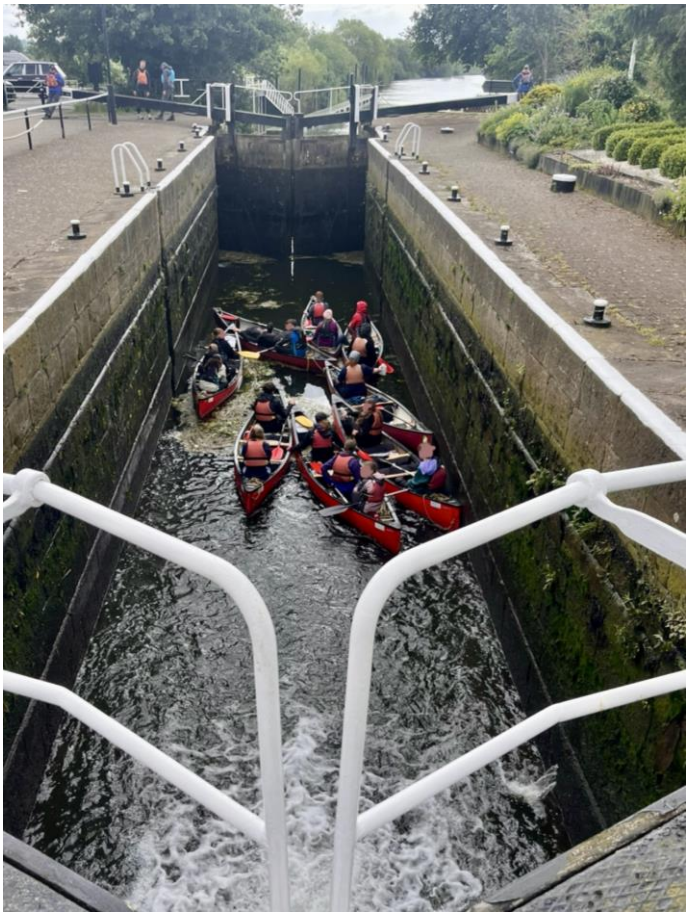
A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award participants for completing their 3-day, 2-night training and practice expedition!

The students undertook a challenging paddling expedition, covering around 20 km per day by canoe on the River Soar and Trent.

Our dedicated and hard-working students were fantastic ambassadors for our academy and exemplary role models in youth achievement. They worked well together to successfully complete their training ahead of the assessed expedition in September.

A big thank you to all the staff who supported and enabled this expedition to take place.

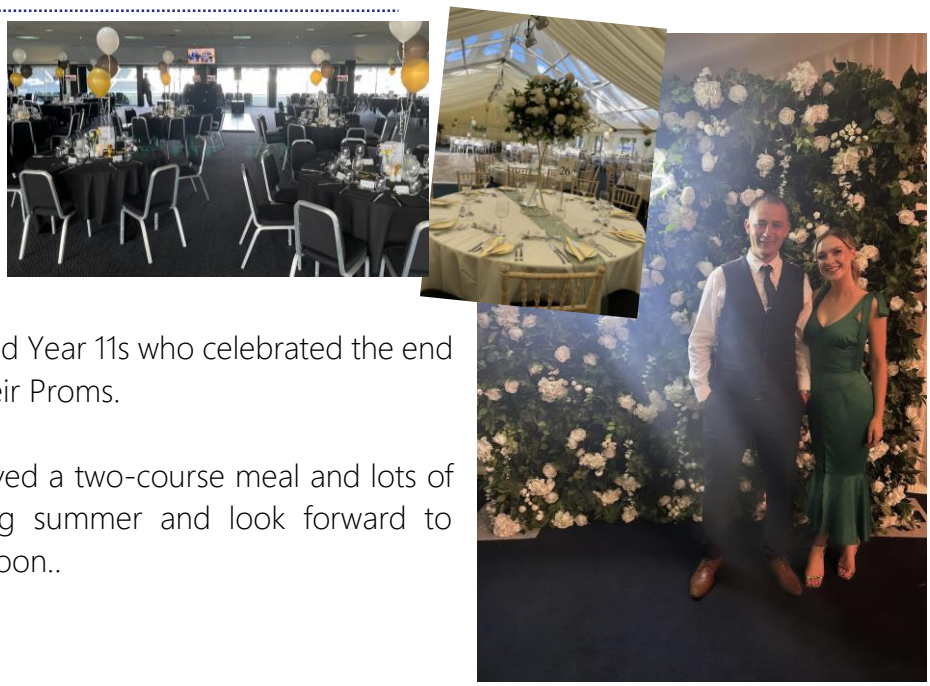








Transition



Goodbyes....

Year 11 and Year 13 Proms

We said goodbye to our Year 13s and Year 11s who celebrated the end of the year and exams in style at their Proms.

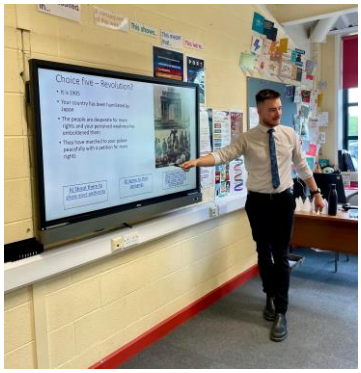
Students looked amazing and enjoyed a two-course meal and lots of dancing. We wish them a relaxing summer and look forward to celebrating their results with them soon..

and Hello...

Year 6 Induction

On Tuesday 2nd July and Wednesday 3rd July we welcomed out new Year 7 students who had lots of fun exploring the different subject areas.

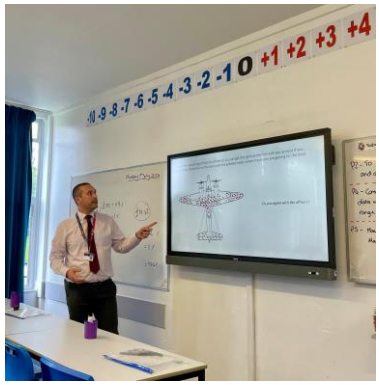
We look forward to meeting them again in September!



Sixth Form Taster Day

We have had a fantastic day welcoming prospective Year 12 students to John Port. We hope they enjoyed the taster lessons and we look forward to seeing them on results day. If any student was not able to attend, transition work can be found on our website.





Staff Update

British Science Week 2024 – Staff Photography Competition



As part of British Science Week 2024, Miss Thomas organised a staff photography competition with the theme of 'Moments in Time'. Well done to Mr Mitchell who managed to capture the hatching of blackbird chicks – a very rare 'Moment'.

Isle of Wight Fundraiser



Well done to Mr Bottrill who completed the Randonee 100km challenge in 4 hours and 15 minutes in May, through hills and bad weather conditions. He raised £426 for Derby Kids Camp.

Like many charities Derby Kids' Camp run solely of volunteers. They provide children between the ages of 8-10 a fun filled week of activities in the Derbyshire Peak District during the summer. They take around 40 children per week over a 5 week period. Around 40 primary schools from Derby City nominate children who they feel would benefit from a week outdoors building self-esteem, friendships and experiencing camp activities who would potentially otherwise not experience a summer holiday.

The money raised by Mr Bottrill will pay for nearly two weeks of 40 students to have a camping holiday in the Peak District.

More information can be found at: https://derbykidscamp.co.uk/

Strawberry Tea – Welcome to New Staff



On Wednesday 19th June, staff, Governors and members of our community got together after school to enjoy a well-deserved Strawberry Tea and got to know the new members of the team joining us in September. This year the sun was shining so we made the most of the new Post-16 centre café and outdoor space.

Staffing Update for 2024-25

We say thank you and goodbye to the following staff members who are leaving us at the end of 2023-24:

Mr Barry ~ Technology
Mr Crowther ~ Vice Principal, History
Mr Horton ~ Science
Mrs Peers ~ Science
Miss Ram ~ Social Sciences
Mr Rawlings ~ Science
Mr Rooney ~ Economics
Miss Shipsides ~ Maths
Mr Smith ~ Head of Geography
Miss Stocks ~ SENDCO
Mrs Wood ~ Science
Miss Cartwright ~SEND Learning Co-ordinator
Miss Dudley ~ Catering Assistant
Miss Moss ~ Cover Supervisor
Mr Mountain ~ PE Cover Supervisor (Returning as SCITT)

In September we welcome the following new staff:

Mr Alexander ~ Psychology
Mr Bailey ~ Science
Mrs Collins-Taylo ~ Modern Foreign Languages
Mr Djordjic ~ Geography
Mr Firth ~ Head of Geography
Miss Harvey ~ Science
Mr Logan ~ Maths
Mr Mills ~ Economics
Mrs Sisson ~ SENDCO
Mr Whetton ~ Science
Miss White ~ Science
Mr Wraight ~ Engineering and Technology
Mrs Yeats ~ Business
Miss Webb ~ Science Technician

Governors Update

At the end of this academic year, we say thank you and goodbye to two of our longstanding Parent Governors, Mr Rob Tice and Mr Danny Parker. As Chair and Vice Chair throughout previous years, both have led the governing board throughout many changes in the academy and have helped to drive forward improvement. Both have made a huge contribution to the academy and their time on the board now comes to a natural end as their children leave our sixth form.

Our governing board continues to grow from strength to strength with new governors bringing new ideas and scrutiny to the academy. As well as regular Board and Committee meetings, many visits have been made to the academy by our new governors this year, including visits to school performances, parents evenings, subject link visits, health and safety, attendance and policy meetings.



Two of our governors also attended our recent Strawberry Tea as an opportunity to meet current and new staff that will join us in September.

The new Chair of Governors will be appointed in September and will be introduced alongside all other new and existing governors in the Autumn newsletter.

Governance at John Port Spencer Academy

As a member school within a multi-academy trust, the responsibility for governance of John Port Spencer Academy is ultimately held by the Board of Trustees appointed to the Spencer Academies Trust.

The local governing board (LGB) for John Port Spencer Academy is responsible for scrutiny of decisions made in the academy, driving improvement, consideration of exclusions and for local oversight of the processes and policies which allows the academy to work effectively and appropriately.

For further details about the Spencer Academies Trust governance structure please see our website: Local Governing Board – John Port Spencer Academy

The John Port Spencer Academy local governing board can be contacted by emailing: clerktogovernors@johnportspencer.org.uk

If you wish to contact the governors about a complaint, please make sure you read and follow the Spencer Academies Complaints Policy: Spencer Academies Trust - Policies (spencertrust.org.uk)

PTA update

JPSA PTA

Thank you to all who supported JPSA PTA during this academic year, including those who volunteered at or attended events held.



Highlights this year have included supporting the school performance of Annie, the quiz night to raise funds for the Costa Rica 2024 Camps International, and the Christmas and Summer Concerts.

The annual bedding plant sale also took place in May, raising over £2,000.



Among other things, this academic year, PTA funding has been used to support:

- New football kit for Year 7 teams;
- Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst Competition laboratory equipment for Post-16 students;
- Theatre group visits;
- Post-16 visit to Parliament; and
- Equipment for the Expressive Art Faculty's Secret Postcard Exhibition.



Funding has also recently been approved for frames to display student artwork and further equipment for students to use in Science lessons.

As you can see from this list, any support you give - whether attending or volunteering at events - does make a difference, with money being put towards experiences and resources to benefit the students.

You can support JPSA PTA through Easy Fundraising (www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/jpspta), which earns funds for the PTA when you shop online using certain websites. To date, over £800 has been raised through this platform.

Follow us on FaceBook - www.facebook.com/JohnPortSpencerAcademyPTA

Dates for your diary:
Thursday 10 October 2024 – PTA meeting, 7pm, King's Head in Hilton.
Thursday 21 November 2024 – AGM (Time and venue tbc).

Summer Holiday and Community Activities

Things to do in the Summer Holiday









Academy Dates:

Term Dates and INSET Days

Staggered Start – September 2024

6th September 2024 – Years 7 and 12 only
9th September 2024 – All year groups return

2024/25 Dates

Term 1	4th September 2024*	- 25th October 2024*
Term 2	4th November 2024	- 20th December 2024
Term 3	6th January 2025	- 14th February 2025
Term 4	24th February 2025	- 4th April 2025
Term 5	21st April 2025	- 23rd May 2025
Term 6	2nd June 2024	- 24th July 2025*

INSET Days*
4th September 2024
5th September 2024
25th October 2024
24th February 2025
24th July 2025

Bank Holidays outside of school holidays

21st April 2025
5th May 2025

Emergency School Closure:

In the rare event of a school closure during the school day, students will be sent home on buses or via their normal method of travel,
If you DO NOT wish this to happen, please let us know by contacting:
info@johnportspencer.org.uk and provision will be arranged for your child in the event of an emergency closure.

Attendance and Absence

Reporting an Absence
To report an absence (in Years 7 – 11), please email attendance@johnportspencer.org.uk by 8:45am stating your child's first and last name, form group and reason for absence.

If your child is ill, please provide a brief description of their symptoms. *Email is our preferred way of receiving absence notifications as this removes the need for parents to write a note to their child's form tutor on their return.* Alternatively, please telephone the absence line on 01283 735181.

Please report this on a daily basis unless the length of the absence is known.

Students Leaving Early
For medical appointment notifications, please email the details of the appointment to attendance@johnportspencer.org.uk and attach a copy of the appointment card, letter or text message. Please include your child's name and form group in the email.

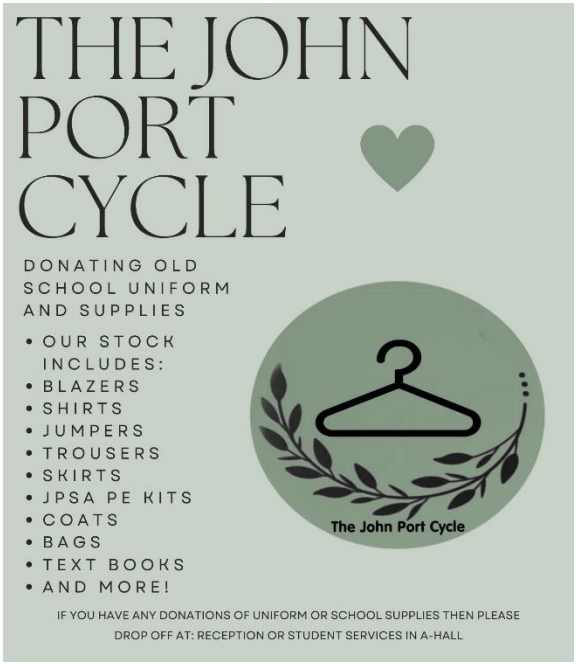
In the event of your child leaving the academy during the day without adult supervision, please ensure you email attendance@johnportspencer.org.uk . Please include your child's name, form group, reason for leaving early, method of transport and also ensure you state that you 'absolve John Port Spencer Academy of all responsibility' so that we can allow your child to leave during the day. Without written consent, your child will not be allowed to leave the academy site.

Other Absences
For other absences such as holiday, interview, a sporting event, funerals and any other **non-medical** absence please complete a Leave of Absence for Exceptional Circumstances Form

To report an absence for Year 12 and 13, please email the Sixth Form team at sixthform@johnportspencer.org.uk

Thank you for your support.
The Attendance Team

Academy Information:



Lost Property

There is a large amount of lost property which has not been claimed. Please ask students to come and check the items if they have lost something.
Please can you also ensure that all property is named?

Home School Transport

The responsibility for transport to and from the academy rests with parents, however, free school transport is provided for some students. In such cases, it is the local authority who organise and are responsible for the provision of contracted services.

Further information (including a bus timetable) can be found on our website.

www.johnportspencer.org.uk/

Which Reception…?

Here is a handy guide for which reception to use:

Main Reception

- All visitors who are not collecting or dropping off students
- Parents who are meeting with school staff
- All general queries (including collection of exam certificates)

Student Reception

- Late students
- Students leaving early for an external appointment. *[Please ensure your child knows that they have the appointment and that they need to come to Student Reception. Please also email attendance@johnportspencer.org.uk so that we are aware].*
- Students arriving late after an external appointment
- Students going home because they are unwell

Parents/guardians need to collect students who are leaving site early unless we have a disclaimer from you stating that you allow your child to leave the site unaccompanied and that you 'absolve John Port Spencer Academy of all responsibility'.

If your child has forgotten something (such as a PE kit, food tech ingredients, lunch money etc.) you can drop this off at either reception and your child can collect this from Student Reception.

We cannot guarantee to get items to students but will try our best.

Student ID Cards

All students must have their ID card and wear their lanyard when in the academy.

The usual replacement charge of £2.00 per ID card and £1.00 for a new lanyard is applicable if the card or lanyard is lost or damaged. The ID card also doubles up as a bus pass for school bus services.

Student Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and electronic devices are allowed in the academy but must be switched off and kept in school bags whilst the students are on site. Failure to comply will result in a child having their phone removed. Persistent non-compliance will result in a request not to bring the device into the academy.

Information for Current Year 10 Students:

In recognition of Sir John Port being the benefactor of both John Port School and Repton, one or more scholarships may be offered each year for places in the Sixth Form at Repton for John Port Spencer Academy students. If you would like further information please see their website: Scholarships at Repton School

Uniform expectations:

We appreciate the support that we receive from parents, carers and pupils to maintain the high standard of uniform at John Port Spencer Academy.

Please refer to our uniform expectations on the Academy website:
https://johnportspencer.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/JPSA-Uniform-Equipment-Expectations.pdf

A reminder that:

- Black trousers should be plain and full length. Leggings are not acceptable.
- Skirts should be knee length. Short or tight skirts are not permitted
- Jumpers should be plain without obvious branding. Hoodies are not permitted.
- Shoes should be plain black leather.

Contact Information:

Following IT and email changes during the February half term break, our contact details have been updated. Please see below for a reminder of our new contact details.

Please also remember to update us as soon as any of your contact details change.

Website:
www.johnportspencer.org.uk

General enquiries:
info@johnportspencer.org.uk

Safeguarding Team:
Safeguarding@johnportspencer.org.uk

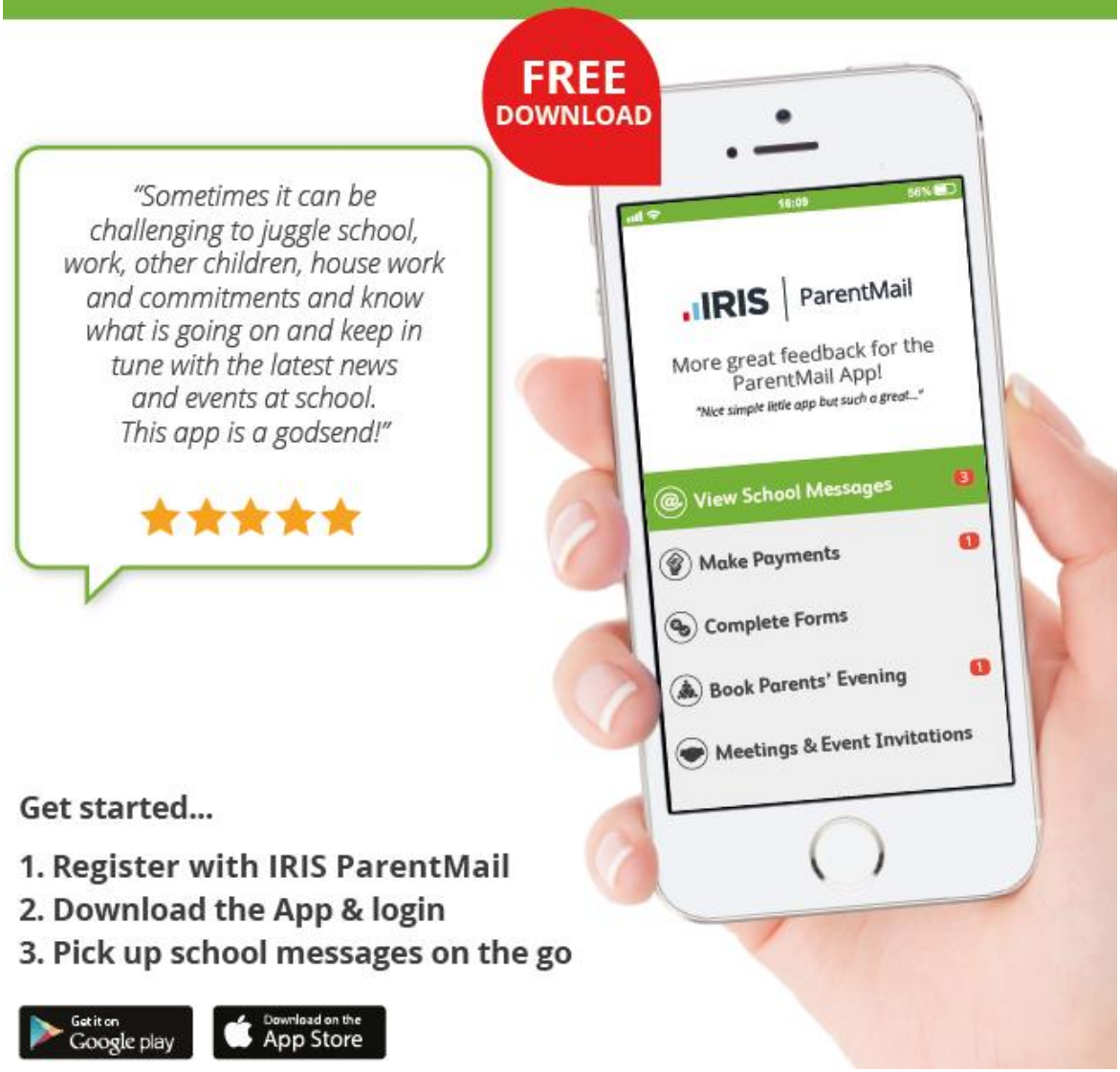
Sixth Form Team:
sixthform@johnportspencer.org.uk

Further updated contact information can be found on our website at:
https://johnportspencer.org.uk/who-to-contact/
https://johnportspencer.org.uk/safeguarding/
https://johnportspencer.org.uk/contact-us/

FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS

Keep up with all the exciting things happening at John Port by scanning the code below:

Pick up school messages online or on the mobile app!



If you would like to request a printed copy of this newsletter, please email us and we will arrange this for you.