

Dear Parents,

It's a busy fortnight here at school, with lots of news and updates to share! We're looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at your child's parent-teacher meeting. Booking opens today on Arbor at 6p.m.

We're also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to inspire our children by talking about their jobs or careers in early March. These talks are always a highlight for the students, offering a fascinating glimpse into the world of work. We've had some fantastic speakers in the past, including a lawyer who shared their courtroom experiences (and even their gowns!) and a successful businesswoman who built her own company from the ground up. The children are always completely engrossed! If you'd like to share your story, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

## Our Catholic Mission

### *The Feast of St Thomas Aquinas*

On Tuesday 28th January, we celebrated our Trust's Feast Day of St Thomas Aquinas.

On Tuesday, Year 5 and Year 6 chaplains joined with others from across the trust at English Martyrs Secondary School in Leicester to celebrate Mass. The Mass was streamed across all 23 Trust schools to watch.

The chaplains were also joined by Sophie in Year 5 who was one of children in the whole trust to win a prize for her drawing of Mary.



## Parking & driving

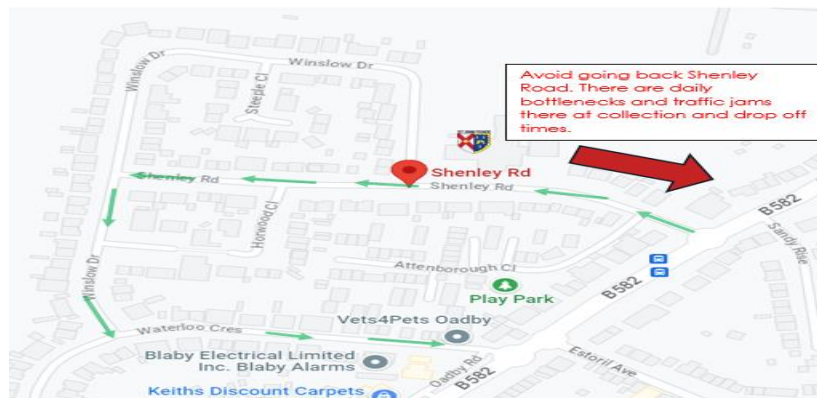
### Let's Keep Our School Drop-Off and Pick-Up Safe and Smooth!

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the many families who already demonstrate excellent care and consideration when driving and parking around our school. Your thoughtful actions contribute greatly to the safety and well-being of our students and community. Thank you!

To further enhance safety for everyone, we'd like to encourage all drivers to be extra mindful during drop-off and pick-up times. By working together, we can ensure a smooth and safe flow of traffic. Here are a few friendly reminders:

- **Plan Ahead:** Allow a little extra time for drop-off and pick-up to avoid feeling rushed.
- **Park Respectfully:** Please ensure your vehicle is parked legally and considerately, avoiding parking on corners, across driveways, or obstructing visibility.
- **Safe Manoeuvres:** To maintain safety for pedestrians and other vehicles, we kindly ask that drivers refrain from making U-turns in the immediate vicinity of the school and avoid backing out directly onto main roads whenever possible.

By following these simple guidelines, we can create a positive and safe environment for all our children. We appreciate your cooperation in making our school a safe and welcoming place for everyone!



## Parents' Evening – 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February

Parents' Evening will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. We will continue to use the online booking system on Arbor. Online bookings will go live on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 6:00pm and will close on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

## Sports

### Football

The boys football team played last week in their first round of matches in Division 1. As expected, the matches were very close. Their first match was against a strong St John the Baptist which they drew 1-1. The second match was against St Thomas More which they lost 1-0. An exceptional shot on goal by Jack was kept out by some incredible goalkeeping.

Next, the boys played another tight match against Caldecote which they drew 0-0. Lastly, the boys played against Overdale, a very strong team. SJF took the lead and seemed to be in control when unfortunately Overdale scored a very lucky goal to equalise. Overall a solid performance, playing with more intensity as the night went on.

### Cross country

🎉 HUGE Congratulations to Our Cross Country Stars! 🎉

What another incredible year it's been for our St. John Fisher cross country runners! We're bursting with pride after their fantastic performances, most recently at Ratcliffe College. We had a brilliant turnout with a large squad of runners, and our athletes brought home a fantastic haul of medals!

A massive well done to our amazing team on the day: Ava, Quinn, Dammy, Clara, Niamh, Florence, William, Theo, Eoin, Eireanna, and Jack. And a special shout-out to Saoirse for her fantastic effort in the Year ½ fun race!

A truly phenomenal achievement goes to Ava, who convincingly won her Year 3 girls' race, securing yet another gold medal – her SIXTH of the academic year so far! What an incredible accomplishment, Ava! We're so proud of you!





And let's not forget our incredible Year 5 boys team who achieved a fantastic second place in the team event at Mallory Park last Autumn! We're thrilled to have received their well-deserved medals, which will be officially presented at next Friday's Celebration Assembly. Huge congratulations to Eoin, William, Demmy, and Harith!

The cross country action continues with a county league qualifier at Victoria Park on the 6th of February, so keep your eyes peeled for more updates!

Training continues every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. – hail, rain, or shine! We look forward to seeing our dedicated runners there. Let's keep cheering on our incredible athletes!

## Winter uniform

A reminder that the children should be wearing their winter uniform now or at the latest after half term. This includes a blue shirt and tie. Also, remember to bring a warm coat or jacket every day in the winter. The weather can be changeable as we all know. The children have been taking great pride in their appearance. We expect the very best from our children with regards to school uniform and appearance, and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour. Thank you for your support.

## Reading Books

A request for all families to have a look at home for any SJF reading books and return these to school. Thank you to those families that have returned outstanding books.

Thank you to some of our parents who donated new or nearly new books to our new school library and classrooms. They have been very well received.

## Careers week 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> March

From the moment each pupil enters SJF we encourage a sense of aspiration and calling. We know that each child is called to take up a special place in the world and it is our job to ensure that every child has high personal aspirations. We achieve this through giving our children the opportunity to find out about a range of careers from different volunteers from the World of Work throughout their time at SJF. Each year group has been allocated a different sector for this week, we would like to invite a different volunteer into school to talk to the children about their job.

Reception	Emergency services	Police, fire, ambulance
Year 1	Animals	Farmer, vet, veterinary nurse, Animal trainer or groomer
Year 2	Food and leisure	Chef, sports coach/personal trainer. Hairdresser/beauty therapist.
Year 3	Healthcare	Nurse, doctor, lab technician, physiotherapist, dentist
Year 4	Legal and financial services	Banker/accountant, solicitor/barrister



Year 5	Construction and manufacturing	Builder, mechanic, plumber, electrician, engineer
Year 6	Creative	Graphic designer, architect, publisher/journalist

If you would be willing to volunteer to come into school and speak to the children about your career or know of a willing volunteer, then please let your child's class teacher know or email the school office ([office@stjohnfisher-wigston.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjohnfisher-wigston.leics.sch.uk)) about your availability during this week. Thank you for your support.

## Change in Menu

### THURSDAY 30th JANUARY - Indian Day

Red Option

Chicken curry with naan bread and rice, peas or salad

Green Option

Chickpea curry with naan bread with rice, peas or salad

Dessert

Carrot Cake

or Coconut Biscuit

Fruit and Yoghurt Available

### FRIDAY 31st JANUARY - British Day

Red Option

Battered Fish with chips, beans, peas or salad

Green Option

Veggie Fingers with chips beans, peas or salad

Dessert

Vanilla Sponge with sprinkles

or Shortbread biscuit

Fruit and Yoghurt Available

### Payments for Meals & Wraparound Care

Please can you kindly check your account balance and top-up any low balance. If your child is regularly having school meals and/or is in breakfast club or afterschool club, it may be beneficial to either top-up to cover up to the end of half-term. Wraparound care can be booked in advance as far as the end of the term. We are unable to take bookings for wraparound care if there is insufficient funds on the account.

### Non-school uniform day

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup>, the school held a non-school uniform day in the aid of Catholic Hardship Fund and Menphys. Thank you so much to all who donated. The school has raised £142.00.



## **Non-school uniform day (St Matthew's only)**

Last term, St Matthew House earned the most House Points and won the House trophy. As a result, all children in St Matthew are invited to come to school in non-school uniform with a blue theme on Friday, January 31st.

Children in the other three house groups (St Mark, St Luke, and St John) should attend school in their regular school uniform on this day.

God bless

Mr Gallagher

## **Dates For the Diary**

### **January**

- 29<sup>th</sup> Year 6 St Paul's Musical
- 30<sup>th</sup> Heights & Weights (Reception and Year 6)  
Change in Menu – Indian Theme  
Girls Football
- 31<sup>st</sup> Change in Menu – British Theme  
Year 6 Class Liturgy – 9.a.m  
Non school uniform day for [St Matthew](#) children only

### **February**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Cross Country – Victoria Park
- 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening
- 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> – HALF TERM**
- 25<sup>th</sup> Drama Club Starts (KS2) - More info to follow  
Year 6 – Leicester Racecourse

### **March**

- 17<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Bikeability Starts
- 31<sup>st</sup> Group Photos

### **14<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> –END OF TERM**