

St Aidan's & St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form

Weekly Notices

Week (2) commencing 25 September 2023

Assembly

Year 12 – Tuesday 26 September - CGH, Writing Week

Year 13 – Thursday 28 September - CGH, Careers

Core Learning

You should swipe in/out for Core Learning using your ID card. This will not work properly until you have first registered your card. Please do this at either of the two screens in Main Reception by clicking on 'student' and scanning the card. Then click in on your class. Please note - it will take 10 minutes to sync with the Inventory readers so allow enough time. Students must then swipe in/out of the Inventory readers in the cafe, Study Centre or Library during Core Learning periods. We expect you to stay in the space you have swiped into for the full hour.

If you experience any problems with the system, do not worry but please let us know in the Sixth Form Office.

Living Well

Wednesday P4 - please go to timetabled classrooms unless you are in forms AD26 and AD27, in which case you should please go to Constance Green Hall.

Computer Use

All students should have signed a **Computer Network and ICT Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement**. Please could we remind you that this includes not playing games on school computers. Any student found to be using computers inappropriately will have their account suspended.

SJF Main School Reception

Please can students not enter St John Fisher via main school reception. Instead, please use the entrance into the Sixth Form Dining Room or the Collins entrance.

GCSE English and Maths re-sits in November 2023

Any students not in a GCSE English Language or Maths re-sit class in school who wish to re-sit either GCSE English Language or GCSE Maths in the November 2023 exam series in order to get a higher grade must see Mrs Humphrey, Exams Officer for the Associated Sixth Form, as soon as possible to collect a re-sit entry form and return this by 25 September 2023 with the appropriate fee. Mrs Humphrey is based in the Sixth Form Office in Bede House at St Aidan's.

NB: The school are required to submit entries for this exam series to the Exam Boards by **4 October 2023** or penalty fees apply.

Admission Tests for Oxford and Cambridge, Biomedical Admissions Test (BMAT), Test of Maths for University Admission (TMUA)

Please see Mrs Humphrey, Exams Officer, as soon as possible if you need to be entered for any of the above tests. You will need to complete an entry form in order for the school to register you online for the above tests.

- Test Registrations Open: 1 September 2023
- Modified Paper Deadline Date: 15 September 2023 – for requests for modified papers by students (e.g. enlarged print/coloured paper etc) for ALL tests.
- Test Registration & Exam Access Arrangements (e.g. extra time, rest breaks, use of a word processor etc) Deadline Date: 29 September 2023 for ALL tests

Test Dates:

18 October 2023 at 9.00 am – BMAT, TMUA, ENGAA, NSAA, TSA & TSA S1 (paper based exams)

19 October 2023 at 9.00 am – CAT, ELAT, GAT & MAT (online exams)

20 October 2023 at 9.00 am – HAT, MLAT, PAT and Philosophy Test (online exams)

Test Venue will be confirmed to students after deadline date has passed but all tests will be held at St Aidan's.

Cost of Entry:

- BMAT - £78.00 (Standard Fee)
- TMUA - £78.00 (Standard Fee)

All other tests are free to enter.

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Biology Medics Enrichment

Friday 12.30 - 1.10 in [Bi 3](#) - for all applying to Med or Vet school. This is aimed at Yr13 students hoping to study Medicine or Vet Sciences to help you prepare for interviews, UCAT and BMAT tests; and generally support you in your application.

Biological Sciences Enrichment

Biological Sciences enrichment is on Friday 12.30 - 1.10 in [Bi 1](#) - for all applying to Biological Sciences or related courses and likely to have offers of A*. This is aimed at Yr 13 students hoping to study Biology or related courses like Biochemistry or Physiology. If you are likely to be asked for an A* grade in your offer, then this will support your endeavours.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

Initiative and independence are at the heart of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. You choose and arrange the activities for the different sections of the award and you plan and undertake your expedition!

You will need to verify that each of your chosen activities meet the requirements of the Award and identify a suitable assessor with whom you will agree your targets. This person will monitor your progress and write your assessor report upon completion. You will upload other evidence as you go along e.g. a weekly activity log, photos, screen shots of your Strava, certificates etc.

There are 5 sections to the award:

- Volunteering
- Skill
- Physical Recreation
- Residential Project
- Expedition

Further information about the award can be found at www.dofe.org

If that sounds interesting, please click [here](#) for St Aidan's DofE Gold information. You need to check you are available on the dates of the training day and expeditions and factor in the costs. Once you have checked you are available on the required dates, please see Miss Blewitt in Technology on **Tuesday 26 September** at lunch time for an application form.

Closing date for completed applications is **27 October 2023**.

Maths Olympiad for Girls:

Thank you to those students who have volunteered. The exam will take place **on Wednesday 27 September** at 1pm in EN6. Please get there a few minutes early so we can start promptly at 1pm. Any questions, ask your maths teacher or see Miss Hendrick in Ma12.

"Contains Strong Language" Poetry Festival, Leeds, 21-24 September

The exciting BBC poetry festival, "Contains Strong Language," is coming to Leeds this weekend. Featuring a diverse lineup of poets and artists, there's something for everyone to enjoy. If you're passionate about climate change, don't miss Simon Armitage, the current poet laureate, who will be hosting a session dedicated to this important topic. For those who appreciate spoken word, Sunday will bring the talented rap artist Testament, who will present his lyrical work on topics like rap music and feminism. Tickets for each event are reasonably priced at £1.50, and they are spread throughout the city centre. The Warehouse, a popular music venue, is the most common location for these events. If you're considering pursuing English-related courses at university, this festival provides an excellent opportunity to explore different literary styles and language. However, even if English isn't something you'd like to pursue academically in the future, this festival is an absolute must-attend!

If this is something that sparks your interest, the link below will take you to the line-up, and where you can book tickets!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/events/edb84f>

KS5 Book Club

We're meeting in the St Aidan's library on Monday 25 September at 3.45pm for biscuits and book chat! All welcome - you don't need to be studying English! If you can't make it please contact Mrs Taylor who can put you on the Teams group for book club chat and discussion.

Debating Club

This week Debating Club will meet on Monday in Hu1 from 12.30. All welcome.

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Sports Ambassadors

The Sports Ambassador Applications will be launched in assemblies shortly.

Prior to the applications opening, if you have an interest in sport, PE teaching or leading sports activities, the PE department are always in need of extra support to run their extensive extra-curricular sports programme. If you are interested in helping coach, officiate or manage a Year 7, 8 or 9 sports club after school for practices and/ or fixtures, please express your interest to a member of staff in the PE office'.

Save the Date - Open Day, Saturday 14 October

The morning is dedicated to newcomer students and their families, giving them the opportunity to tour the school and meet students and staff. We would be grateful for the help and support of current Sixth Form students from 9 am-12.00 noon to meet and greet and be a friendly face. You don't need to know everything about school or even know your way around fully -there will be maps! Please sign up on the list in form. Thanks in advance.

A Golden Gala: 50 Years in Association, Friday 20 October, 7pm at The Royal Hall, Harrogate

This will be a wonderful evening of Memories, Music, Drama and Dance and we would love to hear from our Associated Sixth Form Alumni. If you are a former Associated Sixth Former and are interested in taking part, please email:

associatedsixthform@staidans.co.uk Tickets are now available via [Harrogate Theatre's website](#) or call 01423 502116.



REMINDERS

Vaping and Young People

Within the space of a few years, it has become shockingly common for those underage to be in the possession of these devices. Often brightly coloured, often sold at off-licences and often flavoured with sweet tastes which seem almost to be designed for young people. It is of vital importance that young people are aware of the potential health implications of this new trend. Action for Children have published a page on the matter, and it is well worth a read. Please follow the link below to find out more: <https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/behaviour/challenging-behaviour/im-worried-about-my-child-vaping/>

In the Associated Sixth Form vaping or having possession of a vape on either school site, in transition between sites or in close proximity to the schools is not allowed. One full day exclusion will be sanctioned for any student who does not follow these rules.

Airpods

We encourage and ask our Sixth Form students to act as role models to our younger pupils. Please could we ask Sixth Form students to only use Airpods in Sixth Form specific areas and not in corridors and walking around school.

Parking

Remember to please park considerately in the local area. Residents will contact the police if cars are parked without consideration and are causing an obstruction. Please scan the QR code which you can find in the Sixth Form Café, Sixth Form Office and Careers Department to provide us with details of your car registration, make and model.

Litter

Please be considerate of the local community and dispose of your litter in designated bins, **particularly on and around the Stray**, which should be treated with respect.

Thank you.