

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE

John F Kennedy Catholic School

27th February 2026



Welcome back - hope you've enjoyed a lovely half term week!

We have returned to school in the season of Lent - a solemn period of 40 days in the Church's calendar, preparing for Easter. We are reminded of the three key themes of Lent: prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. It is quite common for people to associate Lent with giving something up with the season of Lent. Perhaps giving up items such as chocolate, cakes, crisps, bread or, for those who are particularly heroic, alcohol! In last Sunday's Gospel reading we heard the account of Jesus being tempted by the devil, promising him authority over all the kingdoms of the world in return for worshipping him. Not giving in to temptation is presumably the inspiration for the kind of fasting we see during Lent. During his homily, a parish priest I know warned of using fasting for essentially selfish reasons: losing weight or as a 'detox'. He would suggest a less superficial approach to fasting: living a bit more simply, perhaps being less extravagant with our spending on ourselves, seeking contentment in the aspects of our lives that don't cost money and focusing on the quality of our relationships, with one another and with God. That relates to the first Lenten theme: prayer. Catholics are encouraged during this season to focus on their prayer life and spend a bit more time on it where necessary. As for alms-giving, we can make a special effort to give financial support to charity - or we can just give of our time for the benefit of those who need our practical or emotional support.

So what are the key messages to take into the form rooms and classrooms in school over this half term?

- We need to engage in quality prayer time in the mornings and at midday when we have a 2 minute silence, remembering that we are in a special season of the Church and in a Catholic school which is committed to its support
- We don't need to give up something for Lent. Instead, we can seek contentment in the simpler things in life and work hard to build strong relationships with our peers
- If you want to save money you would have spent on treats and give to charity, that's fine, but alternatively give of your time to those who need your support or generally to the school community - make a difference by your participation
- The overall aim of Lent is about bringing us closer to God - and that is by being better people, being kinder, being more helpful, and giving of our time for the benefit of others.

Thanks to staff

In our weekly staff meeting on a Monday, I always reflect on recent school news and thank staff for their support for various activities. This week I focused on those staff who volunteered to accompany two trips: The Taste of Italy trip and the Ski Trip. These were fantastic opportunities for our students and reports I have received from students and staff spoke of them enjoying an amazing experience. Such trips are only possible because of the willingness of staff to lead and supervise them and I am grateful for the commitment of the staff to make them happen.



OUR NEW ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

I was delighted to receive some photos from Westminster Cathedral during last week (see below). These showed four of our Sixth Form students meeting the new Archbishop of Westminster, Richard Moth, and Auxiliary Bishop Paul McAleenan. They were at the cathedral for the Rite of Election, along with Callum, our Leader of Youth Ministry. These students are all great supporters of our Youth Ministry work and it was wonderful for them to meet Archbishop Moth, who was installed as the twelfth Archbishop of Westminster on 14th February.



Mr Neves - Headteacher



SKI TRIP

Piancavallo 2026



While most people were still tucked up in bed on a cold Sunday morning, seventy-seven students and six staff members were already gathering at Gadebridge Park car park for a 02:00 meet. Despite the unsociable hour, morale was high as we made the drive to Stansted Airport. Seeing over eighty of us checked in and moving through the terminal in our matching custom ski hoodies was quite a sight; we definitely made sure everyone in the airport knew the school had arrived.

After a smooth two-hour flight, we touched down in Trieste, Italy, where the real adventure began. We loaded onto the coach for the final leg of the journey, swapping the flat coastal roads for a dramatic ascent into the mountains. The climb was a real eye-opener as our driver tackled tight, winding hairpins that seemed to lead straight into the clouds. As we snaked our way up the steep slopes, the views out of the windows became increasingly intense, with the road dropping away into deep, snow-filled valleys just inches from the wheels. While the scenery was breath taking, there were definitely a few nervous faces and gripped armrests as we swung around the sharpest bends. A collective sigh of relief could be heard when we finally levelled out and pulled up to the Stella Montis Hotel.

Our home for the week was fantastic, though we quickly learned that Italian hospitality is built almost entirely on carbohydrates. We enjoyed great food throughout the trip, but with pasta served at every single meal, we are fairly certain most of us returned home at least fifty per cent fusilli.

The first morning in the resort of Piancavallo was a bit of a reality check. Between fitting boots, carrying heavy skis, and navigating the snow for the first time, the logistics proved trickier than expected, and the group ended up an hour late for their first lesson. However, the students showed great resilience; they learned from the chaos, and by the second day, the routine was so polished that we were actually thirty minutes early.

Mr Palumbo - Deputy Headteacher



SKI TRIP

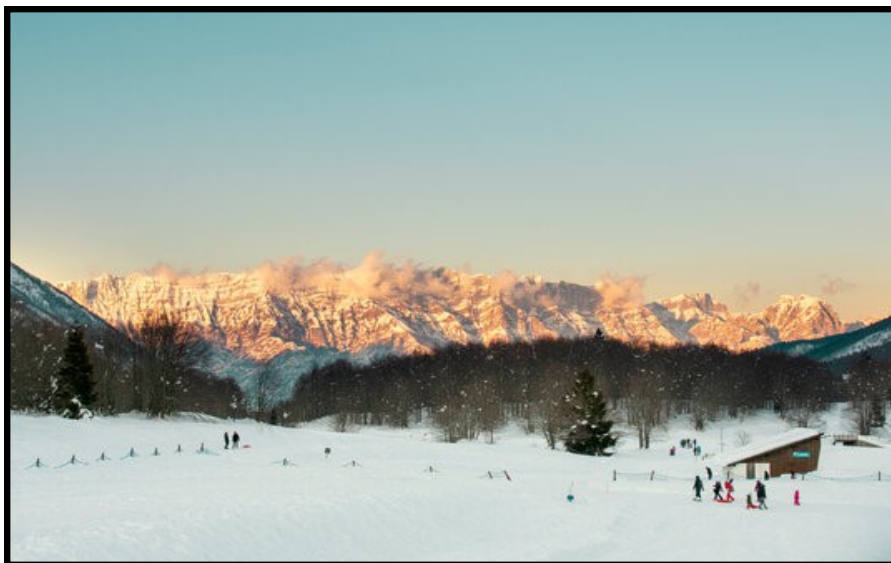
Piancavallo itself was a hidden gem, nestled in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region with wide, sunny bowls and perfectly groomed runs. It was the ideal spot for our group, providing enough challenge for the pros while offering plenty of space for the beginners to find their feet. Under the guidance of excellent instructors, the transformation was incredible to witness. Students who started the week as "Bambi on ice" were carving down the mountain with confidence by the final afternoon.

The fun continued long after the lifts closed for the day. Our evenings were packed with activity, starting with a karaoke night where Mr. Sitkowski warmed up the crowd with a legendary vocal performance. This was followed by a firework and hot chocolate evening watching a ski parade, high-speed sledging, a much-needed pizza night to break up the pasta marathon, and a disco.

We were incredibly lucky to have a full week of crisp sunshine and brilliant skiing, but more importantly, the students were an absolute delight to take away. Their progress and behaviour were a credit to the school. Whilst all students were amazing, the staff picked out a few individuals for extra recognition. Daniel Munteanu and Zuzanna Janek received the Top Boy and Top Girl awards for skiing brilliantly all week and living out our school values of Inspire, Achieve, and Serve. Meanwhile, the Most Improved Skier awards went to Isabella Bignell and Frank Soja for their incredible dedication on the slopes.

A final, massive thank you goes to the staff who gave up their half-term to make this trip such a success: Miss Quarman, Miss Rodiere, Mr. Shults, Mr. Sitkowski, and Mrs. Sharp.

For more pictures of our amazing week follow the [jfkpedept](#) Instagram page.



Mr Palumbo - Deputy Headteacher



SIXTH FORM VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU

Lessons from Auschwitz Project – Holocaust Educational Trust



We are incredibly proud to share that two of our Sixth Form students Andrew Hope and Isabella Feijao recently represented John F Kennedy Catholic School on the Lessons from Auschwitz Project, led by the Holocaust Educational Trust.

This profoundly moving educational programme gives students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust and to reflect on its historical and moral significance. As part of the programme, Andrew and Isabella first attended a comprehensive orientation seminar, where they explored the historical context of the Holocaust, heard survivor testimony, and prepared thoughtfully for the visit.

The Visit

The visit to Auschwitz - Birkenau was an overwhelming and deeply thought provoking experience. Walking through the site where over a million innocent people lost their lives brought history into sharp and sobering focus. The scale of the atrocity, the personal stories of those who suffered, and the physical surroundings left a lasting impression on Andrew and Isabella.

Throughout the visit, Andrew and Isabella conducted themselves with maturity, compassion, and respect. They were superb ambassadors for our school, demonstrating empathy and integrity while engaging meaningfully with the educational sessions led by expert historians.

Mr Joyce - Director of Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU

Reflection and Continuing the Legacy

Education does not end with the visit. This Sunday, Andrew and Isabella will attend a reflective seminar, where they will have the opportunity to process their experience, discuss their learning with peers from other schools, and consider how they can take forward the responsibility of remembrance.

As part of the Lessons from Auschwitz programme, Andrew and Isabella will also be sharing their experiences with the wider school community. Through assemblies and student-led initiatives, they will help ensure that the stories of those who suffered are not forgotten. By educating others, they are playing a vital role in challenging prejudice, combating antisemitism, and promoting tolerance and human dignity.

A Message of Remembrance

This visit was not simply a history trip, it was a powerful reminder of the consequences of hatred, discrimination, and indifference. We commend Andrew and Isabella for their courage in engaging with such difficult history and for their commitment to ensuring that the lessons of the Holocaust continue to live on within our community.

We look forward to hearing more from them as they lead our school in remembrance and reflection.



Mr Joyce - Director of Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM



We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Adam Kandiah who recently represented the school in the Hertfordshire Catenian Public Speaking Competition under the Chiltern District.

This is a renowned and highly respected competition, attracting prestigious schools from across the county and operating under very strict rules and carefully prescribed topics. The standard of competition is exceptionally high, making success in this arena a significant accomplishment.

Competing against a very strong field of talented speakers, Adam delivered an outstanding performance and was awarded 3rd place - an impressive achievement in such a competitive environment.

What makes this accomplishment even more remarkable is that Adam balanced his preparation and participation alongside his demanding academic studies, as well as taking on a superb lead role in the school's recent production of Shrek. His dedication, resilience, and commitment to excellence truly reflect the very best of our Sixth Form students.

We are hugely proud of Adam's success and the maturity, confidence, and talent he demonstrated throughout the competition. He is a credit to himself and to the entire school community.

Mr Joyce - Director of Sixth Form



KS4 OPTIONS EVENING - TUESDAY 3RD MARCH



GCSE Pathways

Year 9 students will shortly begin their KS4 Options journey and were introduced to the process during an assembly on Friday morning. During the assembly, pupils were guided through the options available to them, how choices may affect future pathways, and where to find support if they are unsure.

Over the coming weeks, students will be supported by subject teachers, tutors and the Achievement Team, who will help them reflect on their strengths, interests and ambitions. Opportunities will be provided for questions, discussions and guidance to ensure pupils feel informed and confident before making any decisions.

KS4 Options Evening on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 will be an important opportunity for students and parents/carers to speak directly with staff, explore subjects in more detail and ask any questions ahead of the formal options process.

We look forward to seeing as many parents/carers and students as possible at the evening and working together to support pupils in making the right choices for their future.

Mr Sitkowski - Year 9 Achievement Leader



SNOWDROP PROJECT

Rothamsted Visit



On Tuesday 10th February, 14 students were invited to the genomics facility at Rothamsted Research, Harpenden to sequence the snowdrop DNA which they had previously extracted at school. Dr Stephen Pearce, our STEM partner, guided us through a complex protocol which enabled us to work out the sequence of bases on the DNA of the different snowdrop species. We also toured some of the greenhouses and climate-controlled rooms where the Rothamsted scientists grow the plants they are studying. Students thoroughly enjoyed the visit and were impressed by the specialist facilities. Our sequencing data has now been sent to EMBL-EBI, who will help us to process the data to allow us to investigate the genetic links between the different species.

Students' thoughts on the day:

'Getting to work in a real lab at Rothamsted research centre was an amazing experience. It was really interesting to see / use all the specialist equipment and it provided a great insight into what working in a lab is like.'

"Rothamsted Research was a wonderful experience: the lab and the field work was incredible. The science lab was immaculate and made me want to visit again, 5 stars!"

'A fascinating day - we are really looking forward to seeing the results.'

Mrs Davison and Miss Digby - Science



FOOD SCIENCE

Pancakes!

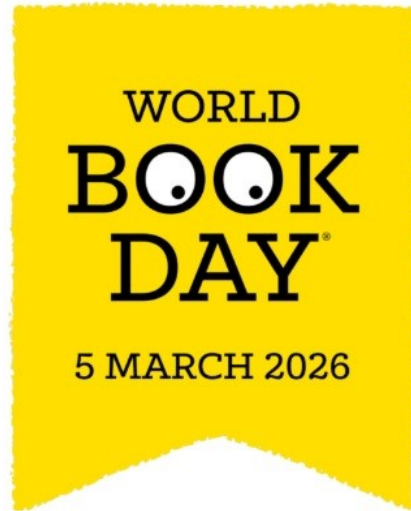
This week the Year 7's had fun flipping pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.



Mrs Horsted - Food Science



LIBRARY



We are looking forward to World Book Day next week with some great activities planned in the Library (look out for the pictures in a future newsletter), but in the meantime I've launched the Easter reading challenge which is simple but rewarding - read for Easter eggs! We've had a good uptake already with students across Year 7 - 9 taking part, but there's still plenty of time to join in .

A few weeks ago the Library Instagram page was launched and I'm uploading pictures of Library activities, new books (including the best seller Teen Skin Care by Caroline Hirons and Calling the Shots by David Dein) as well as fantastic art work which is gracing the Library. At the moment a poster showing everything that Mr Townsend reads over a 24 hour period has pride of place on a display table (thanks, Slyvie Couldridge!) and there are more posters to come showing what other staff read over 24 hours. These are great ways to show students that reading comes in all shapes and sizes, including reading eBooks and listening to audiobooks.

World Book Day vouchers are on offer at the Library so if your child wants to grab a couple of free books before 15th March the Library is the place to visit!



Follow us on
Instagram
@libraryjfk



Mrs Powell - Librarian



PE

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AND PRACTICES T2: 2025-26



Passion and Progress for all Inspire, Achieve & Severe Be kind, work hard, no excesses

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Duty		FH	MR*		JJY
Cover	JJY	RP	TJ	MR	MR
LUNCH 1.35pm – 2.20pm					
FH	PE Support Sessions DANCE ST		Netball MasterClass COURTS		
LT			Dacorun Dance DANCE STUDIO	GCSE Dance Intervention DANCE ST	GCSE Dance Intervention DANCE ST
TJ	Yr 7 Boys Football FIELD	Yr 7&8 Girls Basketball GYM		Yr 10 & Yr 11 Boys Football FIELD	
MR		KS3 Rec Badminton Max 20 DANCE ST	Netball MasterClass COURTS		PE Detentions
TW/RP	Y7&8 Boys Basketball GYM			Y9&10 GBB GYM (after Feb HT)	
JJY		Boys Rugby FIELD	Yr 9 & 10 Boys Basketball GYM	Yr 9 Boys Football FIELD	
SC	Yr 8 Boys Football FIELD				All Yrs Girls Football FIELD
JM		Gaelic Footba FIELD (after Feb HT)			
AFTER SCHOOL 3.30pm - 4.30pm					
	Dacorun Dance 3:30 - 4:30 Dance Studio LT				

Miss Rooney - PE Department



TRIPS 2026 – 2027

**"A Gentle
Reminder"**

NEW TRIPS COMING.....

UCAS Information Day, 24th March 2026 – Year 12 students

Sports Tour 2027 – Current Year 7 and 8 students

UPCOMING DAY TRIPS AND EVENTS

TRIPS

Monthly Instalments are due on the 1st of each month for the following:

Valencia, 6th - 9th March 2026

A Level Biology F/T, 1st - 3rd June 2026

Croft Farm, 22nd - 24th June 2026

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella, 30th June - 7th July 2026

GCSE Geography F/T, 6th - 8th July 2026

Duke of Edinburgh 2026, Bronze and Silver





SAFEGUARDING IN FOCUS



At John F Kennedy Catholic School, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do, and we work hard to ensure that every child feels safe, supported and listened to within our school community.

Our safeguarding team plays a vital role in this work. The team works closely with students, families, staff and external agencies to promote a culture where safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Students and families can reach out to the safeguarding team for support. We recognise that parents and carers are key partners in safeguarding. We encourage families to familiarise themselves with our safeguarding approach, policies and procedures, which are available on the school website:

Safeguarding information and policies:

<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=82>

In addition, the school provides a range of **supportive links and resources** for students and families, covering areas such as mental health, online safety, wellbeing and external support services:

Support for students and families:

<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+for+students+and+families&pid=100>

If you ever have a safeguarding concern, no matter how small it may seem, we urge you to share it. Concerns can be raised confidentially by emailing:

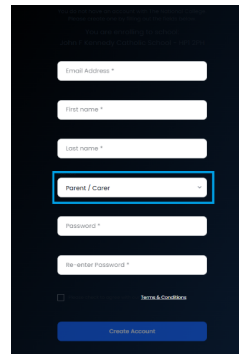
staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk

Letting us know about concerns, however small they may seem, allows us to offer the right support when it is needed. Working closely with families helps us maintain a safe, inclusive and caring school community where every child can feel secure and valued.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



SAFEGUARDING IN FOCUS



We're delighted to let you know that John F Kennedy Catholic School has become a member of The National College – a multi-award-winning online training provider for staff and parents.

What does this mean for you?

As part of our membership, The National College provides dedicated training and resources for parents and carers – particularly, around online safety and keeping children safe online.

Online safety advice on any topic

Of course, staff will continue to teach children about the risks online. But with the internet so readily accessible, the most effective approach to online safety needs everyone involved, including parents and carers.

That's why you've now got access to **hundreds of courses, explainer videos and online safety guides** to support your awareness of the online world. Topics range from understanding apps like TikTok and Instagram to recognising the signs of online harm and what you can do to help.

Signing up is easy

Signing up to the platform is simple. Just follow <https://v2.nationalcollege.com/enrol/john-f-kennedy-catholic-school> and complete your details. You will be asked to enrol and enter some key details. As you enter your details it is important that you sign up as a parent/carer. Once you're set up, you'll get instant access to all training and resources.

Download the app for free

Another fantastic benefit of The National College is its National Online Safety app, which you can download for free. It gives you access to all their parent and carer resources on the go, whenever you want.

You can download the National Online Safety app using the links below:

- [App store](#)
- [Google Play](#)

They're always here to help

The National College has a brilliant support team if you have any questions. Their [help centre](#) provides a comprehensive bank of answers to most FAQs, but if you still can't find the answer you're looking for, you can always get in [contact](#) with them.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



CYCLING SAFETY



Cycling to school is a great way for pupils to stay active and independent, but it's important that it's done safely.

We strongly encourage all pupils who cycle to wear a properly fitted helmet every day. Helmets can greatly reduce the risk of serious head injury in the event of a fall or collision.

It is important that:

- **The helmet fits snugly and sits level on the head**
- **Straps are fastened correctly every time**
- **The helmet is in good condition and has not been damaged in a previous fall**

Bicycles are designed for one rider only. Carrying passengers on handlebars, luggage racks, or the back of a bike is unsafe and affects balance and control. Pupils should be reminded not to carry friends and to make sensible decisions even if others encourage them to do so.

The roads close to school can become particularly busy at the beginning and end of the school day, with cars, buses, and pedestrians all sharing limited space. Pupils should ride sensibly, stay alert, follow road signs and signals, and clearly signal their intentions when turning. Pupils should not weave in and out of traffic or between vehicles, as this is dangerous, unpredictable, and greatly increases the risk of an accident. Distractions such as mobile phones or headphones should be avoided.

We ask that parents and carers to reinforce these messages at home and check that bikes are roadworthy, with working brakes, lights, and reflectors, especially during darker mornings and afternoons.

Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils travel to and from school safely.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



DIGITAL SAFETY



In today's digital world, apps are part of everyday life for secondary-age children. They offer creativity, entertainment, and social connection. However, alongside the positives come risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

Understanding the risks

Many apps collect large amounts of personal data, from location details to contacts, often without children realising the implications. Others expose young people to inappropriate or harmful content, whether through unfiltered videos, anonymous chats, or user-generated posts. Bullying and harassment can also take place within these platforms, sometimes hidden from parents and carers' view.

Another concern is the presence of online predators who may disguise themselves as peers in order to exploit children. On top of this, the design of many apps can encourage overuse through constant notifications and endless scrolling which can interfere with sleep, wellbeing, and school performance.

Financial risks also exist, with in-app purchases or "loot box" style features that can tempt children into spending money without fully understanding the consequences. Some apps may even appear harmless but are designed to hide conversations or bypass parental oversight, adding another layer of complexity for families.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



DIGITAL SAFETY

What parents and carers should look out for

When your child asks to download a new app, it's worth considering a few key questions. What age is the app designed for?

- Does the rating match your child's stage of maturity?
- How much personal data does it request?
- Are the privacy settings easy to control?
- Does the platform have strong moderation and reporting tools?
- What is the community culture like?

You may also want to check how easy it is to make in-app purchases and whether parental controls are built in. Exploring these factors together with your child not only helps you assess the risks but also builds digital literacy, encouraging them to think critically about the online spaces they inhabit.

A trusted resource

To make this easier, **Internet Matters** has put together a clear, parent-friendly guide to the apps and platforms most commonly used by children today. It highlights what each app does, its key features, and the potential risks to be aware of.

You can find the full guide here: [Internet Matters – Apps & Platforms \(11–16\)](#).

This resource is regularly updated, so it's a reliable way to stay informed as new platforms emerge and existing ones evolve.

The NSPCC website also contains helpful advice regarding keeping children safe online - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Practical steps you can take

The most effective safeguard is open communication. Ask your child what apps they use and why, and take time to explore those apps together. Set clear boundaries around screen time and "offline hours" such as at mealtimes or after bedtime. Encourage your child to block or report users who behave inappropriately, and make sure location sharing is switched off unless absolutely necessary.

Apps can be positive spaces where young people learn, create, and connect. But without awareness and guidance, they can also present real risks. By staying informed and keeping conversations open, parents and carers can empower children to use technology safely and responsibly.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 3rd March, Into KS4 Options Evening
Tuesday 3rd March, Year 8 Work Shadow Day
Friday 6th March, Bronze DofE Orienteering Walk
Friday 6th March, Year 10 and 11 Spanish Residential Trip
Thursday 12th March, Year 7 Consultation Evening, Online from 4.00pm
Monday 23rd March, Spring Concert, 7.00pm, St Marks Church
Friday 20th March, JFK Rock Festival, 7.00pm

WE ARE HIRING!

[Click here for the latest vacancy information](#)



FUTURE DATES

Tuesday 24th March, Year 12 UCAS Trip
Wednesday 25th March, Year 8 Consultation Evening, Online from 4.00pm
Friday 27th March, End of Term @ 12.35pm
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April, Easter Holiday
Monday 4th May, Bank Holiday, School Closed
Wednesday 6th May, Year 12 Consultation Evening, In Person
Tuesday 19th May, New Year 7 Parent Information Evening, 6.30pm



ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS 2025-2026

At John F Kennedy Catholic school, we believe that student performance, behaviour and attendance are fundamentally linked. Our ethos is to maximise the full potential of each student and in order to achieve this, high attendance rates are essential.

Our expectation is that individual student attendance should not be below 95%.

Section 7 of The Education Act states that 'parents are responsible for making sure that their children, of compulsory school age, receive a suitable full time education'.

Section 444 of The Education Act clearly states that 'if a child is absent without authorisation, then the parent is guilty of an offence'. This is a strict liability offence - i.e. all that needs to be shown is a lack of regular attendance. Sanctions can include a fine of up to £1000.

Holidays during Term time

Authorisation of absence for Holidays during term time is at the discretion of the Headteacher and is granted only in exceptional circumstances.

Fines are enforceable for a child being absent from school without permission. This is currently £80 per child for each parent, rising to £160 if paid after 21 days.

Lateness

As stated in the school Attendance Policy:

- Students should attend school "full time" and they should remain in school attending all timetabled lessons. This means that students should arrive in time for registration. In practice school buses may be late and in this case students should sign in at Reception so they can receive their mark.
- Avoidable lateness beyond 9.10 am constitutes unauthorised absence and can legally be the basis of an offence by the parent/carer
- Those students who arrive very late (after 9.10 am) without a good excuse will not be credited with an attendance. Their absence will therefore be unauthorised and a different mark (U) will be used to distinguish them from those who are "unpunctual". Steps will be taken by the school with the support of parents/carers to correct those students who are persistently unpunctual



BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Make a Difference Where It Matters Most —

Become a Foundation Governor!

Are you passionate about helping children thrive? Do you want to use your skills, values, and experience to strengthen your local community? We are looking for inspiring, committed people to join our Local Academy Councils as **Foundation Governors** — and you could be exactly who we need.

The Local Academy Council (LAC) is responsible for supporting the mission and strategic direction of the Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT) at a local level. Rooted in the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, the LAC serves as a key link between the individual academy, its parish community, and the wider Trust. The primary responsibilities of the LAC include:

- **Faithful Stewardship and Ethos:** Uphold and promote the Catholic identity, values, and mission of the academy, ensuring Gospel principles guide all aspects of school life.
- **Advocacy and Governorship:** Act as advocates of the Trust's vision and strategy while serving as Governors for the local academy within the Trust, parish and wider community to build partnerships.
- **Impact and Accountability:** Provide local support and challenge to school leaders by monitoring standards, inclusion, safeguarding, and ensuring effective implementation of Trust policies.

Why this role matters:

Foundation Governors (practising Catholics) play a powerful role in shaping the future of our school. They help protect and promote our values, support our leadership team, and ensure every child has access to an excellent education. Your voice and your perspective can directly influence the school's direction, priorities, and success. There are limited spaces available for parents in their child's school.

No previous governance experience? No problem.

We welcome people from all backgrounds — what matters most is your enthusiasm, willingness to learn, and commitment to our school's ethos. Full training, guidance, and mentoring are provided.

See next page



BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

We're especially keen to hear from people who:

- Care deeply about the wellbeing and development of young people
- Share and support the school's foundation and values
- Can think strategically and ask thoughtful questions
- Bring experience from any profession or community role
- Want to make a meaningful, lasting contribution

What you'll gain:

- A rewarding leadership role with real impact
- New skills in strategy, education, finance, and governance
- Opportunities to work with dedicated school leaders
- A chance to give back and shape the future of children in your community

Time commitment:

Around 6–8 meetings per year, plus some school visits and training.



GENERAL NOTICES

Road Safety

Parents/Carers are reminded about the importance of road safety and we highlight a number of points you may wish to discuss with your child:

- The importance of crossing the road at a safe place. Using either a zebra or pelican crossing where possible
- Avoid crossing behind parked cars
- Never run out into the road
- Be aware of your surroundings – take out earphones and stop talking with friends or on the phone when crossing the road
- Have reflective items on jackets or bag.
- If cycling, follow the same instruction and make sure you have lights on your bike and wear a helmet at all times.



Disabled Parking Zones

Please can we ask that the disabled parking bays located along Hollybush Lane be kept clear . They are marked on the path and are needed to be accessed by local residents.



JFK enjoys good relationships with our neighbours and local community. Please be mindful of driveways and access in Hollybush Lane and neighbouring roads if dropping off/picking up your child from school. **Please also try and avoid leaving your car engines running outside of school.**



GENERAL NOTICES

Appointments During School

Please try to avoid making medical appointments during the school day. If this is not possible, please alert the Year Team via email with confirmation of the appointment letter/ email/screenshot at least 24 hours in advance.

If your child does need to leave for a pre-arranged medical appointment please ensure that they are aware of the time and date of the appointment and are instructed to be ready in reception to be collected. There have been a number of occasions recently whereby the office staff have had to search for a student in order for them to be picked up.

Illness During the School Day

We have seen an increase in students calling parents prior to seeking medical attention at school. Any student feeling unwell during the school day should report to Student Services where they will be seen by a medically trained member of staff. Please do impress upon your children the importance of the school contacting home if it is required during the school day. It can cause parents unnecessary worry which we would like to avoid.

ABSENCE

If your son/daughter is going to be absent due to illness please telephone the school absence line by 9.00am on each day of absence.

Year 7 01442 229105 (year7@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 8 01442 229124 (year8@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 9 01442 229131 (year9@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 10 01442 229132 (year10@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 11 01442 229136 (year11@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Sixth Form 01442 229137 (6thform@jfk.herts.sch.uk)

Students should bring a letter explaining their absence on their return to school.



Public Health
England

Guidance from Public Health England

Diarrhoea and vomiting: exclusion period: whilst symptomatic
and 48hours after the last symptoms



[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

NHS advice about when to keep your child off school



EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A TEACHER?

School Based Teacher Training with the Dacorum Schools Alliance



We will be offering a School Direct Teacher Training programme in the following subjects for September 2026

Applications accepted from October 7th

Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Drama, Design and Technology, English, Geography, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Studies

We also accept applications for Primary teaching

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR TEACHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES email
David Redwood - dredwood@tring.school

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE - www.tring.herts.sch.uk/teacher-training



FLU VACCINATIONS



Vaccination UK

Respiratory and flu-like cases are rapidly on the rise. We urge you to ensure your child receives the flu vaccination. You have a choice between the quick and painless nasal spray or the Injection which is porcine & gelatine free. This not only protects your children against being seriously ill but also protects vulnerable members of your family and community.

We have several community catch-up clinics available. Please use the link below to book an appointment.

[Vaccination UK Immunisation](#)

If you previously declined consent for your child when we visited the school, you **can change** your consent. Please call our office on 01462 427008, and we will book a clinic appointment for you.

Thank you for your support.

Hertfordshire Immunisation Team



The Hospice of St Francis presents:

Your Guide to Family Health Q&A with Dr Nighat Arif



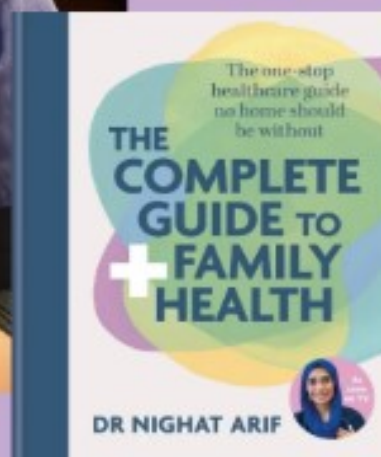
An introduction to the new one-stop healthcare book that no home should be without, from the nation's favourite GP, Dr Nighat Arif. If you have ever felt confused or conflicted by online health information - this is the recipe book for you and your whole family.

Ticket

£12

Ticket + copy of the book

£25



Scan QR
Code for
tickets



Saturday 21st March 2026

10:30 am to 12:00 pm

The Spring Room at The Hospice of St Francis

All profits support our free hospice care



The Hospice
of st francis