



JOHN F KENNEDY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE

Dear Parent/Carer

The normal newsletter format will return next week. In the meantime here is some information from this past week in school:



Community

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Matthew 18:20

Jesus was instructing his disciples in last Sunday's Gospel reading, emphasising that fruitful prayer and worship does not require a huge congregation - two or three is enough. We gather at school in different groupings: from 360 in assembly to form groups each morning from whole staff meetings to the senior leadership team gathered round a table. In each case our 'gathering' and making the sign of the cross signifies our intention: to conduct our business, inspired by the teachings of Jesus and focused on the building up of our Catholic community. And that is our theme of the week: community - that notion of a group of people with a sense of belonging, with every member feeling valued and cared for - all inspired by Christ's teachings.

But what happens when things go wrong in that community? Jesus provides advice in a measured approach as follows:

If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

Matthew 18:15-17

In assemblies this week I concluded my introduction to the school year by reflecting on our school community. Firstly, I considered what defines it: shared values, shared goals, respect for every individual, leaving no one out, celebrating success. Secondly, I turned to the need for rules for the smooth running of the community and also the need for consequences if those rules are broken. In this regard, we have a culture of patience and forgiveness, but view sanctions as part of the learning process and a way of instilling confidence in the rest of the community. Each adult in the community acts 'in loco parentis', and has the right and responsibility to manage student behaviour in keeping with our ethos. If necessary, they will turn to other members of staff for support.

My message in assembly about the serious consequences of major misbehaviour is always followed by an apology for mentioning such things to the vast majority of students who never put a foot wrong and always do the right thing to build up our community. But I hope they feel reassured by the holding of a firm line in this respect.

As we enter a new school year I am sure we will continue to successfully build our community. We clearly get things right most of the time, because it's the sense of community that students, past and present, refer to when thinking about our school and it is something that the Ofsted inspectors experienced when they were with us in the spring. Last Saturday night was, again, another proud occasion for me - attending the Year 13 Prom. It was wonderful chatting to the students, being reminded of what they are doing next, whether university, the pursuit of an apprenticeship or a gap year with employment before concrete next steps. They were all so happy and enjoying themselves and excited about their next steps. And I felt so welcome in their company.

This week I offered a warm welcome to students new to JFK, especially a number of Year 12 students who have just joined our school.

Our assemblies ended in prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of community.

Thank you for placing us among neighbours, friends, and fellow human beings.

Open our eyes to see the needs of the people around us.

Give us the courage to listen before we speak, and the grace to bridge our divisions.

Bless our school, its staff, students and families with wisdom and safety.

Make it a place of welcome, joy and hope.

Help us to support one another and build something stronger together than we ever could alone.

In your peace, we pray.

Amen.

Information Evenings

Thank you to parents/carers who attended this week's Information Evenings - for Years 11 - 13. Remember, next week there are evenings for Years 8 - 10, all starting at 6 pm in the school hall:

Monday: Year 8

Tuesday: Year 9

Wednesday: Year 10

Your presence at the events is greatly appreciated. Lots of students also attend these evenings.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



JFK SPORTS CLUBS: Term 1



TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	After School
Duty/Conc	Netball/Football			Recreational Sport	Rugby/GFB	
1st Half term: LUNCH 1.35pm – 2.20pm						3:30 - 4:40pm
TJ	Y11 Football Recreational & Performance	Y8 Football Recreational & Performance	Y7&8 Bball Recreational & Performance	Y7 Football Recreational & Performance		Y7 FB Y8 FB Y11 FB
JJY	Y10 & Sr Football Recreational & Performance		DUTY		Y7&8 Rugby Recreational & Performance	10 FB Y7&8 Rugby
SC*		Y9 Football Recreational & Performance			Girls Football Recreational & Performance	Y9 FB U13 GFB U15GFB
LT		Y8 Netball Recreational & Performance				Y8 NB
FH	Y11 Netball Recreational & Performance	DUTY				Y11 NB
MR	Y9 Netball Recreational & Performance	Y7 Netball Recreational & Performance			Detensions & Intervention	Y7 NB Y9 NB
RP	Y10 Netball Recreational & Performance			Girls Football Recreational & Performance <i>When SC on maternity</i>		Y10 NB
Due to the Gym & Dance show, after October half term Netball will be paused until after Christmas.						
LT	Y10 Dance Performance: D/Studio	Y7 Gymnastics Performance: Gym			Y8 Dance Performance: D/Studio	Monday: Tap Performance
FH	Y9 Gynnastics Performance: Gym	DUTY	Y7 Dance Performance: D/Studio			
MR		Y9 Dance Performance: D/Studio		Y8 Gymnastics Performance: Gym	Detensions & Intervention	TBC: Ballet Performance
RP			Y10/11Elite Gymnastics Performance: Gym	Commercial Performance: Studio	Jazz Performance: Studio Irish Performance: /Studio	

GB Athlete visit - Wednesday 9th September 2026

Former Great Britain international sprinter Lesley Owusu visited the school to officially launch our Talented in PE programme, inspiring pupils through her incredible sporting journey.

Lesley shared how her passion for athletics began with a simple playground race at the age of seven and grew into an international career. She represented England and Great Britain, competed at the highest level and became a European record holder over 600 yards.

During her visit, Lesley encouraged the children to recognise their own talents, work hard and never be afraid of challenges. She spoke about the importance of determination, resilience, discipline and believing in yourself.

The children left the session feeling inspired and motivated, with a greater understanding that success is not just about natural talent, but about commitment, confidence and making the most of every opportunity.



Off-site travel for fixtures

If you **do not give permission** for your son/daughter to travel off-site for fixtures, please inform us via [Google Form](#) by Friday 3rd October

If you do give permission, you do not need to complete the form.

Netball Squad:

[CLICK HERE](#) if you wish to buy a Red Gilbert dress

