

### Dear Parents & Carers

This week I would like to focus on the present. So much of the recent communication has been around plans for the future. Further advice from the government regarding details for September is planned for next week, I will detail plans for the autumn term in subsequent Parent Bulletins. It is easy to forget we are halfway through the final term of this academic year with lots to celebrate. I would like to take the opportunity to share our plans to praise the work of our students this year and their efforts during lockdown. The vast majority of students in school have showed exceptional levels of commitment to learning and have been a credit. Staff are determined to celebrate students' efforts before the summer holidays begin. Therefore, I am pleased to announce two events that will be running in the final week of term. Our KS3 Awards Ceremony will continue, but in a distanced way. Students who had shown outstanding levels of academic progress before lockdown will be rewarded in the traditional way. We are also introducing a Celebration Assembly on the last day of term 17 July at 2pm. The assembly will be shared with students and families to showcase the tremendous efforts our students have shown working in lockdown. It will include a 'LORIC Lockdown' competition where students will share their best work. There will also be messages from the Progress Leaders and Form Tutors. Year 11 students will also be part of these plans. Obviously, not only did Year 11 miss their GCSE exams for which they had worked so hard, they also missed their reward, the Prom. I know many students have been disappointed that we have been unable to hold this annual event. Although the end of year assembly will not substitute the Prom experience, it will allow all students to come together. Our aim is for students to be able to finish for the summer break on a high. Further details will follow, but please encourage your children to engage so that they can come together as a community, even if only remotely, before the summer holidays.

*Mr T Stonall*  
Head of School



## NOTICES

### Virtual Sports Week

We have some exciting events in the works! Keep your eyes peeled for information regarding the SJT Virtual Sports Week, taking place across the week of the 6 July. We are planning an Inter-House Competition, where students will be asked to complete six challenges. The whole school will also be able to contribute to a track day on the Friday, where we will be asking students to submit how far they have walked, ran, or cycled throughout the day. More information to follow soon. Results generated from these activities will be converted into points and added to those already accumulated throughout the year, allowing us to announce our 2019/20 House Champions!



### SJT 'Looking After Me'

'SJT - Looking after me' is a new wellbeing curriculum designed to offer support and strategies for students to consider and use. Each week will have a different focus. Week 2 is themed around The importance of routine. Students will have access to these resources via Class Charts but you can also [click here](#) to view.



### Wellbeing Support

Change can be difficult for children to adapt to, whether relating to returning to school during these times or in September. The organisation Young Minds has some fantastic resources to help support your child through these situations. [Here](#) are some tips on how you can help your child as they transition back to school life after lockdown. Please also see this useful resource ([here](#)), which provides helpful information on how to support your child through change. Why not ask your child to complete the following activity found [here](#), an opportunity for them to open up about their feelings. Please remember that as a school we are also there to help, please make contact if we can assist.



### SJT's Got Talent

Students recently received a lovely message from David Walliams from Britain's Got Talent – now it is their turn to show us what they can do by taking part in our Music and Drama House Competition – SJT's Got Talent! Visit our [website](#) for full details, entries to be sent in by 10 July at 3:30pm please – good luck!



### Year 11 Transition to SJT Sixth Form

If your child is in Year 11, please remind them to join us for our Virtual Sixth Form Induction Day on Tuesday 7 July to find out more about their courses and to meet their tutors. They will also get to ask our current students questions about life at Sir John Talbot's Sixth Form.

We are also running a specialised on-site Training Day on Friday 10 July for students transitioning to Sixth Form. The day will be delivered by 'Off The Bench Training' – a training company committed to unlocking potential in young people. They have an expert team of performance psychologists and Paralympians to engage students both theoretically and practically, whilst exploring key attributes for success in education and wider life.



### Competitions & Challenges

**Sport challenge:** Richard Whitehead MBE Double Gold Paralympic medallist and 4 times World Champion, is challenging students from across the Marches Academy Trust to complete as many star jumps as they can in 1 minute. To win a medal upon return to school, post a video of your attempt in the comments of the post on our Facebook page.

**Biology Competition:** The Nancy Rothwell Award celebrates specimen drawing in schools and highlights the benefits of combining Art and Science. The competition challenges entrants to draw, paint, sketch or digitally create artwork capturing plant and animal anatomy. Open to students aged 7 to 18 years old, closing date for submissions 31 July 2020. [Click here](#) to view full details and prizes available.

**History Competition:** Focus Games Ltd are challenging all age groups to create a unique piece of work; drawing, poster, short story, video, or artwork to celebrate 100 Great Black Britons and their legacy. Entries close on 30 September 2020, [click here](#) for more information.

**Current Affairs Competition:** UCL openDemocracy are running a competition for students aged 14 years+. To enter they need to share their vision of the future by submitting either a written article, short video or image that describes their vision for the world after the coronavirus crises has passed – entries close 10 July 2020. There are some great prizes up for grabs! Please [click here](#) for more details.

## CAREERS



Mrs Murphy, Careers Adviser, will be available for remote career guidance during the school closure should your child have any career or work experience related questions or concerns. She will be sending out [useful articles](#) and will be in touch with colleges and sixth forms to keep abreast of developments relating to admissions. She can be contacted by email at [murphy.m@mmat.co.uk](mailto:murphy.m@mmat.co.uk)



## WEBSITE QUICK LINKS

Please click on the following useful links to find out more: • [News](#) • [Home Learning](#) • [Term Dates](#).

## FACEBOOK



Please follow us on Facebook @[SirJohnTalbotsSchool](#) for supplementary home learning ideas, news, competitions and feel good stories. We also encourage you to share your ideas and interact with our posts!

For news from across the Trust, why not also follow @[MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

