

SMSC

“Flying High”

Spring 2023

SMSC General

Gold Seagull

Congratulations to the following Gold Seagull winners:

- Shalom Year 7
- Aleena Year 8
- Samuel Year 8
- Kadie Year 7
- Isioma Year 7
- Michelle Year 7
- Salma Year 8
- Akanksha Year 8
- Emile Year 7
- Eva Year 8
- Enoha Year 10
- Cilla Year 7
- Jennifer Year 11
- Monjolaoluwa Year 11
- Victoria Year 7
- Ryder Year 7
- Zubin Year 11
- Chloé Year 7
- Usra Year 7
- Monjola Year 11
- Tawfig Year 8
- Fareedat Year 9



Ms Keane
Headteacher

Student Action



On Wednesday 25th January, our Student Action Teams came together for the day in the Sixth Form Common room for our 'Student Voice Summit 2023'. It was a fantastic day full of planning for the future and team building, culminating in our teams being awarded their Student Voice badges to wear proudly!

Our teams: **Social Action, Fundraising, Press & Publicity, Race & Social Justice, Environment, Pride & Allies** and **Wellbeing**, met for the first time and began to forge positive working relationships.

The day began with icebreakers and teambuilding and finished with some brilliant presentations of the teams' two and five month action plans. Projects ranged from planning for Culture Day 2023, a re-usable bottle campaign, Wellbeing Wednesdays, fundraising for Young Carers, educational plays for different causes and a student Seagull column!

Thank you to all the students who were involved for sharing your creativity and being so committed in putting plans into action for positive change. You are a credit to the school!

Miss Hallas
Student Aspiration Coordinator

Bleed bag Donation



On 13th September 2016 Ricky Hayden was murdered during an attempted theft of a moped from his home.

In his memory Ricky's mother Susan, dedicates her time to spreading the word about the seriousness of knife crime and donating emergency bleed bags for public use.

The bleed bags are registered with the Ambulance service and are accessible to all for medical emergencies that may occur in the vicinity of the school building.

JRCS was lucky enough to receive one of the bags from Susan and Terry.

Head students, Bobby and Teeyah received the bag on behalf of the school and community centre.

A big JRCS thank you for making a difference.

Lynn O'Keefe
Student Services Manager Attendance Lead
Safeguarding Team

West Ham Player Appearance

On Wednesday 25th January we were fortunate to host a West Ham player appearance as part of our ongoing relationship with the West Ham Foundation.



We welcomed Divine Mubama, Vladimir Coufal and Conor Coventry to JRCS to speak to a panel of students. Students prepared questions for the players to learn about their journey and success.

We were incredibly proud of the students who represented the school fantastically throughout this opportunity.

Ms Simpson and Mr Morris

Ofsted

I am pleased to report from the inspection that was undertaken on 24th and 25th January 2023. that the report reflects the hard work and partnership of students, parents/carers and staff in ensuring we have an exceptional school. This was an ungraded inspection, but Ofsted felt there was enough evidence to suggest the school could be judged outstanding at its next inspection and will return to test this within the next year or so.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Multi Sports Program

Over the half-term, we ran an Open Doors Multi Sports Programme supported by the Civil Society & Sport Organisation. It was a fantastic week where the students had lots of fun through taking part in physical activities and workshops, keeping them active, eating healthily, as well as having loads of fun in a friendly safe environment.



Mr Morris, a mentor at Jo Richardson, said "It was a pleasure to work with the students over the half-term in a super, fun, relaxed and safe environment. The students who came attended every day which shows that, not only were they having fun, but also love being part of our amazing school. The healthy eating, mental health, and safety in and out of school workshops were great and the students really engaged and came up with some great pieces of work. I really hope we can continue to do programmes like this in the future. Thank you to Ms Howe, Mr Kersey, Mr Richardson, Mr Thomas, Jakadi and Donte in supporting the programme."

Mr Morris
West Ham Community Officer

Jodie Chesney memorial bench

On Tuesday 28th February we were delighted to welcome Peter Chesney into school to talk to us about Jodie's story. Jodie Chesney was a valued member of our school community from 2012 to 2017.

Unfortunately, Jodie lost her life to knife crime on 1st March 2019 shortly after leaving us. As a school we want to remember Jodie's story.

A memorial bench has been placed outside the school's North entrance, there is a QR code on the bench which leads you to a web page which gives more details about who Jodie was, I encourage you to find out more.

Jodie was a fantastic, well respected student who was hard working and engaged in many activities whilst at JRCS. She achieved her silver Duke of Edinburgh award and played the piano.

Her death in 2019 shocked the whole community, the impact of her death affected her friends, family and the whole community.

If students understand the devastating consequences that carrying a knife can have, it is my hope that those who were thinking about it may be deterred.

As a school we want to remember Jodie's story and celebrate her life. I would like to thank Jodie's father for coming in to talk to the students in what was a thought provoking and moving assembly.

Our student voice team for press and publicity have written an article that I have included in The Seagull.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

JRCS honours Jodie Chesney

On February 28th The Jo Richardson Community School honored former student, Jodie Chesney, through an assembly led by her father Peter Chesney, as well as through an unveiled bench dedicated to her name.

In this assembly Mr Chesney told students about her life and how she lost her life to a silent stabbing on March 1st 2019.

Her friends and family described her as wonderfully weird, so much so that the bench that was made in her honour had words engraved on the back that read 'weird, wacky and always wonderful R.I.P'. This added a touch of who Jodie really was to this lovely memorial.

It was a Friday night and Jodie had planned to meet up with her friends and her boyfriend after college at Amy's Park in Harold Hill, Romford. She and her friends were listening to music and joking around until she was unfortunately stabbed by a drug dealer, Svenson Ong-a-Kwie. This was an upsetting case of mistaken identity as she was thought to be a rival dealer.

At the unveiling of her memorial bench there was our Head Boy Bobby, Head Girl Tia, our Deputy Head Girl Summer the Young Mayor of Barking and Dagenham Zubin, Councillor Kangethe, Mr Wainaina, Executive Director of Youth League UK, Ms Keane, our Headteacher, and the entirety of the Student Voice Action Team, fundraising, press and publicity. Our newly appointed Executive Prefects Ryan, Julia, Aisha and Kira also attended.



Jodie was a bright outgoing woman who loved and cared for everyone. She brought a smile to everyone's faces with her amazing personality. Her father describes her as a proud geek who took her education seriously, she loved all her subjects but had a passion for photography alongside Psychology and Sociology.

We are honored to have been involved in this lovely way of commemorating Jodie. In doing this we hope we have spread awareness about the severity of knife crime. May Jodie rest in peace.

Article written by JRCS Press and Publicity team.

Interview conducted by our Press and Publicity team

Today on the 28th of February 2023 JRCS held a memorial assembly for the passing of Jodie Chesney. Her father came in to speak about her life as well as cut the ribbon for her memorial bench located at North end, as the 1st March marks four years of her passing. After the assembly Student Voice came and attended the cutting of the ribbon followed by two students interviewing Peter Chesney, Dr Elizabeth Kangethe and John Wainaina regarding the morning. Here is what they said.

What do you think of the assembly?

“Got the message across, I think the assembly went perfectly if I do say so myself. Everyone knew we had to remember Jodie and her life but also to remember her, that’s why the bench is there. The reason why the bench is so colourful is to show that it’s a day of celebration.” - Peter Chesney
Dr Elizabeth Kangethe:

“The students were attentive, and it was obvious that it was a special assembly”.

What is your take on knife crime in the area?

“No one is happy, and everyone is doing the best they can, but we must take responsibility to tackle it, a lot has been said so everyone just needs to take action.” CLLR Dr Elizabeth Kangethe
Cabinet member education attainment & schools' improvement LBBD

“The difference between right and wrong starts at home, we need to make sure family issues aren’t affecting other people. The difference between right and wrong starts at home we as a community need to make sure that family is strong. “John Wainaina executive director – youth league – UK:

How do you think we can reduce knife crime?

“It’s a tough question – it’s a joint responsibility. It’s sad it’s a question, Jodie had so many years but due to mistaken identity her life was taken why would you carry a knife knowing you’re putting people at risk?” CLLR Dr Elizabeth Kangethe
Cabinet member education attainment & schools' improvement LBBD

“We need to be proactive, there was never a culture of knife crime when I was in school, if you carried a knife, you would be frowned upon, and people saw you as a threat to society. However nowadays it’s not frowned upon, people say ‘I carry a knife for protection’ but that’s not an excuse because normally it would be used against you. Peter Chesney

“If you carry a knife, you open a life to all sorts of trouble, people shouldn’t be carrying it around at all. “John Wainaina executive director – youth league – UK “

The assembly was thought provoking and JRCS are honoured to have had Peter Chesney come in and help us remember Jodie’s story”.

Betty Boothroyd



This term we received the sad news about Betty Boothroyd's death. Betty Boothroyd was great friends with Jo Richardson, the Barking MP who the school was named after.

She opened the school in 2002 and was our patron. Our main hall, Boothroyd Hall, is named after her. She was the first female speaker in the House of Commons.

Students will be learning more about her achievements in lessons this week. Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Year 11 Drama performances and mock exams

I had the pleasure of watching the Year 11 GCSE drama showcase this week. I was blown away with the quality of the performances.

Well done to everyone who performed, may I wish you all the best of luck in your real GCSE exam next Friday.

Both Year 11 and Year 13 students are currently sitting their mock exams. This is the last time they will get to practise their exam technique in the hall prior to the real exams in May.

Please encourage your child to revise and prepare thoroughly for these important mock exams.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

JRCS Reading Marathon



On Friday 3rd March the JRCS Reading Marathon was held to acknowledge World Book Day and actively encourage students to read for pleasure.

Over 50 students took part in this popular event, each reading for 15 minutes to keep the reading marathon going throughout the

day.

The reading marathon took place in Main Street on a staged area set up as a camping theme with tents, chairs, campfire etc.

Students chose their own book to read on the day which ranged from Harry Potter, Rick Riordan to David Walliams.

Ifraz, a student in Year 8, was given special permission to take part in the event all day.

This was because, since starting at JRCS he has read over 450 books and, on the day of the reading marathon, he read his way through 15 books. Ifraz is an inspiration and shining example of what reading for pleasure represents.

Each received a special edition WBD book, certificate, bookmark and a sweet treat!

The World Book Day website www.worldbookday.com has an abundance of things on offer from author and illustrator recommendations, audio books, competitions, reading websites, through to activities.

Thank you to everyone involved on the day.

Ms Osland
School Librarian

Ifraz (pictured) has read over 430 books last year in Year7!

Well done!!
Sophie, Iyana, Egle



The Queen's Gambit arrives at JRCS

Chess has become the buzz around JRCS over the last two weeks as the inaugural school Chess Tournament has been stretching our "grand-masters".

The tournament entry was open to all year groups and an amazing 52 students signed up to play!

Students have been playing others from different year groups during their break and lunchtimes in the hope of progressing to the final stages.

Most first and second round games have now been played and players are set to start the "Last-16" round as from Monday.

All students have shown good flair, skill and sportsmanship so far and the quality of competition has been really high.

The last-16 playing are:

Amy Year 11 or Joel Year 9 v Angelos Year 13
Nafis Year 10 v Murtaza Year 11
Adam Year 7 v Danny Year 10
Filip Year 13 or Derek Year 11 v Matas Year 10
Jack Year 11 v Victoras Year 12
Oskar Year 9 v Nevan Year 9
Harry Year 8 v Hamza Year 10
Victor Year 12 v Taylan Year 11

Congratulations to all those who entered and played. Good luck to those that are still in the competition!

Updates in next newsletter as the tournament progresses to the Quarter-Final & Semi-Final stages.

Miss Campbell & Ms Osland
Tournament Organisers

The Month of March

It's been a busy month at JRCS. Our Year 7's have been to the Globe Theatre to watch the Tempest, Year 8 have been involved in Step Up and Stay Safe workshops and on Thursday with visits and talks from the police, fire brigade and ambulance service.

Year 10 have been engaging in careers workshops or have been out on work experience.



We have also had students involved in a Dance trip to Broadway Theatre to watch a dance performance by “Far From the Norm” led by Dagenham born artistic director Botis Seva.

Following the performance students watched and participated in a Q&A session about the director’s journey to success and his inspiration to create a dance performance which has toured worldwide.

These experiences are an important part of our extra-curricular offer here at Jo Richardson, raising aspiration and enjoyment in school.

Congratulations to the Year 12 and Year 13 A Level Drama students for their fantastic performances during the Drama showcase last night. I really enjoyed all the performances.

May I wish the Year 13 students the best of luck in the exam. I was so impressed with the talent displayed by all our students.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

JRCS Knights ride to defend their King

JRCS Chess tournament is entering its final stages as players advanced into the quarter finals with a mixture of strategy and nerve.

Several games of the Last 16 pitted chess brains against each other which led to tense encounters and relief when the immortal words of “Checkmate” were finally uttered.

It has been an amazing opportunity to see students from across the year groups go up against each other and show that age is no barrier to success.

Next week sees both the Quarter Finals and Semi-Finals getting played with the final pencilled in for the first week after Easter – unless the semi-finalists suffer a series of stalemates.

All players are to be congratulated for their strategic play and sportsmanship so far.

Good luck is wished to those below who will seek to advance further next week:

Last -16 Round of Tournament

Filip Year 13 v Matas Year 10

Quarter-Final of Tournament

Viktoras Year 12 v Nevan Year 9

Angelos Year 13 v Nafis Year 10

Hamza Year 10 v Victor-Petru Year 12

Danny Year 10 v Filip or Matas

Friday 31st March 2023

Semi-Final of Tournament

Miss Campbell & Ms Osland
Tournament Organisers



SMSC Sixth Form

Year 13



The Year 13 Sociology trip to the Old Bailey was a memorable and insightful experience. It was fascinating and highly informative to watch an array of trials from the public gallery, including murder and sexual assault trials.

This enabled us to gather a deeper understanding about current day legal proceedings. This trip is a great opportunity to witness the outcome of crimes, and I would especially recommend it to those who wish to pursue careers within the legal field.

Asiya

Year 13 BTEC Business



Currently Year 13 BTEC Business students are doing work based tasks in school to gain some additional vocational experience for their course and to prepare them for the next steps in the real world.

As part of this assessment, they planned, created, and ran some team building workshops for the Year 10 students who were in school during work experience week.

Team building activities included quizzes, tower of power, desert island survival as well as reflection time on the role students play when they are part of a team.

Thanks also to Mr Lungley and Miss Duhaney who facilitated these sessions.

Miss Wright,
Head of Business and

SMSC Year 7



Year 7

Year 7 have had a fantastic start to secondary school, filled with lots of trips, activities, and sporting successes.

Their first term reports were revealed and, on the last Monday of term in December, the top two ranking students from each form class were rewarded with a McDonalds lunch of their choice.

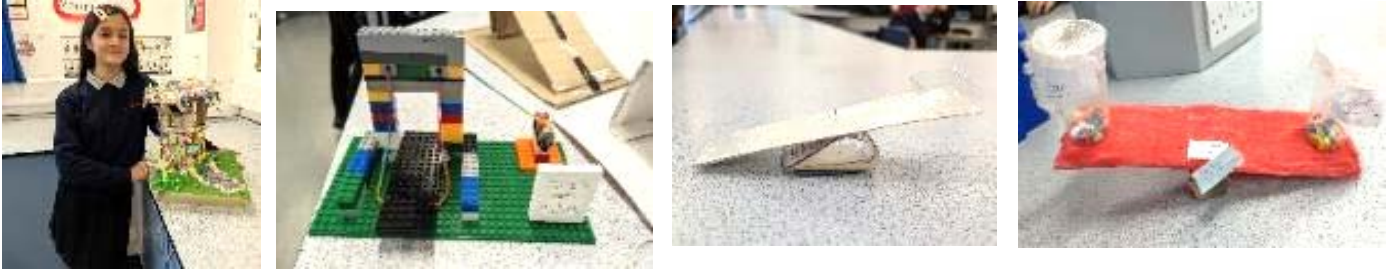
Congratulations to all our Year 7 students on their great start at JRCS; we look forward to many more reward events taking place in the future.

Miss Thomas
Head of Year 7

Year 7

Over the half term break, some Year 7 students were set the task of designing and making a simple machine. A simple machine is any device that makes a job easier or enables a person to do something they would not be able to do without the machine.

Here are some examples.



Well done to all the students who put extra effort into designing and making their machines.

Ryder's bucket on a winch was particularly impressive, well done!

Mr Tizzard,
Director of Learning-Science

Year 7 Bowling

Congratulations to our Year 7 students who received a medal for their participation in Panathlon bowling today.

They were brilliant participants and bowled fabulously.

Ms Lynch
Head of ARP



Le carnaval à JRCS!

The Year 7 students have been busy designing some masks for the carnival taking place in the French west Indies in February, as part of their French challenge tasks and to increase their cultural capital. They were very proud to showcase their talent!

Well done to Sofia, Victoria, Elizabeth, Emile and Christiano for designing these wonderful masks.



Mrs Buffon
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

SMSC Year 9

Congratulations

Congratulations to Lucas in Year 9 who played his first match for Saracens Rugby team on 20th December at Greenland's stadium. A fantastic achievement.



Ms Keane
Headteacher

William Morris Gallery, Walthamstow



In February the Art Department took a selected group of Year 9 students to the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow.

The trip gave students the chance to experience Morris' work in the place he grew up and surround themselves with lots of hands on and tactile exhibits ranging from the furniture he created, to drawings, tapestries, stained glass and original wood blocks and printed fabrics.

They were led around the gallery by historians, giving them lots of interesting background information and enjoyed a hands-on printing workshop, led by an established artist. We were all inspired by the work around us, and this will hopefully inspire students to visit more art galleries in future.

The comments from staff at the gallery were very flattering, they were all amazed by the talent and mindset the group displayed. Very well done and thank you all for a lovely experience.

Ms Franz and Mr Hassan
Art Department

Bon appétit!



The Year 9 students have been practising ordering food in French at the snack bar or at the restaurant. They thoroughly enjoyed the activities as well as using Euros.



This has helped them increase their cultural capital and they will, hopefully be able to showcase their skills, one day in a French speaking country.



Well done Year 9.

Mrs Buffon
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

SMSC Year 10

Poet Laureate

To beat the January blues, I tasked our poet Laureates for 2023 to write poetry focused on the theme of 'New Beginnings'.

The below is written by our KS4 Laureate, Ameenah in Year 10. Each month, our Laureates will share their work in The Seagull including poetry focused on our assembly themes, so please keep your eyes out for our next publications during Women's history month and LGBTQ+ history month.

New Beginnings- Ameenah

And so again we turn the page
A new chapter
Another leaf falls from the tree
Another flower blooms amidst the weeds
A chance to restart
To do it all over again
Another 365 days filled
With calamitous love
And when it ends, we get to look again
What we'd do differently- what we'd do the same
And we discover that it all goes by too fast
That we don't appreciate the people we do it with
The people who stick by our side throughout it all.

This year we start again
A blank slate, bound to be full of mistakes
Yet we make a promise to never forget
To capture those moments and live in the present
So that as time goes on and years go by
And we've all finished our books
We'll know that if we were to look
We had the best time of our lives.

Mrs H Gray
Literacy Co-ordinator

Year 11

Year 11 BTEC Business

Year 11 BTEC Business students came into school on Saturday for an intervention session in preparation for their real exam on 31st January 2023.

The business department would like to acknowledge the hard-working students who attended. They showed great commitment and dedication to their studies.

Students were positively engaged in all activities and used all resources. This was a great and beneficial session, and the Business department would like to wish all students good luck in their revision and exam in the coming weeks.

Miss Duhaney and Miss Gendoo
The Business Department

Football success!

A few weeks ago, our very own Divine in Year 11 went to Cyprus to join the England Under 16s football team in their UEFA development tour.

The team stayed in a hotel near Paphos and were involved in a tournament with Cyprus, Scotland and Denmark.

Divine played the following games:

Game 1 v Cyprus. Started played 65 minutes.

Game 2 v Scotland. Sub, came on for 30 minutes, scored his first international goal.

Game 3 v Denmark Played for 60 minutes-Won 1-0.

All this winning meant that Divine, with England, were tournament winners!

Whilst away with England, Divine still had to complete work set by school and we received a glowing report for him.

This included that Divine had been 'a pleasure to work with' and that he conducted himself 'impeccably' throughout his time.

We are incredibly proud of Divine and his footballing achievements and that he conducted himself so well. He did himself, family, school and country proud! Keep it up Divine.

Ms Draisey

Head of Year 11

Year 12

Year 12 Spangle

In Year 12 Spangle, we are taking part in the First Give Programme, which is a chance for students to take part in significant social action, raising money and awareness for local charities to make a meaningful change to social issues in our community.

We the students choose, research, fundraise and plan a presentation about a charity of our choice that means something to us, allowing us to make real change with a £1000 donation for the winning group.

We have chosen to raise awareness for the charity 'Redbridge Respite Care Association'. This charity supports people with mental health problems, including dementia as well as their carers, living in the local community.

They provide a safe and comfortable space for those who are vulnerable to pass time, provide various activities and cooked meals, all whilst their carers are able to have a break and go about their day-to-day activities, that they would otherwise be unable to do.

The trained staff within the charity provide vital emotional and practical support that many with dementia and mental health issues need.

To help in fundraising for our chosen charity, we will be holding a charitable football tournament for Key Stage 3. Please look out for emails and messages in assembly/ tutor time for all those interested in participating. This may be by signing up to compete or coming along to support as well as providing generous donations towards this cause!

Thank you

Year 12 and Miss Mambuini
PDE Teacher

First Give 2023

Each year our Year 12 students participate in a programme called First Give where each of our forms compete to win £1000 for their chosen charity.

In order to win the £1000 each form must present their research on the charity they have chosen, what work they do and the issue that they represent. They must also include in their presentation the social action that they undertook and any fundraising that they did.



We were lucky to have Cabinet Minister for Children's and Social Care for Barking and Dagenham, Jane Jones joined Mrs Evans and Sajida and Fatimah (last year's winners) on the judging panel.

It was a toughly fought contest as forms had clearly worked hard to complete a variety of different social actions in support of their local charities – Lifeline, The Children's Literacy Charity, Crisis, Sycamore Trust, Osborne Partnership and the Redbridge Respite Care Association.

In the end it was 12E who won the £1000 for the Osborne Partnership, which was excellently presented by Mikey, Raihan, Julia and Devidas.

Miss Duncan
Deputy Director of Sixth

Herbert Smith Freehills Careers Day 2023



In February seven of our Year 12s visited the Herbert Smith Freehills law firm in the city of London for their first Networked Scholarship event.

Kaniz, Jessica, Rahmah, Jake, Daniel O, Temi and Donté experienced a day discovering careers opportunities in the domain of law and business, networked with a variety of professionals from HSF and learned about how they can apply for a prestigious 5 year mentoring scholarship.

They were an absolute credit to JRCS on the visit and we wish them the best of luck with their applications.

Miss Duncan
Deputy Director of Sixth

NBC Work Experience visit

Edisona and I have just completed a visit to the NBC London office. We will be arranging another shadowing event to see how a live interview takes place in the near the future.

Our intentions coming into this event were to learn more about the journalism world as we both had very limited knowledge about the careers available within journalism. Thanks to this work experience opportunity we have learnt about and met people from different career sectors all in the same office that contribute to just one story.

We have also understood the impact of taking the initiative; if we hadn't reached out and asked for Ms Fester's contact information, we would not have this amazing opportunity to learn about our future career options! We would like to thank Josh at Inspire for organising her visit to our school!



In the future, although still unsure as to whether journalism is for us, we hope to learn more so that we can truly find the right career path for both of us. If it turns out that this is not journalism, that's okay! We have learnt a lot about the intense process of how news is delivered to the world.

Kiko from NBC has also set us 'homework': creating a 45-60 second news report on Nicola Sturgeon's resignation so that she can give us feedback and decide whether we would be good for the editorial team. This will help with future work experience, and we are grateful for her to have encouraged this and given us this task to stimulate our development for knowledge and growth surrounding politics within the UK.

Almas Year 12

SMSC English

Poet Laureate

Our poet Laureates were tasked to write poetry focused on LGBTQ+ History Month. The below is written by our KS4 Laureate, Ameenah in Year 10.

From skin to skin
Our souls intertwine.
No matter who we like, or who we are
We're like a constellation of stars

We are all different
With different sexualities and genders
Our love for one another conceals the hate
Whether we're gay, bisexual or straight
If you ever put someone down
Or spread negativity
Telling people how to live their lives
Is an embarrassing activity

Everyone deserves respect
No matter who they are
What other people do doesn't affect you
It's better to embrace yourself
And love everyone, no matter who they may be

Miss Uddin
Teacher of English

Poet Laureate

To celebrate Women's History Month this March, and International Women's Day on 8th March, our poet laureate Ameenah put together this poem.

They're talented, hardworking, smart
And she's trying too hard
Her motivation fades
As they get more praise

When we're mad, we're aggressive
Hysterical, emotional, angry

Whilst they are powerful, authoritative
And must be listened to

If you complain you're
Too loud
Too disrespectful
For them, it's allowed
For me, It must be that time of the month

We are always the problem
We'd rather be a man than a woman
When women are just as strong

Being a woman has its ups and downs
Yet we are fierce, intelligent, and accomplished
We fought for the vote, and we proved others wrong

If anyone tells you
That you shouldn't,
You couldn't.
You wouldn't.
Do it even better.

The following poem was written by our KS3 poet laureate, Gabrielle.

Where do I begin
When we celebrate these wonderful woman
Written up in history for boys and girls
To celebrate all these precious pearls
Clarrisa Barton who founded the Red Cross
And helped U. S. when all hope was lost
Harriet Tubman a well-known activist
Who saved seventy people and was also a Baptist
Susan. B Anthony a social reformer
Collected anti-slavery petitions and
Now we learn about her

But not all women went down in history
Some remained a really big mystery
All women are capable and intelligent
Uniquely formed to create magnificence.

Miss Uddin
Teacher of English

World Poetry Day

In 1999, UNESCO proclaimed March 21st World Poetry Day in order to encourage the reading, study, and publishing of poetry in communities around the globe. Our poet laureates, Gabrielle and Ameenah, have been inspired to write their own poems for World Poetry Day.

The soft breeze blows through my fingers
As flowers bloom in my hand
I feel soothed as my arms glimmer
While I watch over the land

I am awake but can always rest
And sometimes what I produce blows

I could be a bush, a plant or a tree
But only some may know

We all live differently
Our opinions all diverse
But one thing we have in common
Is we all live on this universe

By Gabrielle

Music

A home made of words and melodies
For every situation, a remedy
That I could play at any time of the day
Heartfelt rhymes with difficult times
Listening to 'fine line'
A safe space created
With my favourite people

Drowning my head
With the same 3 minutes in my bed
Listening to lines I never said
Connecting with someone I've never met

Changing my life with a simple tune
New albums coming out soon
Tours starting in June
I don't know what I'd do
Without music to turn to

By Ameenah

SMSC Maths

Pi Day

Tuesday 14th March was Pi Day and the Maths department ran a Pi competition where pupils were encouraged to recite Pi to as many decimal places as they could.

Last year the most we got was 18 digits (still good). This year though we got AMAZING scores of 29, 31, 32, 40 and our winner, Toby, who recited to 46 digits!!! Congrats to these pupils who are heading towards our Hall of Fame board. JD Year 7, Alex Year 7, Hailey Year 7, Aleena Year 8 and Toby Year 8.

Miss Moody
Teacher of Maths



SMSC Religious Studies

Religious Studies Competition



The Religious Studies Department recently ran a KS3 competition titled 'Can kindness change the world?' Students were asked to creatively respond to this question, and we had some wonderful entries ranging from posters and pictures to poems and essays.

There were six winners picked from the entries. Pictured are Victoria, Ryder and Chloe all in Year 7 with their fantastic entries. The other three winners were Rayann in Year 7 and Mmachi and Ameilia in Year 8.

Well done to all those who entered. It was great to see you getting involved in all aspects of school life.

Mr Kendall
Head of Religious Studies.

SMSC Media

Eastbrook Studios

On 23rd February selected students went to the new Eastbrook Studios in Dagenham East to learn about careers in the film industry.

They heard from professionals such as lighting designers, producers, camera operators and people who create virtual sets.

Bailey in Year 10 said "I really enjoyed seeing how they layered the images and filters to create a virtual set" and Enoha in Year 10 said "I liked the camera operators; I'd love to go into that job role".



The trip was organised by Mr Brew, the Careers and Enterprise Co Ordinator to help KS3 and KS4 experience and learn about a career in the industry.

With the studios opening nearby, a career in the film industry is a legitimate and real opportunity for many of our students. Ms Harland, Head of Media and Film said "I want to thank Mr Brew for organising this trip. The students learned about production processes and careers in the film industry".

The speakers told us about how to get into the industry as well as potential wages. There were speakers from across the production process, such as makeup artists, casting agents, editors, directors and visual effects.

As the development of the studios progresses, JRCS will be forging stronger links which will benefit JRCS students.

Ms Jo Harland
Head of Media and Film

KS5 Art and Media

On Friday 24th February KS5 Art and Media students visited the new College of Esports in Stratford, London.

Based in The Velodrome, the College has a unique approach to teaching, with health and wellbeing a core pillar. Courses centre around Esports but are wide reaching, from design and creation to production, marketing and broadcast as well as event management and coaching.

The students were welcomed with a peek at The Velodrome, before entering the college to watch an extra-curricular class on live broadcasting, led by industry professionals.



They were taught about virtual environments and live editing, then the students listened to a talk by Professor Simon Jones, Chair of the Academic Council and Founding Member of the college. He spoke on the traits they look for in their students and cited enthusiasm and passion as something he looks for in applicants.



The students then moved on to the gaming rooms, where members of the college practise their skills and where they watch the live broadcasts made by the college. The students on this visit were able to sign up to the college mailing list, which gave them an extra advantage for if and when they apply to the College of Esport.



Ms Harland, Head of Media, said "The Media students have to learn about the gaming industry for their exams and this was the perfect place to do this. Gaming is a massive, global industry, making more money than the film industry. The links forged today will benefit JRCS students now and in the future. Esports is a viable career option for many of our students."

Mr Hassan, Head of Art, said "this was really useful for our Art students as they got to see how design works in the industry. There are two courses directly related to Art. Thanks to Ms Harland for planning and organising this trip".

Ms Harland
Head of Media and Film

SMSC PE

Boys Football



On 10th January (second day of term) the boys (pictured on the front page) were straight back into a league match against Barking Abbey.

In the last three games the boys have scored 9 goals or more in each game. This time it was a tight battle, Barking Abbey scored first and early in the game, Captain Mario hit back with a beautiful team goal, then a second half winner from

Andrei to mark a 2-1 victory.
Four Games four Wins, The Streak Continues.
Well done boys.

Mr Sengulay-Thomas
PE Department

100 club success

Congratulations to all students that have been part of PE and Dance extracurricular activities.

All students that have 25 stamps have been awarded an LOC for outstanding contribution to extracurricular.

The current top 10 leaders for most extra-curricular clubs are:

1. Ollie Year 7 – 27
2. Dorian Year 8 – 25
3. Charlotte Year 7- 26
4. Kadie Year 7- 25
5. Hella Year 7- 24
6. Luis Year 7– 23
7. Chisom- Year 8-21
8. Rosie Year 8- 20
9. Rohan Year 8- 19
10. Tianna Year 8- 17

Congratulations to these students they are currently in place to win a rewards trip within PE.

Miss Pridie
PE Teacher

Positive shout out for Year 7 Netball Team!!

Year 7 had their first league match against Greatfields. The girls had a mix of both nerves and excitement before the match. They displayed fantastic teamwork and communication throughout the game and beat Greatfields 6-2.

Player of the match was awarded to Kornelija for her fantastic interceptions and shooting. Other players including Esther (7I) and Esther (7C) who both scored and played well in the shooting circle together.



There was also some brilliant play from Hella and Tamara in defence. Bella, Blessing and Mikalyla displayed some strong passes allowing the team to be successful.

A final shout out to Rosemary as the GK who won many rebounds allowing us to attack more often!

Well done girls; you did JRCS proud!

Ms Emeny
Teacher of PE

U16 Netball

The U16 Netball team represented JRCS in the Borough Netball Rally at Robert Clack on Monday 6th March.

The team started strong and won the first two games against Eastbrook and Greatfields schools. They then lost the next two games against the eventual finalists Robert Clack and All Saints, however won the final match against Dagenham Park.



The girls have been so committed to training this year and the quality of performance has improved dramatically since September. The girls have also played up a year in the league and rally this season and I am proud of the determination and resilience they have shown.

Miss Boulton
Assistant Headteacher

Year 8 and 9 Netball Team

The Year 8 and 9 netball teams represented JRCS at the U14 Netball Rally at Robert Clack school on Tuesday 14th March.



Both teams have been working extremely hard throughout the season. They went into the tournament sitting in 3rd and 4th place in the league, however, our fortunes changed in the first match which we won 2-0 against Eastbury. We then suffered a 3-1 defeat to Sydney Russell in the second match, who fielded a strong side having won the borough league. We won our last game convincingly against Dagenham Park 6-1. However, this was not enough to progress out of the pool stages and into the semi-finals.

A big well done to all the girls involved who have shown commitment to training with competitive matches all season. I look forward to coaching this team again in Year 10 and hope Year 9 the summer pre-season training helps us to secure more wins next year!

Miss Pridie
Teacher of PE

Boys Football Year 9

In March, the Year 9 Boys Football team went over to Beckton to play in a 6-a-side football tournament. Despite facing tough competition, they finished in the top two which was enough to secure their passage to the regional finals. The finals will take place in May at the London Stadium.

Mr Cully, Mr Thomas and Mr Bashir



Boys Football Year 7

The Year 7 team were also in action at the same venue. They managed to secure an impressive three wins, but unfortunately on this occasion it wasn't enough to progress to the finals.

All members of the squad displayed admirable team spirit and should be thoroughly proud of their efforts. They conducted themselves in a professional manner throughout and were a credit to the school.



Mr Cully, Mr Thomas and Mr Bashir