



The John of Gaunt School
A Community Academy

JOG NEWS

Vision statement:

'Creating an irresistible climate for achievement'

We challenge, support and encourage every student to achieve their potential.

We believe effort and dedication lead to success and we raise aspirations.

We personalise our provision to meet the needs of individuals.

We enable our students to flourish as confident learners and leaders of our community.

We create a culture where all stakeholders feel valued, supported and proud.

Dates For Your Diary:

Mon 12 Feb – Fri 16 Feb – Term 3 Holiday

Mon 19 Feb – TD Day

Thurs 22 Feb – Yr11 Subject evening

26 Feb – 16 March – Yr8 Options interviews

Tues 27 Feb – Parent Forum

28 Feb – 6 March – Post-16 Mock exams

Fri 2 March – Yr9 DTP & Meningitis vaccinations

5 – 7 March – GCSE Music practical exams

13 March – Yr13 HE evening

22 March – Y7 Subject evening

28 March – Yr8 Girls 2nd HPV vaccinations

28 March – Post-16 Subject evening

30 March – 13 April – TERM 4 HOLIDAY

Share your views of The John of Gaunt School through Parent View

Parents and carers can give Ofsted and school leaders their views of our school at any time of the year using an online questionnaire called Parent View. Your views are really important in helping us know what is going well and what could be improved.



Please register at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Once your login has been activated, it only takes a few minutes to complete answers to 12 short questions.

If you do not have a computer or an email address, or if you would like help to use Parent View, please do get in touch with us.

Many thanks

Mike Gunston
Headteacher

RESILIENCE OF OUR TEN TORS COMPETITORS

The hostile English weather over our past three expeditions has taken its toll on several of our wannabe participants for this year's Ten Tors Challenge, leaving a hardy and resilient bunch still competing for the 18 places available over our three teams.



A brutal sub-zero Saturday and Sunday in early January, on the fields of Salisbury Plain was a challenging way for many students to experience their first camp. With ice on the tents and gas so cold it refused to heat food, even staff commented on the hostility of the occasion.

However, after 17 miles hiked on Saturday and 13 more on a sunnier Sunday (carrying 20kg packs) respect is surely due to those who completed it. Hats off to Simeon Brown, Josh Collett, Michael Clews, Calum Duncan, Nathan Elliot, Nathan Glover, Curtis Holloway, Mollie Nevill, Tom Raymond, Adam Rice, Ted Sansom, Charlie Smith, Mia Wedeman, Jack Wheeler, Daisy White and Harley Willis.



After enduring another day's walk along Cheddar Gorge and climbing the highest hill in the Mendips (Beacon Batch) in persistent rain and drizzle, we headed off for Dartmoor last weekend, contemplating the heavy rain and 40 mph winds forecast for Saturday. In the event, the rain was wet and persistent, not heavy and the winds touched 45 mph on Sunday but were only accompanied by drizzle. It was however a grim, wet and cold weekend in the bleakest of environments, in which the sun appeared for about 5 minutes. Students practised navigating on Dartmoor using their maps, compasses and timings and also refined some of their camping skills. Teamwork was much more evident than in our previous camping expedition and the standard of navigation was superb. A huge well done to all the students who attended this event despite the weather, and additionally to those who kept battling on despite the conditions.



Finally, massive thanks must go to Fiona Watson and the Friends of JOG who have secured us over £2113.17 of funding from a Community Area Grant from Wiltshire Council. This will be used to purchase equipment in order to try and make Ten Tors and Duke of Edinburgh accessible to a wider range of students. In addition may I thank Jo Nevill and her team for her fundraising efforts which have led to the purchase of our 3 John of Gaunt School banners which we can use on the event as we cross the line, and on our HQ tents.

To finish, could I please pass on my thanks again to my volunteers from outside The John of Gaunt School, without whom this would not be possible - this means you Iain Richards, Bill Smith and Bob Brice!

Cross Country Success

At the recent County Cross Country Championships Niall Thorne came first in the Senior Boys' competition and Harry Webb came 4th in the Inter Boys' competition.

Congratulations to both boys on this massive achievement. They have now qualified to represent Wiltshire at the South West Championship to be held at Newton Abbot on 3rd February.

Good luck to both boys.

6th form Art trip to London

On Friday 12th January, Mrs Gibbs and Mr Bishop took 11 sixth form art students to London for their annual 3 day residential trip.



Students had the opportunity to look at Art in a wide range of galleries. These included: Tate Britain and Tate Modern, The Saatchi, The National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery. They also spent some time in Camden Market absorbing the atmosphere and Covent Garden and Regent Street for some shopping!

On the Sunday there were visits to the V & A museum and the Natural History museum. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to draw from artwork that they had only ever seen in books or on the internet!

Some of the highlights of the trip:

'I liked the Impressionism exhibition in Tate Britain, seeing the artwork in real life is quite weird after only ever seeing it on the internet. You get to appreciate the texture and the true colour in the painting.' Ellen Hoare

'I liked seeing the painting in the national portrait gallery as it really fits well with my coursework theme and inspired me to look at other artists.' Marta Vilcena

'I really liked the National portrait gallery and having the opportunity to sit down and draw from the sculptures.' Ella Clayton



'The best bit of the trip was interacting with the swing installation at the Tate Modern. We also went up to the top of the tower and had an amazing view of London at night.' Fern Griffin-Banable

'I liked lying down under the big swinging ball at the Tate Modern.' Katie De'Ath

Year 11 English After School Revision

Day	Classes	Teacher	Room
Monday	11X	Mrs Johnson	L25
Monday	11Y	Mr Webb	D30
Tuesday	11X,Y&Z	Ms Plues-Clark	Mentoring suite
Wednesday	11X and 11Y	Mrs Bray	CLC
Wednesday	11Y	Miss Parkes	L4
Wednesday	11Y	Mrs Foster	D34
Thursday	11X, Y&Z	Ms Plues-Clark	Mentoring suite
Friday	11Z	Mrs Baldwin	L6
Friday	11Z and 11H	Ms Marshall	P13

Get yourself to English revision!

Try to attend the session for your own class teacher (they know what you need to work on!) However, if you have a revision clash, join another group from your side of the year! (X, Y, Z)

Calling all pantomime and theatre lovers alike!

John of Gaunt's KS3 Drama Club are putting on a production of 'Aladdin' (Oh no you're not! Oh yes we are!) Written and performed by the students, prepare for a night of frivolity and fun as Year 7 and 8 reacquaint us with all our favourite characters; Aladdin, Jasmine and the Genie; and introduce us to evil villain Abanazar's new crew. Join them as they journey through crowded streets, scurry through the Cave of Wonders, all the way to a hopefully Happy Ever After.

Are you a creative person? Do you like working with others and having fun? KS3 Drama Club is held after-school 3-4:15pm every Thursday in the Drama Studio. Any and all Year 7s and 8s are welcome as we prepare for this production!

If interested, come and see me (Miss Regan) in the Drama studio at breaks and lunch or by all means just show up on Thursday! Look forward to seeing you!

Further information regarding when the performance is and how to get tickets will come out in due course.

TCAF (Trowbridge Community Area Future)

TCAF is a registered charity to support young people within our community, to develop skills to enable them to participate fully in day to day life and become resilient young people.

TCAF Youth Support Workers provide a friendly but confidential on-site support service open to all our pupils; someone to talk to, share any worries and chat about life in general. They are at John of Gaunt on a Tuesday lunchtime and will be in Lancaster Meeting Room or in the Turtle, weather dependent.

If your child would like to speak to someone in confidence about friendship worries, school life or talk about life outside of school a member of the Youth Support Team will be able to sit and listen to them. TCAF also run Youth Clubs in the Trowbridge Area, at Studley and Seymour Community Hubs and these are open to young people to go along, enjoy the company of other youths their own age and chat



with the youth workers about any worries they may have. Watch out for forthcoming news from TCAF regarding a Skate Jam at Stallards Park and other exciting opportunities to take part in community activities.

ONLY £2*
To take home Friends

ARE YOU AGED 11-18?

#CHILL!
#CHAT! #CONNECT!

GET INVOLVED

TCAF Youth@trowbridge.gov.uk
01225 705072 or 07400 212000
trowbridge@tcfra.org.uk

TCAF
CHILL • CHAT • CONNECT

#CHILL!
#CHAT! #CONNECT!

Get involved @ Studley Green Community Centre

<p>#CHAT! Circus Skills <i>Take it, read about it, be a critic...</i></p> <p>Learn circus skills with trained experts. Includes: juggling, poles, balancing boards, plate spinning, feather balancing and more...</p> <p>Saturday 24 February 2.30pm - 5.30pm</p>	<p>#CHILL! Film Time <i>Reserve and relax...</i></p> <p>Listen to music, meet others and share with friends. Enjoy a film with snacks and drinks. For further details about the film, contact us.</p> <p>Saturday 24 March 2.30pm - 5.30pm</p>	<p>#CONNECT! Games & Crafts <i>Use your skills and craft!</i></p> <p>Join our mixed activities. In teams and individually to win prizes. Take your pick from obstacle courses, problem solving, giant Jenga and more...</p> <p>Saturday 28 April 2.30pm - 5.30pm</p>
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FEEL LIKE VOLUNTEERING?
We offer free training in safeguarding, food hygiene and youth work. Contact us for more information.

TCAF Youth@trowbridge.gov.uk
01225 705072 or 07400 212000
trowbridge@tcfra.org.uk

GET INVOLVED

Parentpay Accounts

Can parents please check their parentpay account to see if there are any balances owing on the school meals account?

Should any parent wish to have access to Parentpay then please contact the finance office?



Outdoor Learning

We are looking to develop outdoor learning opportunities for students at John of Gaunt.



With this in mind, we would welcome any donations of unwanted Wellington boots or waterproof jackets to fit students particularly in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Any donations will be gratefully received by Mr Little.

