

# The Seagull



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## HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

### Last day of term arrangements

Following publication of the latest DFE guidelines, I have decided to bring forward the date when students break up for the Christmas holidays. The majority of school across the country will also be making changes to their end of term arrangements.

The last day of term will be Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December for students in Year 7 to 10. Year 11 and Sixth Form will finish on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. There will be an early finish for students, please see below for year group specific finish times. Students can wear non uniform too on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December:

Year 7: 12:30pm

Year 8: 12:30pm

Year 9: 12:00pm

Year 10: 12:00pm

The last day for students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will be Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Sixth Form students will be dismissed at break time and Year 11 at the normal time of 2.10pm. Our Sixth Form partner schools will also be operating the same timetable.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December we are holding Christmas Jumper Day at JRCS students can wear their own clothes (appropriate clothing only) but please encourage them to be as festive as possible! Students need to bring in £1 which will be collected at the lines in the morning. There **WILL** be a prize for the best dressed in each year group.

After what has been a very challenging Autumn term I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the JRCS community a very happy and peaceful Christmas. It is important that we are still all aware of our responsibility to follow the guidelines relating to social

interaction over the holiday period. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2021 and also look forward to much better times ahead.

### Gold Seagull

Congratulations to this week's Gold Seagull winner: Ibrahim in Year 8.



Mr Smith  
Headteacher



## GENERAL NEWS

### Christmas Lunch

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

JRCS will be celebrating the festive season with a full Christmas lunch for students. As a result, normal food service will be modified.

Each year group will have the opportunity to have a Christmas lunch during one of their break slots. If they usually have two breaks,



there will be no other food service during the second break. If you wish your child to partake in this meal, please ensure they have funds on their ParentPay account in advance of the day (£2.30). If you do not wish for them to have the Christmas meal, please ensure they have a packed lunch as we will not be serving any alternative meals on this day.

Mrs Morris  
Assistant Headteacher

### Lost Property

Can all parents please ask students to check the lost property basket before the end of term as any items left will be disposed of. Also, any confiscated items can be collected by students from the School Office at the end of the day on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Mrs Stone  
Office Manager

### Sixth Form

The last day of term for Sixth Form students is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11:00am. We hope students and their families have a restful and peaceful break and we look forward to welcoming the Sixth Form back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Best wishes.

Mrs Evans  
Director of Sixth Form

### The Wren Garden Christmas switch-on!

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, the Sixth Form marked the first day of Smithmas with a Christmas light switch-on in the Wren Garden. Sixth Form students were treated to a hot chocolate, sweets and snacks and festive songs played in the common room. It was a lovely event that was enjoyed by all.



Merry Christmas!

Mrs Evans  
Director of Sixth Form

### Media News

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Deiniol Buxton, a producer for the BBC, joined JRCS Media Sixth Form students for a video conference. Deiniol spoke about how she got into the industry, different career paths, taking risks and what it was like to work for the BBC. She did her post-graduate degree at Westminster University, so Ashley in Year 13 had a few questions about that, as it is his first-choice university to study Digital Media. Deiniol got a placement at Radio 4 for You & Yours and then went on to be a researcher for Woman's Hour and Midweek and then finally becoming a producer at the World Service working on their flagship personal stories programme Outlook. Deiniol has won Silver at the Sony Awards for a series made in America during the run up to Obama's historic election, she spoke about travelling around America and listening to a variety of stories. She has travelled the world and won many awards.



Jack in Year 13 said "I found the talk really interesting, it seems like the media industry is hard to get into and you have to work hard, but it also seems very rewarding". Sonia in year 12 said "I want to get into this industry and found everything Ms Buxton said really interesting. She has inspired me and given me some great advice on getting involved with as much as I can".

Ms Harland and the Media students are very grateful for the time Deiniol Buxton took out of her day to speak to us and we are very grateful to Mrs Quail for arranging the talk.



Ms Harland  
Head of Media Studies

### JRCS Pride

Though JRCS Pride cannot meet in physical form because of lockdown restrictions, it still goes strong! We have been very busy working with the charity Educate and Celebrate, who run the national Pride Youth Network. Charlie in Year 11 recently filmed a video discussing their views on identity, which will be broadcast as an Instagram Live webinar soon. Make sure you follow Pride Youth Network on Insta to find out more. Miss Imperfect, a JRCS Pride member who is using a pseudonym, wrote a brilliant poem during lock-down and Educate and Celebrate loved it so much, they have it on their Testimonials page of their website:

<https://www.educateandcelebrate.org/testimonials/>

We are currently finding ways for JRCS LGBT+ students and allies to stay connected as this can be a particularly hard time for students who are struggling with their identity. If you have any questions or suggestions or would like to help or join JRCS Pride, email Ms Harland.

### Opinionated - by Miss Imperfect

Bisexuality

is romantic attraction, toward both males and females

A few months ago,  
I thought I was gay  
My attraction to boys and girls  
That pain wouldn't go away

Being locked in a closet  
I couldn't be free  
I distressed that my parents  
Wouldn't trust me.  
Disown me.  
Loathe instead of love.  
That my parents would put fear against the  
above.

Crushing on my friends  
To be told "I'm straight",  
"I don't like you that way",  
If you don't like me  
I'll face the pain and accept this unrequited  
feeling.  
We don't have to be in a state of redamancy  
Just trust me  
Accept me  
Don't hate me because of my sexuality

Getting told  
"you're going to hell",  
"you're such a sinner"  
That brings me tears.  
Being hated by my peers.  
But they don't know, what I know  
Now I'm still in that closet, locked away  
without a key  
I need to be free  
Someone unlock me

With shaking hands, I write this poem  
I should be straight  
I must be straight  
Now I can't think straight  
Because I'm not straight.  
My sexuality doesn't affect my personality.  
I'm still me.  
So at least  
From the bottom of my heart;  
accept me.

Because I can't change  
Even if I try  
I have to  
Remember, to be happy. Whatever I feel,  
whoever I love I should be happy"  
That's what I said in 2019



And in that quote, I am still keen  
Keen to change the world starting I  
As those negative thoughts, I hope will soon  
die.

Because I don't want to change  
I want to be me  
To love who I want  
In the future kiss who I want  
To find the key

I just want to me  
I just want to be free  
To come out of this closet and to be free  
But all stories can't have a happy ending  
So in this closet, I remain  
Sitting there for the rest of my days  
As I pluck up the courage for me to finally say  
Those three words  
Those three syllables  
Those six letters that define me  
That find me  
To tell the world I am gay...  
I wouldn't want my life any other way...

### Year 7 Christmas Dish



Year 7 made a chocolate log in Cake Club on Monday evening with a swiss role and chocolate butter cream along with some excellent decorations. They really put a great deal of effort into this final cooking evening before we break up for Christmas. A big thank you to Mrs Moffatt for all your support this term.

Well done.

Mr Hargreaves  
Food & Catering

### Celebrating D of E in 2020

We had originally planned a celebration of students who had achieved their D of E awards from April 2019 – April 2020, however, due to the pandemic this had to be cancelled. I did hope to do a socially

distanced event earlier this term, but with the second wave and increased restrictions this was again impossible. Therefore, we are having a virtual celebration via The Seagull, the school's big screen in the Egg and a display on Level 2.

The students and ex-students achieving awards are as follows:

Bronze award - Eniola Year 11, Lewis Year 11, Cayden Year 11, Yasmin Year 11, Frankie (ex-student), Devikha (ex-student), Michael (ex-student), Ayaan Year 12, Gopal (ex-student), Reece Year 12, Josiah (ex-student), James Year 13, Alin (ex-student).  
Silver award - Shanise (ex-student), Iretomiwa Year 12 and Luke (ex-student) and  
Gold award – Ebun (ex-student).

We are extremely proud of each and every one of the 28 JRCS students and ex-students who has achieved an award.







I really like that the girls get along well and are enjoying their time in club while improving their skills.

Well done girls!

Mrs Mir  
DT Department

### Music News

Congratulations to Filip who achieved his Grade 8 on the Piano, this term. This is a huge achievement as Grade 8 is the highest of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music exam series!

A huge congratulations to Filip.

Miss Hurst  
Head of Music

### Well done!



Congratulations to all the girls involved in the auditions for the Netflix production. You were all amazing and we are proud of you! Well done!

Miss Branch, Miss Willis & Miss Hallas  
Drama Department



Congratulations to all on this fantastic achievement. Don't forget to shout about your award to universities, colleges and future employers, you have a wonderful set of transferable work related skills, proving that you can commit, organise yourself, plan and be self reliant.

Ms Montague  
D of E Manager

### Textiles Club



Back to stitching after lock down, Textiles Club finally re-opened three weeks ago for Year 8 students.

The girls have been working on different techniques, some are practicing their cross stitching and embroidery, while others are making felt cushions and pouches.

**Merry Christmas**



## Year 11 Intervention Timetable

J Block			R Block			S Block	C Block	
Monday (am)	Monday (pm)	Tuesday (am)	Tuesday (pm)	Wednesday (am)	Thursday (am)	Thursday (pm)	Friday (am)	Friday (pm)
<b><u>Geography</u></b> 8:50am-9:50am ROS1 EN1 KAU EN7  <b><u>Computer Science</u></b> 8:45am-9:50am CAM2 IT1  <b><u>French</u></b> 8:30am-9:30am UME1 EN5  <b><u>Spanish</u></b> 8:30am-9:30am DUN SS1	<b><u>BTEC Enterprise</u></b> 4:00pm-4:30pm GEN1 MA12	<b><u>Art</u></b> 8:45am-9:45am HAS AR1	<b><u>Drama</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm WIL3 DA2  <b><u>RS</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm KEN EN3  <b><u>Citizenship</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm HEC EN8 MTC EN7  <b><u>Art</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm FRA2 AR2  <b><u>GCSE Business</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm GEN1  <b><u>Engineering</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm MAS2 DT8  <b><u>Food</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm HAG FC4 DEB2 FC1  <b><u>BTEC Enterprise</u></b> 3:15pm-3:45pm WRG/RYZ/ MA12/BS1	<b><u>English</u></b> 9:15am-10:00am catch up for selected students RUT1  <b><u>Media</u></b> 9am-9:45am HAR2	<b><u>History</u></b> 8:45am-9:45am (all 6 groups) in Boothroyd Hall	<b><u>Drama</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm WIL3 Boothroyd Hall  <b><u>Citizenship</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm SAL3 EN5 MTC EN7  <b><u>RS</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm KEN EN4  <b><u>PE</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm HWD SS1, EME1 EN6, COU3 EN12  <b><u>French</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm BEL2 EN9  <b><u>Construction</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm DOR DT2  <b><u>Music</u></b> 8:30am-9:10am HUR1 MU1  <b><u>Dance</u></b> 3:15pm-4:15pm DA1	<b><u>Geography</u></b> 8:20am-9:10am BNE EN5  <b><u>Drama</u></b> 8:15am-9:10am WIL3 DA1  <b><u>Citizenship</u></b> 8:50am-9:10am HEC EN6  <b><u>GCSE Business</u></b> 8:50am-9:10am HOW EN7  <b><u>RS</u></b> 8:50am-9:10am ARB2 EN12  <b><u>Spanish</u></b> 8:30am-9:10am DUN EN4  <b><u>Construction</u></b> 8:30am-9:10am DOR DT2  <b><u>Engineering</u></b> 8:30am-9:10am MAS2 DT8  <b><u>DT</u></b> 8:30am-9:10am MCK2 DT5	<b><u>Music</u></b> 3:15pm-4:00pm HUR1  <b><u>BTEC Enterprise</u></b> 3:15pm-3:45pm WRG MA12 GEN1 IT3

# WORD OF THE WEEK

## 12th-17th December

### JRCS 200 word challenge



#### Read It

## Jubilation

#### Define it:

A feeling of great happiness and triumph (noun)

#### Digging Deeper:

As we can see, jubilation has its origins in noise! 300 years ago, it would have been used solely for making joyful noise, yet now we use it for overall great happiness. If you need to use it as an adjective, you could describe yourself or a mood as 'jubilant'. You may have also heard of earlier noun 'jubilee' which was first used 600 years ago! This word also has its origins in sound. A jubilee means a particular anniversary of an event i.e. 2022 is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (70 years on the throne!) Jubilee was formerly a Hebrew term for 'blowing a ram's horn' in celebration. So fill your hearts with jubilation and shout hurray! Have a very happy and safe festive break.

#### Deconstruct it

This word stems from Latin verb which has a lovely meaning. 'Jubilare' means to shout for joy! 'Jubilat-' originated in the mid 17th century and can mean to call out or holler. Etymologists can trace this verb even further to religious texts. In Christianity, we can see the word 'jubilare' used more generally to mean 'rejoice'.

#### Link It

*Report back next week: how did you find ways to link this word to your learning in different subjects?*

#### Draw It

*On the whiteboard/paper/ mini whiteboards*

#### Use It

1. As the students filled the corridors, there were unbelievable scenes of jubilation.
2. The overarching mood was one of jubilation as the holiday season was here.