



SMSC “Flying High” Spring 2024

Gold Seagull

Congratulations to the following Gold Seagull winners:

Selena Year 7
Jessica Year 7
Richie Year 7
Richy Year 7
Emile Year 8
Valentina Year 10
Atene Year 7
Oluwanimilo Year 7
Isabella Year 7
Annelise Year 7
Lacey Year 7
Amanroop Year 8
Muhammad Year 7
Victoria Year 8
Lily Year 9



Gold Seagull Double winner

Leonard Year 7
Ms Keane
Headteacher



Time to Talk 2024



Time to Talk day this year was on Thursday 1st February. As a staff body we celebrated on Monday 5th as we wanted to give everyone the weekend to perfect their bakes!

We held our annual Great JRCS Bake Off where we ask staff to channel their inner Mary Berry and make some exquisite cakes to sell for charity. The day is all about recognising the value of 'talking' in preserving positive mental health for all.

This year we had some amazing examples of our staff talent, including:

- Chocolate & Raspberry – Ms Simpson
- Multi-coloured marble & chocolate – Mr Watts
- Time to Talk heart – Ms Begum
- Yellow Lemon – Ms Hillsden
- Three-layer strawberry dream – Ms Boulton

I think you will agree, it was a rather impressive turnout. This year we fundraised for Shout UK and raised over £75 for this amazing charity. Of course, we had to crown a winner, Ms Begum, well done and congratulations!

I look forward to what 2025 might bring, most of all I thank everyone for getting involved.

Ms Draisey
Senior Mental Health & Wellbeing Lead



Congratulations

We would like to offer our congratulations to Mrs Levene who gave birth to a beautiful boy on Thursday 8th February. We wish them all the best.

JRCS

The Violence Reduction Unit Conference

Last Tuesday JRCS was asked to be involved in the London Violence Reduction Unit Conference by giving a workshop about our approach to staff and student wellbeing. We were used as an example of 'promising practice' which was exciting for us!

The whole day was about launching the new London Inclusion Charter, which aims to:

1. Embed Equity & Diversity.
2. View students as active citizens.
3. Be adaptable and reflective.
4. Be beyond academic achievement.

We are excited to continue to work with the VRU in the future to promote good mental health and wellbeing for all. I led the workshop and presented to a range of people from Nurture UK, the Youth Justice system, Universities and more, which was daunting but has given us lots of new connections to get even more support here at JRCS.

We were also really proud to see Zubin (former student) who is a part of the VRU Young Persons Action group, he opened the whole conference. Zubin spoke eloquently about school experiences and the need for us to work together with young people to ensure inclusivity for all. Zubin even got to meet the London Mayor Sadiq Khan who was in attendance.



Pictured is myself (Ms Draisey), Zubin, Lib Peck (Head of the VRU) and Maureen McKenna (leading on the inclusion charter for the VRU).

It was a truly inspiring day!

Ms Draisey
Senior Mental Health & Wellbeing Lead

Congratulations

Congratulations to an ex-student from last year's Year 11, Jack Marshall, Saracens U-17's Captain, who got his call up for the England U-17s squad this year. It's lovely to hear about the successes of our current and ex-students!

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Careers Education at Ritchie Studio



In February Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit Ritchie Studio Architect firm this week to discover the career pathways available in the Architecture and Design industry. Students listened to presentations from professionals about their career journeys as well as the chance to look at current projects and award-winning designs such as the development of Anfield

Stadium. Students were inspired by their conversations and now aspire to work in that industry in the future.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Leisure United - Parsloes Park Sports Hub



JRCS students were invited to the grand opening of the Sports Hub. The Bobby Moore Sports Hub has been funded and will run in partnership with the Premier League, the FA, the Football Foundation, and Barking and Dagenham Council. Students enjoyed meeting football heroes Bobby Zamora and Anton Ferdinand, as well as being interviewed by the BBC and Sky Sports and having pictures taken with the premiership trophy!



Ms Keane
Headteacher

JRCS Wellbeing Club



Wellbeing Club in March was very creative! We thought we should try something new and get crafting by making bracelets/keyrings. Some students made them for themselves, some for relatives, and some for staff! It was such a lovely hour spent chatting whilst making the bracelets.

Ms Draisey
Senior Mental Health & Wellbeing Lead

GrandMaster is crowned “KING”



This year’s Chess Tournament has been full of passion, focus and strategic ingenuity – and the FINAL did not disappoint.

Having made their way through their respective sides of the draw Wa Kwan Year 11 and Victor Year 13 sat down opposite each other for one final battle. The tension was clear from the

outset as each player made their opening moves and reacted to how the board started to appear in front of them. Spectators watched intently as the moves took shape and worked out what they would have done in that player’s place.

As the final progressed, the games drew in several extra spectators who got caught up in the aura and excitement. The game continued for 40 minutes until eventually Victor cornered Wa Kwan and left the King with nowhere to go.

As soon as Wa Kwan accepted the inevitable, there was spontaneous applause from those watching showing appreciation for the skill that had just been demonstrated.



Both players said how their heart rates had increased through the game and that the atmosphere was really something to be part of. My personal thanks to Mrs Steadman who has been a big part in helping to host the games in the Sixth Form Study area.

Congratulations to all who competed, to those who made it through to later stages. Victor for being GRANDMASTER 2024 and Wa

Kwan for making the FINAL an enthralling encounter.

Presentations will take place once both the finalists have finished their current internal exams!

GrandMaster Finalists 2024: Wa Kwan Year 11 v Victor-Petru Year 13

GrandMaster JRCS Chess 2024 Victor-Petru Year 13

Miss Campbell
Tournament Organiser

International Women's Day 2024



Congratulations to the Race and Social Justice Team who displayed the art and photography entries which are centred around this year's theme **#inspireinclusion**. This has been promoted during tutor time and assembly.



Students were making pledges today to promote inclusivity and equality within the school as part of International Women's Day.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March was World Book Day and across the school we celebrated reading for pleasure. Teachers shared their favourite books with their classes, plus many members of staff dressed up as literary characters with students guessing who they were. From 9.00am -3.00pm eighty four students participated in a reading marathon on Main Street.



Thank you to all the participants and hopefully they will enjoy the reading the book they selected as a thank you for taking part.

Winners of the reading competition – who can read the most books - are Olivia in Year 8, Jason in Year 8 and Sabrina in Year 9. They will each receive a £10 Amazon Voucher.





Mrs Sumsion
 School Librarian & Reading Champion



Insight into the world of work

In March students had the opportunity to gain an insight into the world of work in both the Construction and Medical industries. Selected Year 12 students enjoyed an inspirational presentation from Dr Sharma, who provided information on career paths to our future Medics. Year 10 students visited the Barking Riverside Innovation in Construction Centre, where they participated in a practical bricklaying workshop and talk with industry experts on potential career opportunities post-16.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

International Women's Day 2024



Friday 8th March, we celebrated International Women’s Day. This year's theme was **#inspireinclusion** which means to ensure the needs, interests and aspirations of women and girls are valued and included!

Students took part in an art and photography competition where we saw some fantastically creative entries. Well done to all those submitted and look out for an LOC very soon!



During breaks and lunch, students made pledges to show more equality and inclusivity in and around school and took photos with the **#inspireinclusion** heart to show their unity and commitment to International Women's Day 2024.

Miss Hallas
Student Aspirations Coordinator

SMSC Year 9

Year 9 Mock Magistrates’ Trial Competition rehearsal

I want to applaud the following students for their continued hard work and dedication to the Mock Magistrates Competition. These students have been attending rehearsals on Saturdays and will enter the competition on Saturday 23rd March at Stratford Magistrates’ Court competing against six other neighbouring schools.

The students have analysed the case, learnt their roles, and practised the procedure within a Magistrates’ Court- they met a Magistrate (Stephen Taylor) on Friday 8th March 2024 and were able to ask legal questions and get his firsthand experience advice.

- Pavel - Prosecution Lawyer
- Nevaeh - Prosecution Lawyer
- Ifraz Hussain - Defence Lawyer
- Klarisse Defence Lawyer
- Salwa - Prosecution witness
- Christine - Prosecution witness 2-



Mattia - Defendant
Rubie - Defence Witness
Amna – Legal Advisor
Lilato - Usher
Alesha - Magistrate
Gloria - Magistrate Lead
Alyssa - Magistrate

Again, I want to congratulate you all. I am so excited to see you all in action next week! Good Luck- You will be amazing and brilliant advocates!!

Miss McMillan
Head of PDE

SMSC Year 10

Year 10 Construction Youth Trust Trip

On Wednesday 13th March, the Construction Youth Trust invited some Year 10 students with an interest in the construction industry to Barking Riverside Innovation in Construction Centre (BRIC). We were incredibly fortunate to meet Garry Staines who owns and runs a successful construction business, GSQ, as well as, Charlie Collison, a social media sensation and the 'UK's fastest bricklayer'!

The students had an amazing time being hands on and were taught how to lay bricks by the professionals. Together we built an impressive wall! We were also given an opportunity to ask questions and gain an insight into the industry.



At the end of the trip, we acquired new skills, and knowledge of how the industry operates, as well as pathways into construction after finishing school.

Thank you to all that were involved in the trip, and we look forward to the next construction outing.

Miss Worlock
Head of Year 10

SMSC Year 11

Year 11 Motivational Speaker



In February, our Year 11s had the pleasure of a workshop with an award-winning motivational speaker (David Hyner). David has been speaking for 26 years and gave me the motivation when I too was in Year 11, now over 15 years ago!

David spoke to them about being the best version of themselves in the coming weeks as they approach their final mock exams and eventually, their GCSEs. They also learnt a great new memory strategy that had them imagining crabs with pyramids for shells, a peer in a tutu, almond nuts screaming 'Yes' and much more!



We hope Year 11 got the best they could from the session and are ready to go for the months ahead. We have some February revision sessions with maths and their mocks starting on the first Friday back – go get them Year 11!



Ms Draisey
Head of Year 11

SMSC Media

Media Workshop



In February JRCS was lucky enough to have The Crew Room Academy approach the school and offer a media workshop to a selected group of Year 10 and Sixth Form students. The students had to write a letter of application and do an interview to be allowed to take part in this unique opportunity.

On the day, a large outside broadcasting truck came onto school site and Boothroyd Hall became a studio. The students learned about camera operations, vision mixing and the technical side of television production, technical roles and sound. They were the floor managers, the presenters and the editors, working with approximately twenty industry professionals to prepare, film and live edit a television production.

Eloise in Year 10 said "this has been a brilliant day; I have learned so much. The truck is so big and expensive with so much equipment in it. Everyone was really friendly; you can tell they love their jobs."



Ms Harland, Head of Media, said "It is difficult to put into words how important today has been. The students have learned all about television production, the specialist roles and the skills involved. I am so grateful that Inspiring Futures and The Crew Room Academy have come to work with our students today."



Mr Cully, SLT in charge of Careers, said "This whole event has been brilliant, the crew and staff involved have been fantastic. Watching everyone working together so politely and with such appreciation is a great example of the outstanding provision here at Jo Rich."

The truck was open for students to walk around during break and lunch. Everyone involved said the Jo Richardson students were friendly and asked relevant questions. What a great experience for everyone at Jo Richardson.

Ms Harland
Head of Media Studies

SMSC Drama



Shrek the Musical shortlisted for 'Best Production' at the *National School Theatre Awards!*

Shrek the Musical at JRCS has been shortlisted for 'Best Production' at the National School Theatre Awards. After two judges from the NSTA came to watch our school performance they were incredibly impressed by the talent on show. On top of this, twenty four students have been invited to perform the song 'Freak Flag' on a London stage in front of a paying audience in June before the awards are revealed!

We are so proud to see our school's name up against so many other great schools and could not be prouder of our students.

The news was revealed to the students at an after show gathering where cake and memories were shared and the cast had an opportunity to watch the backstage documentary created by media student, Amidat in Year 13.

Exciting times lie ahead for our Shrek cast; watch this space for more information on tickets.

The Drama Department



SMSC Maths

UKMT challenge winners for Year 9



In January a few students from Year 9 completed the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge which is a national competition in the UK. The following students won these certificates:

Silver:

Ifraz and Alexia

Bronze:

Eva, Arijus, Aleena, Pavel, Sienna, Joshua, Lucus, Dorian, Goda and Ria.

Miss Fernandes
KS4 Maths Coordinator

SMSC Religious Studies

Anne Frank Trust

Kamsi in Year 10 has been made an Ambassador for the Anne Frank Trust. This is an amazing achievement as she had to apply directly to the organisation and send in a project she worked on. She has been chosen nationally to now be one of their Young Ambassadors working to challenge prejudice and discrimination.

Mrs Wing
Teacher of Religious Studies

SMSC Social Studies

Social Studies Club



In March the Social Studies department launched a new extra-curricular club, for KS4 and KS5 students. The aim of the club is to create interest in our subjects (psychology, sociology, politics, health & social care and CeFS) and encourage curiosity in all things social studies related.

It is a great opportunity for students currently studying our subjects to explore topics beyond the curriculum or for students interested in pursuing our subjects post-16/post-18 to get an insight into related topics.



The club launched last week, with a focus on psychology. The session was led by Mrs House who explored the topic of aphantasia, a phenomenon known as being 'mind blind'.

Students that attended completed a test to see whether they were aphantasic and then discussed the causes of aphantasia and how it presents in individuals. Students thoroughly enjoyed the activity and had fun exploring a phenomenon they were unaware of prior to attending.

KS4 and KS5 students, please keep an eye out in the notices for future session topics. We look forward to welcoming you.

Miss Tasneem
Head of Social Studies

SMSC PE

Year 10 Rugby Squad



On Wednesday 6th March the Year 10 Rugby Squad attended the Essex Schools U-15 Seven's Shield Tournament at Barking Rugby Club.

After two draws 14-14 against Sandon and then 7-7 against King Edward's we beat Orsett Heath 14-0 after extra time to qualify for the final.

We again played Sandon who were last year's winners. Despite our squad playing some fantastic attacking rugby coupled with fierce, organised defence, Sandon came out on top 12-5 in a very tight game that could have again gone to extra time.

The squad should be proud of their achievements of being Essex Runners Up. They were notified late of the entry and had just two sessions to prepare, they did themselves and the school proud.

My special thanks go to the lads who attended training but due to only squad sizes of twelve allowed, they didn't make the squad on the day but helped those selected in training to prepare.

Congratulations to you all!

Mr Kersey
Pastoral Support Assistant - Year 11

Year 7 Borough Netball Rally



The Year 7 Netball team participated in the Borough Netball Rally at Robert Clack on Monday 11th March. This was their first inter-school tournament and whilst they were very nervous, they soon settled into the competitive, but short matches drawing with Dagenham Park who we played first.

We went on to narrowly lose to Sydney Russell, Robert Clack B and Eastbury who all challenged us to a close, evenly matched game. Riverside and Barking Abbey went through to the semi-finals as the winners & runners up in the pool.

We hope to come back stronger next year and hope the girls continue to train in preparation for next year's league.

Miss Boulton
Assistant Headteacher