



THE SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY INFORMATION

FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY 2024

THE SUNDAY TIMES
Parent Power
NATIONAL RANK **100th**
Top Comprehensive and
partially selective schools



**Dear
Parents and Guardians,**

On Thursday we held the official opening ceremony for the Mathew block. We were joined by Mr Mathew and a number of guests associated with the school. This included retired governors and current governors, retired teachers, representatives from the trust, and headteachers from other schools within the trust.

The day consisted of a mass, an official opening ceremony at the front of the school and then lunch for our guests. We were fortunate to have Bishop Paul McAleenan lead us in mass along with Father Michael, Father Jimmy, Father Denis, and Cannon Norbert. The mass was also attended by a number of our year 7 forms and was the first one that has been held in our new school hall. The involvement of the school choir and musicians, as ever, made it a really special occasion.





Overall, it was a very enjoyable day and provided the opportunity to reflect on the many successes of Mr Mathew's time as Headteacher of Saint John Henry Newman. For many of our guests it was also the first time that they had seen the Mathew block and they were able to see firsthand the new facilities that our students now enjoy.

This week I awarded students with Headteacher Commendations for the first time. These are new, weekly awards which will be given to students who have been nominated by their learning coordinator for either their outstanding contribution to school life or for an exceptional achievement. This week the awards went to the following students:



Olivia Jewgoemoil	7LR	Excellent achievement in Geography, through winning the Antarctica flag competition
Juliet Bukuru	11JP	Positive contribution to form group and achievement in meeting MLGs
Gabriel Kennedy	12LR	Support with mission writing day and presenting to year group assembly
Davina Ohenebeng	12BD	Support with mission writing day and presenting to year group assembly
Emmanuel Geoman	13MW	Support with mission writing day
Felipe Jesalva	13BD	Support with mission writing day
Finn McGonagle	13JBA	Support with mission writing day
Reece Fordjour	13LR	Support with mission writing day
Kaydn Jobe	13BD	Support with mission writing day

Please can you be mindful of road safety when dropping your children off at school in the morning. We have had reports of students getting out of cars that are on the dual carriage way. If you do want to drop your child off close to the school, please use the car park outside of the Mathew block. Please also take into account the current traffic issues when ensuring your child arrives to school on time. This evening I am attending the Jazz Night at the school and hope to see many of you there.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Mr Carrasco-Morley

Blessing used by Bishop Paul during the official opening of the Mathew block:

Bless the Mathew Block which we have built
For the education of our young people.
Bless our students and teachers,
our parents, governors, support staff
and all who promote sound education in our community.

May our young people grow in wisdom, age and grace
before you and all your people.

May this school always be a home of truth and wisdom,
of faith and good will towards all.

Through the prayers of St. John Henry Newman
may this school help our community,
and build your kingdom of justice, light and peace.

Saint John Henry Newman, pray for us.



HISTORY

After a difficult year for the History department last year, I am pleased that the department is continuing to flourish and we have been lucky enough to have some excellent new staff join the department. Mr Grant joined as Assistant Subject Leader and brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience and we were joined in September by Miss Frost. Many students already consider her their favourite teacher because of her welcoming, enthusiastic approach. It is always great to have new teachers bring new ideas into the department!

We have also been very pleased to move into our new home on the top floor of the Mathew Block. It has been great to have classrooms with new technology that we can use to enhance our students' learning, and being warm is an added bonus! We have dedicated M201 to our much-missed colleague Lisa Naylor, who did so much to build the strong History department at SJHN.

At SJHN, we are seeking to give pupils and students a grounding of some of the key developments over the last 2000 years. We study the past primarily through the experience of Britain and Britons. It is important that the history of all peoples is studied, not just rulers. Therefore, our curriculum, from years 7 through to 13, is built around five key themes:

- People and protest
- Living and working
- Impact of individuals
- Religious developments
- Britain and the wider world

KS3

Our KS3 curriculum is designed to ensure that even if pupils do not opt to study History at GCSE and beyond, they have a clear understanding of events from the past 2000 years and the impact that they have had on the world around them.

To support their learning, we encourage pupils to explore history by visiting sites and museums, by reading and watching documentaries. At KS3, the Horrible Histories series is particularly good.

Year 7

We have been very pleased with how our new year 7 students have settled in and we had some excellent contributions from them during Open Evening. For the past term, they

have been studying Medieval England, but also had the opportunity to study the history of other countries and have recently studied the Crusades. Next term, they will begin their study of Tudor England.

Year 8

We have been doing lots of work with our year 8 students getting them to think like historians and explore the interesting process of writing history. Having completed their study of the Tudors, they are currently studying Empire before moving on to look at the birth of the modern age and an in-depth study on the slave trade.

Year 9

We are using year 9 to build a sound foundation for students to study GCSE History, looking at more of the skills it takes to be a successful historian. We have recently completed our work on the Second World War and students were mature and reflective during their study of the Holocaust. They have now moved on to a much lighter topic: did the 60s really swing?

GCSE

We have been very impressed with the work of so many of our Year 11 students. They seem to have really enjoyed their study of Superpower Relations and we are expecting great things of them in the summer. We hope to welcome many of them back to study A level History and/or Politics next year.

Year 10 students are just about to complete the first of the four units of the GCSE course and will shortly be moving on to study Nazi Germany.

A Level

We continue to have good numbers of students studying History and Politics in the Sixth Form. We are particularly pleased with how well our new Year 12 History course has been received by students. We are sure that their study of interpretations of Margaret Thatcher will lead to interesting debates. Our politics students are keenly following political events in America, although not many of them are that excited by the prospect of another Trump v Biden election!

Mr Grant was ably supported by a committed group of Cadets to arrange our annual Remembrance Service. For the first time this year, we held the ceremony in the School Hall as our traditional outside venue was firmly within Kier's building compound.



WEEKLY SPORTS NEWS

Elise King 7MW has just won gold at the Regional British School of Judo championships this weekend and therefore has qualified for the British championship in Sheffield in March. Amazing- well done!

This Thursday saw our amazing swimmers participate in the North Herts district swimming gala at Hitchin pool- full results to follow next week but a huge well done to the team and to the support from parents for this event.

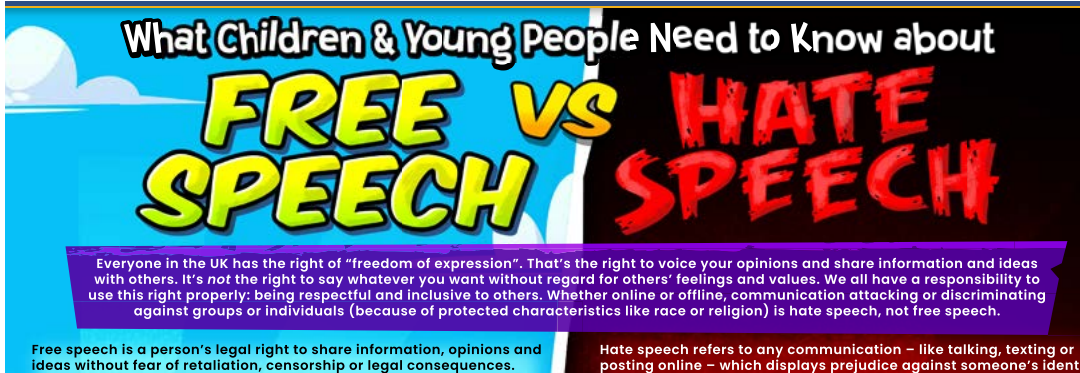




Online Safety & Safeguarding

Free Speech vs Hate Speech

Everyone in the UK has the right of ‘freedom of expression’ – the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It is not the right to say whatever you want without regard for the feelings and values of others. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to others. Whether on or offline, communication offending or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech. Contentious or provocative viewpoints are shared every second of the day online – that’s not to say, however, that an opinion is less valid simply because it’s initially unpopular: consider individuals like Emmeline Pankhurst or Galileo. The facility to have our beliefs questioned, and to challenge other people’s in return, is often a catalyst for scientific and social progress.



What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of “freedom of expression”. That’s the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It’s *not* the right to say whatever you want without regard for others’ feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to others. Whether online or offline, communication attacking or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech.

Free speech is a person’s legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – which displays prejudice against someone’s identity.

With disturbing frequency, however, some individuals post damaging hate speech online under the guise of ‘freedom of expression’, and unless young people can identify hate speech, there is a risk of them being influenced by such harmful content. This week’s guide from National Safety Online explores the crucial differences between free speech and hate speech – we hope you find it useful.

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of “freedom of expression”. That’s the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It’s not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others’ feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to others. Whether online or offline, communication attacking or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech.

Free speech is a person’s legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here’s what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It’s important to respect someone’s opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo’s ideas were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin’s theory today. Freely exchanging ideas promotes progress.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others’ views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote or decent working conditions – couldn’t have been achieved without it.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn’t illegal.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – which displays prejudice against someone’s identity. Derogatory, demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes ...

Targeting people or groups because of who they are – including but not limited to aspects such as race, sexuality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on those same attributes: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way.

Making up or repeating insults about a person or group because something about their identity is different to the person who’s posting.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world’s first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL EQUALITY COLLECTIVE

The National College

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/16/contents> | <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/1#text> | <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/16/contents> | <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/16/contents>



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children and young people's healthy weight survey

For Parents/Carers

If you have had experience of our children and young people's Healthy Weight Service (provided by BeeZee Bodies), or you have views on this topic, we want to hear from you.

Your views are important and can help us understand how to provide services in the future.

Our survey will ask you about things like weight management, fitness, and nutrition, and you'll have the chance to win a £50 food voucher.

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/CYPHealthyWeightServiceParentCarer/>



For children and young people

If you are a young person aged 8-18 living in Hertfordshire, we want to know if you have been helped by our Healthy Weight Service and what you think about things like being a healthy weight, keeping fit and eating well.

Please fill in our survey. Your ideas will help us understand how to help people in the future.

You can ask a parent or carer to help you if you want to.

You'll have the chance to enter a prize draw to win a £50 sports shop voucher.

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/CYPHealthyWeightService/>





Autism Empowerment Webinar

This one-hour lunchtime webinar is a brief exploration of how Autism can present, the history of Autism, diagnosis as well as differences in communication and social interaction. We will also be looking at how the environment can impact on someone with sensory processing challenges.

The main aim of this webinar is to focus on the many strengths autistic individuals have and how we can increase understanding and Neuro-inclusivity through education and raising awareness.

Webinars are held on Zoom on the following dates:

Thursday 29th February 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 29th March 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 26th April 12:30 to 13:30

At the end of the webinar, you will receive a certificate of attendance that will be emailed to your given email address.

The cost of this one-hour webinar is only £5.50!

To book your place on the webinar please either scan the QR code below or go to: www.theautismtrainingnetwork.com/training

"For every person who understands Autism better, another Autistic person will be happier." -
Libby Scott, Autistic Author (at age 11)





NOTICES

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Great competitions for Art, Design, Photography and Writing!

Look at the links below for some brilliant competitions running from Royal Academy of Arts, Norwich University of the Arts and Write on Art.

Available for all year groups and some great prizes to win too.

Please speak to the Art department if you would like any support.

We look forward to seeing what you can do.



<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/get-involved>

Now in its sixth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4-19 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Paul Mellon Centre -

Write on Art is a national writing competition for students aged 15 to 18 studying in the UK, sponsored by Art UK and the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art.



The 2024 cycle of Write on Art is now accepting applications until 11:59pm on the 30 June 2024. Winners will be announced in September 2024.

This year's judges are Sally Shaw MBE and Enuma Okoro. Find out more about them under the "2024 Judges" tab.

<https://artuk.org/learn/>

Photography Competition - Norwich University of Arts

The Beyond the Frame photography competition is open to students aged 11 to 19 both in the UK and around the world, who are in full-time Secondary or Further Education. You do not need to be studying Photography or a creative subject in order to enter.

<https://norwichuni.ac.uk/about-us/news/beyond-the-frame-photography-competition-2024/>



NORTH HERTS & STEVENAGE SCHOOL JOBS FAIR

Teach in Herts
Part of the HFL Education family

EARLY YEARS JOBS
Pre-school, Early Start, Nursery, Nurse, Day-care, Early Years Practitioner, Room Leader

TEACHING JOBS
Nursery, SEND, Class Teacher, Head of Department, Head of Year, Primary, Subject Teacher, Secondary, Key Stage Lead

PROFESSIONAL AND SUPPORT JOBS
HLTA, Teaching Assistant, Cover Supervisor, Science Technician, Finance, LSA, Midday Supervisor, Administration, Pastoral, Food Technician, Exam Invigilator, Clerk to Governors

LEADERSHIP JOBS
CFO, Deputy Head, MAT Director, INCO, Governor, Principal, Executive Head, School Business Manager, Assistant Head, Headteacher, CEO, Trustee, SENCO

Wednesday 31st January 2024
5:00-7:00pm

The Saint John Henry Newman Catholic School
Hitchin Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 4AE

- Meet employers from local primary, secondary & special schools, early years providers, colleges and more.
- Research a wide range of full-time & part-time job opportunities.
- Get careers and training advice from our friendly experts.
- Network with like-minded people.
- With talks from:
 - St Mary's University - school-based teacher training
 - University of Hertfordshire - university-based teacher training
 - Tes Institute - school-based training and apprenticeships
 - Stevenage Futures - apprenticeships in schools & early years

Book your place today...

www.teachinherts.com
Not just for teachers

**The SJHN KiSS week is fast approaching
(9th - 16th February 2024) -
Tickets are available now on
ParentPay!**

Are you interested in being a teacher? Are you a graduate? Are you a 6th form student? Are you looking for a career change?

Join us at The Saint John Henry Newman School on Wednesday 31st January 5-7pm for a Get into Teaching event. There will be lots of local schools in attendance and presentations from training providers and the schools themselves.

To all at The Saint John Henry Newman Catholic School from KiSS (Kiddies Support Scheme)



Welcome to a joint newsletter from the team at KiSS and the Saint John Henry Newman School Student Leadership team.

Happy New Year!

We wanted to share with you how our KiSS communities spent the Christmas period.

Similarly, to how Christmas is celebrated in the UK, the birth of Christ is at the centre of the festivities, hymns that we know here in the UK are sung at mass, as well as hymns in the local languages of Luganda and Runyuro.

Also like how many of you would have spent Christmas, in Uganda this is a time for spending time with family and coming together as a community.

You can see in Hoima, the KiSS children sang carols and decorated the KiSS community centre with balloons, flowers and foliage in preparation for Christmas.



The KiSS children even put on their own nativity play and Margeret from the KiSS team dressed up as Father Christmas and gave sweets to the children.



Families in Uganda are unlikely to exchange presents, however time is spent preparing a special meal and many families save throughout November and December to be able to afford some of the luxuries such as meat, and soft drinks.

It was excellent to join the Student Leadership team this week at our KiSS launch assemblies we are so excited for all of the upcoming activity, thanks for your continued, vital support.

An update from the Student Leadership Team

January got off to an eventful start with our eagerly awaited road trip to Norfolk. We took the opportunity to plan a whole host of activities to ensure that KiSS Week 2024 will be one to remember.

In between planning we walked alpacas, strolled along the beach, and culminated the week with a trip to Walsingham.



Our return to school saw our KiSS launch assembly and we were pleased to be joined by the KiSS Trustees.



This year, you will be spoilt for choice with our range of spectacular shows. A vast array of talent will be on display not just in our 'SJHN's Got Talent' but in our infamous Staff Panto also. Come along to see your teachers in a new (and completely different!) light.

At lunchtime, amazing bands will be at play in our Live Lounge and Jazz Club. Together with Family Fortunes, A Pub Quiz, and the ultimate KiSS Carnival, you will have a memorable week for all the right reasons.



UK Registered Charity No. 1081937

kiss@kiddiessupportscheme.org www.kiddiessupportscheme.org

Registered Address: 7 Bedford Road, Letchworth, Herts SG64DJ

2024 AQA GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE REMOTE REVISION MASTERCLASSES.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S REVISION WITH OUR SUBJECT EXPERTS

Designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and focused learning environment, our remote revision masterclasses will help boost students' skills and confidence.

These popular remote Saturday revision sessions return for the third year.

Our online masterclasses are led by highly experienced subject specialists and will focus on:

- supporting your child to feel 'exam ready'
- providing students with tried and tested exam strategies and revision techniques
- sharing high quality responses and model answers to support their learning
- directly responding to any text/exam related questions that students may have.

Each session lasts two hours and students will be able to interact with the subject teachers delivering the session. A time-limited recording of each session will also be made available in the week following

the session. If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.

To find out more and to book places on sessions, please click on the courses below or visit the **HFL Education Hub for more information**. Places may be booked directly by parents/carers or by schools on their students' behalf.

Once places have been booked, students will need their school e-mail address to access the sessions.

**£20
per student
(including VAT)**
Price remains the same as 2022

REVISION TEXT	2024 SATURDAY SESSION DATES/TIMES	BOOK NOW
Macbeth	10th February 9.30-11.30am	Click or scan this QR code to book.
Romeo and Juliet	10th February 1.30-3.30pm	
A Christmas Carol	17th February 9.30-11.30am	
An Inspector Calls	2nd March 9.30-11.30am	
Power and Conflict Poetry	9th March 9.30-11.30am	
Love and Relationships Poetry	9th March 1.30-3.30pm	
Unseen Poetry	16th March 9.30-11.30am	

For more information regarding these masterclasses, please contact: training@hfleducation.org or call 01438 544477.

HFL Education

01438 544 464
Visit our website



2024 GCSE MATHEMATICS REMOTE REVISION WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS.

Following the success of last year's programme, our secondary Maths advisers will be leading 24 topic-based online workshops during February and March: 12 for Foundation Tier and 12 for Higher Tier.

The Foundation Tier workshops will be aimed at those students aiming to gain Grades 4 and 5. The Higher Tier workshops will be for those aiming for Grades 6 and 7, although students aiming for higher grades may find them useful to consolidate earlier learning.

Designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and active learning environment, our remote workshops will provide students with the opportunity to take part in a number of focused revision activities, and to complete exam-style questions.

Each workshop will be 50 minutes long. Students may wish to attend two or three consecutively, with a short break in between each.

The popularity of these workshops in the past few years means we are able to offer each workshop at £6 (including VAT). We believe this represents excellent value for money.

Access to recordings of sessions

A time-limited recording of each session will also be made available in the week following the session. If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.



To find out more and to book places, scan or click on the QR code.

Once places have been booked, students will need their school e-mail address to access the sessions.

**£6
per student
(including VAT)**

HFL Education

01438 544 464
Visit our website



AQA GCSE FOUNDATION TIER SCIENCE REMOTE REVISION SESSIONS – EASTER 2024.

These remote Foundation Tier sessions will be delivered by our experienced science advisers and are designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and active environment. The sessions are designed to support Foundation Tier students aiming to gain Grade 4/5.

The sessions will focus on:

- supporting your child to feel 'exam ready'
- providing students with tried and tested exam strategies and revision techniques
- sharing high quality responses and model answers to support their own learning
- reviewing associated Maths and Required Practical skills within relevant science content
- giving your child the opportunity to complete a range of revision activities during the session, addressing the skills needed

Each session will be 60 minutes in length and the students will be able to interact with the science advisers delivering the session. Students may wish to attend 2-3 sessions consecutively with a short break in between each one.

Access to recordings of sessions

If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.



To book

To find out more and to book places, click on or scan the QR code. Or contact our Events Team with any queries at training@hfleducation.org or call 01438 544477.

**£10
per student
(including VAT)**

HFL Education

01438 544 464
Visit our website



@thejhnschool



Cor Ad Cor Loquitur • Heart Speaks unto Heart

THE SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL





Hitchin Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 4AE Tel: 01438 314643 email: admin@Jhn.herts.sch.uk www.jhn.herts.sch.uk



KISS WEEK TIMETABLE

9th February - 16th February 2024

DONT MISS OUT!

	Friday 9 th	Monday 12 th	Tuesday 13 th	Wednesday 14 th	Thursday 15 th	Friday 16 th
Dress Code		 PYJAMA & ONESIE DAY £1	 FANCY DRESS DAY £1	 HOODIE DAY £1	 UGANDAN COLOURS	 NON-UNIFORM DAY £2
Break	 CAKES	 CAKES	 CAKES		 CAKES	 CAKES
Lunchtime		 Live Lounge £1	 FAMILY FORTUNES £1	 JAZZ CLUB £1	 SUPERSTARS £1	 KISS CARNIVAL £2
Lunch	 SWEETS	 SWEETS	 SWEETS		 SWEETS	 SWEETS
Evening	 PUB QUIZ £5 <small>All 7pm (Unless otherwise stated)</small>	 STAFF Panto £5	 STAFF Panto 4pm start £5		 JHN'S GOT TALENT £3	