

ALL SAINTS'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Parent Bulletin – w/b 04/03/24

Thought for the Week:



Almsgiving is the practice of giving to those in need. It is a way of showing love and compassion for others. Almsgiving can also be a way of expressing our gratitude for God's blessings. Almsgiving is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to share with those in need and to be an example of mercy in the world.

The Chaplaincy Team have set an almsgiving mission for all in school this week. They would like to collect in as many items as they can, to support the local Food Bank, which is also the nominated charity for the De La Salle Hub. If you can spare one item, e.g. a tin of soup, a packet of dried food, a bar of soap, etc, these items will be most gratefully welcomed and can be dropped off in the chapel any day this week. Our thanks to you all for supporting such a worthy cause, whilst also fulfilling the Lenten pillar of almsgiving.

Reminders/information:

All Saints' Way – This week's All Saints' way theme is **Aspire!** Students should aspire to be the best students they can be both in and out of the classroom. There is a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities and clubs after school and within the school day to join.



Transition

We are very much looking forward to the Year 6 children who will be joining us in September 2024 as year 7's. We are delighted that they will be joining our special community in the next stage of their journey and we hope they are excited too! Admission packs and further information will be posted to all parents/carers in the next few weeks.

Attendance

It is important for your child to regularly attend school for a variety of reasons - the learning and social skills developed, and for their confidence and self-esteem. Obviously, your child may miss school due to sickness or a hospital appointment but holidays should not be taken in term time. There are very few reasons a Headteacher can authorise a child being off school. Unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice being given which is currently £120 (or £60 if paid within 28 days)

We also have a few children coming into school after 8.55am. Being late for school causes significant disadvantages to children. They not only miss the introduction to the lesson, but also the opportunity to meet and socialise with classmates before lessons begin. Children coming into class late causes disruption to the whole class and regular lateness may well result in your child being unable to reach their full potential.

Period 1 starts at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, then they will receive a late mark and potentially a lunch detention or afterschool detention. This does not include students late due to the school buses.

If your child is going to be absent, please inform school using the Arbor App providing full details or by calling 01623 474700 and press 1 for pupil absence. A phone call or home visit will be made if we have not received any information that explains your child's absence by 9.30am.

Uniform reminders.

Necklaces, bracelets and rings are not allowed in school. A crucifix or cross can be worn discreetly under the shirt. If excess jewellery is confiscated, parents can come to school to collect, or it will be returned to the student at the end of the half term. Thank you for your support with this.

Contact details

If your contact details (phone number, address) have changed since your child started All Saints' and you have not updated school please could you do this as a matter of urgency. This also includes any changes to the name and phone number of your emergency contacts. Please let school know via admin@allsaints.notts.sch.uk

Careers Week

This week is National Careers Week and in school we are doing some activities with students at tutor time. One activity includes a Virtual Careers Fair. The event goes live on the 4th March and you can visit: www.ncw2024.co.uk to take a look at career options that may interest your children.

Safeguarding update

Please see the attached factsheet, which explains how to help keep your child safe on WhatsApp, including being share aware and reporting messages.

MFL Assessments

All MFL students are taking summative assessments in the run up to Easter. The key to success in these assessments is knowledge of vocabulary. In order to help support your child with their language learning you can support them in their learning of vocabulary by testing from their vocabulary books or overseeing their weekly revision on Quizlet, our language learning forum. Little but often is key here and we recommend 3 to 4 short sessions a week as a minimum.

Personal Development:

Mental Health and Wellbeing – Action for Happiness has a wealth of resources. This month is [Mindful March | Action for Happiness](#) and using the link takes you to the calendar that has a suggestion to allow us to: pause, breathe and notice, so we can respond more mindfully. Something that we can all use.

Mental Health and Wellbeing reminder: Please remember that the link on our website is: [Mental Health & Wellbeing - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield](#). In addition, if you have any questions or

specific concerns regarding your child's wellbeing then please email the address: wellbeing@allsaints.notts.sch.uk

Careers support: as mentioned earlier, this week is National Careers Week. Students will be visiting a virtual careers fair during tutor time this week and more information can be found at the website below: [Welcome - National Careers Week](#). Also attached is a document from progress careers about: 5 fascinating careers you didn't know existed – something to share with your young people at home.

Careers reminder: Please remember you can also visit our school website: [Careers - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield](#).

Free School Meals - Derbyshire County Council administers the applications for **Free School Meals** for students studying at All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy. Please use the link below to apply. <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx> If your child is in receipt of **Free School Meals**, you may be able to receive support with payments for school trips and uniform. If you are unsure whether you are entitled to claim, please complete the eligibility form on the website to check. If you experience any difficulties please let us know and we will ask Derbyshire County Council to assist.

Parent and Carer Planner 2023-2024

Wednesday 21 st February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Monday 26 th February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Monday 4 th March until 12 th March	Year 12 Exams
Thursday 7 th March	Year 7 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Thursday 21 st March	School Show
Friday 22 nd March	School Show
Thursday 28 th March	Year 11, 13 and 12 Data Drop Year 12 Reports
Students break up on Thursday 28 th March and return to school on Monday 15th April .	
Week beginning 15 th April	Year 7 to 10 Data
Monday 15 th April until 26 th April	Year 11 MFL Speaking Exams (Actual)
Monday 22 nd April	Year 10 Exams Week
Monday 6 th May - Bank Holiday	
Thursday 9 th May	GCSE Exams Begin
Friday 10 th May	Year 11 Drama Exam
Monday 13 th May (All Week)	Year 9 Exams Week
Monday 20 th May	Year 10 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Week beginning 20 th May	Year 10 Exam Results and Report
Friday 24 th May	Year 13 Leavers' Mass
Students break up on Friday 24 th May and return to school on Monday 3rd June .	
Week beginning 17 th June	Year 9 Exam Results and Report
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 9 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Friday 21 st June	Year 13 Prom
Monday 24 th June (All Week)	Year 12 Exams
Thursday 27 th June	6 th Form Information Evening for Year 10. In Person
Friday 28 th June	Provisional end date for Year 11 and 13 External Exams.
Monday 1 st July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 5 th July	Year 11 Prom
Week beginning Monday 8 th July	Year 7 to 10 Data
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 12 Exam Results
Friday 26 th July	Students break up for the Summer.
Thursday 15 th August	A LEVEL RESULTS DAY (8am – 10.30am)
Thursday 22 nd August	GCSE RESULTS DAY (9am – 10.30am)

Keep your child safe on WhatsApp



What are the risks?

- Bullying, particularly in group chats
- Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
- Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- Spam or hoax messages
- Being exposed to strangers through group chats

WhatsApp says the **minimum age** to use it is **16**, but younger children can still use it easily.

6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

1. Keep their personal information and location private

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users.

Encourage your child to only share this information with their contacts, and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp (the cog icon), then Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots in the top-right of the home screen, then > Settings > Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- On an **iPhone**, go to phone Settings (the cog icon) > WhatsApp > Location, and tap to change if you need to
- On **Android**, go to privacy settings as above, then scroll down to 'Live location', and tap to change if you need to

2. Remind your child to be careful about what they share

It's easy to forward messages, photos and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

3. Remind your child they can leave group chats

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat, or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit group
- On **Android**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit

4. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it.

If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported).

To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp, go to Account > Privacy > Blocked > Add New..., then find the contact they want to block, and tap the contact
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots icon, then Settings, then tap Account > Privacy > Blocked contacts, tap the icon in the top right showing a person and a plus sign, search for the contact they want to block, then tap the contact to block them

To report issues like offensive or abusive content or spam:

- On an **iPhone**, open the chat with the user you want to report, tap the contact then then tap Report Contact > Report And Block
- On **Android**, open the chat with the user you want to report, then tap the 3 dots icon, then > More > Report

5. Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature
- Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords
- Ask them to forward the message
- Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp
- Have spelling or grammar errors

6. Tell our school about any bullying they experience

Look for signs they your child may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.



CAREERS OF THE MONTH...

5 FASCINATING CAREERS YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED.

As National Careers Week (NCW) fast approaches, it's the perfect time to start thinking about your career options and exploring the vast array of exciting opportunities out there. NCW, celebrated this year between the 4th-9th of March, is an event dedicated to enhancing careers guidance and providing free educational resources across the UK.

The world of work doesn't necessarily have to be about the standard 9-to-5; there are a range of diverse and unconventional roles, from creative to scientific fields and everything in between. If you're ready to discover a career that breaks away from the norm, here are five fascinating careers you didn't know existed.



1 FLAVOURIST

SALARY RANGE – £30,000 TO £70,000

If you're a foodie who also loves science, the unusual role of a Flavourist might just be for you. A flavourist is essentially a kitchen scientist, mixing up new flavours for foods and drinks. They specialise in creating and replicating flavours. This unique career blends science, particularly chemistry, with culinary art. If this sounds like the perfect path for you, you'll need to be interested in science and consider pursuing a degree in Food Science or Chemistry.

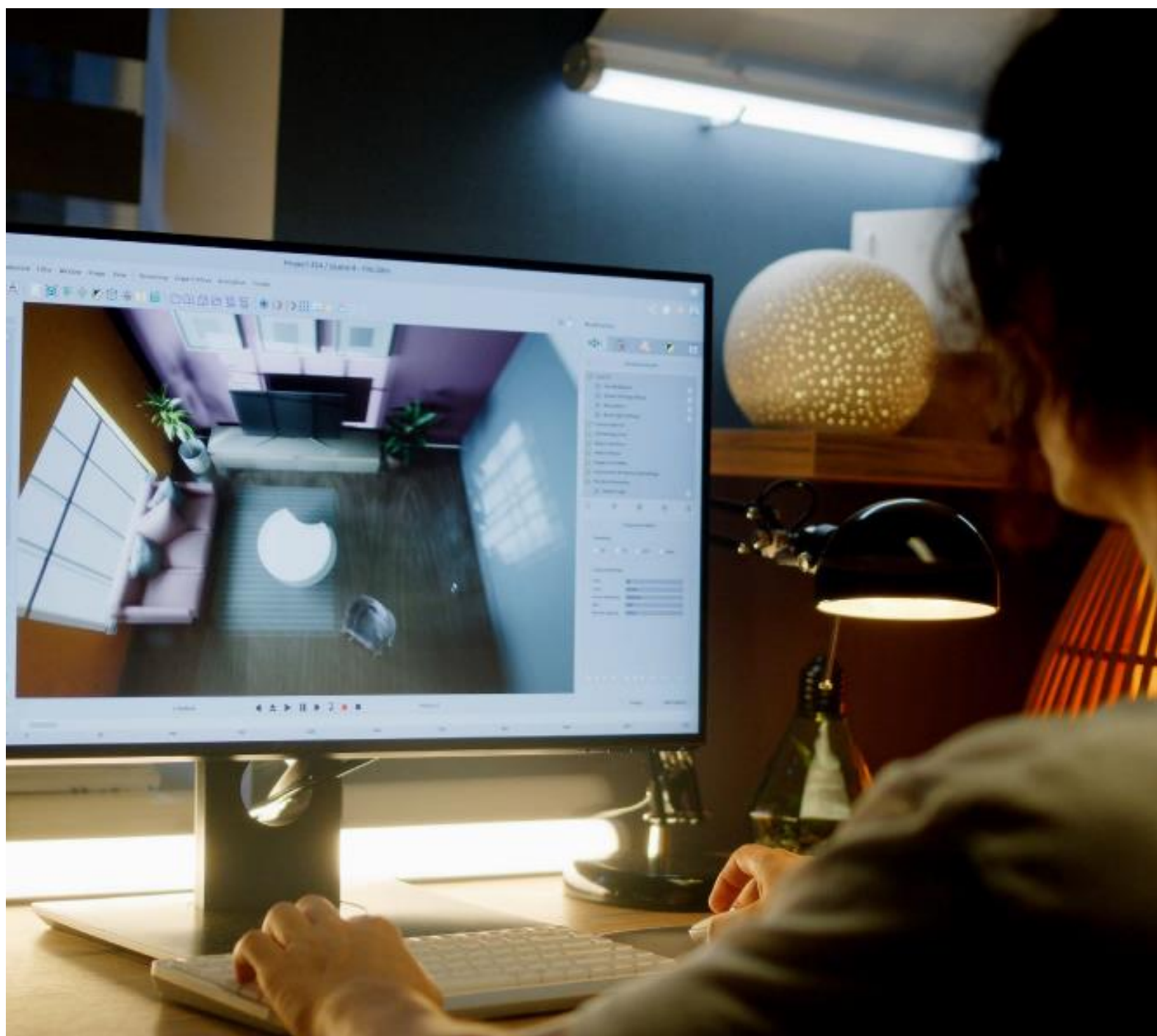


2

FOLEY ARTIST

SALARY RANGE – £35,000 TO £45,000

Next up is another unique career, this time within the film and television industry. Introducing; a Foley Artist. They are responsible for creating and reproducing everyday sound effects added during post-production to enhance the audio quality of productions. This role suits creative and imaginative individuals with a good ear. There's no set route to becoming a Foley Artist, but Film Studies or Sound Engineering courses can give you a head start.



3 VIRTUAL INTERIOR DESIGNER

SALARY RANGE – £30,000 TO £70,000

So, you've heard of an Interior Designer, but have you heard of a Virtual Interior Designer? Virtual Interior Designers use digital software to create visual concepts of interior spaces for clients, often working remotely. If you're creative, detail-oriented, and passionate about online working, this is a career to consider. You can become a Virtual Interior Designer in several ways, including completing a degree in Interior Design or Art. However, there are also lots of shorter online or college courses if you're looking for an alternative pathway to university.



4

ETHICAL HACKER

SALARY RANGE – £30,000 TO £70,000

In a world where almost everything and everyone is connected online, there is a growing need for 'Ethical Hackers'. Intriguing right? Ethical Hackers are tech-savvy computer programmers whose job is to find security gaps in websites, apps, and other online systems and help fix them before the actual hackers get there. If you enjoy working with computers and want to embark on a rewarding career that makes the online world safer, why not consider this career? To go down this route, you'll need to study computer science or network engineering at university before completing additional ethical hacking qualifications.



5 WILDLIFE FORENSIC SCIENTIST

SALARY RANGE – £25,000 TO £45,000

Last but certainly not least is the role of a Wildlife Forensic Scientist. If you're an animal lover with an appreciation for the environment, this role could be suited to you. These professionals use scientific methods to investigate crimes against animals and wildlife. They play an important role in protecting endangered species and preserving natural habitats. To follow this career path, you'll need to complete a degree in Forensic Science or Environmental Science.