



ACCESS & OUTREACH TERM CARD

Hilary Term 2024

Dear Teachers,

We hope that you have enjoyed a well-earned break over Christmas! The Autumn Term allowed us to welcome over 440 students into the College from schools across the South East. It's also been a pleasure to resume our subject-specific study days – both in Oxford and through new our new, interactive online format. This term card sets out all the Spring term outreach events, opportunities and resources on offer from St John's, as well as across the University of Oxford. There is something for everyone included within; however, the information is particularly relevant to teachers and pupils in our link region of Oxford for South East. We encourage you to identify and share relevant opportunities with your pupils.

Here at St John's, we are running the eighth year of our Inspire Y12&13 Programme, as well as offering enriching study days for pupils across the country. The Inspire Scholars 9, 10 & 11 programme has expanded to include additional places and opportunities for schools, while our events calendar is filling up fast with school visits. Across the wider University you can find a wealth of events covering a wide range of subject areas and year groups, including several opportunities specifically for teachers.

As ever, please do get in touch with us at access@sjc.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions.

With best wishes,
The St John's College Access Team

INSPIRE SCHOLARS 9, 10 AND 11 PROGRAMME

We are delighted to welcome 6 new schools to our Programme as the Scholars Programme has expanded. Limited spaces are still available. Non-selective state schools from our link regions are invited to apply, with priority given to students on Free School Meals. The Inspire Scholars Programme for Years 9, 10 & 11 is a pioneering, free sustained-contact opportunity for students aged 13-16. The programme has been collaboratively developed with input from 24 pilot schools, alongside a number of external teachers and other education professionals, in order to offer schools super-curricular and aspiration-raising opportunities for students, career-development roles for teachers, and support for parents & carers. More information can be [found here](#).

INSPIRE YEAR 12 & 13 PROGRAMME

Applications for the eighth year of the Inspire Programme for Year 12 are currently open. The programme will consist of five sessions. Each session is themed around a particular skill (e.g. 'How to Prepare a Research Project' or 'Personal Statements') and will contain both a live stream and a pre-recorded video on the subject. In addition, each session contains a selection of academic taster videos to provide super curricular engagement for the student. In addition to these sessions, students will also be invited to: apply to attend a residential summer school at St John's; apply to attend a virtual summer school; apply to attend Study Days and Subject Exploration days at the college; and submit a research proposal for the Inspire Research Project. In Year 13, four sessions are offered: interviews, research skills, study skills and preparation for university. Applications for this open at the start of the academic year.

INSPIRE CRITICAL THINKING 23/24

Does crime always deserve punishment?

St John's
inspire
programme



IMA LYER
25 Years
HAS SEEN
A UNICORN



Inspire Critical Thinking is a free online course run by St John's College in collaboration with Oxford for South East, and is open to all non-selective state school pupils in Year 9, 10 and 11. This year's Inspire Critical Thinking includes a range of exciting and engaging resources, with articles ranging from AI and crime to the use of DNA in evidence. There are also recorded lectures and challenges developed by University of Oxford academics and students. Underpinning each workshop is a critical thinking skills focus, introduced by our character Ima Lyer, with a super challenge task to develop this skill. You can find out more about this [programme here](#).

FOLLOWING THE ONLINE CLASSES, ALL REGISTERED PUPILS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR INSPIRE VIRTUAL SUMMER SCHOOL. FOR PUPILS IN YEAR 11, THERE IS ALSO A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR A FREE INSPIRE RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL AT ST JOHN'S COLLEGE!

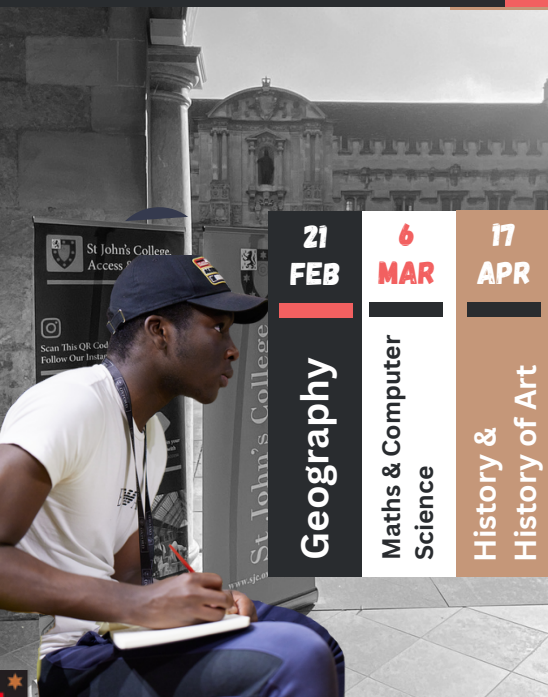
STUDY DAYS

APPLICATIONS FOR OUR 2024 STUDY DAYS ARE NOW OPEN!

Our Study and Subject Exploration Days are open to any Year 12 student at a non-selective state school interested in studying that subject at university. To find out more, and to apply, [click here](#).



2024 STUDY DAYS



21
FEB

Geography

6
MAR

Maths & Computer
Science

17
APR

History &
History of Art

27
APR

Medicine & Biomedical
sciences (Virtual)

1
MAY

Classics*

10
MAY

English*

5
JUN

Chemistry

12
JUN

Modern
Languages



INSPIRE TEACHER LEADS CONFERENCE 2024

Friday 15th March

We're excited to announce that the date for the Inspire Teachers Conference has now been confirmed for the 15th March 2024. The conference is hosted at St John's College and is free of charge. Confirmed speakers include the President of St John's, Dame Professor Sue Black, and Professor Deborah Eyre, pioneer of teaching to the top and founder of [High-Performance Learning](#). There will also be a session run by the School Partnership Coordinator, Katie Inwood, on supporting transitions between KS4-KS5 and KS5-university. All Inspire Teacher leads are invited and can bring a colleague. We are also extending the invitation to schools who are interested in joining the Inspire Programme. You can [sign up here](#).

PAID OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

We are currently on the lookout to expand our catalogue of resources for our Inspire Club Classes, exclusive to the Inspire Scholars 9, 10 & 11 Programme.

Inspire Scholars attend a fortnightly Inspire Club Class at their school. The Inspire Club Classes are super-curricular academic sessions which introduce pupils to new concepts and subjects that they may not otherwise engage with at school. Each Inspire Club Class is formed of two workshops of around 60 minutes in length. These do not have to directly relate to one another, but we have found that our most successfully developed classes build upon knowledge or skills between the two workshops. Inspire Club Classes are usually delivered by a school's Inspire Teacher Lead (the representative from the school that runs the programme), who may not be a specialist in the Inspire Club Class subject.

We are offering teachers a paid opportunity to create workshops for our Programme. This is a great CPD opportunity for teachers to design two lessons that are with the most able students in mind. To find out more and see what we currently offer, [click here](#).

OTHER UNIVERSITY EVENTS FOR TEACHERS

- **ENGLISH TEACHERS CONFERENCE – 3RD FEB**
- **OUTREACH EVENTS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**
- **ADULT SUPPORTER EVENT FOR PHYSICS APPLICANTS – 6TH MAR**

[Sign Up Here](#)

[Sign Up Here](#)

[Sign Up Here](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are a selection of upcoming events hosted within the wider university:

- **BALLIOL COLLEGE INSIGHT TALKS:**
(running 8th Jan – 14th Mar)
- **ENGINEERING SCIENCE STUDY DAY**
(12th Feb)
- **PHILOSOPHY STUDY DAY**
(13th Feb)
- **MATERIALS SCIENCE OPEN DAY**
(13th, 14th & 16th Feb)
- **ONLINE HISTORY SKILLS WORKSHOPS**
- **BEGINNER LANGUAGES TASTER DAY**
(2nd Mar)
- **UNCOVER ENGINEERING**
(2nd – 5th Apr)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

University or College events, which are open to everyone, are listed here.

INSPIRE DIGITAL

Our online resource platform for secondary school pupils. Inspire Digital is an interactive resource, with new material, hints and solutions to the questions posted on a regular basis.

EXPLORE

Explore is an engaging digital resource from the University of Oxford. As the 'Home of Big Questions', it aims to challenge those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and reflect the kind of critical thinking students undertake at university.

SPRINGBOARD VIDEOS

Discover your new favourite topic with our Springboard videos, bringing you cutting-edge research from Oxford's graduate students on topics from climate change and colonialism to microbiomes and mathematical logic. These videos are intended for school pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13. Each offers an introduction to a new topic, plus lots of activities and further resources to explore.

SUPER-CURRICULAR RESOURCES

Students are welcome to browse our extensive range of super-curricular resources and programmes.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF OXFORD

An excellent resource created by the Chemistry department where students who are unable to visit Oxford can get familiar with the ins and outs of the city and colleges.