

SJB Careers News – Christmas 2019

Y13 Destination dreams and Applications

Many of our Y13 students are currently applying for a diverse range of degree courses from Golf Management to Global Health and Social Medicine, from Fashion Marketing to Film and Television Production and from Law to Liberal Arts and Sciences. Even at this early stage in the application cycle invitations to interview as well as offers are already flooding in from Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Imperial College London, Exeter, KCL, UCL, York and Bristol, to name but a few. Alongside this, a growing number of our students are choosing to apply for degree apprenticeships this year. This offers the attraction of gaining a university degree alongside full-time employment at leading global employers, for a competitive salary with absolutely no student debt.

Y13 Mock Interview Evenings – Oct 10 and Dec 4

To help prepare our students for interview we invited in a range of professionals from local businesses, our alumni and our parent body to sit on panels and put the students through their paces. Whilst scary, this experience proved invaluable in building confidence in our students, allowing them to get those first interview nerves out of the way and receive constructive feedback in how to improve. Despite being a nerve-wracking ordeal for many, the students were unanimous in their feedback, declaring how glad they were to have done it.

Arkwright Engineering Scholarship

Congratulations to Richard Buscaglia, Y12, who recently became an Arkwright Scholar following a rigorous application process including an exam and panel interview. An Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is the most prestigious scholarship of its type in the UK to inspire and nurture school-age students to be the country's future **leaders** of the Engineering Profession. The Scholarships are awarded to high-calibre 16 year old students through a rigorous selection process and support students through the two years of their A levels. Every Scholarship is sponsored by a commercial company, trade association, university, professional institution et al. This means that support is offered in various different ways, for example, valuable hands-on work experience, support for your curriculum project and a personal mentor who can help you with aspects of your studies and career planning. For more information visit: <https://www.arkwright.org.uk/our-scholarships/arkwright-scholarships>



McLaren Inspiration Day 2019

Congratulations to Lauren Burke and Calum Harding who were selected to represent SJB at the McLaren Inspiration Day on 14 November. Lauren describes the day here: "I developed team-working and communication skills in a pressurised and unique F1 pit stop challenge as part of the work inspiration day. This was a really exciting opportunity and a chance to get to know the rest of the group. Through a pitch-style presentation we worked in teams to produce a campaign on the best way to attract a younger audience to F1. We discussed our pitch to the rest of the group and shared our ideas. This was a great chance to develop my presentation skills. Overall, the day



was action-packed and exciting, and a chance to gain an insight into the importance of my personal skills and branding myself correctly for the future world of work.”

Preparing Sixth Formers for Apprenticeship Applications

With university fees now at an all-time high, many of our students are bucking the trend and considering alternative pathways to a successful future. With the growing emergence of professional School Leaver Programmes and Degree Apprenticeships, students are now able to embark on pathways that allow them to earn a competitive salary from day one, whilst undertaking professional qualifications and a degree, without the heavy burden of a student loan. These students are likely to complete their apprenticeships in roles senior to those being offered to graduates who were their peers at school. However, this is by no means an ‘easier’ route, and applications are incredibly rigorous, as the employers are swamped with strong applications.

To help our students get ahead we have organised a programme of opportunities covering all aspects of the application process. We have been delighted to host a range of professionals to deliver this programme: Sue Taylor from the ALPS Partnership Ltd came in to both a Sixth Form assembly to explain the apprenticeship pathway in detail and to run a workshop on how to make a successful apprenticeship application. Jane Baker from BDO ran a fascinating workshop on how to maximise your chances of success in a video interview, and Doris Brozio from Computacenter ran a Mock Assessment Centre workshop, offering valuable insight into what to expect from this often-feared stage in the recruitment process.

Ex-SJB Student – A Day in the Life of a Police Officer

Former SJB student Thomas Tropia, now working as a Constable for Thames Valley Police, very kindly spent the afternoon with us on Tuesday 10 December, offering insight into the day-to-day life of a Police Officer. Students from Years 7-13 were invited to join him to hear about his job, to see and handle some of the tools of his trade and to get a good look inside his police vehicle!

NHS Newsletter – including quiz (I have a pdf of this but not sure how to upload?)

Subscribe to a careers magazine for up-to-date information and advice

Click on <https://careemap.co.uk/careermag/> and then click ‘Subscribe Now’.

Introducing Unifrog

We are really excited to be launching a new careers platform this year, which will be used across all year groups over the coming months, during form times, L2 and PSHE. Students will receive individual logins in due course. This platform will enable all our students to explore a range of career pathways, but also to gather information and understanding on the options available at each transition point, from Year 9, Year 11 and Sixth Form. They will be able to undertake personality tests, skills test and careers quizzes, all aimed at learning more about themselves and the type of future employment which will best suit them. Unifrog is also an amazing resource for advice, information and guidance on higher education, with information on degrees, tools to identify a best-match degree based on skills and interest and even a bank of super-curricular resources to help students get ahead and stand out from the crowd amidst a competitive field. With apprenticeships now growing in popularity and availability there is also a wealth of information to support students through these very different applications. There is even the opportunity for parents to sign up and receive their own logins – more information on this to follow soon.



Labour market information

Job vacancies within a particular industry/sector vary both geographically and from one year to the next. A really useful tool for exploring local labour market information can be accessed via this website: <https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/widget/>

Get in touch or Get involved!

- **Careers Enquiries**

If you have any questions at all regarding careers or if you are able to get involved at all as detailed below please do get in touch with our Head of Careers, Mrs Risman: n.risman@sjb.surrey.sch.uk

- **Careers Events at SJB**

if you would like to get involved in future career events at SJB, from sitting on a panel at a Sixth Form Mock Interview event, to talking about your job to students either at our Y9 careers game: 'What's my Line?' or at our Y10 Careers morning: 'A Day in the Life of...' please get in touch with Mrs Risman. We try to cover a broad range of jobs within these events, but Art/Design, Psychology and Science related careers have been historically very difficult to find.

- **Work Experience**

Every year our Y11 and Y12 students undertake a week's work experience placement. This is a fantastic opportunity to experience the world of work firsthand, to gain insight into a possible future pathway and, most importantly, to develop valuable transferable skills that can be brought to their future applications for universities and apprenticeships.

Our students in both year groups are currently investigating possible companies to approach. It can be a very tricky task, with many companies choosing only to offer placements to students who are connected to existing staff. This is extremely challenging for those students whose network of possible contacts is very limited

To this end, if the company you work for is willing to offer work experience placements to SJB students please please do get in touch. Our students would be incredibly grateful.

The dates for work experience for this academic year are as follows:

Year 12: Monday 18 May – Friday 22 May

Year 11: Monday 22 June – Friday 26 June