

St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 2nd February 2024

Selwyn College Cambridge

On Friday 26th January a select group of Year 12 Visited the university to have a tour of the campus and city, as well as meet current students who attend there. More photos inside the newsletter.

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

Link to the latest video is:

Headteacher Message NEWSLETTER 2nd February 2024 (youtube.com)

Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Josephs content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



"The glory of God is a human being fully alive!"

Theme of the Week – He cured many who suffered

The Gospel on Sunday tells us many things. In the first three verses of the Gospel, we see Jesus fulfil the need of Simon. His mother-in-law is sick and when Jesus arrives at the house, Simon tells him of this. Simon is worried about his mother-in-law and he turns to Jesus because he believes he can help; Jesus does by curing her. St Mark seems to be emphasising the purpose of Jesus' mission — to teach and to heal so that we might be free to serve God. We too need to look to healing people, not by curing them of their sickness like Jesus did but we can be a healing presence for someone going through a difficult time or a personal struggle.

In the next part of the Gospel we see something very similar but on a bigger scale. Many went to Jesus with their sick or who had demons and he cured them. In their hour of need, they turned to Jesus. And if we examine this part of the Gospel, it can resonate with our own lives. When we are in need who do you turn too? Now when the need is small such as needing some equipment or some guidance on what your homework might be, we may turn to a friend. When the needs are greater in having something to eat or buying a new item of clothing we turn to our parents. However, in the Gospel we see the greatest need for some. Their families are sick so they turn to Christ. Unfortunately, many of us in our lifetime may have experienced something similar and when do – with our greatest problems we turn to Christ and usually through prayer.

Let's now look at the second part of the Gospel, we learn more. Jesus the next day is found in prayer. Why is Jesus in prayer? Possibly in thanks to God? Possibly, asking God to help those in need? Jesus, in this moment, illustrates to us the importance of prayer and making time for it so we too can have a relationship with God. St Mark reveals to us a Christ who prays and is close to God, a compassionate Christ who works day and night at the tasks that has been assigned to him. Pope Francis has designated 2024 the year of prayer. Here his Holiness calls us to deepen our relationship with the Lord through prayer. *"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity."* Pope Francis

The last message in the Gospel we find is what Jesus goes on to do after prayer and here we can go to the letter of St Paul in the 2nd reading to seek the importance of this. St Paul writes 'I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; ... and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings'. St Paul acknowledges the duty on him to spread the Gospel and this is also reflected in Jesus and his ministry. Teaching the Good News was not to be restricted to those who knew him, to save the loved ones of those he knew, it was to be preached so all could hear. Jesus says 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' Jesus came to serve God and to preach the Good News to all; he has given us the Good News! Rather than wait in our time of need to have a relationship with God, we too should serve one another with the Good News so others can celebrate and rejoice with God. We are reminded that the cure of a person, the setting free from sicknesses of the body and mind, is a freeing to serve others and God in a more complete way. We can emphasise this with one another with the value of daily prayer in our lives. Our lives need to be connected each day to God's love and from being connected, we too can follow in the footsteps of our Saviour and serve God.

He cured many who suffered

Weekly Reflections 4th February 2024



A reading from the Gospel of St Mark (1:29-39)

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

Prayer for the Week

Generous Father, you allow us to have a relationship with you through prayer and we thank you for the beautiful things you have given us. Remind us that you sent your son to serve so we too can follow his example. Teach us to give generously and to serve you by helping our brothers and sisters.

Amen.

Feast Day – St Josephine Bakhita 8th February



Josephine Bakhita was kidnapped and sold into slavery. She suffered years of abuse and torture. In 1883, she was sold to a family and two years later they moved to Italy. She became a nanny to a child and accompanied her to school in Venice run by the Canossian Sisters. She felt called to learn more about the Church and was baptized with the name Josephine Margaret. She remained in Italy and dedicated her life to assisting her community and teaching others to love God. She was known for her smile, gentleness and holiness. She even went on record saying, "If I were to meet the slave-traders who kidnapped me and even those who tortured me, I would kneel and kiss their hands". Josephine was:

Compassionate and loving

Day 1

Why do you think Simon turns to Jesus with his need? What does Simon think will be accomplished?

Why should we then try and help those who are sick and in need? Is your life founded on prayer (do you give prayer the importance it requires?)

Day 2

Why do you think Pope Francis has given 2024 to the year of prayer?

Day 3

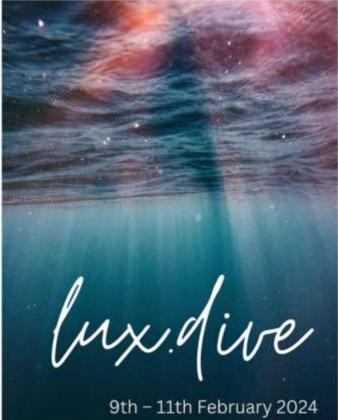
How can you deepen your relationship with God in prayer? In developing this relationship how too can you try and serve God as our Saviour taught us?

LUX Dive- A Residential Youth Retreat for Young People Years 7-13

Students from School Years 7-13 are invited to the next residential youth weekend, LUX:Dive which is being run by NYMO.

For those who work with this age group this weekend is a great opportunity to encourage young people to come along and get involved. All the details are below. *To watch a promotional video and for more information please see*:

https://nymo.org/lux-dive/



King's Park Centre, Northampton https://nymo.org/lux-dive/

AN INVITATION TO DIVE HEADFIRST INTO A LIFE OF COURAGEOUS FAITH.

The deep waters of life bring many challenges such as anxiety, fear, loneliness, and we are called to swim with Jesus to discover a more enduring faith that cannot be shaken by circumstances.

DO YOU WANT TO DIVE DEEPER WITH GOD?

Get ready to exchange fear and confusion for the courage and holy confidence that lead to a life of deep faith and joy!

February 9th - 11th

Year 7 to 13 £125



To book your place visit our website https://nymo.org/lux-dive/

Lenten Fundraiser

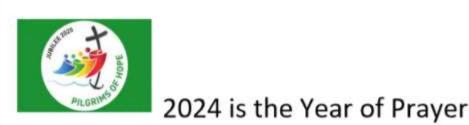
During this period of Lent we not only mark traditionally by fasting and by other acts of penance, at St Joseph's we also give this period to fundraising in as many ways as possible to help support those who are less fortunate. This year money raised through fundraising will be donated to our school charities. It would be great to have as many staff as possible leading on an event. I

f you wish to lead on an event please can you click on the link to take you to sharepoint and complete the word document with you event outlining:

Name of event Date Resources needed

Lent 2024

If you can then create a poster and send on to me I will ensure it goes into tutor notices, newsletter and bulletin.





The year 2025 is a Jubilee year in the Church for Pilgrims of Hope. As such, His Holiness, Pope Francis, has asked us to prepare for this by designating 2024 as the year of Prayer.

"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity."

Pope Francis

During the season of Lent, students will be reflecting on different types of prayer and ways to pray in order to prepare them for the sacrifice made on Good Friday and the celebration of the Resurrection at Easter. We encourage all, students, parents, staff and parishes to send in their prayers to <u>chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk</u> so over the course of Lent and throughout the whole year we can come together as a school community to pray for our intentions and allow us all to deepen our relationship with God.

ADMINISTERING PARACETAMOL – CONSENT REQUIRED

With regard to paracetamol, the school office hold a supply to be administered for the relief of headaches, migraine, neuralgia, and rheumatic aches and pains.

We are asking parents to provide the school with written consent for the administering of paracetamol. Holding this information will enhance the current system we have in place for first aid, and will enable us to deliver a faster, more efficient provision.

The school will only administer with written consent from you giving us permission to do so. Pupils are **NOT** allowed to carry their own paracetamol. If paracetamol is administered at any time during the school day we will inform the parent/carer of the time of administration and dosage. We ask all students to only ask for or take paracetamol in a responsible way.

Paracetamol will only be administered as a last resort. A first aider will assess if paracetamol is required and will ensure it is administered in their presence. Students will be prompted to tell a member of staff if they have already taken any that day.

Dosage

The tablets we hold contain 500mg of paracetamol. Tablets are for oral use, swallowed with a drink of water. Children 16 years and over take one or two tablets up to 4 times a day. Children 10 - 15 years of age take one tablet up to 4 times a day.

Conditions of Use

Consent recorded on ParentPay is valid for 7 years from the date provided, or for the period of time your child attends this school. The consent will automatically expire after this time.

PROVIDE CONSENT ON PARENTPAY

Please can we ask you to login to your ParentPay account and provide consent, granting the school permission for your son or daughter to be given paracetamol when required.

If you do not wish to give the school consent to administer paracetamol please contact <u>office@stjosephs.slough.sch.uk</u>.

Year 9 Meningitis ACWY & Td/IPV Immunisations

The Berkshire Immunisation Service will be visiting St Josephs on 12th March 2024 for the Year 9 Meningitis ACWY & Td/IPV Immunisations.

Parent/carers are required to complete a consent form as soon as possible if you would like your child to receive their vaccination at school. If parents/carers do not wish for their child to be vaccinated, please advise them to complete the form as a non-consent. The consent letter is a separate attachment along with the newsletter.

"Unlocking Belief in All"

Year 7 News

It feels like just yesterday we came back from Christmas Holidays but just a gentle reminder we will be off for Half Term from 3.15pm next Friday. When we return there second reports will be released to you at the start of March.

If you have any questions or queries then please let me know

Have a lovely weekend all!

Mr Cooper-Santo – Head of Year 7

Year 9 News

Thank you for your attendance at Parents Evening yesterday, I hope your teacher's feedback will be helpful and insightful for the next steps towards picking your GCSEs. Next Thursday will be CIAG evening where information will be given on the GCSE options process, please make sure you attend. Timings for the evening is 5-7 pm.

Miss Joseph - Head of Year 9

Year 9 News – Peer Productions

We are delighted to be hosting Peer Productions Theatre Company at St Joseph's on 29th Feb with a production of their play Masking, as part of our Health and Wellbeing programme. Founded in 2006, Peer Productions is a pioneering arts charity specialising in peer education through theatre. Their plays are developed with and performed by DBS checked young actors (aged 18 to 24 years), and they use a mixture of humour and hard-hitting drama to educate young audiences about important social and health issues. Masking is a play by Peer Productions' Artistic Director Nina Lemon designed to address the impact of modern life on teenagers' mental health.

Ultimately, the play asks young audiences to consider how they can build connections and find joy in this uncertain world as well as how they can know when they need to ask for help. If you would like to discuss the production or withdraw your child from this session, please contact Mrs Ossei-Brainoo on j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

Year 10 Football News

The year 10 football team travelled to Reading to start their County Cup campaign. A tough and physical Waingels squad faced St Josephs who unfortunately lost the battle. Conceding 5 goals and only scoring 2.

The score line doesn't represent the performance and physical battel the team went through, showing great desire and resilience to keep working. Although the score line doesn't suggest, the game was extremely even. A couple of bounces of the ball falling St Josephs way, the score line could quite easily have flipped.

Excellent performance throughout. Goals Zac x2 Man of the Match: Zac

Year 11 News

Good Luck to all of Year 11 who are sitting their next round of PPE's beginning next week, make sure you work hard and revise for all of your subjects.

Take the time to get a good night's sleep, eat breakfast and stay hydrated. Interventions will not take place when the PPE's are on. They will commence again after the PPE's (more information nearer the time)

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 11

Year 7 Bowling Event

On Monday a group of students went to Salt Hill Activity Centre for a bowling competition.

St Joseph's finished 2nd out of 6 schools with 2 students getting over 100 points!

Well done to Gianina, Luca, Che and Ben.



World Book Day!

World book day at St Joseph's will be celebrated on Monday the **4**th of March. More details will be released soon but we will have our usual book character 'dress up' competition and a talk by author Matt Dickenson. I will put information in form time next week as well as more information in next week's newsletter.

PPE 2 begins on the 5th February

Year 11 and 13 students (as well as some Year 12 students) will begin their PPEs on Monday – continuing until the 1st of March. Please see the updated timetable (there are some small changes to length of exams and locations).

Exam clashes

Where students have an exam clash, they will automatically be placed into the catch up session on the timetable. Our Exams Officer will get in touch with the students as to which exam they will sit in which of the two catch up sessions (these are on the timetable already).

I wish all of our students sitting exams the very best of luck!

Slough Junior Netball Club - Mondays starting 5th Feb 204

We are now taking bookings for our new junior netball now turn up and play sessions, hosted by Slough Netball Club. Commencing -Mon 5th Feb 2024.

If you would like to book your child please book via our website at the below link to reserve a place.

Date, Time & Location

Monday's 6pm-7pm

Langley Grammar School, Reddington Dr, Langley, Slough SL3 7QS, UK

About the Event

Junior Netball Now - Turn Up and Play netball sessions, fun game play. Every Monday 6pm - 7pm , for girls in school years Y6-Y12. All levels welcome.

Starting 5th February 2024.

Deposit Required

£6.00 Per Session, Pay as you go.

Spaces are limited so book now to avoid disappointment <u>https://www.sloughnetballleague.com/event-</u> <u>details/new-junior-netball-now-mondays-starting-5th-feb-2024</u>

Science Club

Science club students dissected the heart to explore its function by examining the internal and external structures.

















TVLP - Baby Drive

Our TVLP student leaders, Leah and Finlay, are leading a charity collection event for those in need of items for babies and young children. We are trying to spread our mission and values of Christ into further TVLP schools and help those who are less fortunate. We would be really grateful if you could bring in items into



attached. Any questions, please email Mrs Burby (Boland).

Date	Start	Length	Component Title	Location	Level	Year
05- Feb	8:45am	2hr 00	Biology Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
05- Feb	8:45am	2hr 30	English Language Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
05- Feb	8:45am	1hr 45	Religious Education Paper I (Catholic Christianity)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
05- Feb	1:30pm	2hr 00	Media Studies Paper 1	Sports Hall	A Level	13
05-		1hr 15				
Feb 05-	1:30pm		History Paper I (Medicine Through Time)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb 06-	1:30pm	1hr 00	BTEC Sport	Sports Hall	BTEC	12
Feb 06-	8:45am	2hr 30	Geography Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
Feb 06-	8:45am	2hr 30	English Literature Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
Feb 06-	8:45am	1hr 45	English Language Paper 1	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb	1:30pm	1hr 30	Core Maths Paper I	Sports Hall	Level 3	12
06- Feb	1:30pm	2hr 00	Mathematics Paper I (Pure)	Sports Hall	A Level	13
06- Feb	1:30pm	1hr 30	Creative iMedia	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
06- Feb	1:30pm	1hr 45	Business Paper I	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
07- Feb	8:45am	2hr 00	Chemistry Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
07-						
Feb 07-		8:45am 2hr 15 History Paper I (USA)		Sports Hall	A Level	13
Feb 07-	8:45am	1hr 30	Vocational Business (Computer Exam)	Sports Hall	BTEC	12
Feb 07-	8:45am	1hr 15	Physics (Combined) (Foundation)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb 07-	8:45am	1hr 15	Physics (Combined) (Higher)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb 07-	8:45am	1hr 45	Physics (Separate) (Foundation)	Sports Hall	GCSE	NC
Feb	8:45am	1hr 45	Physics (Separate) (Higher)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
07- Feb	1:30pm	2hr 00	Business Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
07- Feb	1:30pm	1hr 30	Computing Paper I	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
07- Feb	1:30pm	1hr 00	Physical Education Paper I	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
07- Feb	1:30pm	1hr 30	BTEC H & SC	Sports Hall	BTEC	12
08- Feb	8:45am	2hr 30	Computing (Component 1)	Sports Hall	A Level	13
08- Feb			Law Paper I	Sports Hall	A Level	13
08-						
Feb 08-	8:45am	1hr 30	Mathematics Paper I (Foundation) Non-Calculator	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb 08-	8:45am	1hr 30	Mathematics Paper I (Higher) Non-Calculator	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb 08-	1:30pm	2hr 00	Religious Education Paper I (Philosophy)	Sports Hall	A Level	13
Feb 08-	1:30pm 1hr 00 Geography Paper I 1:30pm 1hr 45 History Paper II [Superpower Relations / CW / AS & I 8:45am 2hr 00 Physics Paper I		Geography Paper I	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
Feb			History Paper II (Superpower Relations / CW / AS & N)	Sports Hall	GCSE	11
			Sports Hall	A Level	13	
09- Feb						
09-	8:45am	2hr 15	Sociology	Sports Hall	A Level	13
09- Feb 09-	8:45am 8:45am	2hr 15 2hr 30	Sociology Spanish Paper I (Listening Reading & Writing)	Sports Hall Sports Holl	A Level	13 13
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Upcoming PPE

Schedule

Selwyn College Cambridge

On Friday 26th January a select group of Year 12 Visited the university to have a tour of the campus and city, as well as meet current students who attend there





Design and Technology Department

Year 10 D&T

Year 10 have been developing their modelling and cardboard engineering skills. Modelling and Iterative design are an important part of the GCSE skillset as it is important to be able to realise your designs in 3D before manufacture. FABULOUS work year 10!









After learning some of the theory behind mechanisms and motions, Year 10 manufactured a small themed moving display.



DT Make It Elective

It has been a real pleasure to host Veronica in this terms elective





D&T Stars



Matilda Kemp For AMAZING efforts and applying her lesson work to her independent studies

Jakub Przybyla Y11 for positive attitude and effort in DT and Food

DT social media



We try to post updates and points of interest on our Instagram page we also share some of the great work being done by the D&T pupils in the department....

Access to Shine - Dinner

You're cordially invited to a special Charity Dinner Event that promises an evening of joy, good company, and making a meaningful impact! RSVP to secure your spot!!

Click **<u>HERE</u>** to Book your tickets





"Unlockina Belief in All"





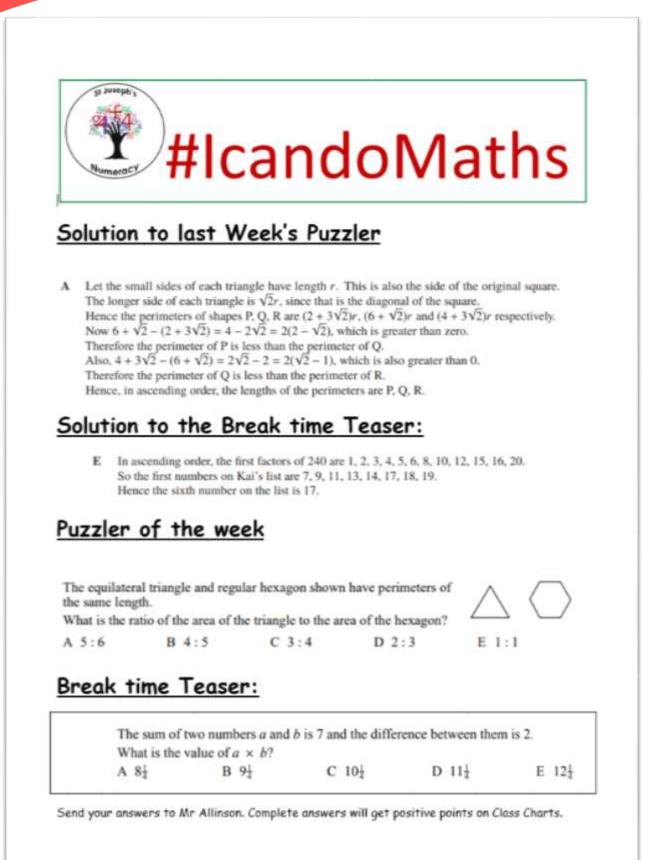
SAFE&SOUND ART. MUSIC. SPORT. FOOD. LIFE.

WHAT IS IT?	A one-day event for 11-18 year olds (up to 25 with SEND) in Slough			
WHAT'S HAPPENING?	Basketball, DJ Workshops, Music, Virtual Reality, Art, Food			
HOW MUCH?	FREE			
WHEN IS IT?	Weds, Feb 14th (Half-Term)			
WHAT TIME?	From 1-7pm 1pm-2pm 2pm 7pm	n Music, basketball and arrivals Event formally opens, free workshops Finish		
WHERE DO I REGISTER?	Scan the QR code above			



"Unlockina Belief in All"

ARTS COUNCIL



English as an Additional Language

EAL NEWS

The Importance of Mother Tongue Language in Education



Research indicates that having a strong mother tongue foundation leads to a much better understanding of the curriculum as well as a more positive attitude towards school, so it is vital that children maintain their first language when they begin schooling in a different language.

Developing the mother tongue is very important because when children develop their mother tongue, they are simultaneously fostering a whole host of other essential skills, such as **critical thinking and literacy skills**. It is this skill-set that they take with them into formal education, and research tells us that any skills and concepts gained in the learner's home language do not need to be re-taught when they transfer to a second language. For example, if a child has developed the ability to guess the meaning of a word through its context or to infer meaning by reading between the lines, these skills are easily transferred when they begin studying in a second language. It is much harder, however, to teach these abstract skills directly through a second language.

Language and mother tongue also play a huge role in the development of personal, social and cultural identity. Children with a strong foundation in their first language often display a **deeper understanding of themselves** and **their place within society**, along with an increased sense of **wellbeing and confidence**. Certainly, this flows down into every aspect of their lives, including their academic achievement.

It is crucial to note that it is through language we learn about culture, whether it is someone else's language or our own. To deprive children of their mother language literacy is to deprive them of understanding his or her cultural identity, and for children growing up in UK society understanding one's cultural identity can become compromised or changed inevitably. Children who become balanced bilinguals and develop mother language proficiency (ideally from an early age), in addition to acquire languages such as English, are equipped to become global citizens. In conclusion, Languages, with their complex implications for identity, communication, social integration, education development, are and of strategic importance for both people and the planet.



"Unlockina Belief in All"

Pupil Nominations of the Week

<u>Year7</u>

The whole class of 7Y3 Spanish for their enthusiasm, motivation and good work in Spanish throughout this term.

Livio Rodrigues and Kezia Antao for receiving the most positive points this week, well done!

<u>Year 8</u>

Joana Balasa, Isabella Lacson, Vittorio Fernando, Layla Larfa most positive points Victor Dobrowolski (8P) for his commitment and determination to do well in Spanish

<u>Year 9</u>

Jake Wood (9J) for his resilience and determination to do well in Spanish Sophiyah Khan (9J) for her excellent attitude towards learning and work ethic this term. Oliver Stacey and Celine Sidyk for getting the most positive points this week.

<u>Year 10</u>

Jessica Roff and Dominik Maslach for achieving the highest amount of positive points

<u>Year 11</u>

Dhember V and Sara M for the most positive points this week

<u>Year 12</u>

Grzegorz Kuczynski and Felmica Souza for the most positive points on Classcharts

A special mention also goes to all the students from the Scholar programme who visited Cambridge this week and represented the school extremely well.