



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 22nd March 2024



Y10 Design Ventura Competition

On Tuesday a team of our year 10 designers travelled to London to present their design proposal 'The Emergency Cache' at a pitching event in front of designers and business professionals. Further details are inside the newsletter.

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well. Link to the latest video is:

Mr Stapleton was on BBC Breakfast story this week to discuss the lockdown incident that happened a year ago. Full interview in the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UCkGkKfGgc&feature=youtu.be>

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 – Holy Week

On Palm Sunday, we marked Jesus entering Jerusalem on a Donkey with hundreds if not thousands of people coming out celebrating his arrival. Here the Jews at the time celebrated a King who would lead them up against the Romans and set them free again. However, in Jesus's ministry, where he has been preaching the Good News of God, he illustrates to us that he is not a King of war, or violence, or hurt. He is indeed a King of Peace. Jesus arriving on a Donkey (not a horse that would traditionally be used in war) shows us that he is no earthly King or soldier, he comes as a King of peace, of love and of forgiveness.

On Palm Sunday, we also heard the Passion of our Lord (we have commemorated this over the last half term when reflecting and contemplating the Stations of the Cross). How things can change in the matter of only a few days! Remember it is only five days earlier where the crowd celebrated Jesus. At the start of the Passion, it begins with a conspired plan and then the arrest of Jesus leading to his death.

Throughout Holy Week (the week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday), it is important to remember and focus on the agony and desolation of the Passion. Jesus, our Lord, suffers terribly at the hands of Pilate who throughout is encouraged by the Pharisees to do this. We do not just learn of the awful physical pain Jesus went through in being beaten by soldiers and the burden of the heavy cross being carried on his shoulders to His death. We also learn of other events through the scripture Stations of the Cross; the mental anguish he suffered, Jesus in agony in the garden, praying to God for an alternative way rather than His death. The agony of seeing a friend state to others that he did not know Him; the pain of having His own mother witnessing His death. However, we must remember the fact that His death led to His Resurrection for our salvation, for His mercy and forgiveness, for His love for us.

As we start Holy Week let us put aside our anger, hurt and possibly hate towards others. Let us truly live our lives as Christ intended us to live, through the Good News, by loving and forgiving one another, but supporting those most in need and by ensuring any Cross one is burdened with and has to carry, can be relieved by us in our friendship and kindness. Christ died for us, so our sins are forgiven, so we can be saved and so we too can believe in the eternal glory that is the Kingdom of God. Let this death not be in vain. Jesus is the light, the light we follow for redemption – let us follow this light in everything we do. Amen

Holy Week

Weekly Reflections
24th March 2024



A reading from the Gospel of St Mark (11:1-10)

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it. If any one says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately."' And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!'



Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, we pray.

Jesus, you paid the price for our sins.
Allow us to celebrate the paschal
festivities not only with bodily
observance but also with purity of
mind.

Teach us to glory in the Cross and bow
down before you the crucified and risen
Lord.

Amen.

Day 1

Why did Jesus enter Jerusalem on a donkey?
What was the symbolic gesture of this?

What Good News can you recall of Jesus'
ministry? And why do you think he teaches us
this?

Day 2

How many moments in the Stations of the Cross
can you recall?

What physical and mental pain did Jesus go
through in the events up to and including his
death?

Day 3

In private think about the Cross that you carry
at this moment.

How can we change so we do not let this Cross
continue to burden us, to ensure the death of
Jesus was not done in vain, but in fact show
Christ in ourselves to others?

Lenten Gospel Reflections for each week of Lent

Bishop David has written and recorded a series of Lenten Gospel reflections for each week in Lent. In the video and audio version you can listen to the Gospel of the day and the reflection by Bishop David. You can watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BC0NGLQ4hSM>

Big Lent Walk

Due to poor weather conditions in the previous week, we are rescheduling the Big Lent Walk to Black Park. It will no longer be this Saturday. Instead, it will go ahead on Saturday 27th April. Please contact me at c.crabtree@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk if you are happy for your child to take part on this date and your ParentPay permission will then be transferred over for this date.

In the meantime, please continue to donate to our Just Giving Page using QR code (below)

If you go on any walks between now and the end of Lent, it would be great to get some pictures and hear of the distance you've gone! We are still a way off our 200km target as a school.

Thank you for your generosity and participation!
Miss Crabtree



Attendance Notice

Please be aware that all medical absences from the last week of term and the first week of the summer term will be unauthorised without medical evidence. This is per our updated attendance policy. If you have planned a holiday, please email office@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk with an explanation including the dates of absence and proof of the travel documentation both outbound and inbound.

Revision Guides

There are KS3 and KS4(GCSE) revision guides available for purchase. They are 3.99 each on parent pay

Revision flash cards are also available for purchase on parent pay

The Diocese of Northampton



On Tuesday 19th March, Catholic Schools from around the Diocese of Northampton came together for a Mass with Bishop David to celebrate his anniversary.

It was an opportunity for students from the schools to come together to celebrate, pray and to meet the Bishop and others from around the Diocese.

I'm delighted to announce that St Joseph's students were selected, alongside other schools in the Diocese to attend. This is a great honour and is an illustration of the high value the Chaplaincy team of St Joseph's have been seen doing. The mass took place at Northampton Cathedral.



Faith Walk

On Wednesday 1st May, we will celebrate our Feast Day, St Joseph the Worker. Attached to the newsletter is a letter outlining the plans for the day. It will involve Mass in the morning before a whole school 'Faith Walk and Picnic' to Eton fields. The walk is compulsory for all students and parents/guardians must give consent via ParentPay. If any parent/guardian have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk



Word of the week

'Multifaceted'.

It is an adjective meaning something which has many sides, aspects or features. This is Mrs Cumming's favourite word!

Idiom of the week

'Throw caution to the wind'.

This means to act in a completely reckless manner.

Year 7 News

Hello All,

I hope we have had an amazing week. We have had a good term this term, It is very difficult to believe that the Year 7s have only got one term left of Year 7, feels like just yesterday they came in for their transition day.

A reminder that we break up for Easter Break at 12.30 on Thursday 28th.

Have a lovely weekend all!

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

An AMAZING week this week for Year 8 with behaviour rising across the year group to 92% positive which is the highest since January. We had rewards assembly this week with 15 certificates being given for outstanding performance and 15 for best progress across all subjects. 8 Jerome won best attendance for the term with 97% and 8 Mark won the most positive points at a whopping 1094!! As we head in to our final week before Easter we start to turn our attention towards our whole school mass and the celebrations ahead.

Miss McCormack – Head of Year 8



Year 9 News

Well done for another positive week! It's hard to believe that we only have one more week left! Today we had celebration assembly where we were able to commemorate all of the good work that has been done this term.

Reminder we finish school next week on Thursday at 12:30 😊

Hope you have a lovely weekend!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 9



Year 9 Trip - Reading Crown Court

On Saturday 16th March, we took 13 nervous but very excited Year 9s to Reading Crown Court to take part in the prestigious Mock Trial Competition. The students arrived suited and booted ready to take on Kings Academy in the first round and Herchel Grammer in the second round. This was the culmination of over 5 months of hard work. The students all gave incredible individual performances but as a team they were unstoppable! I am delighted to say that they came in second place and are through to the finals which will take place on the 18th May. Huge congratulations to:

Oliwer Wlodkowski
Patrycja Szczepanska
Maksymilian Wedrzyk
Jose Afonso Reis Gomes
Filip Ozdoba
Mikah Aungon
Michal Kundys

Oliver Kroliczek
Antoni Tobjaszewski
Vanessa Masna
Oliver Stacey
Arina Pavlovskaja
Mateusz Stroczyński

We are so proud of you! - Ms Ahmed



Year 10 News

Congratulations to Anegelo Bonsu and Rosa Jarrett for achieving the most positive points this week.

**Year 11 news**

A massive well done for the PPE2 results this week, some of you have worked extremely hard. See the quote below:

"Before the reward, there must be labour. You plant before you harvest. You sow in tears before you reap joy"

We are at the crucial point now where every minute counts. On Tuesday evening at 6.00 there will be an information evening for both parents and pupils. This is an important evening where a lot of key points will be shared by SLT and core Heads of Department. **Please can you confirm that you are attending on ParentPay.**

During Easter there will be interventions offered, again it is imperative that the students attend these, there will be letters and timetables coming out next week.

I hope you all have a great weekend and keep up the good work.



Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 11

Year 13 News

Please see the letter that was sent out regarding Easter intervention sessions. It is vitally important that students maintain momentum in their studies over the next few weeks. Students have also received their personal timetables for the summer public examinations, if they have any questions or queries about this then they need to contact myself or the exams officer. All students need to be available up to and including the 26th June in case contingency plans need to be put in place by the exam boards.

Best wishes,

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 13

Y12 Trip TVLP Philosothon

On Tuesday evening, Year 12 Philosophy students took part in the annual TVLP Philosothon, hosted by Eton College. This is a night of intellectual debate and discussion, where pupils across TVLP schools can share and learn new theories and ideas from each other. Well done to the students that took part: Patrycja, Roza, Maks, Mikhaella, Matteo and Tafara- You all made the school and teachers very proud as you articulated yourself beautifully and had the courage to get involved and take part. All students fed back that they enjoyed the debates and that they are excited to try again at next year's competition!

A special mention to Tafara Oguntoye who won a prize for the highest scoring student at St Joseph's in the competition- Very well done!



Countdown Competition

I'm thrilled to announce that, Peter House emerged victoriously in the recent Countdown House Competition surpassing competitors from various year groups with skill, strategy, and teamwork. A massive thank you to all the forms that participated. Keep shining brightly, and remember that every challenge is an opportunity to grow and succeed.



PE News



Over the last few weeks students have been competing in various team sports as part of their PE interform. The boys took part in football, basketball and rugby whilst the girls competed in netball, football and rugby. During their PE lessons students' competitive side was shown as they worked well in their forms to compete against their peers.

With all results added together the overall winners of this year's PE interform are Jerome! Big well done to all who joined in and got involved in representing their house.

Mrs Bray

	House	House points
1 st	Jerome	1000
2 nd	Veronica	800
3 rd	Cecilia	600
4 th	Teresa	400
5 th	Peter	200
6 th	Mark	100



Football News

The year 7 team faced a talented Dedworth Middle School side in the Quarter-Final of the District Cup.

An accumulation of pressure and territory led St Josephs to be the dominant side throughout the whole game. Allowing multiple chances to score. The team Captain Chibs showed his class by finding the net 3 times though out the first half.

The second half followed the same pattern as the first. With many chances but unfortunately not finding the net, against the run of play long range effort managed to find the crossbar and bounce in the spoil Marcus's clean sheet for the day.

Goals: Chibs E x3 **Man of the Match:** Marcel K



The Year 10 team travelled to Windsor Boys School, renown to be the toughest game of the year. The team showed immense determination, resilience and patience to sit behind the ball and execute the tactical plan that is very different to our usual style of play.

Unfortunately during the second half, the hard work and vast effort the team had put in began to show as tired legs and minds began to appear.

Unfortunately the score line doesn't reflect the performance and work the boys put in.

Full time score 4-1 to WBS.

Goal: Jean-Marie T **Man of the Match:** Andrius T

Science Club

Students enjoyed watching the 'Golden rain' experiment as it produces beautiful crystals that resemble plates of gold.

Students used the technique Chromatography to separate the colours present in ink.



St Josephs Catholic High School Inter House Chess Tournament 2024

Please see the results and some highlights of this years' Inter house chess tournament.

Position	House	Points
First Place (1st)	Mark	1000
First Place (1st)	Mark	1000
Third (3rd)	Jerome	400
Third (3rd)	Teresa	400
Fifth (5th)	Peter	200
Sixth (6th)	Cecelia	100



Being Grateful, Discerning, Truthful and Wise)

Rapper Breis

On Monday, 7 year 8's went to visit Beechwood School and meet the rapper BREIS this is what one student Bruno said about the event:

"I loved the workshop that the tvlp put together. BRIZE is quite inspirational going to schools and talking about rap how it started in New York, is called different names in different countries and how rap can be a hobby and career. He also talked about how he didn't always want to do rap and perform in front of crowds full of people he talked about having anxiety rapping on a stage. Personally I really liked the trip and found it really interesting I would definitely go again."





Design and Technology Department

Design Ventura 2023-2024



On Tuesday a team of our year 10 designers travelled to London to present their design proposal 'The Emergency Cache' at a pitching event in front of designers and business professionals. The Emergency Cache is a handy and cute capsule which can hold an emergency reusable and compostable shopping bag, and also hide away and store other small items when you need somewhere safe and handy to keep them. Their idea beat over 300 entries from other schools across the country to be one of the final 10 shortlisted ideas.

Matilda, Nathan, Evie and Oliver started the day finalising and practicing their presentation and preparing for the Q&A which would follow their pitch. They travelled by train to Deutsche Bank in London and arrived in good time to look around the venue and settle down. The icebreaker challenge saw their team come in 2nd place after other teams nearby took inspiration from their construction.

Pitching in 8th position our year 10s watched some of the other teams present their ideas and as their turn approached they rose above their nerves to confidently pitch their idea.

. The team did superbly and now have a long wait until April 24th when they travel again to a celebration event at the Design Museum. WELL DONE



Year 11

What a busy couple of weeks! Well done to the year 11 chefs who last week completed their practical food tasks- pulling together all the elements and trials of their NEA to prepare, cook and present their 3 dishes. Amazing efforts and standards were demonstrated and I'm reliably informed that the dishes were incredibly tasty. Unfortunately, we are unable to currently share photographs of their outcomes as they are part of ongoing assessments.

A final push now by all of year 11 (Food and DT) to finalise the written work of their NEAs to make sure they maximise their marks and get the grades they are capable of. Look out for the dates of Easter interventions to make best use of all the time you have available.

KS3 Food.



Some great and tasty dishes leaving the kitchen this week, Year 8s are now expert Mac n cheese makers (and eaters) and Year 9s have perfected delicious Sticky toffee puddings. We hope you've enjoyed tasting these dishes and please do let us know if you make them again at home.

DT Make It Elective



There is still time- it is not too late to buy a fabulous item from the D&T MakeIt Elective Fundraising sale. The range of small items including keyrings, badges, magnets and earrings which are available to buy. Please come to A3 (DT room) with a couple of pounds to make a purchase. All proceeds will go towards the Lenten charities.

This week spring has been in the air, and the Makeit pupils have made some spring blooms to brighten



D&T Stars



Nathan James, Matilda Kemp, Evie Leonard-Finn, Oliver Mahoney for their intentional and Discerning work in preparation for the Design Ventura pitch

Year 7- Nela Mocny, Evan Blanquisco

Year 8- Jessica Lysiak, Enakhe Mahmud

Year 9- Antoni Tobjaszewski, Celine Sidyk

For Excellent work and Good progress in D+T and food lessons

DT social media STJOSEPHSDT

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....



STJOSEPHSDT



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A The diagrams show one of the twenty-five congruent right-angled triangles and the two such triangles at vertex R. Let the two acute angles in each of the triangles be x° and y° .



Note that $x + y + 90 = 180$, as the interior angles of a triangle sum to 180° .

So $x + y = 90$. In the second diagram, the two angles which meet at R are x° and y° , so we can deduce that angle QRP is a right angle.

Let the length of the hypotenuse of each small triangle be a cm.

Note that angle QRP is a right angle, PR has length $4a$ cm and RQ has length $3a$ cm.

So the lengths of the sides in triangle PQR are in the ratio $3 : 4 : 5$.

Therefore the length of PQ , in cm, is $5 \times \frac{a}{5} = a$.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- D The sum of the interior angles of a quadrilateral is 360° . So the smallest angle in the quadrilateral is $3 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 60^\circ$ and the largest angle is $6 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 120^\circ$. Hence the required difference is 60° .

Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows six congruent equilateral triangles, of side-length 2, placed together to form a parallelogram.

What is the length of PR ?



A $2\sqrt{13}$

B 7

C $6\sqrt{3}$

D 9

E $7\sqrt{3}$

Break time Teaser:

What is a half of a third, plus a third of a quarter, plus a quarter of a fifth?

A $\frac{1}{1440}$

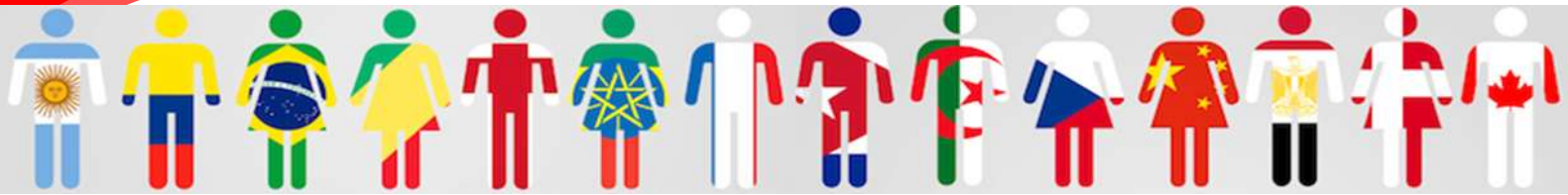
B $\frac{3}{38}$

C $\frac{1}{30}$

D $\frac{1}{3}$

E $\frac{3}{10}$

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. Complete answers will get positive points on Class Charts.



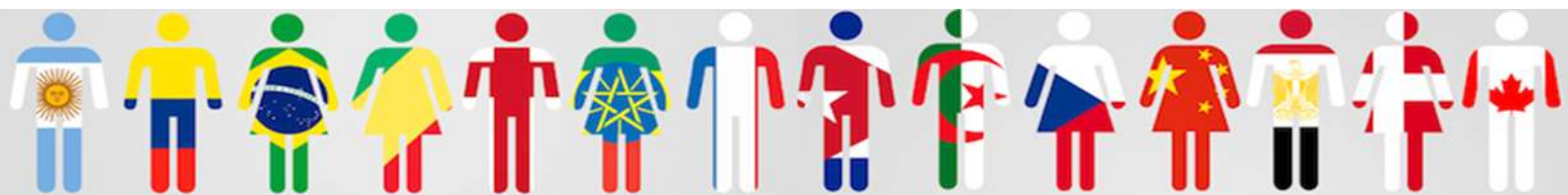
EAL News

English as Additional Language

Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer many opportunities for learning. Use the following tips to support reading at home:

<p>Questions</p> <p>Fill free to use your home language when talking about the book.</p>	<p>All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to'. Ask questions before, during, and after reading aloud. This can help your child focus attention on the ideas in the story. So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is happening? • Where is this? • Who is that? • When might this be happening?
<p>Ask your child to summarise what they have read</p>	<p>Model how to summarise the key events/facts in the book. Encourage your child to have a go using a proper sentence and relate the book to what he/she already knows or has experienced.</p>
<p>Maintain the motivation to read</p>	<p>Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Engage in conversations; offer a literacy-rich environment, even talk about school, magazines, or current events. Ask them what they are reading and discuss the books. Also, ask them about their reading age and appreciate their efforts.</p>



Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7

Lena Wilk and Wadih Keyrouz for receiving the most positive points.

Year 8

Joanna Balasa and Brianne Barrozo for achieving the highest positive points
Layla Larfa for achieving certificates for outstanding performance in 3 different subjects.

Year 9

Wiktor Szmulewicz and Licia Triumph for getting the most positive points

Year 10

Angelo Bonsu and Rosa Jarrett most positive points

Year 11

Solomon Ketter and Wiktoria Trzos most positive points

Year 12

Alex Ellner and Weronika Lewandowska for the most positive points on ClassCharts, plus a special mention for Minerva Cabasa for an excellent work ethic and performance in Media Studies.

Year 13

Jude Arthur, Bobby Kadiri, Chiadi Emekwuo, Rhys Wilder, Nikola Metra, Michelle Arzoo, Michal Bogacki, Esther Owusu-Ansah for the amazing way they represented the school recently in the national press.



**Are you interested in supporting governance
in one of our schools?**

Are you a practising Catholic?

Can you commit 6-8 hours a month?

We have vacancies on our Local Academy Committees for Foundation Governors (practising Catholic). If this is something you are interested in, then we would love to hear from you.

For Parent Governor vacancies, schools will advertise these as they become available.



For more information, go to
www.stcat.co.uk/governor-vacancies





Homework Superstars



Rosie	Kirke	7 Veronica
Patricia	Marciniec	7 Teresa
Alexander	Homot	10 Mark



<div>  </div>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Tikka Masala served with Rice	Beef Bolognaise Pasta served with Parmesan Cheese	Chilli Con Carne served with Rice & Sour Cream	Spanish Style Chicken served with New Potatoes	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips
Chickpea & Sweet Potato Enchilada	Chinese Style Quorn & Vegetable Fried Rice	Quorn Sausage served with Mashed Potato & Gravy	Mozzarella & Tomato Pasta Bake	Cheese & Vegetable Frittata served with Chips
Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad
Chocolate Chip Cookie	Iced Chocolate Cake	Sticky Toffee Pudding with Toffee Sauce	Apple Turnover with Custard	Jam & Coconut Sponge
Pasta with a Ham & Cheese Sauce	Teriyaki Noodles	Pasta with a Tomato & Chilli Sauce	Pasta with a Cheese & Chive Sauce	Pasta with a Tomato Sauce
<div>  <div> Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps. Jacket Potatoes & Fillings, Panini & Burrito. Fruit, Yoghurt & Dessert Pots. </div> <div> HARRISON food with thought </div> </div>				