

Friday 11th September 2020



YEAR 10 DRAMA LESSON

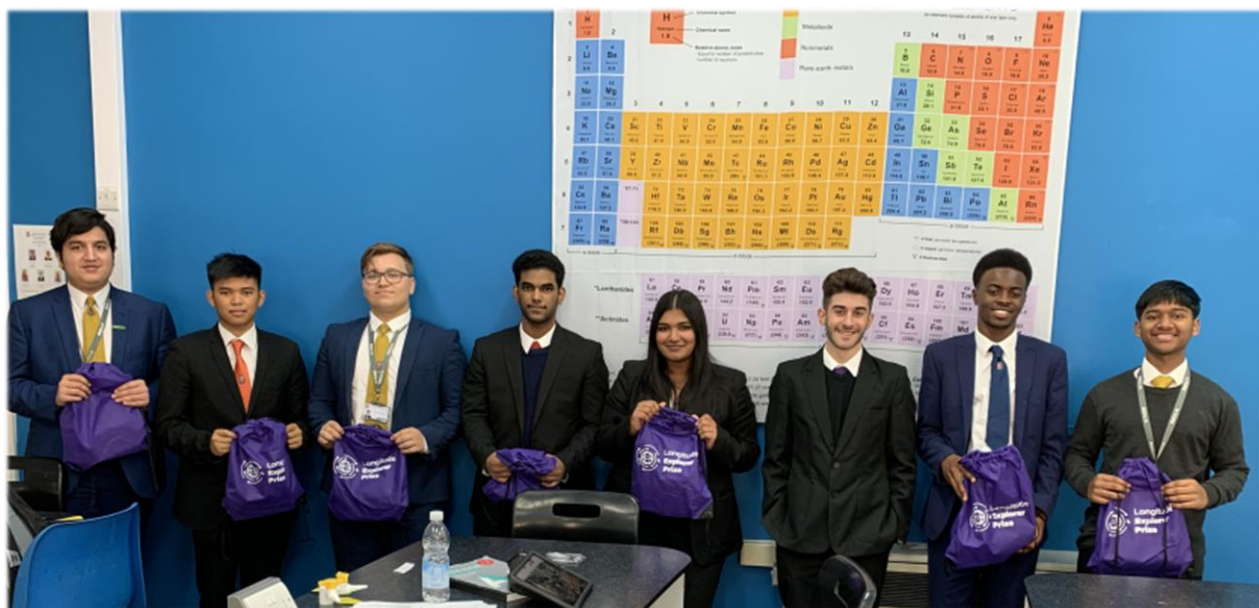


YEAR 8 STUDENTS
ENJOYING A GAME OF
CHESS AT LUNCH TIME



ART WORK BY MADISYN
WOODLEY IN YEAR 10

ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YEAR 13 PHYSICS STUDENTS FOR ACHIEVING A TOP
10 PLACE IN THE LONGITUDE EXPLORER COMPETITION

From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Open Evening (Planned date 17th September: Now Moved to Online)

Under normal circumstances we'd be opening the school to prospective parents for an opportunity to come and visit the school. Unfortunately the restrictions placed on social movement mean this is no longer feasible. As an alternative, and although far from ideal, we'll hold a virtual opening to communicate as much of what we're about as possible. We plan to place a video of the school and an introduction to our ethos and values on the website next week.

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Economic Uncertainties

With the economy as it is I'm aware that many parents and guardians might be in a difficult position where their jobs are less secure than they might have been prior to the lockdown. If a family income is less than £16,000, the children will be eligible for what used to be called Pupil Premium status (now unfortunately called Disadvantaged status). What this means is that the children will qualify for free school meals and we can access further money to help towards their education (whilst this is on an individual basis, in the past we've been able secure extra tuition, clothing, transport costs etc). Please do contact Mrs Stockings a.stockings@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk if you think you might qualify.

Meanwhile **breakfast club** continues to run every day for every student. A breakfast is available for every student, free of charge in the canteen from 7.15am.

Deanery Day 19th October

Needless to say the planned Deanery Day (an inset day for all 6 Catholic Primary and Secondary schools) which was due to take place here has now been cancelled. The good news is that this is now be a school teaching day for all students – making up for the extended re-integration of the student year groups over the last week.

Measures, checks and balances around reducing the risk of CV19 infection

The planning around continuing education during the Coronavirus period can be found on the website in a document called *Continuing Education: September Opening Arrangements*. It's an outline for how we'll respond to the current Department of Education's guidelines.

End of School Day (A reminder)

With a single entrance and exit to the school it's always been a bit of a squeeze at the end of the day when the students all leave at once. We're trying to ensure that the students have space to leave the school with enough room to socially distance and with that in mind there is now a staggered end of the day:

Year 8: 2.45pm

Year 9: 2.50pm

Year 10: 2.55pm

Years 7& 11: 3pm

Entrance and Exit to the School procedures

Helpful feedback from parents made me aware that opening up the back gate for Year 8 students to use as an access perhaps wasn't in retrospect the best idea! So we're reinstating the rule that all Year groups can currently enter and exit through the main school gates.

What happens if a child or member of staff is tested positive for CV19?

In the event of a child or member of staff being confirmed positive for Coronavirus we will contact Public Health England immediately and they will advise the school from that point. Should your child present any of the symptoms associated with the virus you should ensure you keep him/her at home and get tested. Do let us know if this happens. Further information around what to do in this situation can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> if you are unsure of what to do you should phone the emergency services on 111 and explain your concerns.

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Student Email accounts

Please do check with your child this weekend to ensure their email and password is working. Passwords can be reset if and only if you email our ICT manager Mr T. Bojanowski via email at t.bojanowski@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk. This will be critically important should there be a lock-down where on line lessons will be accessed through Microsoft Teams. We'll publish details to you directly in that eventuality but suffice to say at this point we'll be preparing the students for 'when' that might happen rather than 'if' so we can continue seamlessly offline if required.

In the meantime, have a cracking weekend.

St Joseph, pray for us

Ciran Stapleton

Theme of the Week – Forgiveness

Forgiveness always sounds very holy and pious, but it is very difficult to do in reality.

Can you recall a time when someone wronged you?

How did you respond to this?

Were you able to forgive them?

I am sure we can think of heinous crimes which seem unforgiveable. This was certainly the case for many of the relatives of the victims of Gary Ridgway. In 2003, Gary Ridgway pleaded guilty to the Supreme Court in Seattle for killing 48 women; making him the biggest serial killer in US history. He was given the nickname 'Green River Murderer'. You can watch the power of forgiveness in this short clip of his trial:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2_OOaP763k

Notice how unfazed Gary appears whilst the relatives of his victims are wishing death, and a long suffering in hell upon him. He clearly shows no signs of remorse for what he has done. The first signs of remorse can be seen when Robert Rule, a man whose daughter was murdered by Ridgway, manages to overcome anger and forgive Gary.

It is undeniably difficult to forgive others. Particularly when they may be the reason we have lost loved ones. However, responding with anger and bitterness will not encourage the receiving person to change their ways. If we want to see real change and reform, we must overcome these genuine feelings and be powerful examples of forgiveness.

If we do not forgive others, we are effectively allowing them to live rent-free in our heads. Forgiveness brings healing to both us and our recipients. Jesus emphasises in this week's Gospel reading that there should be no limit to the number of times we forgive others. In forgiving others, we are creating an atmosphere of unconditional love; where grudges are extinguished and gratitude flows in abundance.

During this week, work on the areas of your life that require healing and reconciliation.

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Geography News

The Geography Department has been very proud of the excellent standards and enthusiasm with all students back to school this week. It is clear that students have produced some great revision over the break. The following topics are being taught this term following the AQA specifications:

Year 7: Where in the World? Continents, countries, national and local locational knowledge, and skills.

Year 8: Coasts

Year 9: Natural Hazards.

Year 10: Coasts and Resource Management.

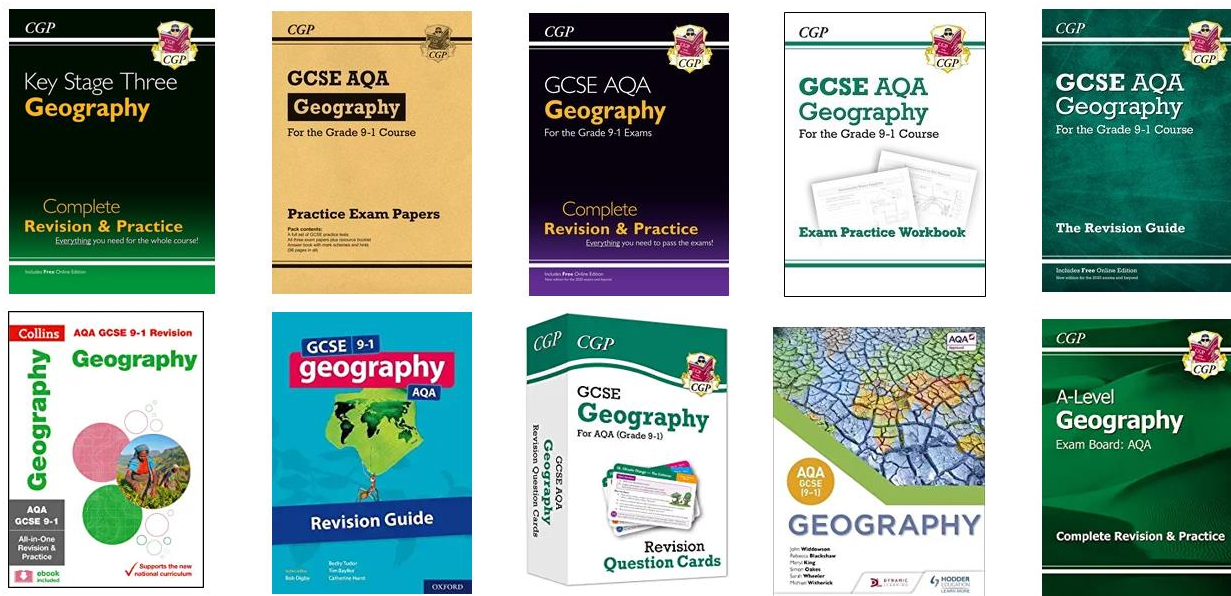
Year 11: Revision of human and physical topics for the PPEs- comprehensive list is glued into the students exercise books.

Year 12: Contemporary Urban Environments and Coastal Landscapes.

Year 13: Revision and NEA.

Please see the revision guides below that are suitable for the courses that we are following. Due to Covid regulations we cannot share our books out as easily as we used to, so please consider buying your own to support your studies at home. If you are unsure which to purchase, please speak to a member of the Geography department. #stayexcellent

Useful Revision Guides we Recommend for Geography:



These range from year groups 7-13 and can be ordered on many websites, such as Amazon, EBay, CGP and WHSmith.

R.E News

Congratulations to all those who will be making their Confirmation at Holy Family this weekend. They have had to wait an extra four months for this due to Covid. Thankfully they can now finally celebrate this sacrament.




Music Department News

Welcome Back St Joseph's!

We're looking forward to what music you have been listening to over lockdown.

Headphones for Practical Work

In preparation for music lessons this year, and following government guidance, we will be requesting that students bring their own headphones for use in music lessons. This is to reduce the risk of cross contamination between year group bubbles.

The headphones can be in ear or ear covering headphones. For headphones used with phones, please check they have the correct audio input.  (3.5mm).

If you do not have headphones, a sterilised pair will be provided for the lesson.

If there are any concerns you would like to raise, please get in contact with Miss Ure - Subject Leader of Music.

Instrumental Lessons - Slough Music Service

At St Joseph's, the music department works alongside the Slough Music Service to provide lessons to students. The music service are currently preparing their timetables following the Government's

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update of music provision on Friday 28th August, as such we are hoping for individual lessons to start later in September.

Any students who are interested in learning a musical instrument should ask Miss Ure for information.

Year 13 Parents and Students

It has been an excellent return to school by all Year 13 students- the maturity and resilience shown despite the changes enforced on us by Covid19 has been exceptional. The main focus for the students over the next 4 weeks is preparing and revising for their first set of PPE exams, which will take place from Monday 5th October- these will take place in class and have been moved forward to inform teachers where the students are at with their knowledge and understanding after the lockdown period.

In addition, any student that is applying early through UCAS to Oxford/Cambridge or to study medicine, veterinary medicine/science and dentistry must focus on completing their UCAS application and personal statement in time for the deadline on Thursday 15th October 6p.m.

A polite reminder for all sixth form students regarding the standard of uniform- overall it has been excellent but please can we ensure the following moving forward:

- No fake eyelashes
- All students must have a blazer
- Smart jumpers for girls (black/grey/red or white only and shoulders must be covered)
- Skirts **must be knee length**

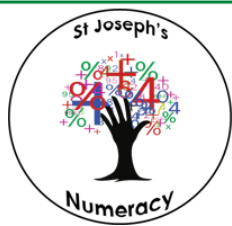
Finally, thank you to the French, Philosophy and Ethics and Physics students for this week's photos. A special mention and congratulations to the Year 13 Physics students who were awarded a top 10 placed finish in a national competition through the Longitude Explorer Prize 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mr Matthews



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#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

We have 2 lemon for every 3 water for the first glass and 1 lemon and 2 water for the other. We need to make the parts that are water to the same amount. 2 and 3 both go into 6.

First glass:

$3 \times 2 = 6$ for the water now we need to multiply the lemon part by 2 as well and we get 4, so the ratio for the first glass is 4:6 lemon to water.

Second glass:

$2 \times 3 = 6$ for the water and $1 \times 3 = 3$ for the lemon, the ratio is 3:6

The first glass has more lemon than the second

$4:6 > 3:6$

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

A The value of $2 - (3 - 4) - (5 - 6 - 7) = 2 - (-1) - (-1 - 7) = 2 + 1 - (-8) = 2 + 1 + 8 = 11$.

Problem of the week

There are several sets of five positive whole numbers with the following properties:

- Mean = 4
- Median = 3
- Mode = 3

Can you find **all** the different sets of five positive whole numbers that satisfy these conditions?

Can you explain how you know you've found them all?

Break time Teaser:

The expression $2 - 0 - 1 - 9$ contains four digits and three minus signs. What is the largest value that can be obtained by inserting exactly one pair of brackets into the expression?

A 13

B 12

C 10

D 9

E 8

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. The first full complete answer will get epraise points and a prize.

Sixth Form News

Welcome Back to the Sixth Form – I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to a very positive start for our sixth form this week. Year 12 have made a cracking start to their sixth form study and Year 13 are back, on best form and ready to tackle this final year. Below are a few messages for parents:

IT Access – could all parents of Sixth Form students who have not filled out the IT Access do so urgently via this link please: <https://rb.gy/xoqgqir>. Thank you.

Bursary – I have attached the bursary fund letter, please return this with the appropriate evidence to the school. The sooner that we have this back, the sooner we can begin to roll out support to our students. Where evidence is not financial (e.g. a student who is vulnerable) the school will be able to provide this evidence.

PPE1 Preparation – Microsoft Teams – the first set of exams will be shortly upon us (w/c October 5th). Whilst both Year 12 and 13 will take part, this will be of critical importance for Year 13 students to a) know where students are at with their learning and therefore staff and students can plan their study (particularly to cover gaps from the lockdown earlier this year) and b) these will be used largely to inform the Year 13 predicted grades for UCAS. Students will receive an offer for university based on the totality of their application (including the personal statement and the reference) but the predicted grades are a strong academic indicator for any admissions team making a decision. Thus, I have attached a PPE Preparation PLC for students to use in the run up to the exams – they will receive a copy via email and in PSHE.

Teams – the sixth form are using Microsoft Teams as a matter of course going forward, please can you check with your son/daughter to ensure that they can log on. If they can't (and need their password resetting) please ask their tutor to contact Mr Bojanowski.

Mr Clark

Grace Ngarande and Airon Leavy (who left our Sixth Form this summer) came in to say goodbye today before they leave for university to study medicine at King's College London and Pembroke – University of Cambridge. We wish them both the best of luck with their future studies.



'Unlocking Belief in All'

Year 7 News

Well done to Year 7 for a fantastic start to the year. I am slowly but surely learning all your names. I hope you have enjoyed your first weeks at St Joseph's and long may this continue. In the meantime have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Dunleavy

Year 10 News

Year 10 have had a great start to the term.

In our first assembly we talked about our vision and how we are aiming to 'Unlock belief' in all students by empowering them to achieve success

What does this look like?

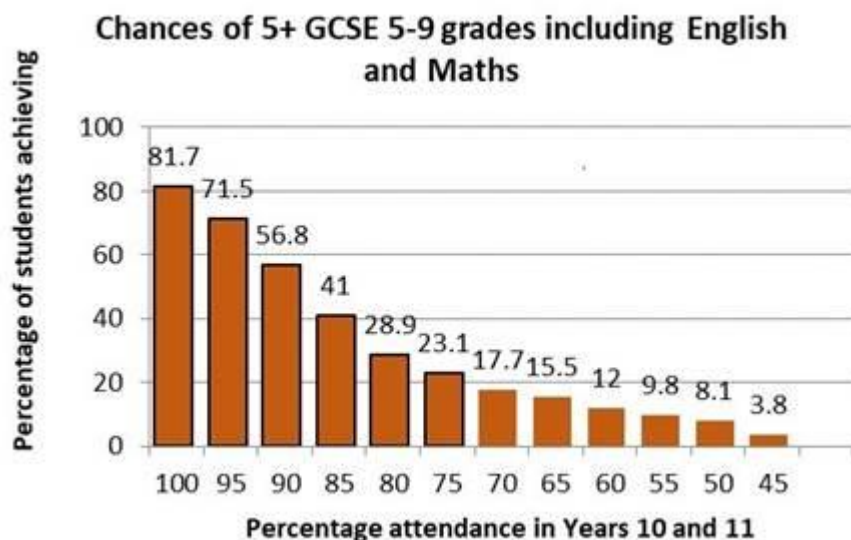
- To have a Can Do Attitude
- The ability to work independently
- Praise & recognition of success
- Good communication with parents
- To provide support to all
- To offer intervention opportunities
- Challenging tasks allowing all to achieve

It has been a pleasure walking round the school seeing them all in action; Athletics and fitness in PE, studying diseases in Science, getting their heads round simultaneous equations in Maths, Inspector Calls is being analysed in English and in Geography they are looking at Resource Management and in History looking back in time at The Cold War. The Drama students are in full swing with their devised pieces and the artists are working on Fractured Portraiture.



Attendance is key to success over the next two years. As a school we are aiming for 96% attendance. If you were to have 3 days off between now and Christmas your attendance would drop below 95% so please avoid appointments during the school day and be in school every day. The rewards trip that takes place next July will be dependent on you achieving 95% attendance or above.

'Unlocking Belief in All'



Congratulations to our lockdown superstar who all contributed in a positive way throughout lockdown:

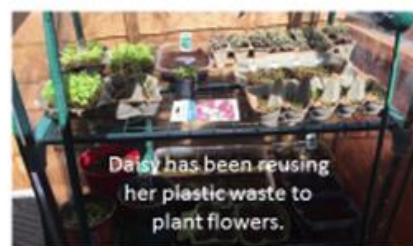


Megan Cobb (Year 9)

Lockdown superstars



ART WORK BY ALEXSANDRA OLEJNICKA



Daisy has been reusing her plastic waste to plant flowers.



Cameron Martin's Gardening skills



SOPHIE BETCHLEY (9V)

Special mention also to:
Alex Chappell
Olivier Lydzinski
Emerald Cardoso

Congratulations to Emerald Cardozo who set herself the goal of making 450 masks during lockdown, she actually ended up completing 511 masks in total that she donated.

Shows you that you can achieve great things when you put your mind to it!!

Well done Emerald, you should be really proud of yourself.

Miss Cheston



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Year 11 English News

Dear Parents and Guardians

Further to my letter last week, I wanted to write to you all again today to explain the last of the changes which have now been confirmed by our English Literature examination board (AQA) affecting all students **in Year 11 only.**

Last week I wrote within my letter: "What I can confirm is that we will continue to study and prepare the Literature texts *Macbeth*, *An Inspector Calls* and *Jekyll and Hyde* alongside the wider English curriculum. Regarding poetry, Ofqual (and our board AQA) are yet to finalise the plan for the poetry element but we will be informing students as soon as we receive confirmation."

Yesterday afternoon (10th September), AQA published their revised plans for the 2021 Literature examination and this included one significant change from the anticipated plan.

Poetry has now been made a **compulsory component** alongside the Shakespeare component. For absolute clarity (I hope), this means that students will now be preparing for the following:

- **Two** Literature Papers of 1hr45 mins each in which students will answer on two sections.
- Paper 1 will focus on *Macbeth* and *An Inspector Calls*.
- Paper 2 will focus on *Anthology Power and Conflict Poetry* and *Unseen Poetry*.

These changes still include a reduced content and, in relation to my comment last week, this means that students WILL NOT be required to answer on (or study) *Jekyll and Hyde* any longer.

Please note that two English (Language) papers remain alongside the Literature papers, however there have been no recommended changes to the format of these.

If you would like further information then please feel free to visit the webpage accessed from the hyperlink below:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/news/changes-to-2021-exams-for-gcse-english-literature>

Yours faithfully



Mr A Nicol
Head of English

a.nicol@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

ParentPay – Information for Year 7 families

Letters are being posted today to all Year 7 families about ParentPay. These will have your username and unique code on them, which you will need to create an account. You can use ParentPay to pay for all trips/study guides etc online.

St Joseph's is a cashless school, apart from the canteen which currently only accepts cash (no cards). We hope to be completely cashless as soon as possible, and will keep you updated on progress.

Please contact the school office if you have any queries about ParentPay.



Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7

Jessica Roff for being generous and helping out her peers and Che Saini for being resilient in his interventions this week.

Year 8

Jayden Baron for being outstanding in Drama and Daniel Rossiter for being resilient to first week back changes.

Year 9

Emma Tully and Deangelo Manga for earning the most Epraise points this week.

Year 10

Daisy Loft, Megan Cobb and Clinton Ganiste for their confidence in contributing during the first assembly of the year.

Year 11

Steve Sibanda and Wilette Katta-Worae for their excellent attitudes in all their subjects in the first week back.

Year 12

Chelsea McGhee for an outstanding start to sixth form, for being **autonomous** and taking on challenges early with a **resilient** mindset.
Karan Ghotra for a strong start to the year and already showing a winning desire and work-ethic (**autonomous**).

Year 13

All Year 13 Physics students for a top 10 finish in the Longitude Explorer Competition 2020.