

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021



# ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



New Year 7 pupils enjoying their lunch on the School Field.

## From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been wonderful to welcome the new recruits to St Joseph's this week who look a fantastic collection of young people. There's been a lot happening behind the scenes to ensure we're ready to go and so I've included some of the future arrangements. Please note the parent Welcome Evenings are from 5pm-6pm (see dates below) – an earlier time than what was advertised in July.

· Monday 6th September transition day 2 for Year 7 and induction day for Year 12 only (LAT Flow testing for Years 8 9am, 9 11am and year 10 1pm ). Years 8, 9 & 10 come in for testing only -then go home.

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

- Tuesday 7th September year 7 in school for lessons (LAT flow testing for years 11 9am, Year 12 11am, Year 13 1pm). Year 11, 12 and 13 come in for testing only then go straight home.
- Wednesday 8th September Year 7, 12 and 13 in school all day. (LAT flow testing year 7)
- Thursday 9th September whole school returns. Years 7& 8 go to the lower school playground, Years 10&11 go to the Upper school playground and year 9 go to the Quad area. Sixth Form go to their communal study room. Students will receive their timetables in tutor time and Period 1 (PSHE).

The students should be in school uniform for the testing. This will be important, as there will be occasions over the testing period when other students will be in lessons over the staggered beginning of the year. The students will be given a test-at-home-kit which for the next 2 weeks after their first test at school.

This may be a good opportunity to remind the students about our expectations of uniform so there isn't any unnecessary upset when the students return – we're pretty conservative in our approach to uniform so if in doubt, please contact the school for clarification in advance. On the days that students have PE, they should now come to school in school uniform where they can change in the changing rooms.

#### Boys

- Trousers – Grey/Black
- Socks – Dark Grey/Black
- Shoes – Hard sensible Black (no trainers/boots)

#### Girls

- Skirt – Thomson Tartan no shorter than knee length
- Socks – White or Black ankle length NOT knee length
- Shoes – Hard sensible Black (no canvas plimsoles, trainers, boots)

#### Boys and Girls P.E Kit

##### Girls – Compulsory

- Fleece
- Girls' Polo Shirt
- Skort

- Socks

##### Girls – Optional

- Shorts

##### Boys – Compulsory

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

- Fleece
- Boys' Polo Shirt
- Rugby Shirt
- Shorts
- Socks

Other uniform matters include:

- No make-up should be worn. Girls may wear one small plain (gold/silver) stud earring (no stones) in the lower lobe of each ear.
- Boys may wear one small plain (gold/silver) stud earring (no stones) in one ear only.
- No other piercings such as tongue studs, navel, lip, nose or eye-brow piercings are allowed.
- No bracelets to be worn and necklaces should not be visible.
- One plain flat ring may be worn.
- Boys hairstyles must be short, neat and tidy – no extremes (tram lines or patterns); shaved eyebrows are not permitted.
- No extreme colours in the hair – no dyed hairstyles or colours.
- No tattoos.
- No Hoodies (other than school issued Hoodies for specific St Joseph's teams that are school logo'd)
- No clothing (other than regulation school uniform is to be worn) with slogans, badges or other insignia on them.
- A dark plain coat for school (black, dark grey or dark navy) with only plain scarves (again black, grey or navy)
- No coloured/painted nails or artificial nails (the latter of which are a safety hazard).

The school day starts with registration at 8.30am sharp. Students should ensure they are on site well before then. The school day finishes for all students at 3pm. The school day will retain a staggered break time and lunchtime. Now that year groups do not need to socially bubble we're able to use the canteen for several year groups which will help with the distribution of hot food as well as the second outlet in the Quad area.

We'll be taking the opportunity to meet face to face with you as parents and carers and share important information with you about your child's academic year is shaped with a Welcome Evening for each group early in the start of the Academic Year 5pm – 6pm. These are important evenings to us and we feel it important for you to be here.

- Year 7 Welcome and Introduction Evening 7th September
- Year 8 Welcome and Introduction Evening 22nd September

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

- Year 9 Welcome and Introduction Evening 29th September
- Year 10 Welcome and Introduction Evening 28th September
- Year 11 Welcome and Introduction Evening 15th September
- Sixth Form Welcome and Introduction Evening 21st September
- Year 13 Post 18 Options Evening (Universities, UCAS and training)

Finally, it's really exciting to be coming back to the school when things look as though they are returning to normal. That may change as the year goes on but we'll keep you updated with any changes that impact on the school day as soon as they are made available to us. To that end, I've also attached the most up to date plan of how we'll deal with the current pressures of maintaining the education of the children within a Covid context in the document Continuing Education: Practical Arrangements which is also on the school website. This document outlines all possible scenarios and how the plan to continue learning and teaching in whatever situation presents itself.

As ever, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you have any questions. We're all looking forward to greeting the students back to school next week.

Have a great weekend.

St Joseph, Pray for us,

Ciran Stapleton

## **Theme of the Week**

### **Openness**

This week, our theme in school is 'Openness'. This theme is great for us as we begin a new term, reflecting and thinking about how we can be open and welcoming to all our new students and staff, as well as welcoming back all those who are returning after the summer holidays. The Gospel this week is the story of Jesus healing a deaf man. Jesus didn't just use words when healing the man, but actions too. We too use actions as well as our words every day, but also when we pray, our actions can also be louder than our words. Jesus says to the man in the Gospel; "Ephphatha" which means 'Be opened', but Jesus didn't just use words to heal in this story, He used actions too.

Can you think of actions that speak louder than words?

Before he was healed, the man was not welcomed into the community. It is a story about openness. So, there are two points for us to reflect on this week. The first is about openness and being welcoming; and secondly, thinking about how our actions can speak louder than our words. These two points go hand-in-hand. Let us begin this new term with a welcoming smile!

How much difference can the small action of a smile make on those around us?

How can we be welcoming, open and inclusive with those around us today?

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

### **Year 8 News**

I am really looking forward to seeing you back on Thursday, a reminder to come in for your second lateral flow on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> at 9.00. .Could I ask X band to come in at 9.00 and Y band at 9.30 to reduce the queuing time. We are starting the term as we mean to go on, this means that my standards are exceptionally high for you all. Please make sure that you come in in full uniform with appropriate school shoes. Changing rooms are now open so you must bring your PE Kits with you in your bags to change into when you have PE. Make sure you have full equipment with you and come and see me if there is a problem. We have disbanded bubbles and you will all be in new form bases, these will be:

8C: A3  
8T: A4  
8J: T6  
8P: T10  
8M: E7  
8V: T4

I am aware that some of you will be anxious about this but don't worry we are all here to help you.

See you Thursday.

Mrs Dunleavy



### **Year 10 News**

We are very much looking forward welcoming back to all of our lovely ex-Year 9s who are moving into Year 10! I hope everyone has had a wonderful and restful summer and are ready to go again. This is an incredibly important and formative year which will set us up for Year 11 in one year's time. As a result a real focus this year both in our tutor times and lessons will be enhancing our students' study skills and guiding them towards the next steps in their academic career.

There is one more day of lateral flow testing on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 1pm. Beyond that students have home testing kits to continue testing twice a week. We will then return as a year group on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

Uniform must be of the highest standard from the start of school. Some key points below:

- Full uniform is worn every day, including on PE days. Students should bring their PE kit to change into.
- Hair colour should be natural and not extreme.
- Students are allowed one earring stud per ear and are not allowed to wear nose piercings.
- Fake nails or nail varnish should not be worn into school.

Finally we have a welcome evening on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September, which I hope you can all attend.

If there are any questions or concerns ahead of this new academic year please do not hesitate to contact me on the following email address: [c.robinson@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:c.robinson@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

Kind regards.

Mr C Robinson  
Head of Year 10

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

### **Year 11 News**

Hello Year 11, it was lovely to see most of you on Wednesday for your first Lat Flow test. A reminder that your second test is on Tuesday at 9am. Please ensure you have Teams downloaded and have push notifications turned on as any important information will be put on there. Parents please can you log into Satchel One and let me know if you have any issues.

Please make sure you arrive in fully correct uniform on Thursday ready to learn and hit the ground running.

I am really excited to be working with you all this year and can't wait to see you fully on Thursday. Have an awesome weekend.

Mr Cudmore

### **Year 12 News**

A very warm welcome back to students, and parents, returning to St Josephs for Sixth Form and also to the four new students that will be joining us. Please be aware of the plan for next week, which is as follows:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September: Year 12 Induction Day. We will be in assembly in the morning where we will go through how 6<sup>th</sup> form life works as I am sure that you all have questions about how it works. Please aim to arrive for 8.15am. You will be in lessons from P1-5 so please bring equipment to study. You will finish the day at the end of your final lesson that day so it will vary depending on your timetable.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September: Final Testing Day. You need to come in at 11am for testing. Please go straight to the Chapel. There will not be any lessons that day

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>/Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>/ Friday 10<sup>th</sup>: Lessons will be as normal

Please note that there will be a whole school mass at 9am on Friday so all students will need to be in for 8.15am.

Finally, please could I remind you of the sixth form uniform policy especially the need for all students to be wearing a blazer at all times, skirts must be just above the knee as a minimum length, remove all nose rings, hair must be a natural colour, no trainers/smart shoes only and jumpers must be plain with no logos and either grey, black or navy blue.

I just want to say that I am delighted and honoured to be your Head of Year for Sixth Form and look forward to seeing you all on Monday Morning.

Best Regards  
Mr Matthews

### **YR12**

We are looking forward to having all students back in school next week. I hope you have had a lovely summer break and are feeling prepared for year 13. Please make sure you have organised your uniform and equipment (ipads fully charged) and completed the first draft of your personal statement.

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

On Tuesday 7th September at 1pm all year 13 students can get their second lat flow test in the chapel. You will go home after this. On Wednesday, you will return for your first full day of teaching which will begin with an assembly at 8:30.

Enjoy the last few days of your holiday.

Thank you  
Mrs K Bray  
Head of Year 12

## Literacy News

### Literacy Update

Just a message to introduce myself as leading Literacy and Oracy this year. I look forward to working with our wonderful students in a new capacity. Reading is of such huge importance to learning, to access the curriculum but also the best of what has ever been thought or said. I would like to draw you attention to the following:

- It is essential that every student (from Year 7 – 13) has a reading book with them as part of their school equipment (this can be from home or selected from our school library) – this is ***in addition*** to the form time reading programme (in which the students will read a text, for pleasure, in form time together).
- We have a **KS4 and KS5 Super Curriculum reading list** – please see the attached. This list a range of important books, journals and articles (both paper form and online) that students can access from home.
- We will provide a grammar problem in the weekly newsletter for students and staff alike to solve (the answers will be in the next week's newsletter!).

Thank you all and have a wonderful start to the academic year,  
Mr Clark

### Grammar Problem of the Week

What is the problem in the following sentence?

*"I'm sure I just saw Mr Hall running back their in the woods."*

**Bonus:** can you explain why it is a mistake?





3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

### **Art News**

Any year 8 or 9 students who would like to keep their sketchbook or any artworks from last year- please could you come and collect from the art department by the end of next week? Due to space, it will need to be disposed of after that date.

Many thanks :)  
Ms Irvine

### **Debating Society**

The society will start its meetings this academic year on **Wednesday 15th September**.

It will happen in **T11** from **3:05pm - 4pm** every **Wednesday**.

All year groups are welcome!

For more information email either

[j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) or [D.Kuczynski@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:D.Kuczynski@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) 😊 ♥️ ☐

☐

### **RE News**

R.E. Department – CAFOD

Calling all VI Formers!

We have a great opportunity for 6 VI Form pupils to be INTENTIONAL and PROPHETIC. CAFOD are an international development charity and the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

They reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. Through their global Church network, one of the largest in the world, they have the potential to reach everyone.

CAFOD also campaign for global justice, so that every woman, man and child can live a full and dignified life.

If you're in St. Joseph's VI Form, and want to do something to make a difference about climate change, or even inequality such as the refugee crisis, this CAFOD leadership position is for you!

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

# YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

**Conflict. Climate change. Refugee crisis. Inequality.**

We know that poverty is not part of God's plan and that together we can bring about change. Become a CAFOD Young Leader to:

- Help build a better world
- Be part of the solution to the problems in the world
- Be inspired, encouraged and equipped
- Learn and develop leadership skills
- Meet other young people who want to make a difference

**Contact:**

Mrs. Ossei-Brainoo or Mr. Ojakovoh

## YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

We know that poverty is not part of God's plan and that together we can bring about change. Become a CAFOD Young Leader to:

- Help build a better world
- Be part of the solution to the problems in the world
- Be inspired, encouraged and equipped
- Learn and develop leadership skills
- Meet other young people who want to make a difference

CAFOD leadership programme for Year 12+



**Contact:**

Mrs. Ossei-Brainoo or Mr.  
Ojakovoh



"We are the future and  
without us young people, the  
future will go nowhere"

Azaria, Young Leader 19-20

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021