



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Thursday 6th April 2023



School Mass

5th April 2023 Whole School Mass
with Father Kevin O'Driscoll Parish
Priest at Holy Family Catholic
Church

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

My weekly video messages can be watched on our new YouTube channel @SloughStJosephs

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

Link to our YouTube channel is: <https://www.youtube.com/@SloughStJosephs>

Please find below the link to this weeks video to view my message:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8lzcMazEwc>

And just in case you missed last week's message the link is below:

[31st March 2023 - Head Teacher Message - YouTube](#)

Have a fantastic Easter Holiday everyone.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

TERM DATES

Polite Reminder regarding
upcoming Term Dates, please
make sure you are aware:

Summer Term

Inset Day Monday 24th April 2023

Term Begins Tuesday 25th April 2023

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2023

Bank Holiday Monday 8th May 2023

Theme of the Week – Easter

The story of the encounter on the way to Emmaus is perhaps the most beautiful of Gospel pages. Luke wrote it while staying in the Christian community of Philippi around AD 90. Three generations had come and gone after the death of Christ, and all the Apostles had died. Christians felt that they had become somehow **detached from the 'event Jesus' and looked with holy jealousy to those who had met him and witnessed his resurrection**. Luke himself did not become a Christian before 10 years after the death of Christ! These people, just like us, felt too much removed from the Resurrection of Jesus, and were asking themselves how they could make the same experience of the apostles. **How do we make experience of the Risen Christ today? This tale of Luke is the answer to this question.**

Two disciples are leaving Jerusalem on Easter Sunday and going back to their village and their business. **They are discouraged**. They thought Jesus would finally restore the glory of Israel and free it from Roman occupation, but the very chief priests of Judaism had him killed. "This is the end of everything" they thought. One of them is named, Cleopas (according to the historian Eusebius he was the brother of St Joseph and uncle of Jesus), but the other is left anonymous. **Luke deliberately left him unnamed so that we may put our own name there!** As the two walk along the way, they discuss and argue. That's exactly what we do even today in the church when we are discouraged and fail to understand God's bigger picture: we argue and blame each other. Traditionalists who would like to drag the church back to the 1950s "when everything was perfect", against the modernists who want a 'doing church' with very little prayer and much social work in a light Christian sauce.

As they quarrel, **THE LORD DREW CLOSER**. Interestingly, **he did not miraculously appear beside them, he was walking alongside them all the time, and now draws near. The Lord always walks with his disciples, even when we don't see him.** Luke plays with two different verbs that the Greek language has for 'seeing': *Blépo* (βλέπω), which means "to see merely with the senses", and *Oráo* (ὁράω) which means "to see and to understand". The two men see (*blepo*) Jesus approaching them, but do not see deeply and cannot recognise him. That happens to us too when our heart has not been cracked-open by the message of the Gospel. **We see a guru or an inspirational teacher in Jesus, a compassionate man perhaps, but we fail to see our PERSONAL SAVIOUR.** Jesus asks what they were quarrelling about, and Cleopas answers with the rudeness which is typical of people who are hurt. "Are you the only dumb person who's unaware of what happened?" **Whenever someone attacks us or confronts us on faith matters, always remember that in most cases they are ASKING FOR HELP, they want answers because their hearts grieve.**

Jesus rebukes them with tenderness and points them to the **SCRIPTURES**. Only there we will find the mind of God, and by feeding on them we will understand the plan of salvation accomplished by Jesus' death and resurrection. **This is true for us today:** sometimes we fail to understand faith because we simply don't know God enough to make sense of his plan. When we fall in love with someone, we want to know them as much as we can. **In the same way those who love God cannot live without the wisdom, comfort and guidance that springs from his living Word.** As they listen to the Scriptures explained to them and pointing to the sacrifice of Christ, **the hearts of the disciples are ablaze with fire**, so much so that they invite this strange man to stay the night with them and share a meal. **When he breaks the bread their eyes are finally opened and they recognise Jesus.** Interestingly, when Jesus disappears from their sight, they do not marvel or ask where he is gone. Why? **Because the eyes of their hearts are now definitely opened, and they see the presence of the Risen Christ accompanying them in every step of their life journey.**

So, how do we experience the Risen Christ after 2000 years? Emmaus for us happens **every Sunday when we gather for the Eucharist**. Like the two, we carry our doubts, disappointments, failures and argue with each other blaming this or that. Like them, we are approached by the Lord who speaks to us and explains his Word through the voice of our parish priest. Like them we sit at the Eucharistic table and the bread is broken for us. **There we recognise him, the Risen Christ, ever present and always walking beside us!**

Easter

Weekly Reflections
23rd April 2023



From the Gospel according to Luke (24:13-35)

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"¹⁹ And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning,²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."²⁵ And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?"²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself!²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther,²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them.³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Prayer for the Week

Risen Lord, on the road to Emmaus you came to your discouraged disciples and filled them with fresh hope. Come to us too, fill our hearts with your peace and strengthen us to proclaim your risen life to those around us. Amen.

Saint of the Week

St Joseph the Worker
Patron of our School



Whenever the bright blue nails would drop
Down on the floor of his carpenter shop,
Saint Joseph, prince of carpenter men,
Would stoop to gather them up again;
And he feared for two little sandals sweet,
And very easy to pierce they were
As they pattered over the lumber there
And rode on two little sacred feet.
But alas, on a hill between earth and heaven
One day - two nails in a cross were driven,
And fastened it firm to the sacred feet
Where once rode two little sandals sweet;
And Christ and His Mother looked off in death
Afar - to the valley of Nazareth,
Where the carpenter's shop was spread with dust
And the little blue nails, all packed in rust,
Slept in a box on the window-sill;
And Joseph lay sleeping under the hill.

Leonard Feeney SJ

Day 1

The Emmaus story only appears in the Gospel of Luke.

- Why do you think he included it?
- How is it relevant to us today?

Day 2

The eyes of the two disciples 'were kept from recognizing him' but later on are opened. What happened between these two events?

Lent 2023

Lenten Fundraising – ‘Access to Shine’ Project and Cafod – Syrian and Turkey earthquake appeal

Thank you for all your support with the Lenten fundraising this half term. As of today, Thursday 6th April, we have raised £2600. This is fantastic achievement and shows all the hard work and generosity of our students and families in our school community. The money raised through fundraising will be donated to our school charity, the ‘Access to Shine Project’ and to Cafod to support with their current aid appeal for the recent devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. If you still wish to donate then please do so through ParentPay. We will also try and add to the total on the 28th April to celebrate our Feast Day.

St Joseph’s Day 2023

On Friday 28th April, we will celebrate our Feast Day. Bishop David will be celebrating Mass in the morning with us and then all students and staff will take part in a ‘Faith Walk’ and have some fun activities going on in school. Attached is a letter outlining the day. Parents/Carers must consent via ParentPay. The walk is compulsory for all and if there are any issues please let me know. Copy of the letter sent to parents is a separate attachment alongside this newsletter.

House Competition

Congratulations to Cecilia House who are in the lead at Easter in our House competition. Students this year have been able to take part in a range of activities to earn some points for their House. This includes: HT Attendance, HT punctuality, termly class charts points, House spaghetti slupring, House Countdown, House Le Spelling Bee/House el spelling abeja, The Jopen II, Black History month, House Musical memory game, House Emoji competition, Weekly rewards competition, the Christmas Card competition, homework, New Year resolutions results, Pupil profile Cup, Investors challenge, Easter Egg hunt, poetry open mic, You know the drill, karaoke fundraiser, Fifa and all the Lenten fundraising activities. Please do encourage your son/daughter to get involved in some of the competition we will be doing next term

Place	Form	Points
1st	Cecilia	909
2nd	Jerome	873
3rd	Mark	852.5
4th	Peter	832
5th	Teresa	803.5
6th	Veronica	756.5

St Josephs Feast Day – 28th April

On Friday 28th April, we will celebrate our Feast Day. Bishop David will be celebrating Mass in the morning. We will be going on a Faith Walk and have some other fun activities planned for the rest of the day. A letter is attached outlining more information about the day so please do have a read.

Parents/carers must consent via ParentPay. The walk is compulsory for all and if any issues please let me know.

ANA: Word of the Week

Integral.

Word of the Week is "Integral". This is an adjective meaning necessary to make a whole complete; essential or fundamental. It can also be a noun in mathematics a function of which a given function is a derivative.

"Catholic spirit is integral to St. Joseph's."

"Self-guided study is integral to increasing my performance in my subjects."

"The integral sign \int represents integration."

ANA: Idiom of the Week

"May the force be with you"

Meaning: Denotes luck or spiritual energy.

Origin: A catchphrase adapted from the media franchise Star Wars, in which it is used as a blessing that invokes "the Force" (a metaphysical power capable of being wielded for good or evil) to protect or guide the other person. In general use, the phrase is often a humorous way of wishing someone success or good fortune.

Examples:

Statement: *"We've got a match after school that could get us into the finals."* Response: *"Oh, wow. May the Force be with you!"*

Statement: *"I've a test today and I didn't study."* Response: *"Oof, may the Force be with you."*

In Spanish: « Que la fuerza te acompañe. »

In French: « Que la force soit avec vous. »

Year 7 News

Dear Year 7's,

A very successful end to a great term for Year 7. Well done to everyone who took part in the Lenten fundraising this week. Last night we had the silent disco (which apparently wasn't too silent!!!) A reminder that Monday 24th is an inset day and the students are to return on Tuesday 25th. Friday 28th is St Joseph's day where there will be loads of fun activities going on. In the meantime have a restful and holy break and see you all in Summer Term

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

It has been a busy few days for year 8 with our excellent production of Matilda last week and our whole school mass yesterday.

I have once again been really impressed with the hard work and focus shown by all of year 8 as we approach the end of term.

I hope you all have a well-deserved and relaxing Easter break and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 25th April.

Mrs S Miller – Head of Year 8

Year 12 News

Congratulations on a really successful term. I have been really impressed with how dedicated to you studies you have been and it shows in your latest reports. When you return after Easter Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th of April will be the two day World of Work Conference. A letter will go out to your parents with more details about this. I wish you all a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you all when you return.

Mrs L Finn – Head of Year 12

Year 12 Parents Evening – a date for the diary

Year 12 Parents Evening to 8th of June. This will aim to prepare students for the upcoming PPEs, which will inform their UCAS predicted grades as well as providing essential feedback to steer their progress going into Year 13. We look forward to seeing you all there.

For Year 12 - Amelia Grigg - Selwyn College Cambridge Visit 27th of April

Amelia Grigg will be visiting us on the 27th April, at 11am, to deliver a workshop to a group of Year 12 students on what makes a personal statement, fit for the elite universities as well as to explore subject options. This session is for those:

- Applying to Oxford or Cambridge
- Applying to other Elite universities like Imperial, UCL, Kings
- Applying to Veterinary Science, Medicine or Dentistry
- With 5x Grade 7s at GCSE

If your son/daughter is interested, please ask them to fill out the form here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/zv0v3bTNY0>

Mr G Stack-Clark – Head of Sixth Form

Year 8 - have learnt about some of the properties of plastics, they have manufactured 3D formers to make plastic moulds. Some groups have already made their soap bars too ready to be packaged.




Favourite recipes: As usual the aromas coming from the food room have been mouth-watering. Key stage 3 pupils have had homework to complete a reflection sheet and sensory analysis for each dish they have cooked. A couple of our favourite recipes from this half term from year 9, 8 and 7, in case none made it home the first time round.

Butter Chicken	
<p>Learned: To know how to chop an onion, sauté and create a sauce. To know how to handle chicken safely.</p> <p>Wise: To be able to follow a basic method and demonstration to produce a butter chicken in the time provided</p> <p>To understand the requirements for a sensory analysis</p>	
<p>Equipment</p> <p>Non-stick frying pan Wooden spoon Teaspoon tablespoon Jug of water (you will not use all of this)</p>	<p>Method</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dice your onion finely and fry on a medium to low heat with a Tbsp of Oil 2. Cook gently until the onions soften and becomes slightly brown (keep a jug of water nearby in case the onions begin to burn) 3. Add the ginger and garlic paste and the tomato puree and mix in well. 4. Add your spices and a touch of water and mix in well 5. Add the honey and cream and stir in well 6. Bring the sauce to the boil and add the chicken 7. Simmer the chicken for 10 – 12 minutes or until cooked through.
<p>From Home</p> <p>1 onion (chopped finely) 1 chicken breast (chopped before the lesson) 1 pepper (chopped into chunks) 100ml double cream</p> <p>From School</p> <p>1 tsp ginger and garlic paste 1 Tbsp honey 1 Tbsp tomato puree Spice mix (equal quantities) ½ tsp cumin ½ tsp turmeric ½ tsp coriander powder ½ tsp paprika ½ tsp garamasala ½ tsp salt</p>	<p>Cooking Sequence</p>

Year 10 Design and Technology.

Year 10 have developed their cardboard modelling skills and produced quality scale models of iconic products. We will now begin their final unit of work before beginning their NEAs in June. Well done year 10.

Chow mein	
FIRST: Aprons on, Hair back, Hands washed	
<p>Equipment</p> <p>- Saucepan - Colander - Small glass bowl - tablespoon - Chopping board - Sharp knife - large frying pan - Wooden spoon/plastic tongs</p>	<p>Method</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring a saucepan of water to the boil. 2. Carefully place 2 nests of noodles into the water and cook according to packet instructions. (4 minutes?) 3. Drain noodles in a colander and rinse through with cold water to prevent sticking. Set aside. 4. Prepare the vegetables: finely slice the peppers, spring onions, cabbage and carrot. 5. In a small bowl prepare the sauce. 6. Heat a tablespoon of oil in a large frying pan (or wok) 7. Add garlic and vegetables and fry for a few minutes each. 8. Add the beansprouts. 9. Add the noodles. Toss together well. 10. Now add the sauce mix. Season as necessary. 11. Put into your container. 12. Wash up and clean your area. (remember HOT SOAPY WATER)
<p>Ingredients:</p> <p>100g dried egg noodles (2 nests) 1 clove garlic (1 tsp chopped garlic) Selection of sliced vegetables For example Small handful beansprouts ½ pepper 2 spring onions ½ carrot ¼ cabbage 3 Tbsp dark soy sauce 3 Tbsp oyster sauce</p>	<p>Learned To know and understand how to work safely and hygienically. To know and recognize the skills: boiling, draining, chopping, stir-frying.</p> <p>Wise: To demonstrate independent cooking skills - boiling, draining, chopping, stir-frying. To be able to evaluate and reflect on own work based on set criteria.</p>

Spinach and Cheddar Muffins	
Equipment: Large bowl Sharp knife Chopping board Wooden spoon Measuring Jug Muffin tray and cases, 2 Table spoons	Learned: To know how to measure accurately and portion well. To know and understand how to work hygienically. Wise: To follow a basic method and demonstration to produce Cheddar Muffins in the time provided.
Ingredients: 40g unsalted butter, melted 50g baby spinach, finely chopped 1½ tbsp chives, finely chopped 115ml semi-skimmed milk 60g cheddar (grated) 175g self-raising flour ½ tsp baking powder 1 large egg, beaten	Method 1. Begin by Lining 8 muffin cases into a tray (4 for you and 4 for your partner) 2. Gather and weigh your ingredients. 3. Melt your butter 4. Put melted butter in the large bowl 5. Chop your spinach and chives and add to the bowl 6. Grate your cheese and add all of your weighed ingredients into the bowl, mixing together well 7. Spoon the mixture half way into your muffin cases and continue to fill the remainder 8. Bake in the oven at 180 degrees for 15-20 minutes
Aprons on, hair up, Wash hands. Preheat oven to 180 degrees/gas 6	
	

Year 11 DT students

NEA deadline day is looming for year 11 Food and DT students. Unfortunately examination regulations mean that we cannot share images of their work some of which is really amazing. Year 11 pupils should please check Teams and ClassCharts to ensure they are up to date and aware of extra Easter sessions. Final deadlines are immediately on our return from Easter. Good luck year 11 on this final push.



D&T STARS

Vaiva Liutkeviciute and Abiezer Bakhsh for Excellent work in DT lessons and Make it elective

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 our DT pupils....

DT Makelt Elective

Spring has sprung! Fabulous flowers and eggsellent egg holders and some super keyrings went home yesterday. Well done to our super group of pupils this half term.



PE After School Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1 Year 8,9,11		Badminton and Basketball AAN	Badminton and Basketball AAN	Badminton and Basketball AAN	
Lunch 2 Year 7,10,12,13	Badminton and Basketball THU MJO	Badminton and Basketball THU MJO	Badminton and Basketball AAN	Badminton and Basketball AAN	Badminton and Basketball THU MJO
Afterschool	Volleyball (until GCSE exams start) HMC THU Badminton JCO MJO (until GCSE exams start)	Rounders MJO Softball/Cricket THU Golf JCO	Basketball JCO Athletics AAN THU MJO HMC		Girls and boys Football @ Slough Town Football Club All year groups THU, EED, MJO Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball CWH



EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!!!! Watford FC Girls Coaching 25th April



Watford FC Professional ladies team are coming to St Joseph's Catholic School on Tuesday 25th April!

Professional first team coaches and **players** are coming in for the day to coach girls during school hours. This will take place at Slough Town FC.



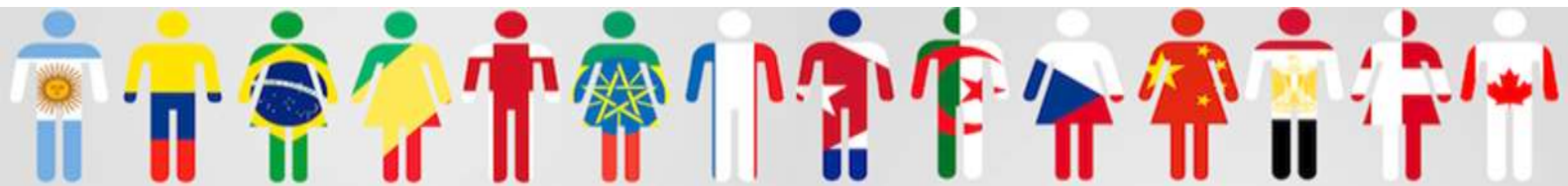
This fantastic opportunity is available to every girl in the school from all abilities, including 6th form.

This is a great opportunity to try a **new sport** for the first time or potentially **be scouted** for those who already play for a club!

If you would like to be a part of this incredible opportunity, please tick your name on the sheet provided by the form tutor. Enjoy!!!

Art/Electives News

I was really impressed with the fantastic work that was produced during the art electives this term. Student were learning new sculpting techniques and working with the theme of animals. Eldrich Pailan 7C, in particular, worked extremely hard and created an AMAZING clay sculpture of an octopus yesterday.



EAL NEWS (English as an Additional Language)

Reminder: Use your CGP online book and Learning Village login to continue your independent learning at home. Please try to complete, as many sessions as possible during this summer holiday and you will be receiving an electronic certificate from the Learning Village once you complete a session.

I will always be happy to help. J.Ura@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

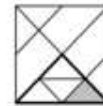
- Reading ideas for families During the Easter Break
- Read together: Look for time to read together and talk about the books you read.
- Tell stories: Use some of your holiday time together to tell stories from your childhood.
- Give books: Give your child a book for the holidays. It does not have to be new.
- Visit the library: Encourage your child to read for pleasure
- Make travel fun: if you are traveling during your holidays, look for maps and tourist books about your destination.



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- D** The diagram shows that a triangle whose area is one quarter of that of the square may be divided into four congruent triangles, one of which is the shaded triangle. So the required fraction is $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16}$.



Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- D** There is only one two-digit power of 6, namely 36, so 1 down is 36. Also, there is only one four-digit power of 5, namely 3125. Therefore 1 across is 3125. There are two four-digit powers of 4, namely 1024 and 4096. However, we know from 1 down that the units digit of 2 across is 6, so 2 across is 4096. Hence the only two digits which do not appear in the completed crossnumber are 7 and 8. Their sum is 15.

Problem of the week

A 24-hour digital clock shows the time in hours and minutes.

How many times in one day will it display all four digits 2, 0, 1 and 9 in some order?



- A 6 B 10 C 12 D 18 E 24

Break time Teaser:

The adult human body has 206 bones. Each foot has 26 bones.

Approximately what fraction of the number of bones in the human body is found in one foot?

- A $\frac{1}{6}$ B $\frac{1}{8}$ C $\frac{1}{10}$ D $\frac{1}{12}$ E $\frac{1}{20}$

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

Pupil Nominations of the Week

YEAR 8

Celine Sidyk (8 Cecilia) and **Michal Kundys** (8 Teresa) for achieving the most positive points this week

YEAR 10

Kacper Kostrakiewicz, Jermaine Chatyoka and **Adrian Przybylski** be put in star students for their amazing work in English on Historical inquiries into black and representative poetry
Adrian Konstantyn, Paige Lomas, Kanav Bara, Luca Gumbs for having the most amount of positive points.

YEAR 12

Aditya Jain and **Mateusz Michalowski** for working hard in Physics and making excellent progress.

YEAR 13

Iyanu Sanni – Most positive points in sixth form
Joe Stabler – 100% Attendance this term