



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 8th September 2023



School Mass

8th September 2023

Fantastic photo of whole school mass celebrated by Father Pius.

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.

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

[Head Teacher Message NEWSLETTER 08 09 23 - YouTube](#)

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

Theme of the Week – Your Brother

The message from Jesus in Matthew's Gospel can be one we find most difficult to accept or live out in our actions. However, this message is one that we must strive to do to fulfil the wishes of Jesus.

Firstly, Jesus in the Gospel is preparing his friends for the time when he will be gone. And at this point, He is telling them what they must do if there are disagreements between themselves. Jesus says that they need to give each other a chance to make amends in private, and support each other when they have complaints against someone.

So do you find it easy to sort things out with friends and loved one after a disagreement? Can you forgive and forget without making a big fuss when people have been unfair to you?

When we try to answer these two questions, we should first look at the 2nd reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans before going back to the Gospel; it follows with its handling of the principles of Christian living. St Paul writes all the commandments are gathered into the one concept, 'love' – the love that is of the will, part of God's language, freely and endlessly giving. Paul, in a further letter to the Corinthians famously gives the meaning of Love...'*Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous....*' And so on.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus explains to us how we can regulate our behaviour in a spirit of love. Jesus is fully aware that we will not always be able to see eye to eye. When people are in a relationship with each other, there will be areas or times of conflict and disagreement and dealing with these in ways that honour the teaching of Jesus can be a challenge.

How often do we remind ourselves of the meaning of Love and how do demonstrate it with one another when we disagree?

Whenever people gather together as we do as a school community and are in relationship there is always the risk of conflict and disharmony. There is always the risk that we may upset others by our actions and our words. Whether it be intentional or accidental, the risk of conflict is always near. The challenge of the Gospel is a personal one, and the restoration of relationships are paramount to our call as Christians. It may well be useful to reflect on the ways in which you resolve conflicts in the different areas of your life – family, workplace, faith community.

Reconciliation is at the very heart of Christian living, and it is a responsibility to all who are part of the Church to be called to restore relationships with each other when these are broken. As we mark Education Week with the focus of working together in harmony and the importance of relationships with one another "Together in Mission". Let us reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit across our school and diocese, with our friends and families, where we can see Christ through the presence of each other. Let us make an effort to reconcile any differences we have this week so the Lord's work can be done through our own words and actions and allow love to embrace all those we encounter.

Your Brother

Weekly Reflections
10th September 2022



A reading from the Gospel of St Matthew (18:15-20)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, as we come together as a school community, be with us as we live out your message with those around us. Give us the courage to support those in need so they too can feel your presence through love and compassion in their daily lives. Through Jesus our Lord.

Amen

Feast Day - Exaltation of the Holy Cross 14 September 2023

The 14th September is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross to honour the cross on which Jesus was crucified.

The universal symbol of the Christian faith, the cross represents Christ's victory over death. The feast celebrates the redemptive transformation of a barbaric instrument of torture into a divine tree of life. In His sacrifice, Jesus showed true **Love and Compassion** for all of humankind.

Day 1

The Gospel from Matthew is the teaching of Jesus for when we disagree with others.

- Why do you think Jesus had to explain this to his followers? How often do you have disagreements with those you love?
- Why do you fall out with them?

Day 2

Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

How do you demonstrate your love for friends and family?

Day 3

The act of reconciliation with those we have fallen out with can be challenging. Why do you think this is most important to do and how can you demonstrate your love to those you have fallen out with?

Important Traffic Announcements

As you may be aware, there are roadworks along Shaggy Calf Lane and Stoke Road. These are ongoing and will cause disruption for the foreseeable future. Therefore, please ensure that you/your child leaves enough time to allow for this. If your child is late, an X will be awarded. Please be aware that there will be no exceptions to this. Please ensure that your child arrives by 8.20am

Year 7 News

It has been an amazing start to their Secondary School Lives! All of the Year 7s have adapted so well to life at St Joseph's. We have done extremely well with the Year group receiving 687 Positive Points this week (and it was only 4 days long for them) I cannot wait to see them grow into their own amazing individuals as the year goes on.

Please be aware that the Logins that were received during Tuesdays Welcome Evening, these logins need to have been activated/signed into as soon as possible. Especially ClassCharts - this is how students and parents are able to see the Homework set by teachers, the students daily Timetables and their Positive Points. Please do not leave it to late to avoid students receiving marks for missed Homework.

The Year 7 Team and I are massively excited for this year, here is to a great and successful year!

Mr Cooper-Santos - Head of Year 7

Year 9 News

Congratulations to Year 9 on a positive first week back. Keep up the good work! Thank you to everyone who attend Welcome evening last night, it was lovely meeting you all. Just a reminder for all students to make sure they have their linen bags and equipment. Missing equipment can be purchased through class charts.

Have a great weekend

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 9

Year 9 Retreats

I am sorry to inform students and parents that the Year 9 Retreats scheduled to go to Worth Abbey for the 13th, 14th and 15th September have been cancelled. Worth Abbey informed us only this week that they could no longer accommodate the Retreats. I am truly sorry to all parents and students for the short notice but it really was out of hands. Parents who have paid via ParentPay have been reimbursed their money.

Year 11 News

A massive welcome back to all of Year 11 and I hope you have had a great and restful summer. A big thank you to everyone who attended the Welcome Evening last night. Well here we are..... it seems no time since I was your Head of Year in Year7. I cannot express how important this year is for your future. The revision needs to start now and as I said last night take your PPE's seriously as these will reflect where you are at.

More from me next week.

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 11

Welcome Evenings for Year 8 and Year 12

We are hosting an important Welcome Evening for Year 8 & Year 12 parents and students on Thursday 14th September 2023 from 6pm – 7pm in the Main Hall. On that evening you will attend a presentation where we will outline our standards and expectations for the year. We will also provide you with crucial information and tips on how best to support your child to reach their full academic potential. Afterwards, we will break out to meet your Form Tutor, who will be able to answer any questions you might have and will be your child's first port of call.

We ask for parents to RSVP their attendance on ParentPay. It is essential that all parents attend.

"Aspiration, ambition and determination are deeply rooted within the school. A feeling of warmth and love permeates St Joseph's" Ofsted 2022

"Pupils are happy and smiley and enjoy coming to school. They feel a sense of belonging" .Ofsted 2022.

"St Joseph's is an Outstanding School" Sec.48 Ofsted 2019

"Principled and determined leadership underpins a culture of impressive pastoral Care and excellent academic standards." Ofsted 2018



St Joseph's Catholic High School

The Directors of this successful, thriving, top performing and over-subscribed Catholic Academy invite prospective parents and pupils to our

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 21st September 2023

5.00pm - 8.00pm

Shaggy Calf Lane, Slough, Berkshire, SL2 5HW

The Headteacher, Mr Stapleton will address parents at 5.45pm and 6.45pm in the Main Hall. Tours available from 5.00pm, last tour at 7.00pm. For more information or a tour during the school day Please contact Miss Emily Stagg on 01753 524713
www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk



Afterschool Clubs

Clubs will start as of Monday – all pupils will receive a positive behaviour point for attendance and it will contribute to the sports day standing for next year

PE After School Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball
Afterschool	Trampolining LRO Volleyball HGO Rugby HMC	Netball- all year groups AAN MUO Year 7+8 boys Football THU Golf JCO Dance LRO	Year 9-11 boys Football THU Girls Football- all year groups MUO Year 7-9 Basketball JCO		Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball CWH

TVLP

The TVLP and Eton Partnership career education programme for 2023/24 begins next week with a Networking Event and a career seminar, both taking place in-person. All students are welcome to sign up and attend for free. All visiting pupils must congregate at Porters' Lodge in Eton by 8.25pm where they will be met and escorted to the event by Eton staff.



We would like to welcome any pupils interested in the Film Industry to Eton College next Tuesday 12th September from 8.30-9.30pm to meet with 10 film industry professionals including a cinematographer, director, producer, film music writer, actor (amongst others). Please encourage pupils to register using the Eventbrite link so they can be sent the event brochure containing the biographies of the professionals attending.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/eton-futures-film-careers-networking-event-tickets-643011914947>

Pupils interested in learning more about the work of a Management Consultant are most welcome to attend a career seminar on 14th September from 8.30-9.30pm to hear from James Richardson OE talk about his career with McKinsey & Company. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/vocsoc-mckinsey-life-as-a-management-consultant-with-james-richardson-oe-tickets-629079412457>.



Little Green Change

Little Green Change is a new initiative that has been started by Clare Matheson this year (formally led the TVLP). More information can be found on her website that is currently being launched: <https://littlegreenchange.com/action/>. Clare worked closely with staff and students at St Joseph's to ensure a wide range of opportunities were available to all students to help them gain valuable skills and knowledge.

On Saturday 7th October there will be a bulb planting event at the Thames Hospice (Windsor Road) to brighten the grounds for those who visit. Everyone is welcome to attend- students, staff, parents and friends!! + attendees will get a free drinks/cake voucher to use on site at the café. If you are interested in attending please email Miss Boland to let her know: L.Boland@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

LITTLE GREEN CHANGE EVENT

Bulb planting at Thames Hospice

Can you donate 90 minutes of your time to help plant bulbs on the beautiful grounds at Thames Hospice in Maidenhead? Help a local charity, increase spring nectar sources for beneficial insects, and receive an electronic Little Green Change participation certificate.

Saturday 7th October 2023.
2:00pm-3:30pm.

Location: Thames Hospice, Windsor Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2DN

Sign up via our Eventbrite or email your full name and school name to info@littlegreenchange.com

littlegreenchange.com



This event is open to students in Years 9-11, and to staff across all secondary-aged schools in the Thames Valley. Booking is essential. Gloves and tools will be provided.

little
green
change

Stubbings

Thames hospice



Grow a Tree Challenge

Autumn is a great time to collect seeds from trees, including from species native to the UK such as Hazel (hazelnuts) and Oak (acorns). Planting them is easy. You can either plant them directly into the ground or start them off in a pot. You can follow the Woodland Trust's how-to guide by [clicking here](#).

The environmental problem:

Increasing the number of trees is essential for tackling the climate and nature emergencies. The Woodland Trust reports the likelihood of new pests and diseases entering Britain is increasing and that 1,117,696 oak trees alone were imported into the UK between 2013-2015. Increasing the number of trees grown at home can reduce the biosecurity threat from abroad and can hugely reduce a tree's transportation carbon footprint.

How to enter:

Simply send a photo of you planting your tree seed to info@littlegreenchange.com, followed by one showing you with your tree sapling once it emerges. One entry will be selected at random to win a **£50 National Garden Gift Voucher**. Entries will be accepted from individuals (both children and adults) and from schools. Entry deadline: Friday 22nd March 2024. Terms and conditions apply.

Transforming Textiles Competition

Can you turn unwanted textiles into something fabulous? Whether it's a stained t-shirt, a torn pair of jeans, or an unwanted duvet cover, the only rule of this competition is nothing can be purchased new - unless it's second hand, for example from a charity shop and proof of purchase can be provided.

The environmental problem:

According to the UN, the fashion industry produces up to 8% of global carbon emissions, with dyeing textiles being the second-largest cause of water pollution globally. With tonnes of textiles being burned or buried in landfill sites every day, and workers in the global textile industry often being poorly paid and working in appalling conditions, it makes sense for us to reuse and upcycle whenever we can.

How to enter:

Send us a photo of you making your item, and one of you with your finished creation, to info@littlegreenchange.com. One winning entry will be selected from the Junior category (ages 8-13) and one from the Senior category (ages 14-19). Entries will be accepted from individuals and from schools. Deadline: Friday 22nd March 2024. Terms and conditions apply.





#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A** Let the small sides of each triangle have length r . This is also the side of the original square. The longer side of each triangle is $\sqrt{2}r$, since that is the diagonal of the square. Hence the perimeters of shapes P, Q, R are $(2 + 3\sqrt{2})r$, $(6 + \sqrt{2})r$ and $(4 + 3\sqrt{2})r$ respectively. Now $6 + \sqrt{2} - (2 + 3\sqrt{2}) = 4 - 2\sqrt{2} = 2(2 - \sqrt{2})$, which is greater than zero. Therefore the perimeter of P is less than the perimeter of Q. Also, $4 + 3\sqrt{2} - (6 + \sqrt{2}) = 2\sqrt{2} - 2 = 2(\sqrt{2} - 1)$, which is also greater than 0. Therefore the perimeter of Q is less than the perimeter of R. Hence, in ascending order, the lengths of the perimeters are P, Q, R.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- B** The two-digit squares are 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81. The products of their digits are 6, 10, 18, 36, 24, 8, respectively. So exactly one two-digit square has the required property, namely 49.

Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows a rhombus and two sizes of regular hexagon. What is the ratio of the area of the smaller hexagon to the area of the larger hexagon?

- A 1:2 B 1:3 C 1:4 D 1:8 E 1:9



Break time Teaser:

What is the value of $2 - (-2 - 2) - (-2 - (-2 - 2))$?

- A 0 B 2 C 4 D 6 E 8

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



EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Language)

Back to school tips

We are excited to welcome all our students back and we hope this new school year will bring lots of learning and growth.

These are few tips to ensure your child is set up for a successful year.

- Please stay connected and collaborate with teachers; by staying informed, you can stay up to date on your child's linguistic and academic progress. Understanding what is going on in school will give you a better idea of how you can support your child at home. Coordination and partnership between the school and home helps children thrive and succeed. If language is an issue when communicating with your child's teachers, let the school know the language that you feel most comfortable with. I am always happy to help email J.Ura@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk
- Supporting learning at home is vitally important to your child's view of education and achievement. Click here to read our [homework policy and time table](#)
- Reading for pleasure has been positively linked with an increase in the following literacy-related benefits for children:
 - Reading attainment, phonics and writing ability
 - It increases the learners' exposure to language.
 - It can consolidate previously learned language.

Please encourage your child to read for pleasure; your library is one of the most important resources in your community, and anyone can use it. You and your family will find books, videos, music, newspapers, computers, and much more for your child and you — for free! Click below to find information about [Slough Libraries](#)



Pupil Nominations of the Week

YEAR 7

Riley Foster - for an amazing start to St Josephs and receiving the most Positive Points in his form for two days running!

Mia-Grace for being very insightful during her interpretation of the gospel and including the schools Word of the Week in her explanation!

Aleksandra Sapinska for getting the first positive point of the school year!

YEAR 8

Myah Halligan – Most positive Points of the week.

Chloe Webster – Most positive points in a day.

Year 9

Jeff Sibanda for getting the most positive points this week.

Year 11

Daniel Rossiter and Grace Hall O'Rourke for an excellent start to the term

Year 12

Mikhaela Mendoza, Princess Chukwudi and Pamela Lopez for their help with the school open evening

Bara Allababidi for excellent performance at GCSE and a strong start in his A level studies.

Year 13

Jude Arthur and Rheanna Ramos for earning the most positive points this week.