



ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



Year 11 Students completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the support you've shown all of us here when we've asked the students to return to wearing masks. Whilst the general advice and guidance is to carry on regardless, this week was a stern reminder that the virus is still active in the larger community. Due to an external event, a number of students tested positive this week and we reassessed our risk assessment in line with all the relevant Health authorities. The current variant of CV19 moves quickly and expediently. At the beginning of this week we were far from meeting any threshold to review our practices and then within 24 hours we'd crossed it.

Apart from the obvious inconveniences and uncomfortableness of wearing a mask, the students have been great in taking on board the necessity and need to 'mask up'. It's obviously not a situation we'd wish to be in but we'll always put safety first – even as a precaution. Further to the letter I sent out earlier in the week we're in daily contact with the Health Security Agency (who from this morning have overtaken *Public Health England*). The main points to underline to everyone in our school community are:

'Unlocking Belief in All'

1. Please do continue twice-weekly LAT Flow tests. Our next order is due to arrive next week so we'll be able to provide enough tests for over the half term. They will be distributed next week when they have arrived.
2. The weekend and the forthcoming 2 week half term should act as a natural firebreak to the current number of cases we're experiencing in all year groups.
3. If you have symptoms; please don't come to school until you've taken a PCR test and received the results– but if you have symptoms and are absent - please let us know about together with the LAT flow test results. It's critical for the next stages of our planning. The Delta Variant has other symptoms which can be found on the NHS on line government website which you can find at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/> ; these include unusual headaches, diarrhea and vomiting. You can request PCRs via the on-line NHS portal. In short – if you are not well – get a PCR test organized.
4. One year group who have not been impacted adversely is the Sixth Form – the vast majority of which have informed us , have already had the vaccine.If there is a large uptake of the vaccine, its more likely we'll be able to return to normal , restriction free. We'll monitor for the first week after 1st November vaccinations and assess at that point. After a week from the vaccinations we'll be a stronger place to assess whether restrictions will need to continue.
5. Academic Review Day: Instead of face-to-face meetings; we'll move this on-line on October 15th. The appointments will stay the same time and the tutors will contact you through your son or daughter's Teams account. The reports will be issued to the students by Wednesday in hard copy to take home. The Form Tutor will be able to access the reports electronically and on *Teams* your child will be able to write up their targets after discussing their report wit you and the Form Tutor.
6. Unfortunately, we've had to suspend the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme overnight camp. I know the students were bitterly disappointed about this – we've not wanted to take this decision – but upon advice from Public Health England it really does seem the better option. Likewise, upon advice we have had to suspend all fixtures with Year 10 teams until further notice.
7. Vaccinations 1st November: Berkshire NHS have organised their one visit for COVID-19 administration. Due to the sheer enormity of the programme they have had to shut down the electronic consent form system an additional 48 hours prior to any planned session date to allow the clinical team to safely administer. **Parent's and Carer's deadline to provide consent is NOW by 12pm Wednesday 27th October.** Please be aware that the school immunisation team are currently **unable to book any** catch up clinics for **COVID-19**. We've bookings in advance for educational trips next year (for example the Battlefields trip), currently *travel companies are not insuring students* who will not have been or who are vaccinated. That means they will not be able to go on these trips.
8. The situation in school is reflective of the local covid situation in Slough.
9. Consequent to the above, we've pushed back the PPE1 (mocks1) back to start on the 15th November.

Unless there is need to place a letter out as a matter of urgency, we'll continue to keep you updated each week through the Newsletter to try to ensure that the information shared is in one place and distilled to the most important details only.

Have a restful week and as, ever, thank you for the tremendous support this week.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

Theme of the Week

KINGDOM OF GOD

Our Gospel reading this week continues to come from St Mark. Jesus uses images and examples to help teach His followers about the Kingdom of God and eternal life. We hear of a young man who wants to enter eternal life, but he doesn't want to give up his possessions or to start a new direction in his life of following Jesus. This story gets us to think about our possessions and to reflect on our relationship with material things, but also challenges us to think about the direction that our lives are going in and whether we need to discern whether we may need to change our direction slightly. Sometimes our things that we own can distract us from what is important. To be a follower of Jesus, we need to take a step back and re-focus our hearts and minds on what is important in our lives. This may mean actually giving up some of our possessions, giving them to others who may need them such as some of our clothes or shoes etc. We may also need to think about the direction that our lives are going in too.

What is important to you? E.G. Family, friends, prayer...

Are you making good decisions, do you need to think about your actions?

What do you need to do to be a follower of Jesus?

In what ways can you build the Kingdom of God here on earth?

Jesus talks about 'treasure in heaven' within this weeks' Gospel. When we think of 'treasure', we think of things we have found. We can find God through prayer, through others and through our experiences.

Where have you experienced God in your life?

We are encouraged too, by Jesus when He says; "everything is possible for God" – When Jesus says this, He is reminding us to put our trust in God. When we put our trust in God, we can know that He is carrying us, He wants what's best for us. Spend a moment today, saying quietly in your heart; 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me' (Philippians 4:13).

Important Information

Nasal Flu Vaccine and COVID-19 vaccination

School-aged Immunisation Team



Dear Parent and Carers,

The school-aged immunisation team will be visiting St Joseph's Catholic High School on **Monday 1st November 2021** to offer nasal flu to students in years 7-11 and a single dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to students in years 8-11. We plan to co-administer these vaccines within the same session (if consent is obtained for both).

Due to the sheer enormity of the programme we have had to shut down the electronic consent form system an **additional 48 hours** prior to any planned session date to allow the clinical team to safely administer. **Deadline for consent forms is 12pm by Wednesday 27th October 2021.**

Please be aware that you **MUST** complete a separate consent form for each different vaccination programme e.g. FLU, COVID-19. This is because they are two separate vaccinations that require a different set of clinical questions to be asked before vaccination can occur. If we only receive a completed consent form for one vaccination programme we are unable to take consent on the day or in the 48 hours prior to the school session, as we have to safely check and triage all forms. Please return to the e-consent system, using the details sent out in your initial consent letter (emailed from your child's school) if you need to complete any further consent forms.

Please be aware that the school immunisation team are currently **unable to book any** catch up clinics for COVID-19. Due to the large cohort size of eligible 12-15 year olds there is currently national discussion around how students who were absent, unwell, or unable to have their COVID-19 vaccination in school will be caught up outside of a school setting. As soon as we have confirmation of how catch up clinics will be offered we will send further communication out to all parents.

Please note that it is not currently possible to attend a mass vaccination site to access a COVID-19 vaccine for young people aged 12-15 and you will be turned away. This is because there needs to be a particular workforce for this age group that need to have additional training requirements than what is currently required to vaccinate young people aged 16+.

Year 8 News

There have been lots of exciting things going on in the classroom this week, the students have been creating drum and bass pieces in drama, creating their own board games in history and performances of Commedia del Arte in drama. Can I remind students as the weather gets colder they must have a dark coat (no bright colours please) Keep an eye out for house competitions over the next couple of weeks.

Have a great weekend Mrs Dunleavy

Year 9 News

Dear Year 9,

Another fantastic week with so many Year 9's really putting themselves out there with contributing to the wider life of the school. It has been so nice to go into form classes and see how enthusiastic they are with extra-curricular and the leadership programme. Please encourage your child to complete the form that Miss E Paignes had sent round specifying if they would like to represent their year group or a specific subject. It is important that they are getting involved as it will aid them when applying for further education and places of work. Please do promote the importance of this. As your child is getting their assessments back, do have conversations with them about their feedback, what went well, what could they do to improve and develop their love for learning? Ask them to reflect on any areas that they need to work on by having conversations with their teachers. They have been very resilient to the start of their GCSE's this half term and you should be very proud of the positive feedback that is flowing in St Joseph's about their academic performance as a whole. We are back to virtual meets for now and so Academic Review Day will take place online Friday 15th October with yourselves and your child's tutor. If appointments haven't been made just yet, please specify a suitable time to your child so they can liaise and book this in with their form tutor. As always if you need to get in contact, our details are below.

9 Cecilia - Miss Weir - e.weir@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

9 Jerome - Miss Aushana - a.aushana@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

9 Mark - Mr Spencer - j.spencer@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

9 Peter - Mrs Aldridge - m.aldridge@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

9 Teresa - Miss Toro-Sanchez - m.toro-sanchez@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

9 Veronica - Miss Joseph - m.joseph@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Head of Year – Miss WD – G.Wellesley-Davies@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Deputy Head of Year 9 - Miss Pisavadia - p.pisavadia@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Have a blessed weekend,

Miss Pisavadia

Deputy Head of Year 9 - Hopeful, Compassionate, Attentive

8th October 2021

Year 11 News

I have posted the information on the online careers event on teams, please make sure you sign up for this as it will be full of useful information. Also be thinking about your targets for Academic Review Day on Friday. Have a great weekend and I will see you all on Monday.

Mr Cudmore

Sixth Form News

Well done to all of year 13 for your hard work over the last few weeks in your class assessments. Your next centre assessments are coming up just after half term so make sure you are prepared by using past papers to aid revision as well as going green on your recent assessments.

It's great to see so many of you applying to be LSA's within the school to support younger students. Make sure your applications are given to Miss Cooper as soon as possible so that she can organize your training. This is a fantastic opportunity which will really benefit any UCAS, apprenticeship or job application.

On Friday 15th October, you will have academic review day. This is compulsory for you all so make sure appointments are arranged with your tutors and parents virtually. There will be no year 13 options evening on Tuesday after school; instead you will receive a video explaining your options and next steps. If you have any questions about any of the information please ask on Friday.

Just a reminder if you are late to school or lesson you will be in detention the following day in A4. If you miss this, you will automatically be put in a Monday afterschool from 3-4pm. Additionally, if you are late more than once or you miss a lesson you will also be given a 1 hour detention on Monday.

Next week assembly will be on Monday morning and PSHE Tuesday period 5.

Have a great week

Mrs Bray

Careers Opportunity for Years 10 and 11

Slough are running a virtual careers event next week on Wednesday 13th October from 4-5.30pm

A great opportunity to hear about local careers from local employers and the specific industries in Slough and the local area

Please do take a look and log in using the link on the flyer below.



Wednesday 13th October 2021
4pm to 5.30pm

Virtual Careers Event for young people in Years 10 and 11 in the Slough area.

- Find out about the options open to you Post 16.
- Hear about careers from local employers.
- Learn about specific industries and if they could be right for you as a career.

This bespoke event, that has been tailor made for Slough, will be delivered live via the Hopin.com online platform. Parents and carers are welcome to attend with their child/children.

Event Schedule

15 mins Pathways Presentation delivered by Learning to Work

Find out about the different pathways available to you Post 16.

15 mins Q&A Panel with local business volunteers

Join in a Q&A to hear first-hand from businesses, training providers and apprentices.

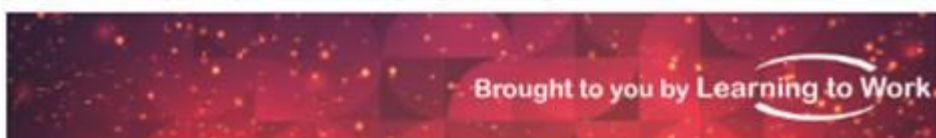
45 mins Industry Spotlights with local employers

An opportunity to find out about a specific industry from a local expert who can share their real-life experience, give their perspective on the workplace today and offer an insight into how to get into that industry. Choose 2 spotlights to attend.

15 mins Final Presentation delivered by Learning to Work

A recap of the event with top tips on how to make use of free resources and how to access more information and support.

To register for this FREE event please visit
<https://hopin.com/events/spotlight-on-slough-2021-virtual-careers-event>



Reports and Academic Review Day

I would just like to confirm that that the Academic Review Day this coming **Friday 15th October** will still be going ahead. **The only change to the day is the fact that all meetings will take place online, rather than in the school.** Like last year's Parents' Evening we will be using Microsoft Teams as our online platform. We will be using your son/daughters school 'Teams' account for the video call; your child should be able to guide you through the technical aspect of this! For new pupils, we will provide training to them beforehand so that you are all set for Friday.

In order to help facilitate our Academic Review Day on Teams; on Wednesday students will be given their reports in an envelope to take home. For any students not in, we will send these out in the post to parents.

Academic Review Day is an excellent opportunity to discuss with your child's form tutor how your child has started the term both academically and pastorally. During the meeting we ask that parents, students and tutors set targets in the following areas:

- Two Academic Targets
- One Personal Development Target
- Two Extra-Curricular Targets
- For Year 11 and 13 only, a careers destination (what do they hope to do next year)
-

With the academic, personal development and extra-curricular targets – these options will also be sent out with students' reports, so parents have this to hand at home. We also ask that parents sit with their child and set three targets for themselves on their report as they would normally do in school. Your child's report will also include their reading age, and an additional handout will be sent out with the reports for parents, to explain how this has been obtained

If you have any questions regarding the day please contact your child's Head of Year.

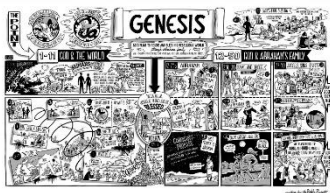
Monday Lunchtime Club

On Monday lunchtimes, we will be following a series of videos exploring the stories of the Bible. Created by the Bible Project, they explore and explain Bible stories in an easy and accessible way. Come and see!

Beginning on Monday 1st November in the Chapel
12:40pm – Year 8, 9, 10

1:40pm – Year 7, 11, 6th Form

(notice the start time which allows students to eat some lunch beforehand)



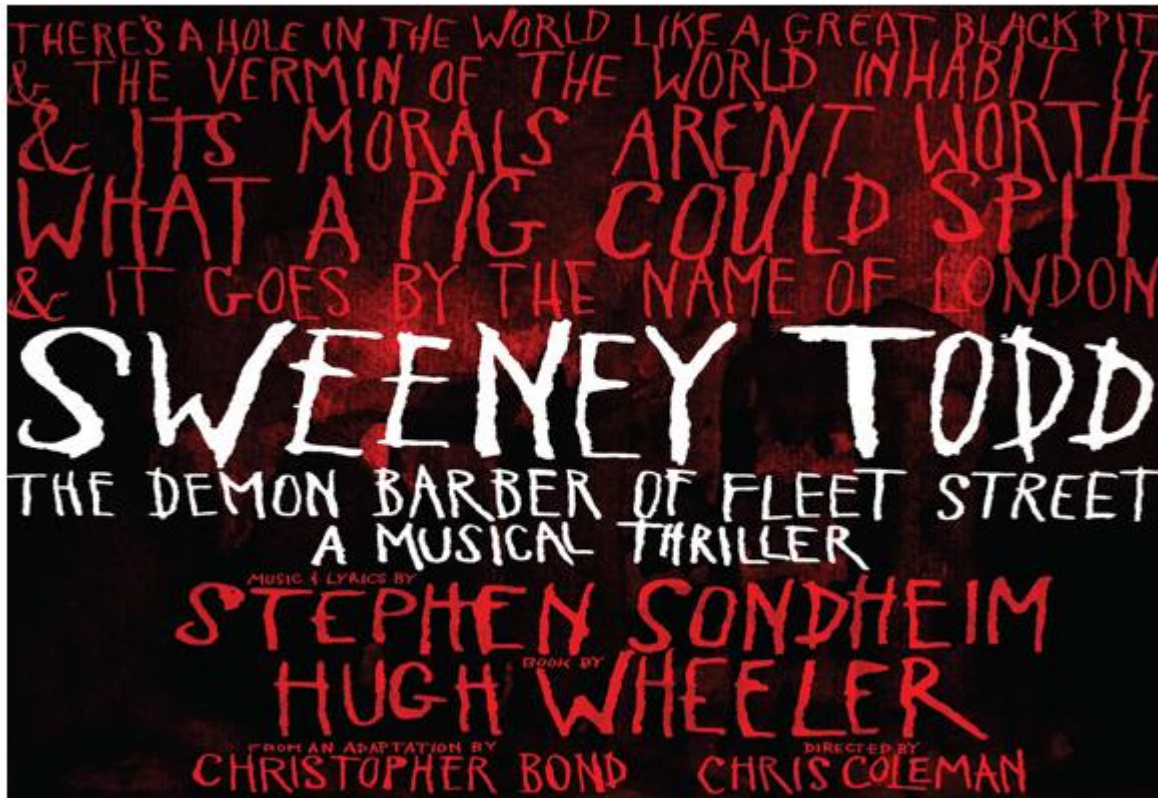
'Unlocking Belief in All'

8th October 2021

Drama News

IT'S SHOW TIME!

Sweeney Todd- The Demon Barber of Fleet Street will be our next St Joseph's production. We have had our preview today. Watch this space for audition dates.



Sports News

The Year 8 Football team took the quick walk to Lynch Hill Academy. After a hard fought game the defences of both teams prevailed. A nail biting game finished 0-0 with no team able to break the deadlock.

The best chances came from the St Joseph's boys with Rowan hitting the bar from a volley in the penalty area and Zac, through on goal but unable to squeeze it past the goal keeper.

A big thank you to all the boys who took part.

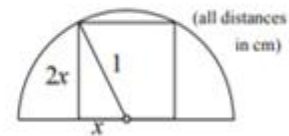
Mr Hunt

'Unlocking Belief in All'



Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A Let the length of the side of the square be $2x$ cm. Then, using Pythagoras' Theorem in the triangle shown, $(2x)^2 + x^2 = 1^2$. So $4x^2 + x^2 = 1$. Therefore $x^2 = \frac{1}{5}$ and the area of the square is $4x^2 \text{ cm}^2 = \frac{4}{5} \text{ cm}^2$.



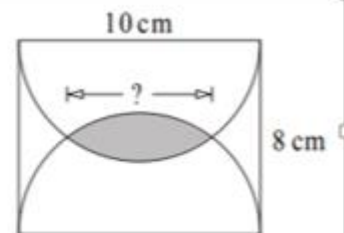
Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- C Let g and s be the number of goats and sheep respectively. Then $s = 2g$ and $12 = s - g = 2g - g = g$. Hence the number of animals is $s + g = 3g = 36$.

Problem of the week

Two semicircles are drawn in a rectangle as shown. What is the width of the overlap of the two semicircles?

- A 3 cm B 4 cm C 5 cm D 6 cm E 7 cm



Break time Teaser:

The world's fastest tortoise is acknowledged to be a leopard tortoise from County Durham called Bertie. In July 2014, Bertie sprinted along a 5.5 m long track in an astonishing 19.6 seconds.

What was Bertie's approximate average speed in km per hour?

- A 0.1 B 0.5 C 1 D 5 E 10

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. The first full complete answer will get satchel points.

Art News

TVLP are running a Nature Art competition. The deadline for entries is 3pm, Thursday 21st October (1st week of half-term).

Art Competition



Our latest student competition is being run in conjunction with RHS Garden Wisley, who will be judging the entries.

Pupils from every year group are encouraged to submit photos of their handmade creations by 3pm on Thursday 21st October 2021.

Prizes will be awarded after this date.



Emily Szewczyk 7T

Duke of Edinburgh News



Year 11

Congratulations to the 14 students who passed their Bronze Qualifying Expedition 2 weeks ago. Some made a few wrong turns but everyone made it to the end in good time.

Year 10

Unfortunately we have had to postpone the Qualifying Expedition scheduled for this weekend. I know students are disappointed but we'll be resilient and wait until Spring to complete it.

'Unlocking Belief in All'



Design and Technology Department

Highlights this fortnight have included year 8s doing practical work in the workshops and kitchen. Year 10 chefs completing their first self selected independent dish, and the KS3 DE-SIGNeers DT club challenges. We absolutely love seeing the students develop and use their knowledge and skills.



Plastics Challenge

Thankyou to those that have brought in plastic bottle tops- currently Veronica house lead the race in contributions. Please do continue to send in bottles tops (and in fact any recyclable and put them into the collection boxes in A4. Thankyou in advance for your continued efforts.



HDPE #2 plastics)



HDPE

DT social media



We try to post updates and points of interest on our Instagram page and share some of the great work being done by our DT pupils, please do take a look!

D&T Stars of the week



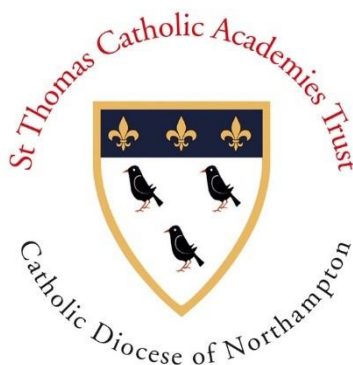
For and autonomous and independent work in lessons and being encouraging and supportive of their peers

Zuzanna Drewkowska Y9 Maksimilian Oleszak Y8

Alex Aislabe for showing resilience when things did not go quite to plan.

'Unlocking Belief in All'

Trust News



WE ARE HIRING: OCTOBER BULLETIN

Across our family of Catholic schools in Slough, we are seeking to employ people who want to make a difference. Working in our schools in any role is a privilege and provides the opportunity to contribute to our mission to provide outstanding education to thousands of young people. We would like to invite you, or someone you may know, to contact us about the current roles we have in our Trust:

Role	FACILITIES MAN- AGER	PREMISES ASSIS- TANT	SITE AGENT
Loca- tion	Main office: St Jo- seph's Catholic High School	St Joseph's Catholic High School	St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
Salary	£31,350 - £32,244 (+ Market factor supple- ment of £3,500)	£22,647	£22,000
To find out more	Email: ad- min@stcat.co.uk Call: 01582 361600	Email: o.mcateer@st- jo- sephs.slough.sch.uk Tel: 01753 524713	Email: bur- sar@stanthonys. Slough.sch.uk Tel: 01753 645828
Clos- ing date	25 October 2021	11 October 2021	15 October 2021
Advert	To find out more about these roles or any roles across our fam- ily of Catholic schools in Slough, please visit our Trust recruit- ment page		

www.stcat.co.uk/careers-and-training/trust-vacancies



Even if these roles are not for you, please do share them with friends and family.

You may know the perfect candidate, so thank you for sharing!

Pupil Nominations of the Week

<u>Year 7</u> Taia Butler for her wonderful resilience, and Noah Deveraux for his curiosity in lessons. Keep it up!	<u>Year 8</u>
<u>Year 9</u> Igor Zygmuntowicz for excellence in Business and showing curiosity surrounding the subject area. Johanna Nakasujja, Alina Rodrigues and Amelia Czajkowska for a positive start to their new St Joseph's school life!	<u>Year 10</u> Adam White for being incredibly eloquent in PSHE, English and Science. Mikhaella Mendoza for being consistently excellent in Drama.
<u>Year 11</u> All who played in the netball tournament on Wednesday placing an incredible 3 rd out of the 8 teams.	<u>Year 12</u>
<u>Year 13</u> Emma Kadiri for hard work in Physics and Brandon Matthews for excellent work in business.	

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