



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 12th January 2024



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.

Link to the latest video is:

[Headteacher Message NEWSLETTER - 12th January 2024 \(youtube.com\)](#)

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

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton

Art A-Level Coursework

Some fantastic work from our Sixth Form students Yohanie Sathsari Fernando Y13 and Melanie Lukomska in Y12



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

Theme of the Week – The Lamb of God

During the season of Advent (during week 2 and 3), we encountered John the Baptist in the Gospels where we heard of his mission, that of preparing a way for the Lord *“A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight”* Mark (1: 3-4). In the Gospel on Sunday we hear from John the Baptist again where he delivers a very clear and important message to two of his own disciples, *‘Look, there is the lamb of God.’* This phrase *‘The Lamb of God’* signifies the one whose life is to be a sacrificial offering – the Messiah. When we go to Church, at the most sacred time of Mass, the priest will take the host and say, *“Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world, blessed are those called to the supper of the lamb”*. The message John gave his disciples is the message we still hold dear today. John the Baptist’s mission was to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus and then direct them to him, The Messiah, and away from himself.

John’s testimony sets in motion the attachment of the first disciples to Jesus. At the time, disciples were common for Jewish leaders/priests. However, these disciples were scholars, experts in their faith, someone who would conform to their chosen leader. In the final verse of the Gospel Jesus calls Peter by a new name indicating that Peter is taking on a completely new way of life, that he has made a life-changing choice. To be a disciple of Christ is to be completely transformed and to embark on a new direction in life. In the Gospel, the invitation from Jesus of *“come and see”* is made to us too —we follow, listen and remain with Jesus because we believe he is what we need.

The call to be a follower of Jesus is just the beginning though. Growing within the body of Christ, the community, is a lifelong process. Year by year our understanding of what and who we are is fed by listening to the scriptures, participating in the liturgy and prayer to our creator as a true Christian, with and through Christ. Take a moment this week to truly reflect on the ‘Lamb of God’. Jesus is the one who takes away our sins – how can we ourselves make an extra effort this week to avoid sin and do good to our brothers and sisters in Christ? How can we grow in our understanding to be true disciples in Christ?

The Lamb of God

Weekly Reflections
14th January 2024



A reading from the Gospel of St John (1:35-42)

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, in the Lamb of God you not only showed us how we are to live our lives but we also see the sacrifice you gave us for our sins. Give us courage to give our hearts to you so we too can grow within the presence of Christ

Through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Feast Day – St. Sebastian – 20th January



Sebastian volunteered for the Roman army in around 283. It was discovered that Sebastian has comforted some of the Christian martyrs, was himself a Christian and had actively converted others to Christianity. He was condemned by Emperor Diocletian to be shot to death by his fellow archers. However the arrows did not kill him, left for dead by his executioners, Sebastian was apparently healed by St Irene. However, Diocletian was not to be denied and had Sebastian clubbed to death. Sebastian was:

Curious and Active

Day 1

Who is the Lamb of God? What do you think the term Lamb of God means?

Why do you think this term is given at the most important time of Mass?

Day 2

Why is being a disciple of Christ being asked to completely transform and embark on a new direction in life?

How is the invitation of 'Come and See' seen in your life?

Day 3

How in your life have you been followers of Christ (e.g. prayer, mass, acts of good will to others?)

How over the course of this year can we grow within the body of Christ in our school community?

Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term	
Inset Day	Monday 2 nd September 2024
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
Year 7 + 12	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Whole school returns	Thursday 5 th September 2024
Half Term	Monday 21 st October 2024 to Friday 1 st November 2024
Term Ends	Friday 20 th December 2024 (12:30pm finish)
Spring Term	
Term Begins	Monday 6 th January 2025
Half Term	Monday 17 th February 2025 to Friday 21 st February 2025
Term Ends	Friday 4 th April 2025 (12:30pm finish)
Summer Term	
Inset Day	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025
Term Begins	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
Half Term	Monday 26 th May 2025 to Friday 30 th May 2025
Term Ends	Friday 18 th July 2025 (12:30pm finish)

Year 7 News

Another impressive week from Year 7s, we have received 792 positive points, it has been a truly wonderful start to the New Year. Please can I remind that with new journals we need to be signing the Homeschool Agreement in the Journals, this can be found on Page 41. I have asked that this be done by Monday. Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 9 News

I want to wish you all a very warm welcome back and a very happy new year. So far Year 9 have made a fantastic start back to school and have already managed to achieve 543 positive points, so keep up the excellent attitude and hard work.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

Thursday 1st February- Year 9 Parent's Evening- a letter and confirmation of attendance has been sent on ParentPay and **Thursday 9th February- Year 9 CIAG Evening** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's form tutor or myself. Miss Joseph – Head of Year 9

Year 11 News

Last night was Year 11 parents evening. I am really pleased with the attendance and engagement from parents. It was a really positive evening. Can I remind you to take on board what your subject teachers spoke about, this term is really short and we will be at the next set of PPE's before we know it. This week there have also been interviews for sixth form here at St Josephs. These have been really positive with students deciding their next pathways. Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 11

Year 11 Interventions

I am writing to inform you of our Year 11 interventions. Pupils in the year group will be expected to participate in these interventions if they are selected by subject areas.

These interventions will lead up to our Pre-Public Examinations 2nd Series, which are taking place on the **week beginning 5th February**, punctuated by half term and the second week of examinations on our return.

The information pupils will need, to let them know where to go, will be posted on the Intervention Noticeboard outside the Heads' of Year office & sent to students on Teams. They should check this daily for any changes that may occur from week to week.

Day	Week A	Week B
Monday	Maths	Option A (Food, French, Geog, History, Support, Spanish, PE, Sport Science)
Tuesday	Science	Option D (Business, Child Development, Computing, Drama, French, Geography, Spanish)
Wednesday	English	Option C (Art, Business, Food Tech, French, Geography, IT, Spanish, Voc.Bus)
Friday	RE	Option B (Art, Business, Geography, History, Music, DT)

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child attends these sessions to provide them with the greatest opportunity for success at this crucial time.

MFL Superstars



Students of the Week

10V Tutor Group

Nominees for Active & Curious:

Kamil Krzesaj for being active and curious in Reading time, exemplary manners and being the first tutee to receive a postcard for Geography!

Keeley Canavan for great reading intonation and volume; also for her interpersonal skills & showing compassion to other students generally.

7X1 French

Nominees for Learned & Wise:

Marcel Stepczynski for his incredible general knowledge about "Les Pays francophones"; being willing to share facts with our class, about various French speaking countries, their culture, history & geography.

Florence Tambwe for her fantastic pronunciation, grammar and sharing with the class her own interest in the diverse culture & dialect of Congo.

N.B: please see at base of diamond: RDC - La République Démocratique du Congo. This is a much bigger country compared to Republic of Congo, whose language originates from Belgium, neighbouring her to the west!

PE After School Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball
Afterschool	Fitness KBR Rugby HMC/THU Dance HST	Netball- all year groups AAN MJO KBR Year 7+8 boys Football FWA Year 7-9 Basketball JCO	Year 9-11 boys Football THU Girls Football- all year groups JSI Volleyball HGO		Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball CWH

Word of the Week

‘Idyllic’

This is an adjective which denotes a place which is happy, peaceful, or picturesque.

Idiom of the week

‘Calm before the Storm’

This refers to a quiet or peaceful period before a period during which there is great activity, argument, or difficulty. It is Miss Shaw’s favourite idiom!

LUX Dive- A Residential Youth Retreat for Young People Years 7- 13

Students from School Years 7-13 are invited to the next residential youth weekend, LUX:Dive which is being run by NYMO.

For those who work with this age group this weekend is a great opportunity to encourage young people to come along and get involved. All the details are below. *To watch a promotional video and for more information please see:*

<https://nymo.org/lux-dive/>





House Competition Standings:

The house with the least number of XH's will receive a free slushy each!
(prize suggested by student voice)



Group Stage - Week 1 and 2			
X Band	Standings	Week 1 - Number of XHs	Week 2 - Number of XHs
Jerome	1	24	
Cecilia	2	25	
Mark	3	30	

Group Stage - Week 1 and 2			
Y Band	Standings	Week 1 - Number of XHs	Week 2 - Number of XHs
Peter	1	19	
Veronica	2	20	
Teresa	3	32	

Current Overall House Cup Standings

HOUSE	POSITIVE
Peter	14251
Veronica	13225
Cecilia	12463
Teresa	12325
Mark	11692
Jerome	11287



House Competition Standings:

The house with the least number of XH's will receive a free slushy each
at the end of half term!
(prize suggested by student voice)



Group Stage – Week 1

X Band	Standings
Peter	1
Veronica	2
Teresa	3

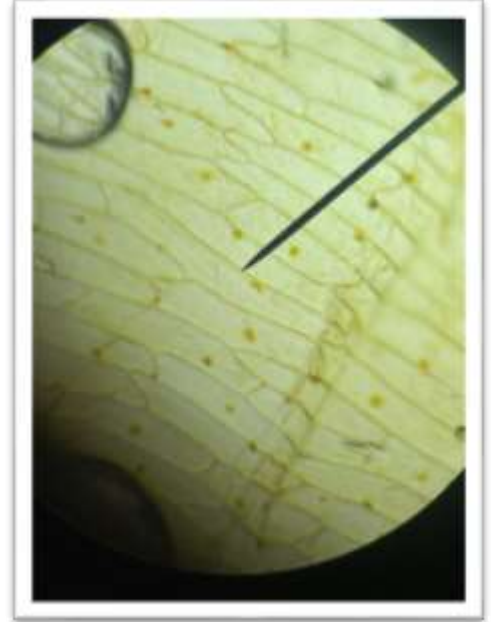
Y Band	Standings
Jerome	1
Cecilia	2
Mark	3

Current Overall House Cup Standings

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Science Club

Students enjoyed observing onion cells, sand, soil, sugar, mosses and their finger prints





Please see as a separate attachment the latest Pixa newsletter

Access to Shine – Charity Dinner

You're cordially invited to a special Charity Dinner Event that promises an evening of joy, good company, and making a meaningful impact! RSVP to secure your spot!!

A poster for the Access to Shine Charity Dinner. The poster has a blue background with white and yellow text. It features the Access to Shine logo (a star with a person inside) and the text "Access to Shine is a not-for-profit organization working to promote the education of young people in the UK and within deprived communities in Nigeria for the public benefit". The main title "Charity DINNER" is in large, bold letters. Below it, the date "Saturday 24 February 2024" and time "TIME: 5:30PM" are listed. The ticket price is "£ 35 PER PERSON". The venue is "The Kerith Centre K2, Church Rd Bracknell RG12 1EH". The poster also includes a list of activities: "Tickets for 3 Course Nigerian Buffet Dinner, Raffle, Dance, & Games". At the bottom, it says "To book your ticket, please fill the form in the link, for more info go to www.accesstoshine.co.uk" and provides a phone number "07463017729". The poster is decorated with images of food (a large platter of Nigerian buffet dinner) and a circular inset showing a group of people sitting around a table.

Use this link to book your ticket:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=nRr-BijQTU2WCf5rTXAvST4OEulwdLtFv_VGIUffjQIRUOEY2N0wxMTIUUE1SS0hSN0pDM0pOMUpPNS4

TVLP
CREATIVE WRITING
COMPETITION

**Building Other Worlds
Alternative Reality**

Its time to think creatively!

In just 500 words take us
to another time or place.

Competition Launch Date
Monday 15th January
For students in year 7 and 8
Competition Closing Date
Friday 9th February

Email your writing to
J.Kemp@tvlp.org.uk



Entries to be judged by
by
Author Ali Sparkes

Create a time we want
to travel to.
#motivated to write!





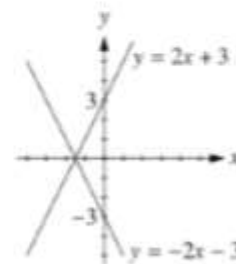
#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- E The diagram shows that the reflection of the line $y = 2x + 3$ in the x -axis has gradient -2 and an intercept on the y -axis of $(0, -3)$.

Therefore, the equation of the reflected line is $y = -2x - 3$.

(Note that reflection in the x -axis changes y to $-y$.
Hence the equation of the reflected line is $-y = 2x + 3$,
so $y = -2x - 3$.)



Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- E The correct answer is a multiple of both 3 and 8, as $24 = 3 \times 8$. Although 100 is a multiple of 4, it is not a multiple of 8. Therefore even multiples of 100 are multiples of 8, but odd multiples are not. This leaves 200, 400 and 600, but of these only 600 is also a multiple of 3. Hence the only option which is a multiple of 24 is 600.

Puzzler of the week

A kite is made by joining two congruent isosceles triangles, as shown.

What is the value of x ?

- A 36 B 54 C 60 D 72 E 80



Break time Teaser:

Patrick drives from P to Q at an average speed of 40 mph. His drive back from Q to P is at an average speed of 45 mph and takes two minutes less.
How far, in miles, is it from P to Q?

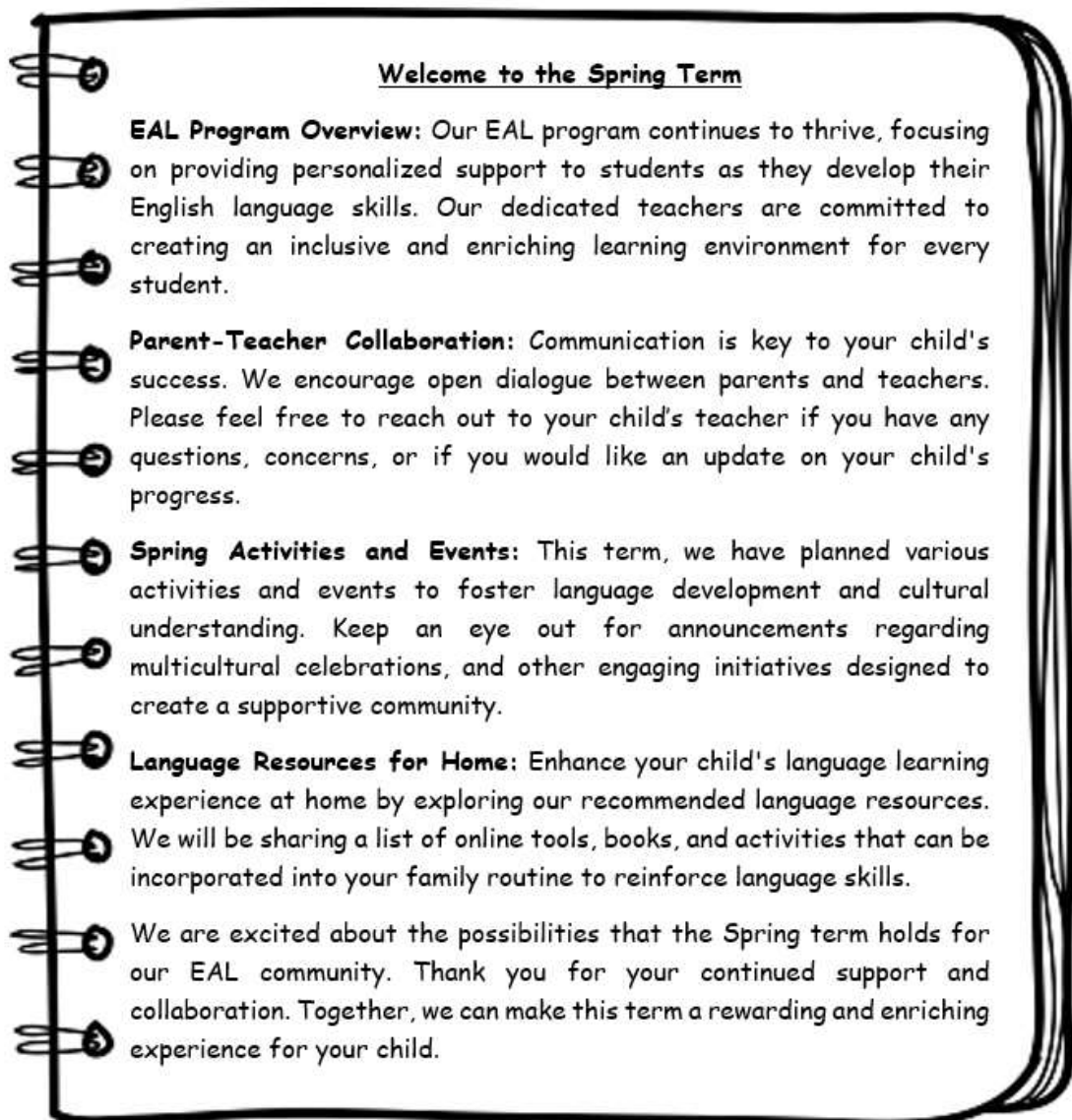
- A 1.5 B 6 C 9 D 12 E 15

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



EAL News

(English as an Additional Language)



Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year7

Maximus Maican and Felicity Kuziela for receiving the most positive points this week.
Homework Superstar of the week is Sameer Gupta 7 Cecilia

Year8

Year9

Alicja Karwan (9V) and Nadia Sztuba (9T) for their excellent work in Spanish this week
Chloe Dsouza and Jakub Kozlowski for achieving the most positive points this week.

Year 10

Year 11

Gabby Wiegus and Adrian Konstantyn for the most positive points this week

Year 12

Students of the week are Grace Tully and Kasper Jasinski for their hard work and success in their GCSE
Resit examinations.
Special mentions also to all the other students who worked so hard on their resit exams.