



St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023



## County Championships

Ana Passos Year 10 came second in 800m County Championships on Saturday and set a new PB of 2:20.

## Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

Link is: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAUZ\\_bMZmnl&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAUZ_bMZmnl&feature=youtu.be)

**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:**

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

### Theme of the Week – Sending Out

We only need to switch on the TV to realize that humanity is sick: wars, violence, racism, inequalities, greed etc. Men and women have been dreaming of a world where these things are no more and where peace, brotherhood and harmony reign, but we haven't understood that ONLY THE GOSPEL can achieve this. In the two chapters preceding our Gospel, Jesus comes down from the mount of the Beatitudes and meets this sick humanity, lepers, crippled, blind, demoniacs, and through His word, HEALS THEM. These are symbols of all that afflicts humanity in our days. The LEPERS are those MADE UGLY BY A LIFE OF SIN that disfigures the image of God in them. The CRIPPLED are those who are PARALYZED BY FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY, those who are unable to make the first step towards building a godly life, those who are led to the wrong place by evil people, the worthless 'influencers' of our time. The BLIND are those who cannot see where they are going, those who cannot see the truth as they are blinded by the world and its fake values. **Jesus, through His Gospel, FREES all these people, gives us a new face, new legs to follow Him and new eyes to see what life is worth living for.**

As he looked at the crowd who were following Him, Jesus was moved to **compassion** as they were 'as sheep without a shepherd'. We often imagine a God who is good, but also rather indifferent to the problems and sufferings of humanity. Jesus shows us the face of another God, a LOVING FATHER who is emotionally involved with humanity – **COMPASSION** literally means 'TO SUFFER WITH'. The Greek word used is *splanchnizomai*, which has its root in the word INNARDS, GUTS, and describes the **visceral love** that a mother has for the fruit of her womb. This word is used 12 times in the Gospel, but only referred to Jesus and God. Let us ask ourselves, **what do I experience when I look at the needs and sufferings of our brothers and sisters? Only of we experience HIS COMPASSION we can be disciples of Christ.**

The image of SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD is a reference to the book of Numbers, where a dying Moses worries about the future of Israel and asks God to appoint a leader, so that they may not be scattered like sheep without a shepherd. The problem was that these leaders - as well as our leaders- often did a very poor job, and didn't care about the people, that's why JESUS CAME TO BE THE SHEPHERD who leads His sheep safely to His pastures. **BUT HE NEEDS HELPERS FOR THIS IMPORTANT JOB!**

Jesus invites his followers **TO ASK** God, that he may send **WORKERS INTO HIS HARVEST**. This passage has often been interpreted as referring to priests, friars and nuns; **THAT'S WRONG**. Of course the Church needs generous men and women who donate their life for the service of others, the celebration of the sacraments and prayer, but here Jesus is referring to **ALL DISCIPLES WHO EXPERIENCE HIS PASSIONATE LOVE FOR HUMANITY**. What does Jesus need workers for? TO HARVEST, because THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL. Sometimes we are under the impression that the message of the Gospel has become obsolete and unattractive for people of our age, but Jesus tells us that the HARVEST IS READY to welcome his Word. The world is in a very bad place; we have abundance of goods of all sorts, but a lack of happiness and sense of purpose. Suicides are at their highest, particularly among the young and those who live comfortably. WHY? Because we try to numb our hearts by seeking money, pleasure, status, security, but in reality what we need is **PURPOSE**, and a knowledge of WHO WE ARE, and WHERE WE ARE GOING. Only Christ and His Gospel have answers to those questions and **WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE HERALDS OF THAT GOOD NEWS**.

The workers are few, says Jesus. WHY DOES NOT GOD SEND MORE? WHY SHOULD WE PRAY TO HIM TO SEND MORE? If we ask these questions we haven't understood what prayer is. Prayer is not a repetition of formulas and words. Prayer is **BEING IN HARMONY WITH THE MIND OF GOD**, entering into a dialogue with the Father through silence, through the meditation of his Word, through listening. Only in this dialogue, this true prayer, God will make us aware of HIS LOVE FOR US, and will inspire us to become helpers in his quest to BRING THIS HEALING LOVE TO OUR BROKEN WORLD.

**SO, ARE WE READY FOR WORK? ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES, WE ARE ALL SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S LOVE.**

## Sending Out

Weekly Reflections  
18<sup>th</sup> June 2023**From the Gospel of Matthew (9:36-10:8)**

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

**Day 1**

Jesus healed the **lepers, crippled** and **blind**. These categories may be metaphorically interpreted as the illnesses of humanity:

- Who are the lepers, cripples and blind of our time?

**Day 2**

Jesus looked at the crowds surrounding him and had 'COMPASSION' for them.

- Do you remember what compassion is?

**Prayer for the Week**

**Risen Lord, your harvest is ripe and you call us to work with you to bring relief and healing to this suffering humanity. Make our hearts like yours, hearts that look on our brothers and sisters with the same care and compassion that you have. In your Name we pray. Amen**

**Saint of the Week****Irish Catholic Martyrs of the Reformation  
(1537-1714)**

From the Reformation onwards, Ireland remained a stronghold of Catholic resistance against the English Crown which tried to force people to abandon the Catholic Faith in favour of the newly created national Protestantism. Nearly 260 men and women lost their lives because they would not deny the faith of their fathers. This persecution lasted for nearly two centuries, and is in many ways responsible for the strong antagonism between Catholics and Protestants that saw its peak in The Troubles and lasts to this very day. **May the Lord help us to let go of old grudges and work actively for forgiveness and reconciliation.**

The Irish Martyrs were **GENEROUS** in shedding their blood for the truth, and **GRATEFUL** for the gift of the Catholic Faith they had received.

**Day 3**

Jesus invites his disciples (and us) to pray God to send labourers into his harvest.

- What do you think that means?
- Why doesn't God send labourers without us having to ask him?

## Year 10 Geography Trip

This week all Year 10 Geographers travelled to London for a day of fieldwork. We started in East London in Stratford- here students discovered and explored the Olympic site. The Olympic Site was built largely on 560 acres of brownfield land, with buildings that had been neglected, unused, and contaminated. This meant that it was a perfect site to discover the positive impacts of the regeneration of the area. Students completed Environmental Quality Surveys and questionnaires to gather primary data to answer their enquiry question. In the afternoon students visited Hyde Park and investigated whether the biodiversity of the area had been impacted by the human interaction. Great days were had by all the students and they showed great resilience in the hot weather. I want to say thank you to all of the staff that have supported us on the trip to ensure the students had a great time: Mr Stack-Clark, Miss Cooper, Mrs Niculae, Mr Brennan, Mr Davis, Miss Giannitto, Mrs Rodrigues and Mr Wood.



Please follow our Instagram for more information and up to date current affairs! [@stjosephsgeography](https://www.instagram.com/stjosephsgeography)

### Word of the Week

## 'Mediate'.

This is a verb that means: To talk to two separate people or groups involved in a disagreement to try to help them to agree or find a solution to their problems.

e.g. Negotiators were called in to mediate between the two sides.

### Idiom of the Week

## "To make ends meet"

means to manage one's finances or resources in a way that allows for basic needs and expenses to be met.

### Year 9 Project

Our year 9 students have completed their projects about Miguel de Cervantes, one of the most important Spanish writers, author of 'Don Quijote'. Their projects are outstanding!!





## Design and Technology Department

### Key Stage 3.

Year 7- A sunny display of houmous and crudites!. Great work year 7 ☺



Simply the best.....

Some lovely trophies finished by year 7..... we hope they get home and get awarded to the prize winners.



**Year 9-** a particular well done to Nathan who has been putting in 'overtime- being very intentional and prophetic, to work on his designer light, developing new skills.



### Year 8 fruit tarts

Yummy summer fruit tarts- perfect pudding for this heat, wonder if any got home.



## Electives

### DT Make IT

Pupils started with string art and wooden gifts last week, and started on perpetual calendars this week which we hope to share with you next week.



### Sew Easy

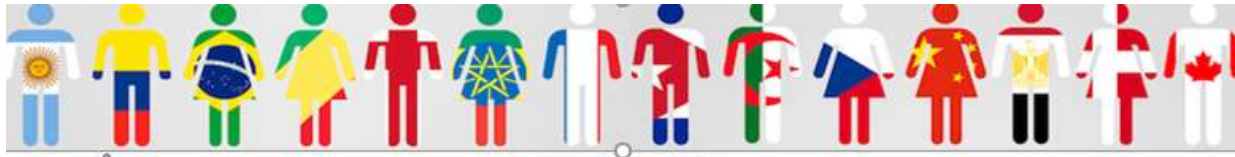


### D&T Stars



**Nathan James**-for being **attentive and curious** in his studies, developing extra skills on the lathe outside of lesson time with Mr Silver.

**Benedito Quadros** (for the second time!!) for being **intentional and prophetic** sharing his superior soldering skills (picked up at electronic elective) and helping his peers.



## EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Language)

### *Frequently asked questions*

1. **My English is not very good. Should I speak English with my child?**

It is better to use your home language because you will provide a good model of the language. Besides, your child has many opportunities to hear English and to use it, outside the home.

2. **What can I do when my child does not want to use the home language anymore?**

It is normal for children, especially teenagers to want to use English all the time because they want to fit in with their friends. It is not advisable to try to force your child to use a particular language.

3. **What are the advantages of being bilingual?**

- **Thinking power:** Learning and using more than one language can improve creative thinking, problem solving and expression.
- **Culture:** Speaking more than one language means that you experience more than one world: different ways of thinking, ideas and beliefs. The home language is very important for passing on values and traditions and maintaining cultural identity.
- **Language:** Bilingualism creates a better understanding of how language works and can make learning other languages easier.



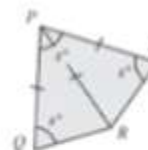




# #IcandoMaths

## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- D** As  $PQ = PR$ ,  $\angle PRQ = \angle PQR = x^\circ$ . Also, as  $PR = PS$ ,  $\angle PRS = \angle PSR = x^\circ$ . Therefore,  $\angle QRS = (2x)^\circ$ . The sum of the interior angles of quadrilateral  $PQRS$  is  $360^\circ$ . Therefore  $x + x + 2x + x = 360$ , so  $5x = 360$ . Hence  $x = 72$ .



## Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- E** The sum of  $\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{11}$  is  $\frac{11}{99} + \frac{9}{99}$ , that is  $\frac{20}{99}$ .

Now 20 and 99 do not have any factors in common except 1. So the fraction cannot be simplified. In option A, we may write 0.10 as the fraction  $\frac{10}{100}$ , whose denominator is a power of 10. The same is true of options B, C and D. Therefore, when simplified, none of these fractions can have 99 as a denominator.

It is left to the reader to confirm, by division, that  $\frac{20}{99} = 0.\dot{2}0$ .

An alternative argument follows.

Let  $x = 0.2\dot{0} = 0.202020\dots$ . Then  $100x = 20.202020\dots$

Subtracting the first equation from the second gives  $99x = 20$ .

## Problem 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:

In 2014, in Boston, Massachusetts, Eli Bishop set a world record for the greatest number of claps per minute. He achieved 1020 claps in one minute.

How many claps is that per second?

- A 17    B 16.5    C 16    D 15.5    E 15

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

## Pupil Nominations of the Week

### YEAR 7

Kacper Smigielski and Nikodem Marciniak (7P) for their amazing participation in their computing lessons.  
Michalina B and Eliza B for outstanding knowledge recall in French.

### YEAR 8

Patrycja S for outstanding work in Spanish.  
Igor K for amazing progress in Spanish.  
Iga Szustorowska (8 Mark)  
Michal Kundys (8 Teresa)  
For achieving the most positive points this week.

### YEAR 9

MIKOLAJ ROSZAK 9V for:  
First, his calm, cheery character & courteous conduct. Second, his consistently smart uniform & really well organized bag.  
Oliver Ventura (9T) and Brajan Zurkowski (9P) for achieving the highest number of positive points this week.  
Lucy W for her great effort in her Spanish writing task.

### Year10

Most Positive points  
Hubert Bialy  
Sophie Wood  
Oliwia Mroz  
Jakub Roginski

### YEAR 12

Christopher Szalajko for excellent work in Business Studies and Aiden Daliling for amazing work in Physics.