

## St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 22nd September 2023



## **Head Teacher Message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

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

(5) Headteacher Message - NEWSLETTER 22 09 23 - YouTube

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

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

## **TVLP Leaders**

Congratulations to Leah Walls and Finlay Gibbons who have secured their positions as TVLP student leaders. They both demonstrate key qualities for the role in being outgoing and considerate to peers, with the ability to promote events that are available to all students at St Joseph's. Finlay and Leah have attended many events at Eton College and welcome students to speak to them about the events available and how they can take part.

## Theme of the Week – I Am Generous

Often we call people great when they are very successful, or rich and powerful. Jesus explains that such things are not important to God. He measures our greatness by our goodness and willingness to think of others before ourselves.

When you have a cake to share out, how do you do it? Do you watch carefully to see that no one gets a bigger piece than you?

Have you ever watched someone else getting treated better than others? In the Gospel today do you think the vineyard owner was fair? (Those who worked all day had a whole day's pay as they had agreed upon; those who worked only a little also got a whole day's pay. God was not unfair with the first group, but was abundantly generous with the others) Jesus told today's story to make people think in new ways because many people in that time believed that God didn't love people who sinned.

In the first reading on Sunday, Isaiah's words were addressed to the exiles in Babylon and follow the invitation to the Messiah's banquet. They are words of pleading to those whose faith has grown cold, to turn back to a forgiving God whose thoughts are far beyond our understanding. The Gospel challenges our human understanding of the principles of fairness and generosity. God does not operate on a formula of who deserves what. In this story the owner makes a point of having the last workers paid first in full view of the others. If the order of payment had been different the full day workers would have gone away happy with their remuneration and none the wiser. The audience is drawn into sharing the feelings of disgruntlement in solidarity with the full day workers. Our sense of fairness is challenged by this story. But it sheds light onto a problem that had arisen in Matthew's community at the time. Jewish Christians who had come to have faith in Jesus early and had been persecuted for that faith, are seeing new-comers, mostly Greek converts, being offered the same reward. Jesus addresses this issue squarely – God is sovereign and his generosity extends to all believers regardless of merit.

This parable, where the vineyard symbolises the people of God and the owner symbolises God, would be understood to be about those being gathered into God's people and welcomed into the kingdom. The challenges of this story hit us as we identify with the feelings of indignation alongside the workers. Think about the times you have experienced jealousy or resentment. What caused these emotions, and how did you deal with them? Have you ever experienced giving or receiving generosity? Is there a difference in how we react to being recipients of generosity and watching others being treated with generosity when we don't believe they deserve it?

This week be generous to your family, to a friend or better still someone you don't usually talk to. Being generous it not about handing over money; your time to listen and talk to another is generous with your spirit, let the Holy Spirit live out in you this week.

## I am generous

Weekly Reflections 24th September 2023



#### A reading from the Gospel of St Matthew (20:1-16)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

#### Day 1

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses a parable to explain to the disciples how to be generous.

What do you think Jesus was trying to tell them about God in this story? (That God is generous, even with people who don't deserve it, and gives gifts freely; God's love is big enough for us all to share)

## Day 2

Why do you think Jesus was focused on how people react when God does this? (That we can often be jealous instead of pleased when we see others getting blessed) In our own lives, how do you react if you feel you are treated unfairly?

#### Dav 3

During this week think on God's gift of abundance and generosity and look for specific ways to be generous with others, with your time, your money, your attention and your attitudes.

### Prayer for the Week

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I am doing your will.

Amen

## Saint of the Week St Vincent de Paul (1581-1660)



Vincent was known for his complete dedication to the poor. He was born to a farming family in southwest France and remained an essentially humble man among his Counter-Reformation contemporaries. While travelling by sea from Marseille on family business, he is said to have been kidnapped by Barbary pirates and enslaved, finally escaping with his master, a former Christian priest in 1607. In 1622, his experience of enslavement led him to be created chaplain to the galley slaves, and he went on to found the Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of

Charity. He was:

**GRATEFUL & GENEROUS** 

## **House Charities**

Thank you to all parents/guardians for their support in discussing different House charities with your child and reminding them to complete the Teams Form. The House charities have been voted on in form time today and will be revealed in House Assemblies next week.

## Prayer intentions for our website and school community

As a Catholic school, we feel it's always important that students, staff and parents/families have the opportunity to share their prayer intentions so as a school community we can come together in prayer to support one another. If you have any prayer intentions you wish for us to pray for please feel free to send through to <a href="mailto:chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk">chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk</a> During the school year, students will come together as a collective group (as a class, year group and as a school) to pray for your intentions. These prayer intentions will also be put on our website (prayer corner) to share so as a whole school community we can prayer for one another.

## Free school meals

## Am I eligible for free school meals?

You will be able to claim free school meals for your child if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have a net income from employment of no more than £7400 per year). For more information on how the government calculates your earnings from employment whilst claiming Universal Credit, please check the "Eligibility under Universal Credit" section below.
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please give on the link below to apply. If entitled, Slough Borough Council will inform you and the school of this.

https://www.slough.gov.uk/xfp/form/244

#### Important announcements - Traffic

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.

## Support at St Joseph's

At St Joseph's we are aware and understand that the current cost of living crisis causes worry and concern for many. As a Catholic School, we always have the well-being of our school community at the heart of everything we do and as a result, we want to help as best we can. We are putting together fortnightly food parcels that will be delivered to families most in need in order to support them over the next few months. A typical food parcel will contain the following:

Food items	Cereal
	Pasta
	Soup
	Rice
	Tinned tomatoes/pasta sauce
	Lentils, beans and pulses
	Tinned meat
	Tinned vegetables
	Tea/coffee
	Tinned fruit
	Biscuits
	UHT milk
	Fruit juice
Non-food items	Toiletries – deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap,
	toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand wipes, hand sanitizer
	Household items – laundry liquid detergent, laundry powder, washing up liquid
	Feminine products – sanitary towels and tampons

In order to receive a food parcel each fortnight please can you email <a href="mailto:chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk">chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk</a> where you will be invited to come into St Joseph's to discuss the needs of your family and the food parcel that will not only meet your family's dietary needs but also how we as a school can support further.

## STUDENT VACCINATIONS - 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 - FLU VACCINE

The student immunisation team will be attending St Joseph on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 for the flu vaccine for Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Please see separate letter attached with the newsletter with further details and to provide E-Consent. It is essential all parents respond. If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated completing the consent form is still required.

Any questions please contact the school office.

### **School Photos**

We will be having our school photos on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of October for all students. A schedule of timings will be sent to students during form time next week. Please make sure you dress extra smart for the occasion.

## **Reading and Progress Tests**

On the week commencing the 9<sup>th</sup> of October, we will be holding baseline Reading Tests for Years 8-13 (Year 7 are already complete) and Progress Tests for English and Maths for Key Stage 3. We will hold a Progress Test for Science in Year 7 only (Year 8 and 9 will be at the end of the Year).

These are baseline tests to measure where students are in their learning and reading at this point in the year and the summer test serves as a measure of progress against this. This is the reason why we do a summer test and then a test straight away again in autumn (the autumn test being at a higher level than the previous summer).

The tests are hugely important to the student experience at St Josephs because we can provide high quality feedback to students to improve their reading, English, Maths and Science and we gain cohort strengths and areas for development that we use to improve our curriculum.

Parents and students will receive their reading ages, reading reports and progress reports along with their first school report.

Students will receive all information needed to complete the test in the week before the tests during form time. They will receive a timetable, log in codes and information as to how to conduct the test.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me (Mr Stack-Clark) via email <u>g.stack-clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk</u>.

## **Year 7 News**

The Year 7s are nearly halfway through their first term at St Josephs and they are doing amazingly well. The Year 7s will be competing for a Pizza Party at the end of next week! The form with the best attendance and the least lates will receive a Pizza Lunch on Friday! Thoroughly looking forward to seeing who wins and I am sure the winning form tutor will sneak a few slices.

A couple of notices from me, please can we ensure that is there is any issue with PE kit that we please send your child's PE teacher and Email or write a note into their journal, if there is a legitimate reason, this will avoid them receiving an X for not having equipment.

Can we check ClassCharts daily, we received our most X's for incomplete homework. Homework is a massively important element of every child's learning, if there is ever any roadblock for not being able to complete homework then please send an email to their teacher at the earliest convenience.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Cooper-Santos

## **Year 11 News**

A massive thank you to all of the year 11 students who helped out at Open Evening last night. You really were a credit to the school. It has been a real pleasure to get into lessons and see the learning taking place. The weather is on the turn can you ensure that outdoor coats are of a dark colour.

In the meantime have a great weekend - Mrs Dunleavy Head of Year 11

## **Music Department News**

Firstly, congratulations to an amazing start of term to all of our music students. We have amazing confidence and progress over the last couple of weeks.

In particular we would like to congratulate the following students for such an amazing and positive start.

Year 7

Marcel S, Fifi S, Kezia, Marcus B

Year 8

Rio Moore-Fleming, Dominika M, Amber N, David G, Carla, Amelie

Year 9

Licia T, Jeff, Declan, Alfonso R, Jakub W-W

Year 10

Benedito, Sweenal, Matilda, Nathacia, Kacper K

Year 11

Stefan N, Alina R, Nicola S, Wiki T, Joyvin M

Year 12

Leah Walls

## **Extra Curricular Music at St Joseph's**

Singing Club - Tuesday's 8am-8.20am

#### **XA room in Music Block**

Singing a selection of songs for fun, all staff and students are welcome.

<u>Practice Rooms</u> are open before school, break, lunchtimes and afterschool. Please ensure you speak to Miss Ure or Mr Orval to ask permission.

## **Drum Kit Workshop**

We are in the process of organising a workshop afterschool for students interested in learn how to play Drum Kit. If you are interested, please contact Miss Ure.

## What's on in Slough?

Slough Music service run lots of events for students.

If you are interested in taking part, please can parent's/carers contact: <a href="mailto:music.service@slough.gov.uk">music.service@slough.gov.uk</a>

Slough Youth Choir - Monday's 5pm-7pm at the Curve

For students aged 6-16

**<u>Build a Band</u>** Thursday's 4pm-6pm at Lynch Hill Primary school. For students can play an instrument to Grade 2+ and who would like to work with other students in groups.

Music Tech Club - Thursday 4pm-6pm at Langley Grammar School.

Computer based music production club learning how to make music for a variety of genres.

## History Department – Year 11 Battlefields Trip

This week, each of our Year 11 students received a letter in relation to the Battlefields Trip which was initially meant to take place between 20 - 22nd October. Due to the low uptake on this, we've pushed the trip back to take place between 2nd – 4th February at the price of £320. For anyone that has already paid the deposit, if you are happy for your child to attend this trip, there is nothing you need to do at the moment, however please be aware that new payment dates have been added for ParentPay:

16th October - £75 (deposit) 20th November - £90 4th January - £155

For anyone that can no longer attend, please contact me directly in writing and I will arrange for a deposit refund.

Please note that once we get 40 entries for this trip, the deposit will be paid and will no longer be refundable. This will be paid on 16th October.

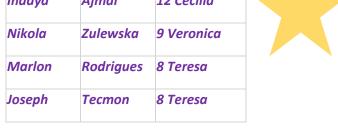
Any questions, please do get in touch and let me know.

Ms. Weir - E.Weir@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

## **Homework Super Stars**



Joel	Manalody	11 Veronic
Jakub	Roginski	11 Peter
Isabelle	Pace	11 Jerome
Inaaya	Ajmal	12 Cecilia
Nikola	Zulewska	9 Veronica
Marlon	Rodrigues	8 Teresa
Joseph	Tecmon	8 Teresa





## **Football Season**

'The Year 11 football team started their season at home at Arbour Park. The boys played a hard fought game leading to a 3-3 game coming up to the final whistle.

With almost all 10 outfield platers pushed forward for the corner in the final seconds. Grove managed to break away and drive down the pitch snatching the win with the final play.

FT Score 4-3"



# **EAL NEWS** (English as an Additional Language

## Strategies for support learning at home

Supporting a child's learning at home, especially when they are an English as an Additional Language (EAL) learner, can be challenging but highly beneficial. Here are some strategies EAL parents can use to support their child's learning at home:

Collaborate with Teachers: Work closely with your child's teachers to understand their specific needs and how to support their learning effectively.

Create a Quiet and Organized Study Space: Set up a quiet, clutter-free space where your child can study and do homework.

Encourage Reading: Read together regularly in both English and your native language. This helps improve vocabulary and comprehension in both languages.

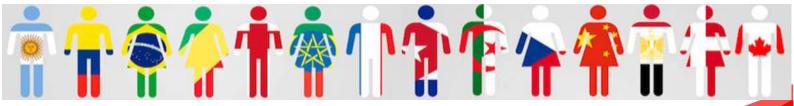
Use Bilingual Resources: Find bilingual books, educational apps, and websites that can aid language development and support their understanding of various subjects.

Set Realistic Goals: Help your child set achievable goals for their learning. Celebrate their accomplishments to boost motivation.

Provide Encouragement: Praise your child's efforts and achievements. Encourage them to ask questions and seek help when needed.

Active Listening: Listen attentively when your child talks about their school day or assignments. Show interest in their learning experiences.

Support Homework: Be available to assist with homework but avoid doing it for them. Encourage independence and problem-solving skills.



## **Science News-Open evening**

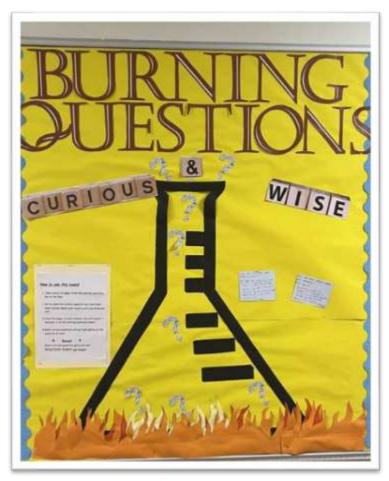
We had a fiery start to the year in the science department for open evening. It was wonderful to see all the eager Year 6s getting involved.

Thank you so much to our helpers who were amazing!

- Cameron Fyfe
- Joyvin Menezes
- Emilia Augustyn-Sharma
- Annabell Lysiak
- ❖ Alexis Jaca
- Martyna Krzesaj
- Bara Allababidi
- Aleksander Jozwiak



## **Burning questions board**



In Science we love students who are active and curious. From Monday if you have a burning question in your science lessons that maybe isn't related to your lesson we have a solution for you!

Collect a burning question sheet from your science teacher. Write your amazing question and name. Hand it in to your teacher.

We will then answer the question and add it to our display board.

Each question will earn a positive point and the best question each month will receive an additional 5 points! Look out for the display board below!

## ANOTHER 20 THINGS

## YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE WORLD OF LANGUAGES



SARDINIAN, spoken on the island of Sardinia, is the oldest Romance language still in use, and it is believed to be the closest living language to Latin.

Different languages have their own. equivalents of "hahaha" to represent laughter in text. You might have seen the Spanish "jajaja", but you probably don't know the the Thai "555" ("5" is pronounced "ha" in Thai), the Japanese "www" ("w" comes from "wara (実)"-"to laugh") or the Portuguese "klákki".

XD

Only few languages use click sounds, mostly in Southern Africa. They distinguish between 5 click sounds depending on where they are produced in the mouth.

**CLICK SOUNDS** 



ICELANDIC avoids using foreign words and prefers to form new words from ancient Viking words. So the word for computer "tölva" is formed from the old words "tala" (number) and "vôlva" (prophetess).

Have you ever heard of KARELIAN? It is a Finnic language spoken in Northwestern Russia and parts of Finland. Karelian is just one example of Europe's unique linguistic heritage.

#### **CREOLE LANGUAGES**

are new languages that develop

when people from different

countries talk and create new

words to better understand each other. An example is Haitian Creole, a

## SHELTA or GAMMON

is a language spoken by Irish travellers or Rilantu Mincéirí. It is an instance of a "cryptic" language that was developed to communicate with each other and also to protect their privacy in regards to majority communities.

## THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS ...?

Well, most people assume it to be English but, in fact, the U5 does not have an 'official language'!

### Did you know that

combination of French, West African

languages, and native Taino languages.

## IRISH, SCOTTISH GAELIC AND MANX

have no single words for "yes" and "no"? To answer a question you use verb forms. So the answer to 'Did they go home?" would be "(they) did go" or "(they) didn't go"

## TO GENDER OR NOT TO GENDER

Some languages are based on genderless grammar systems, such as Turkish and English. Others have two or three genders, like German and Greek. Languages with four or more genders are quite rare: E.g. Zande (Congo) has genders for masculine, feminine, animate (e.g. animals), and inanimate.



The CAUDATE is a brain region in the middle of the brain. It helps bilinguals switch between languages but it also keeps both languages separate. Experienced bilinguals use the caudate so much that it changes its size.

## "OLD" GERMAN

Around the year 1700, Germans emigrated to the U.S.A. and lived in enclosed religious communities. That is why you can still come across an 18th century German in Pennsylvania.

## In GREENLANDIC a single word can have a fairly complex meaning: e.g. "nalaasaarusuummerujussuaraluarpunga".

can be translated as "suddenly, I really wanted to just lie down and rest, but ...."

## THE MOST LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE **COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD**

(840) Papua New Guinea Indonesia (711) Nigeria (517) India (456) USA (328 languages)

The CYRILLIC ALPHABET was initiated by the brothers Cyril and Methodius from Thessaloniki who worked as missionaries among Slavic peoples in Central and Eastern Europe.

Only 5% of PORTUGUESE speakers live in Portugal. Unsurprisingly, with populous countries such as Brazil and Mozambique having it as their official language.

Marry FINNISH WORDS have a

very literal translation. Refrigerator

One rule that ENGLISH SPEAKERS follow without noticing is that adjectives have a distinct order: opinion, size, age, shape, colour, origin, material, purpose. For example, "my Greek fat big wedding" sounds a bit odd, but "my big fat Greek wedding" does sound correct.

ALBANIAN, GREEK, **TURKISH AND BULGARIAN** can get pretty confusing! Did you know

that shaking your head can mean 'yes' European Day of languages whilst nodding can mean 'no'?

becomes "ice cupboard" (jääkaappi), computer translates to "knowledge machine"(tietokone) and the word for treadmill (juoksumatto) simply means "running carpet".

In ITALIAN the word "latte", which English speakers use when referring to coffee with milk, actually means "milk". Remember this when you want to order a coffee on your next trip to Italy!

26 September





WWW.COE.INT/EDL #COEEDL





THAMES VALLEY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

# TVLP DESIGN A BOOK COVER ART COMPETITION

IN CONJUNCTION WITH RBWM LIBRARIES

Open to students from TVLP schools.

Art work must be your own and created by hand.

Examples of possible entries include hand drawn pictures,
paintings, or a textile tapestry.

Art created on a computer will not be accepted.

The design can be from a real book or a title created by yourself.

Your art work will be displayed across the Borough Libraries

Photographs of your entry should be emailed to info@tvlp.org.uk

Art work will be displayed

Deadline: 3.00pm on Thursday 9th November 2023.

Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

Only 1 entry per student will be accepted. Students gaining a winning or shortlisted entry will need to produce their original artwork as proof of creation before a prize is awarded.



## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

A Let the length of the hypotenuse of the smallest triangle be l. Then t² = 2² + 2² = 8. So t = √8 = 2√2. Therefore the ratio of the lengths of the sides of the middle triangle to the lengths of the sides of the smallest triangle is √2: 1. Hence the corresponding ratio of the areas of these two triangles is 2: 1. Similarly, the area of the largest triangle is twice the area of the middle triangle. Now the area of the smallest triangle is ½ × 2 × 2 = 2. Therefore, the area of the middle triangle is 2 × 2 = 4. Hence the area of the large triangle is 2 × 4 = 8. So the area of the shape is 2 + 4 + 8 = 14.

## Solution to the Break time Teaser:

E The correct answer is a multiple of both 3 and 8, as 24 = 3 × 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

The diagram shows a large square divided into squares of three different sizes. What percentage of the large square is shaded?

A 61%

B 59%

C 57%

D 55%

E 53%



## **Break time Teaser:**

What is the value of 2019 tenths?

A 2019

B 201.9

C 20.19

D 2.019

E 0.2019

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

## **Pupil Nominations of the Week**

### Year 7

EVAN VIJAY: For wonderful writing in French and independent research of new vocabulary and verbs. ANTONINA DUDEK: being active and curious in lessons and leading a fun French game for her peers.

## Year 8

Connor Jones in Year 8 for his great work and positive attitude during French, and David Stachura in Year 9 for excellent contributions and explanations to peers during French.

#### Year9

Patrick Lopez, Oliver Kroliczek, Michal Kundys, Antoni Tobjaszewski for being eloquent and compassionate for open evening.

### Year10

ROSA RODRIGUEZ for her outstanding contribution to success of open evening in our MFL team, speaking in Spanish & display materials.

KEELEY CANAVAN for taking several tours in an informative and friendly manner which was commented upon by visitors.

### **Year 11**

Dhembher Villegas for his excellent attitude and writing in English this week Daniel Rossiter and Shenali Palihawanda for an excellent start to Year 11

## Year12

Matteo Mennone, Inaaya Ajmal and Deborah Omalayo for the most positive points on Classcharts.

All the students who helped out at Open Evening.

Rodnie Coroza for helping Miss Buck in computing.

### Year 13

Sheryl Fernandes and Harry Jackson-Lowe for earning the most positive points and working hard in Geography.