



St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023



## Confirmations

Congratulations to some of our students for making their Confirmation last week in either Holy Family or Our Lady of Peace Church. The whole school community are extremely proud of you and we hope that the Holy Spirit is lived out in your actions and deeds. Full list of names is within the Newsletter...

## Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

**My weekly video message link is**

[\(8\) Headteacher Message - Newsletter 30 06 23 - YouTube](#)

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

Link to our YouTube channel is: <https://www.youtube.com/@SloughStJ>

Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

## Awards Evening

St Joseph's Annual Awards evening is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July. If your son/daughter has won an award for this year they have been notified by their Head of Year and you will have received an invitation and a notification to RSVP on Parent Pay. Please do RSVP so that we know the numbers attending.

Any questions please contact Mrs Paines on [e.paines@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:e.paines@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

## Theme of the Week – Worthy of Me

Our gospel is the last part of the discourse through which Jesus prepares his followers for ministry in a world that will not understand them. For a start he says that those who prefer father/mother, son/daughter to him, are **not worthy of Him**. What does this mean? Up to a certain point Christians continued to consider themselves Jews in every respect, to attend the synagogue and do all that Jews did. By the time Matthew wrote his Gospel though, a synod of Jewish authorities gathered in Jamnia to discuss the problem, and deliberated that the followers of Christ were to be considered heretics, cast out of the synagogues, excluded from family inheritance and socially isolated. We can imagine the impact this had on families, where children fell apart from parents and vice versa. Some, for the sake of peace in the family (and material gain) left the newly born Christian movement and went back to the Jewish tradition. JESUS HERE IS NOT SAYING THAT ONE MUST HATE THE FAMILY TO BE HIS FOLLOWER, but that those who accept his proposal of a New World must be prepared to leave behind all those things that hinder this adhesion to Him. Let's take the example of Holy Matrimony; when a man and a woman get married, they LEAVE THE HOUSE OF THEIR PARENTS and become something new, they constitute a **NEW FAMILY**. This doesn't mean that they hate their parents, but on the other hand they must protect the freedom of this newly created family. Many divorces happen because some men and women get married but are incapable of separating from their families of origin, with disastrous consequences. When Jesus started his public ministry, some members of his enlarged family thought he was mad and went to take him back. When someone told him "Your mother and brothers are here to see you", he replied "**My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice**" (Luke 8:21). **Jesus had a NEW FAMILY, his followers, and he could not look back.**

Those who are unable to cut with their past in order to follow him, ARE NOT WORTHY OF HIM in the sense that they will never be able to give their entire life for the sake of the Good News of the Gospel. Freedom from attachments of all kind is the necessary requirement for those who follow Jesus.

Then Jesus also says that unless one is willing to **TAKE HIS CROSS AND FOLLOW HIM**, they are not worthy of Him. Too often in Christian piety "taking up the cross" has been associated with embracing the physical or moral suffering that come to all of us. This is not what Jesus meant. Crucifixion was the most ignominious method of execution, reserved for criminals and traitors. After judgment and condemnation, the person was loaded with the horizontal part of the cross (called *patibulum*), and then did the walk of shame up to the place of execution. During this journey they were exhibited to the public scorn, abused, spat upon, insulted, stricken with stones and sticks. The person was considered a subhuman being, a slave, a cursed man. So, when Jesus invites us to pick up the cross, he is calling us to **BE THE LAST, THE SERVANT OF ALL, THE MOCKED ONE, THE ONE WHO MAKES OF HIS/HER LIFE A GIFT**, just like He did.

Only those who are prepared to give their life for the sake of others, will find **TRUE LIFE**.

In the second part of the Gospel Jesus talks about **PEOPLE TO BE WELCOMED**, starting from those who are worthy of him, those who have left behind everything to follow him, those who, like Jesus, chose to make of their life a GIFT for others. Jesus says: *anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me and the one who sent me*. What are the implications of this? Jesus wants to be welcomed by all people, but THROUGH US. He considers us worthy of Him and therefore makes us his representatives to the world. Christianity is not a set of rules, going to Mass on Sundays, saying a few prayers (which are all good things!), but **CARRYING CHRIST WITHIN OURSELVES**, imitate him in living not for ourselves but for others, so that His light may shine through us, and attract all people to him.

Jesus also says that those who welcome **PROPHETS** and **HOLY PEOPLE** will have the same reward. A prophet is a person who is in harmony with the thinking of God. God does not speak from heaven, but through those servants of His who, through meditation of the scriptures, prayer and service of their brethren understand what God thinks and boldly proclaim it in the face of a hostile world, often paying the price of unpopularity and ridicule. Holy people are all those who speak of God through the example of a holy life. Those who welcome prophets and holy people, will be considered an integral part of their work of construction of the Kingdom of God. The last verse says that even a little gesture of love such as a glass of water given to a little one (a poor, helpless person), will make a difference in the History of God and in the establishment of His **NEW WORLD**.

## Worthy of me

Weekly Reflections  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023



### From the Gospel of Matthew (10:37-42)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

### Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our broken world: draw us into harmony with your will, that with the help of your Spirit we may help build your Kingdom in our school, in our families and in our world. We pray through Jesus our Lord. Amen

### Saint of the Week

#### St Maria Goretti (1890-1903)



Maria was born to peasants in the Marche, Italy. When her father died the family became destitute and were forced to work as hired labourers around the country. While working at Le Ferriere, in Lazio, they were sharing a house with another family, the Serenellis. One day 20-years-old Alessandro Serenelli saw Maria alone and, threatening her with an awl, tried to rape her. She resisted fiercely saying "it's a sin!" and tried to flee, but Alessandro caught her and stabbed her. While she was dying in hospital, Maria forgave Alessandro, who was apprehended and sentenced to 30 years in jail. Alessandro (pictured above) was converted by her forgiveness, and, after his release, spent the rest of his life in penitence and prayer in a Franciscan monastery.

Even in her last moments, Maria was

**COMPASSIONATE AND LOVING**

#### Day 1

In our Gospel Jesus says some very strong words: *Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me.*

- What do you think he meant by that?
- Is he asking us to hate our families?

#### Day 2

Jesus in the Gospel said that his disciples must pick up their cross and follow him.

- What is the cross he is talking about?
- What is he really asking us to do?

#### Day 3

Jesus says that all those who welcome his disciples, a prophet, a holy person or gives a glass of water to a little one will have the same reward.

- What does he mean?
- Who are the prophets, holy people, and the little ones?

### 6.30pm – 9.00pm: 'Carbs for Caritas' Fundraising Event: Pizza, Pasta and Quiz Fun!

This event will take place in St Thomas Centre. Followed by the night prayer at 9:15pm in the Cathedral.

Caritas Northampton is responsible for the promotion, establishment and support of various social outreach projects within the diocese. One of their current outreach programmes is to establish parish dementia support groups within the diocese. There is currently over 944,000 people in the UK with dementia and our diocese has some of the highest levels within the UK (E.g. Northampton has 8200 sufferers) and it is estimated that 1 in 3 of us will become carers for someone with dementia in our lifetime. We already have a successful pilot scheme running supporting 120+ sufferers and their families and providing a valuable service to the community. To be able to mirror this success in our parishes we will be holding a 'Carbs for Caritas' event as part of the Becket festival. This will take place on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 6.30pm – 9.00pm with all proceeds going towards this project. The event will consist of a range of delicious Italian food along with a friends and family quiz where you will have the opportunity to win a range of great prizes. This costs £10 per team (up to 6 people per team). Please book via [bishopssecretary@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:bishopssecretary@northamptondiocese.org)

### Food Bank Fundraiser: Hog Roast and Bingo Fun!

The St Thomas Centre foodbank has been open since 2020 helping local families in need and now supports over 76 families a week by ensuring they have the necessary food and toiletries. They have a dedicated team of volunteers and are self-funded. All proceeds raised from this Hog Roast and Family Bingo event will go directly to the food bank to purchase much needed supplies.

This event will be held in the St Thomas Centre and start directly at 7pm, after the 6pm vigil Mass at the Cathedral, and costs £10 per adult and £5 per child. The Hog Roast will include crackling, apple sauce and stuffing in a roll, leaf salad and coleslaw and is from Sergeants butchers. There will be an adult and family bingo run side by side so that everyone can join in with some fantastic prizes. There will also be a raffle and spot the difference during the break. To book please contact [bishopssecretary@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:bishopssecretary@northamptondiocese.org) and if you would like to donate to the foodstore or you would like to make use of the services provided please contact the parish office on 01604 714556 or email [office@northamptoncathedral.org](mailto:office@northamptoncathedral.org)



### Year 7 News

This week all of Year7's were issued with a bible along with an assembly. These will become part of the RE curriculum in Year 8. Next week we have sports day on Wednesday, can I remind you to bring sunscreen and water as we will all be outside all day. Award evening is Thursday and letters have gone out to the pupils who will be receiving awards. Our special guest is Matty Cash an ex student who now plays for Aston Villa.

I hope you have a great weekend.

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year

### Word of the Week

The word of the week is **Subsequent**. This is an adjective

‘Coming after something in time; following.’

E.g. Subsequent to signing Erling Haaland, Manchester City won their first major treble.

**REWARD** Every time you are heard using this word correctly by a teacher you will receive positive points on Class Charts

Can you explain the meaning of this week's word?

**Literacy**  
A language for life

**Subsequent**

subsecuente (Spanish flag)  
subséquent (f) / subsecuente (m) (French flag)

**Bonus!** What type of word is it? E.g. Verb, noun, adjective, adverb, preposition etc.

### Idiom of the Week

## Keyboard Warrior

This describes someone who is commonly aggressive on social media and written forms of communication, but relatively mild and well-mannered in face to face scenarios.

e.g. "Don't follow his Twitter, he's a true keyboard warrior."

**REWARD** Every time you are heard using this idiom correctly by a teacher you will receive positive points on Class Charts

Can you explain the meaning of this week's idiom?

**"Keyboard Warrior"**

**Literacy**  
A language for life

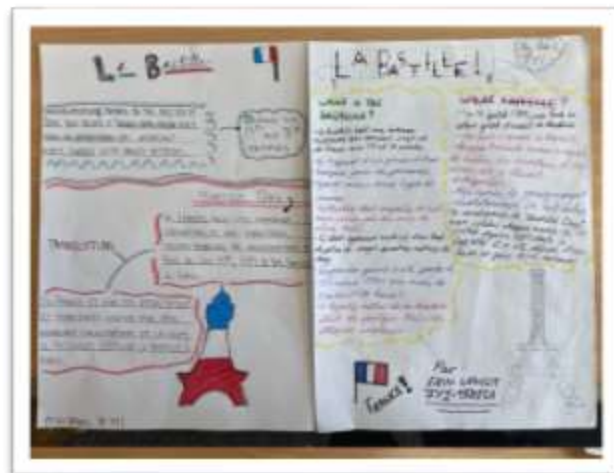
**Idiom of the Week**

### Confirmations

Following on from the front page names of the students who made their confirmation last week are:

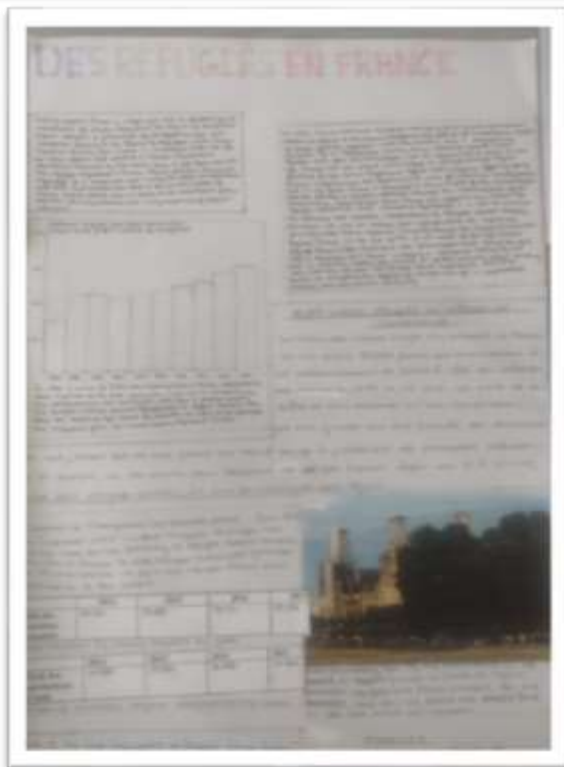
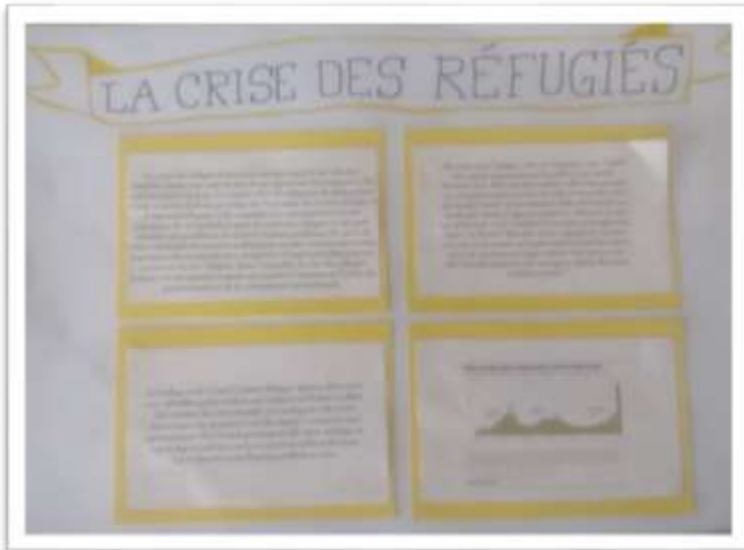
Ariana Maraj	Richard Liyanaardshshige	Mia Ramanathan	Oliwier Ventura
Romain Janot	Jessica Rolff	Emmanuel Ofori	Michelle Njau
Michael Njau	Olivier Mahoney	Kinglsey Chukwudi	Keeley Canavan
Kara Cullen	George Curtis	Adriel Dias	Christian Piscopo Evans
Eva Fernandes	Jack Green	Natan James	Rosa Jarrett
Yurand Kwaitkowski	Darragh O' Connor	Anthony Omale	Liza Pereira

### Amazing Year 7 French Work in Class



### Year 9 Students Work

Our Year 9 students have done an amazing research and created projects about the Refugee Crisis in France.



**Amino**

Amino is a social media platform that offers a large group of sub – communities to be present under one digital roof almost like hosting a convention. While many of these platforms are harmless places for individuals to talk about the passions they share it has also been apparent that the app has shown an increase of grooming and also for congregating due to topics such as self-harm and suicide. While the community guidelines prohibit things like pornography, sexual content, hate speech and violence, these things may not always be enforced. This makes Amino a risk for our students and therefore we are asking you as parents to be vigilant if your child begins to use the Amino App.

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMINO**

**PETS** **MUSIC** **COMICS & COSPLAY**

**12+** AGE RESTRICTION

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

Amino is a social media platform offering a large group of subcommunities under one digital roof. It was envisaged as the online version of a convention, where fans gather to celebrate a shared interest like comic books or sci-fi, for example. While many such platforms are harmless spaces for devotees of a certain TV show or video game to congregate, there are still some aspects that trusted adults should be aware of. With a focus on sharing user-generated content, the idea of Amino is for users to communicate with like-minded individuals - but even that can create plenty of hazards.

**MODERATION GAPS**

Amino has a 12+ classification in the App Store and a 'Teen' rating on Google Play. However, parents/carers registered on the platform have little to no moderation or ability to increase the potential for more adult-themed content to reach young users. It's also possible to create accounts without proof of age, raising the possibility of even younger children finding their way onto the platform.

**UNSAFE CONTENT**

The central concept behind Amino is for users to share content, their likes and receive comments on their uploads. The level of anonymity that the platform offers means that the identity can be completely lost. Obscured individual user names, for instance, make it difficult to report inappropriate or harmful content and messages being sent to young people.

**INAPPROPRIATE IMAGES**

Like most social media, Amino offers easy sharing of images. Its community guidelines state that only appropriate photos of under-18s will be removed immediately, but of course this doesn't prevent inappropriate pictures being seen by young people. Not all of Amino's communities are regularly moderated, so there is a chance that some unsuitable images could temporarily evade detection.

**MEMBERSHIP COSTS**

Amino is a premium membership for the platform, offering a range of customisation options. Each of these, though it usually costs an exclusive price, users can also purchase several accounts. Some producing payment styles of just ticks or profile frames. If your child has premium members, you may be able to see their profile, but could potentially make them angry purchases without you realising.

**REPEATED USAGE**

As a social media app, Amino is focused on keeping its communities engaged and returning back for more. Part of this approach is encouraging people to build up streaks, or users are awarded reputation points for logging in regularly. This type of encouragement, or gamification, carries the risk of young people feeling a compulsion to repeatedly check in with the app, further increasing their screen time.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

**TALK ABOUT IT**

If your child is old enough and chooses to download and use Amino, it's probably wise to remind them of some online safety basics - such as how not to share in the digital world is who they claim to be, for example, or not to give out personal information online. It might also be a good idea to go into the app's settings and disable location that requests that others that your child doesn't know.

**MEMBERSHIP MEDIATION**

If your child asks for an Amino membership but you're not entirely comfortable with that, be prepared to explain your decision to them. Young people's sense of reputation can normally be made understood when their friends have things that they don't. Parents of older teens, meanwhile, might actually decide to agree to the membership request but continue to monitor their child's activity on the app.

**STAY UPDATED**

Ensure that your child knows to report any spamming or anything else concerning they might see to you. As much as possible, it's a good idea to be aware of which communities they're joining on Amino. Most of these are well moderated and full of innocent conversation about common interests, but an any platform of this breadth, there's always the potential for users to see or be personally targeted by others.

**MONITOR SCREEN TIME**

If you haven't already, you might want to consider getting the Family Link app (available on Android) or Family Link for iOS (available on Apple devices). From your own device, you can keep an eye on how much screen time your child is having - and what apps they're spending it on. This can be extremely useful with regard to platforms such as Amino, which can be quite addictive and spend several minutes of screen time.

**Meet Our Expert**

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @national\_onsafety  
Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety  
Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety  
TikTok: @national\_online\_safety

None of this guide is to be taken as a recommendation. We take care to ensure it's correct as of the date of release (30.06.2023)





## Design and Technology Department

This week we say a fond farewell to Mr Deans who has completed his course and leaves to take on a teaching position at another school. Thankyou Master Deans for your sharing your wisdom, dino tales, duungeon and dragon adventures and talent. We wish you well.



### Key Stage 3.

Year 9 Bruschettas, year 7 and 8 wedges and homemade ketchup.



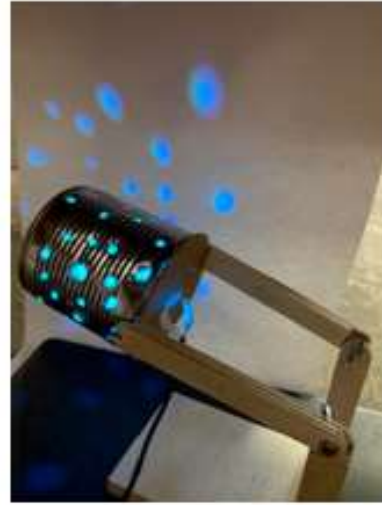
### Year 8

Final practical lessons producing a manufactured board plaque. Some good work in very few lessons. Well done Year 8



**Year 9 LIGHT UP!**

Some lovely lights finally came together, as year 9 creatively designed shades to complement the adjustable designer inspired frame. Well done year 9

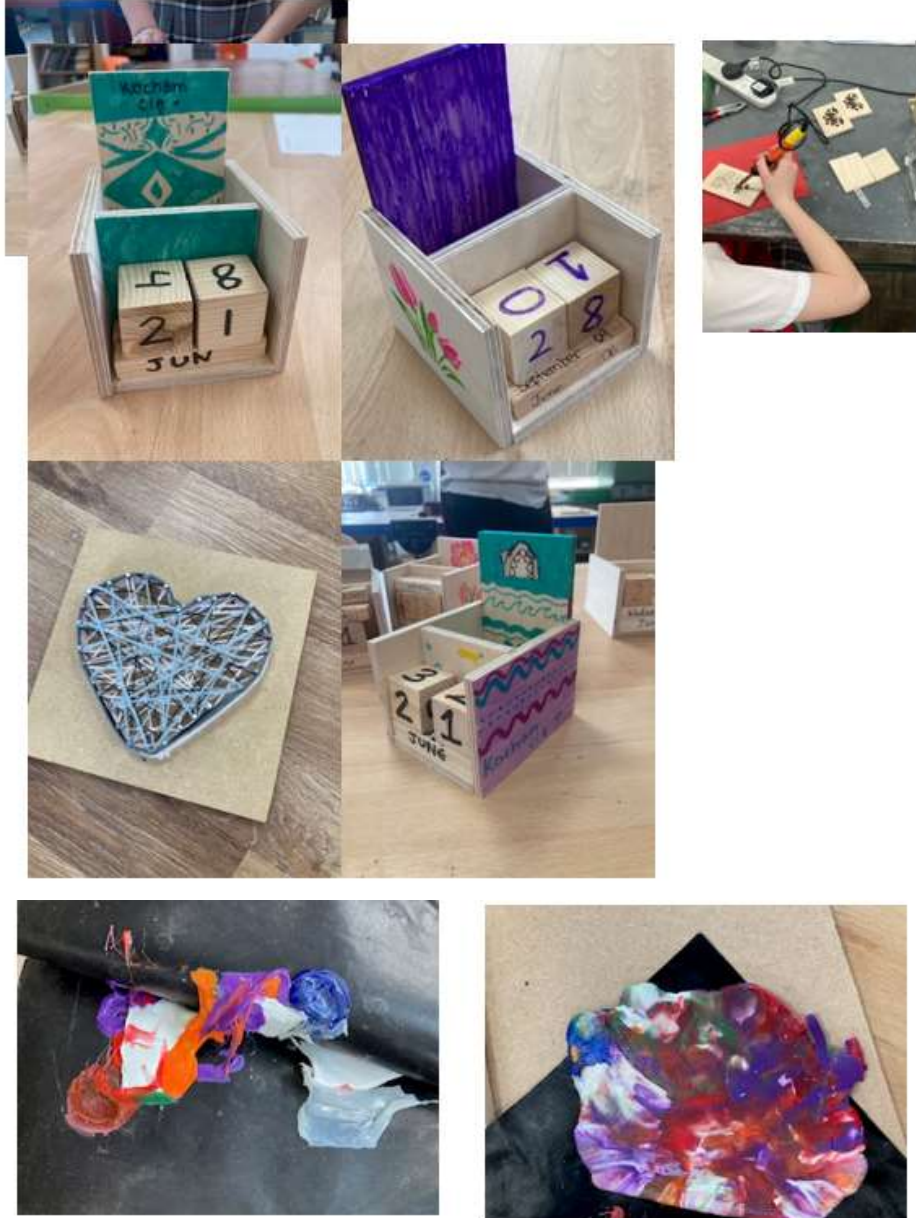


**Year 10 food** students are on their trip today to London to see and sample some of the delights of sustainable streetfood. We look forward to hearing about their adventures.

## Electives

### DT Make IT

Some fabulous work finished in this weeks elective..... Only time will tell how successful these calendars turn out, they certainly look great today! Also great to see attentive and curious investigations into what can be done with waste plastics.....watch this space next year!



### D&T Stars



**Matilda Kemp**- for being attentive and curious, learned and wise in both DT lessons and Make it elective

### DT social media



We try to post updates and points of interest on our Instagram page we also share some of the great work being done by our DT pupils....



# #IcandoMaths

## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A Let the length of the hypotenuse of the smallest triangle be  $l$ . Then  $l^2 = 2^2 + 2^2 = 8$ .  
 So  $l = \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}$ . Therefore the ratio of the lengths of the sides of the middle triangle to the lengths of the sides of the smallest triangle is  $\sqrt{2} : 1$ . 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  $\frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times 2 = 2$ . Therefore, the area of the middle triangle is  $2 \times 2 = 4$ . Hence the area of the large triangle is  $2 \times 4 = 8$ .  
 So the area of the shape is  $2 + 4 + 8 = 14$ .

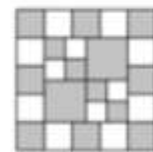
## Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- E The correct answer is a multiple of both 3 and 8, as  $24 = 3 \times 8$ . 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.

## Problem 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

Angel D for positive attitude in French this week.

JESSICA LYSIAK and COCO JANOT in 7C For their outstanding research project work on LA BASTILLE (a turning point for the success of the French Revolution in 1789) Their collaboration, curiosity and creativity encompass school values, summarizing and giving their own opinions as well as those of French people. Both students presented their poster splendidly in class and performed an amazing French Bastille "RAP" (Jessica bravely acted out to MFL Team.

RIO MOORE-FLEMMING; MARLON RODRIGUES & JOSEPH TECMON; LIV BASQUIL, NATALIA HAZIAK & ERIN LANGIT in 7Y1. Congratulations on your success in confidently presenting LA BASTILLE entirely IN FRENCH which is a valuable skill not just for exams but for ALL OUR lifelong language learning journey!

### YEAR 8

For achieving the most positive points this week.

Kosi Anyadiegwu (8 Veronica)

Daria Mamczak (8 Veronica)

Year 8 French students for excellent research project:

Ryziah Perello, Santiago Wilk Caballero, Macayla A. Silva, Noni Mwaura, Natalia Zaworska

Year 8 Spanish: Noah D and Amrita D for effort in Spanish.

### YEAR 9

Kamil K for being kind and compassionate to our new student Christian this week.

### Year 10

Luke Codoniera, Perase Thomas, Serfine Ogosa and Hannah Marie Anaya for most positive points.  
Year 10 French students for excellent preparation for their Speaking exams: Mary Anamanya, Hannah Marie Anaya And Perase Thomas

Year 10 Spanish students for excellent preparation for their Speaking exams:  
Niculae, Stefan, Belniak, Oskar, Roginski, Jakub, Iwanowski, Milan, Szuba, Nicola

Oliver Diller for being proactive in reading this week.