



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2024



Year 7 Football

A very close game for our Year 7s on Wednesday. The game was back and forth throughout and it could have gone either way. But unfortunately, it did not go our way on this occasion with the score ending 3-2 to the opposition. Nonetheless, great effort everyone!

Player of the Game -
Jacob Fiazoe

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

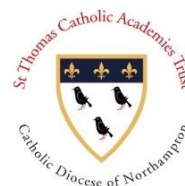
Hope you are all safe and well. Please click on the below image to be directed to this week's Head Teacher Message.



Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Joseph's content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

God has united

Weekly Reflections
6th October 2024
27th Sunday in Ordinary



From the Gospel of Mark (10:2-16)

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Prayer for the Week

Almighty Father,

Through your commitment shown to us through your creation, your Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit, let us commit and serve one another and the world to demonstrate how we are united by your everlasting love.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen.

Day 1

In the Gospel from Sunday, Jesus focuses on commitment from us all to unite us as God's people. How does Jesus show his commitment to us? How do you show commitment to Jesus? How do you show commitment to one another?

Day 2

What do you think is needed for a strong relationship? How does this show respect? Why does Jesus illustrate the importance of protecting all in society?

Day 3

What does the word dignity mean? Why does Pope Francis stress the importance of showing dignity to one another?

How can we show dignity to one another, to creation and the Common Good to be more **eloquent** and **truthful**?

Catholic Social Teaching - The Common Good Catholic Social Teaching - Common Good

Our actions have an impact on everyone. When we make decisions, we should consider the good of all.

The common good is about respecting the rights and responsibilities of all people and leaving no one behind.

"Beside the good of the individual, there is a good that is linked to living in society: the common good. It is the good of 'all of us'...To desire the common good and strive towards it is a requirement of justice and charity."

Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 7

We work to build a world where everyone, including the earth, can flourish. Ultimately, no one can truly flourish if another person is hungry, lost or abandoned, nor can humankind flourish while our common home is degraded and exploited for the good of the few.

Theme of the Week – God has United

The theme of this week is **'God has United'** and in the readings from Sunday, they focus on the commitment of God to our human partnership and the health for all of creation. In the 1st reading from Genesis, it is impressed upon us that God created woman and man in a relationship with one another and not one being greater or better than the other. We are locked in partnership as co-inhabitants of God's creation. This co-habitation is a permanent relationship and interrelationship that each of us has to work at if it is going to be productive and flourish. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks similarly about commitment to one another and to all people, a commitment to the common humanity that binds us all together. This relationship needs commitment by all of us to make it work. The kind of commitment that Jesus had for the people of his time.

Can you list all the qualities that you think are components of a strong relationship? When you look at those words, I'm sure they all illustrate respect. And God illustrates the blessed nature of humanity by emphasizing the importance of cooperative endeavour, and respect being a huge part of this. When the Gospel was written, many women, if divorced, would have been left homeless, destitute and with no money. Jesus in his teaching was protecting women of his time from men who used divorce for their own benefit. Jesus illustrates to the disciples and to us the need to protect those who may end up with nothing; equality of women and man is stressed upon us because we are united by God.

We are made in the image and likeness of God. Pope Francis beautifully said **"Giving more importance to the adjective rather than the noun, this is not good. We are all human beings and have dignity. It does not matter who you are or how you live your life, you do not lose your dignity."** And it is this that we must ask ourselves, how do we show human dignity to another? Our common humanity requires that we respect and uphold the dignity of each and every individual. Everything else flows from this dignity. How do we reflect this divine care for creation and our common humanity in the everyday moments of our lives?

This term, we are focusing on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of the Common Good but how can we show the Common Good in showing dignity to one another as well as the Common Good of looking after God's creation? How can you be more **Eloquent** and **Truthful** in what we say to ourselves, others and the relationships we have showing commitment and being truly united in God?

As a Catholic community, making the virtues known in everyday conversations will allow us to live out the teachings of Christ. Serving God and one another through the development of love, charity and relationships throughout the whole year allows us to show this. Our Virtues of being: Learned and Wise, Loving and Compassionate, eloquent and truthful, intentional and prophetic, attentive and discerning, faith-filled and hopeful, curious and active, grateful and generous are closely aligned to the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of the Church. This will allow us to listen and learn from the Church and enact it in our actions to one another.

On a day-to-day basis we will lead by example:

- **Human Dignity – Compassionate and Loving** by showing respect to another and building strong relationships with our teachers and peers.
- **Human Dignity – Learned and Wise** by unlocking our belief in All in our own abilities and striving to be the best we can in our learning.

Throughout each half term, we will also promote a focus to the following principles and how they link to our school virtues:

Term	Catholic Social Teaching Principle	Link to values
Autumn Term 1	Common good	Intentional and Prophetic - for example we expect pupils to take on leadership responsibility and as a result they have the right to contribute in a meaningful way to school life.
Autumn Term 2	Preferential option for the poor	Faith-filled and hopeful - for example we learn about social and historical inequality and its causes, pupils will be actively supporting and being advocates for the poor.
Spring Term 1	Dignity of work and Participation	Active and curious - for example we teach learn and promote community cohesion with our ecumenical work.
Spring Term 2	Solidarity	Grateful and generous - Care by our words and actions.
Summer Term 1	Peace	Eloquent and truthful - leaders called to listen to people affected by decisions.
Summer Term 2	Stewardship	Attentive and discerning - for example being proactive and informed as guardians of the earth and all creation.

Please can parents/carer promote this at home with your child. Ask them how they have been showing the principles above in their daily encounters.

Pupil Premium

Please find attached a letter to all parents/carer outlining the criteria for eligibility for Free School Meals. If any parent/carer is not sure or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Gibbons via j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7 Logan Ashdown and Laura Przybylska for having exceptional weeks.
Year 8 Livio Rodrigues and Jessica Menezes
Year 9 Brianne Barrozo and Pawel Krzanowski for the most positive points. James Morrissey, Jenson Boggi and David Gheorghita for playing up a year in the Year 10 Football Match.
Year 10 Wojciech Markowski and Sam Albalate for getting the most positive points this week.
Year 11 Darragh O'Connor and Julia Lutecka for achieving the highest number of positive points this week, and Connie Oakes for constant behaviour progress for 7 consecutive weeks.
Year 12 Rophe Ramos and Isabelle Byamukama for the most positive points on ClassCharts.
Year 13 Shaquille Michalewicz for his hard work and dedication to all his subjects and Anand Kaur Khalsa for going above and beyond in her studies for Business.

Homework Superstars

Year 7	Anna Farci
Year 8	Samaira Pereira
Year 9	Marly Kostandy
Year 10	Amelia Pace
Year 11	Benedito Quadros



MFL Superstars

	<i>Week beginning 23/09</i>		<i>Week beginning 30/09</i>	
	French	Spanish	French	Spanish
Year 7	Neo Rodrigues	Emilia Cinense-Soloducha	Rafael Jose del Castillo	Ana Prepelita
Year 8	Julia Dulak	Wiktor Belniak	Samaira Pereira	Joseph Cartwright
Year 9	Nicola Kowalik	Bruno Valek	Erin Langit	Tobi Laszik
Year 10	Amellia Pace	Isla Slessor	Phoebe Tomar	Emma Powell
Year 11	Wiktoria Juszczak	Arabela Catilo	Oliwia Foksinska	Anna Larionova

Year 7 News

Year 7 have had another lovely week and we are really starting to get into the thick of things. The Year 7 boys had their first Football fixture this week, unfortunately losing but it was great to see their energy and determination throughout. Lots of fixtures will be coming up soon in Football, Basketball and Netball.

We have two more weeks left until half term; the Year 7 team and I look forward to a strong finish to their first half term. Have a great weekend!

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

What an incredible week it's been! You've collectively achieved over 1700 positives this week alone, which is absolutely fantastic. With an impressive positive-to-negative ratio of 96% – a clear sign of the outstanding behaviour and attitude you've all demonstrated.

Over the last two weeks, we've welcomed some new students to Year 8, and the way you've embraced them with warmth, kindness, and excitement has been truly heart-warming. Your positive energy is making a real difference. Let's continue this amazing streak and support each other as we move forward.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 8

Match Report: St Joseph's Year 8 vs Maiden Erlegh

The game kicked off with a bright start for St Joseph's as **Kaelan** opened the scoring with a well-taken early goal, putting his team 1-0 up. St Joseph's maintained control, and midway through the first half, **Chibs** doubled the lead with a composed finish, making it 2-0 by half-time.

The second half saw a shift in momentum as Maiden Erlegh capitalised on three defensive lapses, scoring three soft goals to overturn the deficit. St Joseph's, now trailing 3-2, fought back and found a late equaliser in the dying moments of the match, bringing the score to 3-3.

With the game tied, it went to penalties. Unfortunately, St Joseph's fell short in the shootout, losing in the unpredictable lottery of penalties.

Final Score: 3-3 (Maiden Erlegh win on penalties).



Year 9 News

Year 9 have shown true commitment this week to their studies by reducing their X's by 68%, which is truly fantastic. We have had students representing the Year 10s in sport and have amassed a phenomenal 1573 positive points this week. This week, students have been a part of House Assemblies looking at the importance of representing and being a part of their House and not just their Form. This is a vital part of the school year and culminates in rewards at the end of academic terms and finally end of year. Have an amazing weekend.

Ms McCormack – Head of Year 9



Year 9 Girls Netball vs Wexham came out winners 13-2

The St Joseph's girls were ready to rock from the start leading 4-2 after the first 1/4 and not letting Wexham in and keeping them at nil for the last 3. What a game!!

Year 10 News

Well done for another great week. Year 10s are continuing on with the positive attitude to their studies, receiving 1093 positive points this week! Homework X's are starting to creep up again; please could I ask that you check ClassCharts on a daily basis to ensure all homework is completed and handed in on time.

Huge congratulations to the Year 10 football team who beat Ditton Park 3-2 on Tuesday. You showed great determination and resilience despite getting soaked!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

It's been another eventful week at St. Joseph's, and I'd like to take a moment to highlight the continued hard work and dedication of our Year 11 students. This week, we've seen 944 positive points awarded, reflecting the great effort many students are making in various areas of school life.

On the other hand, we've recorded 71 negative points, with lateness being the most common issue, contributing to 14 of these. While it's good to see a reduction in homework-related negative points—only 7 this week—punctuality remains a key area for improvement. Arriving on time for school and lessons is essential to maintaining a productive learning environment.

As we progress towards the busy weeks ahead, I encourage all students to remain focused and disciplined. Consistent effort now will make all the difference in your GCSE success. Remember, good habits and discipline are the foundation of academic achievement.

For parents, thank you for your ongoing support. A reminder to continue checking ClassCharts for updates on your child's progress and to reinforce the importance of punctuality and homework completion.

Important Upcoming Events:

- **Tuesday, 8th October:** Assemblies led by the chaplaincy team.
- **Monday, 7th October:** Reading and Progress Tests

Remember, do not bring any food containing nuts.

Let's continue to work together in fostering a positive and productive school environment. Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mr. Romero – Head of Year 11

Match Report: St Joseph's Year 11 vs Upton Court

A physical Upton Court side visited St Joseph's and stunned the Year 11 team with three quick goals early in the match, putting the hosts on the back foot.

Despite the early setback, St Joseph's regained composure and dominated possession for much of the game. However, despite their efforts, they could only manage to pull one goal back.

The match ended 3-1 in favor of Upton Court.

Year 12 News

This week has required much focus and dedication from Year 12 as they begin to prepare and take their first round of class assessments. Their work ethic has been good and the students seem to be settling down into their studies very well. The candidates who will be going on the Challenge Abroad trips are now being finalised and will be announced soon!

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12

Year 13 News

It is great to see so many of our Year 13 students focusing hard on their studies in class and in the study room. This week has seen many of them complete a number of assessments in class which have been designed to give valuable feedback on next steps to ensure continued progress towards their next round of PPEs. Responding to this feedback is crucial in ensuring your child is able to achieve the grades they deserve at the end of this academic year.

Just a polite reminder that if your child cannot make it to school in the morning due to illness, a parent or carer must contact the school via ClassCharts or the office. It becomes a Safeguarding issue if we cannot account for a student's whereabouts.

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 13

TVLP Student Leadership Conference

Several St Joseph's students had the opportunity to take part in a TVLP School's Student Leadership Conference trip to St Mary's School in Ascot on Thursday 3rd October. They had a wonderful time!



Duke of Edinburgh Adventure

Last weekend, some Year 10 students did their Bronze Award for the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE). They camped, walked, cooked, and most important, they learned and had a wonderful time. It was definitely a unique life experience!



Careers Fair



- St Joseph's will be hosting a **Careers Fair** on: **Friday 15th November 2024**
- The following will be in attendance: British Army, Ardale Brown Solicitors, Buckinghamshire New University, St Mary's University, PKPI Growth & Tax Advisors, Brunel University, Acacia Homecare, Peter Brash Dental Care, Cloud Hyperscalers, Ipic Ltd, Pro-Active Martial Arts, University of Cambridge, GSK, Royal Holloway, Mace Group, Together As One, VolkerFitzPatrick, Oury Clark, Optalis, Greene King & Thames Valley Police, ASK Programme, Blick Rothenburg, Harrison Caterers, Kay's Kitchen, QA Apprenticeships, Build the Way, Kroll, JP Morgan, White Watch Slough Fire Station, British Airways, BAM Nutall & RABL
- **If you have a contact that may be interested in being a part of this event – please email r.dann@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk**

Educational Visit from the Police

Next week, we have the privilege of having PC Louise Sloan in school to talk about E-Safety (Year 7), Anti-Bullying (Year 8) and Knife Crime (Year 10) as part of our school's PSHE programme. This is also part of our ongoing partnership with the local police in educating legal conscious citizens.

If you have any questions, please let Mrs Ossei-Brainoo know via j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Visitors on School Site

A reminder for students to not open the gates for any members of the public to enter. All visitors must press the buzzer to speak to and visit reception before entering the school site. Thank you.

Year 7 to Year 11 Flu Vaccinations

The Berkshire Immunisation Service will be visiting St Joseph's on **29th November 2024** for the Year 7 to Year 11 Flu vaccinations.

Parents/Carers are required to complete a consent form as soon as possible if you would like your child to receive their vaccination at school. If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated, please complete the form as a non-consent. Please read the attached letters for further details.

Additional MFL GCSE and A Level Exams

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please note that a letter of consent and interest in sitting additional MFL exams will be sent out attached to the first newsletter back **after the October half-term**.

This will have all the information needed on which year groups can apply to sit their exams in Summer 2025. The deadline for the return of these letter will be **31st January 2025**.

If you have any other enquiries, please contact Miss Euden (a.euden@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk).

Workshops run by The Autism Group

Empowering Calm – Thursday 12th November 2024 (10am – 12pm)

Understanding and responding to distressed behaviour in autistic young people' with the aims being;

- To understand physical responses to anxiety, distress and overwhelm.
- To explore what this might look like and think about who is challenging who!
- To learn some strategies to try to help.

Autism support: For parents & carers of primary & secondary school aged children.

Click [HERE](#) to be taken to the booking page.

Languages Department News – NEW KS3 MFL CLUBS START AFTER SCHOOL ON TUESDAYS

SPANISH Week A & FRENCH Week B

Are you a student of French or Spanish in Year 7, 8 or 9? Do you fancy some fun with your friends in languages or want to meet new friends?


You are invited to attend our new clubs which start:

- **Week B: Tuesday 15 October, French 3.30-4.00pm in T5.**
- **Week A: Tuesday 22 October, Spanish 3.30-4.00pm in T5.**



We will be looking at exciting topics like French and Spanish culture, music, animals, geography, sports, food, drink, festivals, and national icons of the countries!

Welcome to Geography Club



Aims

- 1) To appreciate nature and its resources.
- 2) To create awareness of the environmental problems and adopt various measures to protect the earth.

Geography club meeting will be held every week after school on Friday, 3.30-4.00pm in T-15. Open to year 7 to year 11.

In these sessions we will have geography quizzes, competitions (wealth out of waste, poster competition), paper bag making, creating landform models (volcano, coastal landforms, riverine landforms and glacial landforms) and planting herbs.

Music Department News – Instrumental Lessons

As a school, we offer instrumental lessons for students through Slough Music Service. Slough Music Service have worked hard to provide instrumental lessons at reasonable rates so that students are offered as many opportunities as possible. Slough Music Service are proud to offer lessons in a variety of instruments, including guitar, voice, piano, drum kit, violin saxophone, and many more. Already at St Joseph's, we have seen a rising interest in taking lessons. Below is a summary of the charging rates for instrumental lessons, and instrument hire if required.

(Please attach leaflet on SMS Instrumental Lessons 24-25)

If you are interested starting instrumental lessons, you can either apply through the link below and/or collect a letter and application form from your Music Teacher. Online Application for Instrumental Lessons: <https://www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk/application-for-instrumental-lessons/>

Extra-curricular Music at St Joseph's

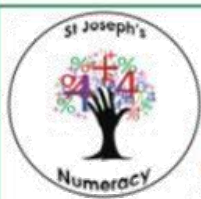
GCSE Music 1:1 – Tuesday's afterschool 3:15-4:15pm. Open for GCSE and BTEC music students only to practice, revise or compose for their coursework. This can be independent or guided.

School Show Rehearsals – Afterschool 3:15-4:15pm. Following Elective, students involved with the school show will continue rehearsals afterschool.

Singing Club – Thursday morning 8am-8:20am. Warm Up and get vocal by singing songs. Open to all years.

BandJam – Friday's afterschool. 3:15-4:15pm. Want to try out some instruments? Want to work together to form groups and bands? Want to just practice and learn an instrument? Come along and play music. Open to all years.

WEEKLY MENU					St Josephs Catholic High School - Week 3				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday					
Spicy Beef Nacho's with Sour Cream & Cheese	Thai Green Chicken Curry served with Rice	Cottage Pie	Volcano Chicken Pasta	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips, Tartare Sauce & a Lemon Wedge					
Quorn Sausage served with Spring Onion Mash	Falafel with Pitta Bread, Salad & Tzatziki	Quorn Bolognese served with Pasta & Parmesan Cheese	Chickpea & Vegetable Fried Rice	Spinach, Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza with Red Onion					
Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad					
Pasta with a Cheese Sauce	Pasta Arrabbiata	Red Pesto Pasta	Pasta with Tomato & Dill Sauce	-					
Iced Carrot Cake	Toffee Apple Crumble served with Custard	Caramel Cake	Chocolate Sponge served with Chocolate Sauce	Banana Cake					



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- D Assume that $a > b$. Then $a + b = 7$ and $a - b = 2$. Adding these two equations together gives $2a = 9$. So $a = \frac{9}{2}$ and hence $b = 7 - \frac{9}{2} = \frac{14-9}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$. Therefore $a \times b = \frac{9}{2} \times \frac{5}{2} = \frac{45}{4} = 11\frac{1}{4}$.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

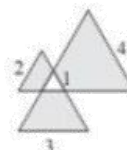
- D Consider options B to E: $1.354\dot{2} = 1.354222\dots$; $1.354\ddot{2} = 1.35424242\dots$; $1.354\dot{4} = 1.3542542\dots$; $1.354\ddot{4} = 1.35423542\dots$. These are all greater than 1.3542, so option A is not correct. The other four options have the same units digit and the first four digits after the decimal point are the same in all. So the largest option is that which has the largest digit five places after the decimal point and this is 1.3542.

Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows four equilateral triangles with sides of lengths 1, 2, 3 and 4. The area of the shaded region is equal to n times the area of the unshaded triangle of side-length 1.

What is the value of n ?

- A 8 B 11 C 18 D 23 E 26



Break-time Teaser

The sum of two numbers a and b is 7 and the difference between them is 2.

What is the value of $a \times b$?

- A $8\frac{1}{4}$ B $9\frac{1}{4}$ C $10\frac{1}{4}$ D $11\frac{1}{4}$ E $12\frac{1}{4}$

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



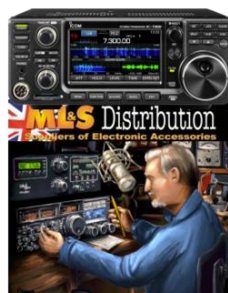
Ham Radio Club



Most Fridays 15:15-16:15, at the top of the Tower Block,

An interesting club for everyone.

For any questions, please message Mr Allinson



Radio Society of Great Britain
Advancing amateur radio since 1913

Design and Technology Department



Year 10 Culturally Inspired Dish

Year 10 chefs have been looking at how the food we eat is inspired by other cultures. Their task was to prepare a culturally inspired dish. Looking forward to sharing more of their great work!



KS3 Food:

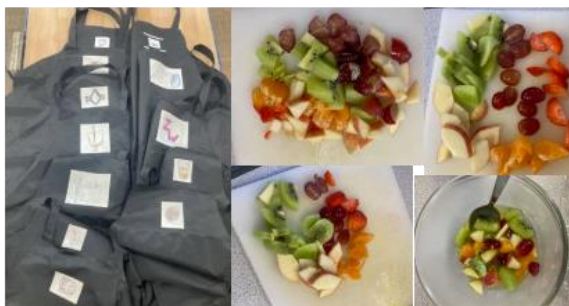
Y7 and Y8

In food lessons, Year 7 and 8 pupils are provided with ingredients, and all year 7s will receive an apron. We have found this is more cost effective for parents and carers; and it also ensures that ALL year 7s and 8s are able to cook and develop the skills we have planned in our short lessons,

To enable this we ask for a contribution towards the cost of ingredients. Please look out on parentpay for a letter and request, it would also be really useful to update any allergies that pupils may have.

Videos and recipes will usually be posted at least a week before a practical so that pupils can prepare for their food lessons. All pupils are expected to bring their aprons and a suitable container to lessons.

Most year 7s have now created their fruit salads and many have received their personalised aprons.



Y9: Baking Breadsticks Take 2

Another week of breadsticks for Year 9, and some more fabulous examples! Year 9s will build on their skills and knowledge creating pizzas over the next fortnight! Year 9s are expected to bring their own ingredients, be prepared for lessons,



REQUEST for RECYCLING help in D&T



The D&T department would love to have your:

- **Colourful Plastic bottle lids.** (number 2 HDPE)
- **Plastic bottles** -can even be still attached to their lids- as we can use those too!



Please put them in the labelled container in A4. Thankyou!!

DT MAKE IT Elective



Some more great work from the DT Electives, and a special mention to our year 12 'leaders' who led the way with the community project this week.



DESIGNers- KS3 DT club



This week in DESIGNers, we explored Tinkercad and were able to create a few more 3D prints! Next week, we are going to explore 2D CAD programmes with the aim of designing a product that can be manufactured on the laser cutter..... If you love a challenge, like to Design and Make and would like to be part of our D&T team, please see or message **Mrs Stacey on Teams** and join us at **Designers Club** on **Monday afterschool in A3.**

D&T Stars of the week



Aine Kelly Kate Leo, Aleksander Maciejewski, Jakub Krystynski Kasper Paczek for being Active and Curious and showcasing their Tinkercad skills in DT Club.



Physical Geography – Student Photo Competition from the Geographical Association

The theme of the competition is ‘The Power of Physical Geography’.

This year’s competition challenges you to discover evidence of the power of physical geography. When out and about, capture it in a photograph, explain why, and how your example illustrates the power of physical geography in an accompanying title and caption (up to 250 words).

It is easy to think that ‘big’ or ‘mighty’ are the only expressions of the power of physical geography. But, when you realise that power is the ability to create changes by exerting a force, then it is easy to recognise power operating at different scales of magnitude and time. For example, it becomes possible to understand how weathering of ‘solid’ rock breaking down into fragments (and, depending on the process, these might be microscopic grains or massive boulders) is an illustration of the power of physical geography – the surface of the Earth is changed.

Good evidence of this sort of the power of physical geography can be found as easily in local or urban settings as in more grand and distant locations. When you see a mighty mountain chain you are looking at the power of physical geography, but to demonstrate this you would need to find some evidence that illustrates how it was lifted up, e.g. crumpled, folded and stacked strata.

These are just two of many examples that you could discover to show the power of physical geography and explain how it shapes the character of the land and shifts waves, winds, and water in the oceans and atmosphere. The photograph needs to be accompanied with its (precise) location, a title and a caption of up to 250 words that ‘show and tell’ the physical geography, describing the focus of your example and explaining how it shows the power of physical geography. The entry form has a template created for you to do this. The link for this is below.

Note: This is an external competition and more details can be found on their website: <https://geography.org.uk/get-connected/get-involved-1-student-activities/physical-geography-student-photo-competition/>

Beautiful Biology Bookmark Competition

To celebrate Biology Week the Science Department is running a competition for the most beautiful bookmark with a biology theme.

Competition Rules:

- You need to make the bookmark yourself (no pictures off the internet)
- Book mark size: 4 cm wide by 14 cm long
- Can be any medium (pencil, pen, paint, pressed flowers etc.)
- You must submit the original artwork.
- Write your full name and Form on the back of the bookmark.
- There will be one winner per year group. The winner gets 20 positive points. Each entry gets 5 positive points.



Closing Date: All entries must be given in at the Science Office by 3pm on **Monday, 7 October.**

Winners will be announced in the bulletin on Friday, 11 October.

Please talk to Dr Wait if you have any questions.

Our History, Shared History – Black History Month



1. Call for Personal Stories

As part of our Black History Month celebrations and this year's theme, "Reclaiming Our Narratives," we invite students of African or Caribbean descent to share their personal stories, family histories, cultural heritage, and experiences within their communities. This is a unique opportunity for students to celebrate and take pride in their identities while helping the school community learn more about the richness and diversity of Black culture.

We also warmly welcome students who are not of African or Caribbean descent to participate by sharing their stories and experiences that connect them to Black culture and history. This could include stories about friendships, communities, influential role models, or moments where they have learned and grown from Black culture or history.

The collected stories will be displayed through a digital project and as part of a school exhibition, providing an engaging platform for students to connect with their peers and showcase the importance of reclaiming and sharing their narratives.

How to Participate:

- **Format:** Stories can be shared in written form, audio recordings, video, photographs or even artwork.
- **Submission Deadline:** Friday 8th November
- **How to Submit:** Please send your stories to M.Flanagan@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk or C.Mawokomatanda@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk or bring them to Miss Flanagan/Miss Mawokomatanda.

2. Historical Figures competition

In line with our Black History Month theme, "Reclaiming Our Narratives", we are also excited to announce a school-wide competition focusing on lesser-known Black historical figures who have been overlooked or misrepresented in mainstream history.

Students are encouraged to research a Black historical figure who has made significant contributions to society but might not be widely recognised. This is an excellent opportunity for students to shed light on these individuals' achievements and share their importance.

Competition Details:

- **Format:** Students can present/submit their entries in the form of pictures; paintings; essays; presentations or any other creative avenue. Each entry should explain why the chosen figure is significant and how they have contributed to history.
- **Prizes:** There will be prizes for the most engaging and well-researched presentations!

How to Enter:

- **Submission Deadline:** Friday 8th November 2024.
- **How to Submit:** Please send your entries to C.Mawokomatanda@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk or M.Flanagan@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk or bring them to Miss Mawokomatanda/Miss Flanagan.

We look forward to celebrating the diverse and inspiring stories of our school community and we can't wait to see the amazing work and presentations that come from the competition.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Miss Mawokomatanda.

TVLP News

I am really excited to be able to launch the TVLP Art completion for the Autumn Term. Students are asked to design a poster for The Theatre Royals Windsor production of Dracula from Tuesday 29th October to Saturday 2nd November. Rules are:

- Art must be 2D.
- Entries can be hand drawn, paintings, photography and digital art.
- Correct dates, times and pricing must appear on the poster.

There are 3 categories: Years 7 and 8, Years 9 and 10, Years 11 and 6th form.

Deadline: photographs to be emailed to Jeanette J.kemp@tvlp.org.uk by **Monday 21st October**. Students must be able to produce their original art work if shortlisted.

Winners to be announced ready for the opening of the play. The winning designs will be printed into a theatre poster and displayed at the theatre. Winners will also receive 2 tickets to a performance. Any questions please do speak to Mrs Burby. The Theatre Royal's management will be choosing the winning posters. Good Luck!



