



SELF PORTRAIT BY  
ALANA IN YEAR 10



PEN DRAWING BY MIA  
IN YEAR 12



EXPERIMENT WITH ACRYLICS  
AND LINE DRAWING BY  
KAROLINA IN YEAR 13

# ST JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

The Express, October 30, 2020 59  
01753 825111

## News

### Young artists showcase work

Royal Borough and Slough: National Gallery judges help select winners for GCSE student competition

By William Barber, 2nd runner up from Eton College.

By Tiana Mouradian, 1st runner up for St Mary's School, Ascot.

By Teagan Pickering, 1st runner up for Holport College.

By Oliwia Stawicka, special mention for St Joseph's.

By Nikodem Burskiowski, 1st runner up for Beechwood School.

By Anna Williams, special mention for St Joseph's.

Young people from schools across the Royal Borough and Slough have won prizes for their GCSE artwork in a competition with judges from The National Gallery.

The Thames Valley Learning Partnership (TVLP) ran the competition in September to celebrate the best GCSE art work created in the previous academic year.

More than 100 student entries came in from schools across both boroughs, using a range of mediums, from water-colours and paints, to line prints, plaster and even mail varnish.

The winner was Milly Handel from St Mary's School in Ascot, with her plaster and screen print.

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The winner was Milly Handel from St Mary's School in Ascot, with her plaster and screen print.

Milly won a family ticket worth £50 to The Sculpture Park in Surrey.

"With over 100 artwork entries it proved difficult for the judges to choose only one winner and one runner-up, which is why they chose a selection of their favourite works from five of the participating schools," said TVLP co-ordinator Clare Macbratney.

"The range and quality of the student art work we received was impressive. Our students should be very proud."

The winner and first runner-up entries were:

- Milly Handel, St Mary's School, Ascot (winner)
- Antonia Lubowa, St Joseph's Catholic High School
- Teagan Pickering, Holport College
- Nikodem Burskiowski, Beechwood School
- Jack Finnis, Eton College
- Tiana Mouradian, St Mary's School, Ascot

With coronavirus limiting the number of exhibition venues open to the public, a virtual exhibition showcasing the 25 best student pieces will run from November 2 on the Thames Valley Learning Partnership website at tvlp.org.uk.

A selection of the entries will also be appearing on The Curve's website at thecurve.slough.com

By Morgan Pritchard, special mention for Beechwood School.

The winning entry by Milly Handel for St Mary's School, Ascot.

By Jack Finnis, 1st runner up for Eton College

By Isabella Rose Nicholas, joint 2nd runner up for St Mary's.

By Antonia Lubowa, 1st runner up for St Joseph's.

By Chloe Lettas, 2nd runner up for Holport College.

St Joseph's Catholic High School, Slough, runners-up:

- 2nd runner up: Chanel Robinson.
- 3rd runner up: Erica Lemonides.
- Special mention: Oliwia Stawicka.

Holport College, runners-up:

- 2nd runner up: Chloe Lettas.
- 3rd runner up: Ruby O'Leary.
- Special mention: Zoofia Olay.

Eton College, runners-up:

- 2nd runner up: Fala Gibbons.

Beechwood School, Slough, runners-up:

- 2nd runner up: Hannah

St Mary's School, Ascot, runners-up:

- 2nd runner up: William Barber.
- Special mention: Augustus McMahon.

Salisbury, runners-up:

- 3rd runner up: Daisy Green.
- Special mention: Morgan Pritchard.

St Mary's School, Ascot, runners-up:

- Joint 2nd runner up: Emma

Frank's, runners-up:

- Joint 2nd runner up: Coco McChertney.
- Joint 2nd runner up: Isabella Rose Nicholas.
- Joint 2nd runner up: Oliwia Lettas.
- Special mention: Iris Hamsworth.

ST JOSEPH'S ART STUDENTS  
WERE FEATURED IN LAST  
WEEK'S EDITION OF THE  
SLOUGH AND WINDSOR  
EXPRESS FOR THE TVLP ART  
COMPETITION

## From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back after the half term. The staff here at St Joseph's are determined that, despite all national events conspiring against it and when most schools are looking just to survive, we're determined that we'll keep pushing the school forward. After copious risk assessments with the Local

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Authority, the Duke of Edinburgh weekend trip is still taking place albeit reduced in the capacity we would like to see – however we're still trying to offer the students opportunities that will help and increase their social and cultural capital. This week has also seen the start of the *Autumn series of exams* for GCSEs and the entrance tests for Oxbridge students including those applying for Medicine, Maths and Engineering for university places in 2021.

Next Monday and Tuesday sees the first round of Pre Public Exams – PPEs – otherwise known as 'Mocks' (Year 13&11) results being returned to the students. We are aware that at this point in the year students will not be at their target grade. The important issue for us is that we've a record of their current level of attainment, have an understanding of where any gaps are in the learning and can put a plan in place to address future progress. Also, mindful of parents' wishes, thanks to the work of Mrs Finn, counselling services will be available over this year for students through a company called *Number 22*.

Let's all look after each other over this period of time.

### Face masks

Otherwise it's another week of government guidelines to embrace. I've attached the letter sent out on Monday. Since then the government has made it mandatory to wear facial coverings and masks in areas where social distancing between year groups is difficult (for example in corridors, in school buildings before and after school). We ordered masks for all students (no charge to the students) which have arrived this afternoon and we'll distribute them on Monday morning. We will now insist on students wearing them according to the guidelines with the exception of a number of students who are medically exempt from wearing masks.

### Finally

Finally, the internet is a marvelous tool for unearthing material and knowledge for learning – it's an instrument we use daily here and we wouldn't want to lose it for the benefits it brings to communication and making life better. However occasionally it can be misused to the detriment of those for whom it is meant to serve. Unfortunately this week it's come to our attention that over half term a small number of students across a number of year groups have misused digital tools, designed to make life better for people, by inverting them against the principles they were designed to fulfill, with unpleasant consequences that do not befit a student of St Joseph's. Consequently a number of students have been excluded from the school this week for engaging in unsavory activities which then spilled into school - which none of us all as a school are proud of. In short I need to re-affirm a message – which we'll be reinforcing in form tutor time next week and I am asking all parents and carers to support us by reminding students of St Joseph's that:

- What students publish on the internet about themselves and others has real world impact.
- That what is published in the internet is strongly connected to the world we live, work and exist in.
- What students publish in the internet is a reflection of the image of the person they are now rather than a dress rehearsal of whom they may wish to be.
- That activity on the internet leaves an electronic footprint that can be retrieved at any time in the future and may later define the extent of their life long opportunities.

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Furthermore:

- There is no distinction between the world of the internet and the 'real' world – should content published on the internet impact on students' well-being or learning then we will act upon it when it is brought to our attention.
- Any actions such as publishing pictures, words or material that degrades or demeans anyone will not be tolerated in the school and we will act upon it.

This week's themes of the Beatitudes outlined a character of a person that we would expect to see after 7 years of being at this school – otherwise known as our pupil profile – it's an expectation that these characteristics be strived towards rather than a matter of choice – in thought, word and deed.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

## **Theme of the Week – Be Prepared!**

Once again, we have the imagery of the wedding banquet to which all are invited. But **only those who live with an attitude of openness and readiness will be allowed inside**. This parable stresses the need to live in the present with an eye on the future.

We have all experienced that feeling of “I wasn’t prepared for this”. Whether it was the exam we didn’t revise well enough for, the tank of petrol we didn’t fill before dashing out on a journey, only to find the red petrol light on. Or the interview we didn’t prepare for. It’s an awful feeling.

This happens in this week’s gospel reading. The ten virgins (like our modern day bridesmaids) are waiting to welcome the bridegroom as he arrives at the bride’s house (which was a Jewish wedding tradition in Jesus’ day). But they are waiting for a while and end up falling asleep. They are woken suddenly to shouts that the bridegroom has arrived, and this is when the ‘foolish virgins’ realise their error; their lack of preparation.

“Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out!”

It’s a bit like not doing your homework and then asking someone if you can copy theirs at the last minute! But the answer is: “No”. And the wise virgins tell the foolish ones to go and find their own lamp oil.

When the foolish virgins arrive back from getting their oil, they realise they have missed the big arrival they had been waiting for. And more importantly, they are now locked out of the wedding reception entirely.

The foolish virgins stand at the door asking the bridegroom to “open the door”, but the bridegroom answers: ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ This is the key to **Jesus’ message: I won’t be able to welcome you into heaven if I don’t *know* you.**

The virgins who had their oil-lamp were prepared. **They were prepared for heaven because they had a relationship with Jesus** – they knew him and he knew them.

The question is: **how do we get to know Jesus before it’s time to stand at heaven’s door?** God tells us: reading His word (the Bible), praying, talking to others about our faith and showing His love to others through our words and actions. **Through these things, we will build a relationship with Jesus.** So that when our time comes, God will welcome us into heaven as people He knows, just like a bride and groom welcome their best friends and family into their wedding.

## **Sixth Form News**

**Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening** – we have put together a virtual Open Evening for parents of prospective Sixth Form students for entry in September 2021. It will go live on our School Website on 12<sup>th</sup> November and includes:

- The 2021 edition of our Prospectus
- A series of short videos that take you through the application journey (from results and successes, to our study programme and advice on how to choose your subjects).

Students will receive their sign up forms in a sixth form drawstring back-pack on the following morning during registration. You will also find our department Open Evening videos here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/home/joining-us/open-evening-videos-2020/>

It has been a busy start to the term for the Sixth Form with lots of things to celebrate. I would like to congratulate **Savannah Khan** for being accepted on the prestigious **Sutton Trust Pathways for Law programme**, in which she will receive the highest level of mentoring and guidance at the **London School of Economics**. **Lia O'Brian, Emma Kadiri, Juliana Falaria and Imsal Khan** have also applied and we are very hopeful that their applications are accepted in the near future.

Well done to **Stewart Arthur, Lia O'Brian, Imsal Khan, Natalie Shaundale, Savannah Khan, Tadiwa Mberi, Khanyi Nxumalo, Chloe Ayisi-Asiedu, Natasza Seweryn and Arrush Chaturvedi** for taking part in their first **Critical Thinking lesson today**; they really took on the challenge and this shows a lot of proactivity and independence (*this will run every Thursday at 8am in A5 – there are still places left if students would like to join*).

Well done to **Khanyi Nxumalo, Arrush Chaturvedi, Rahul Fernando, Karolina Cal, Sarah Al-lababidi, Achsah Saji, John Daniel Cabasa** for taking part in the **PiXL conference 'Why should we offer you a place?'** to support them with their application to **Oxbridge and Medical degrees**. A further congratulations to them as they also sat their **admissions tests this week**.

**Sixth Form Taster Day** – on the 24<sup>th</sup> November, our Year 11 will take part in a Sixth Form Taster Day, where they spend a day as a sixth former, try a variety of lessons (for more information, see the supporting video on the PDF attached that Year 11 have seen in registration). Students will have until the end of registration on Wednesday to choose their taster day subjects. Students usually choose subjects they would like to take for sixth form, however it might be worth considering prioritising those that they are 50/50 about (a taster session may not change the mind of a student who is 100% set on doing chemistry because they want to pursue a career in medicine, for example). If there are any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask Mr Clark at [g.clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:g.clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk).

Mr Clark

### **Year 13 News**

Key dates for this half term:

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November** is PPE Results assembly. This will take place in the Drama Room during form time. Students will collect their results envelope, just as they would for the real thing in the summer.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November** is Sixth Form Taster Day. This is where our Year 11 students spend the day experiencing a day in the life of a sixth form student. Therefore, all Year 13 (and also Year 12)

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students will be working from home for that day. Work will be set by subject teachers for the lessons that they have scheduled for that day.

Key priorities for Year 13 students this half term:

1. Completing UCAS application
2. Finish EPQ essay

Mr Matthews

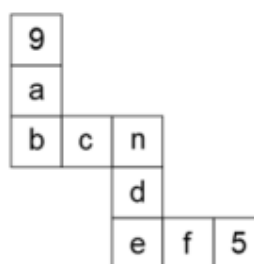


### Solution to last Week's Puzzler

Let  $a, b, c, d, e, f$  be the numbers in the squares shown. Then the sum of the numbers in the four lines is  $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 9 + b + n + e$  since each of the numbers in the corner squares appears in exactly one row and one column. So  $45 + b + n + e = 4 \times 13 = 52$ , that is  $b + n + e = 7$ . Hence  $b, n, e$  are 1, 2, 4 in some order.

If  $b = 2$  then  $a = 2$ ; if  $b = 4$  then  $a = 0$ . Both cases are impossible, so  $b = 1$  and  $a = 3$ .

This means that  $n = 2$  or  $n = 4$ . However, if  $n = 2$  then  $c = 10$ , so  $n = 4$  and  $c = 8$ .



Solution to the Break time Teaser:

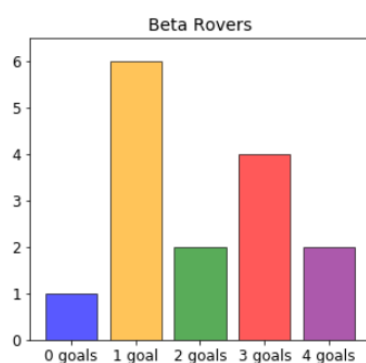
- E** Before any of the cubes are joined, the total surface area of the five cubes is equal to  $5 \times 6 = 30$ . Whenever two faces are joined, the total surface area decreases by two. Figures A to D all contain four joins, but figure E has five joins and therefore has the smallest surface area, namely 20.

### Problem of the week

Beta Rovers have played fifteen games in their league.

The bar chart shows how many goals they scored in each of their matches.

Can you find the mode and median number of goals scored by Beta Rovers?



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## **Break time Teaser:**

Megan writes down a list of five numbers. The mean of her first three numbers is  $-3$ . The mean of her first four numbers is 4. The mean of her first five numbers is  $-5$ .

What is the difference between her fourth number and her fifth number?

A 66

B 55

C 44

D 33

E 22

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. The first full complete answer will get epraise points and a prize.

## **MFL Superstars**

Jakub Przybylo (8 Mark) for trying his best in French lessons!

Harry Jackson-Lowe (10 Cecilia) for his positive and focused attitude to learning in French thanks to the new seating plan.

Michael Addison (11 Peter) for conscientious work in Spanish.

## **Year 7 News**

The Year 7s have started this half term with energy and enthusiasm. They have begun new topics in lessons which is great to see. They had a reflective assembly with Mr Stapleton on Monday. Currently we are looking for Year 7 student leaders and it would be great to see many apply for these roles.

In the meantime have a restful weekend.

Mrs Dunleavy

## **Year 8 News**

Dear Year 8,

Well done for a good first week back. Academically I have seen some fantastic work from all of you, when I have popped into your lessons. However, as I already mentioned in assembly we have let our standards slip in other areas of school life, most specifically in the way we conduct ourselves around school.

Please may I remind you these key things:

- Uniform: skirts are to be St Joseph's tartan, with a front and back pleat and knee length / shirts tucked in at all times - if on the playground it untucks itself, please correct this before we are back in lessons / ties are to have 7 stripes showing.

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- No coloured hair / natural make-up only / only one pair of small studs in the ear / plain nails - no acrylics or gels, I have salon worthy equipment ready to remove this for you.
- Football, basketball and volleyball are non-contact sports, you should not be pushing each other.
- We line up in **silence** in the mornings before we go to tutor time, at the first time we are asked to do so.
- We are kind and loving towards each other, in school and at home online.
- You must now wear a mask around the school when moving between lessons - they are not necessary when out on the playground.
- You are to follow the 5 student non-negotiables.

Monday morning I want to see you all raring to go for a fantastic week, we have tons of exciting things ahead of us this school year and need to keep our standards and expectations high. Remember we are #soaringtosuccess but the only way we can do that is if we are focused on our vision of being Active and Loving members of the St Joseph's community.

A big shout out to our students of the week this week: Theodore Kulczykowski (8C) for being resilient and showing maturity in a challenging first week back and Patryk Bialas (8P) for excellence in English - Mr Carey and I have been impressed!

Have a good weekend, stay safe.

Miss WD

## **Year 11 News**

Dear Year 11 Parents,

Year 11 have interventions continuing next week Monday - Wednesday and on Friday. There are 2 sessions after school, 3 until 3.45 and 3.45 until 4.30. This means that your daughter/son may be required to stay after school then. Some sessions are compulsory, and some are optional. Your child will know if they are required to stay. If for any reason your child cannot stay for interventions, please can you (parent) e-mail Mr Oakley on [C.Oakley@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:C.Oakley@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) to explain why so we can assist your child. Thank you for your support.

Mr Oakley

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## **Pupil Nominations of the Week**

### **Year 7**

Tyreese Chatoyka for his resilience and enthusiasm and Wiktoria Rygielski for her hardworking attitude.

### **Year 9**

Michael McMahon and Marcel Temrowski for making a positive start to the half term.

### **Year 11**

Liam Stabler for an outstanding PE lesson and Dominika Abramowicz for constantly being an exceptional St Joseph's pupil.

### **Year 13**

Efue Mahmud, Louise Stannard, Jess Malaj, Georgia Flanagan and Roselie Bls'hia for their help with the Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal. All students that have taken GCSEs or university entry exams this week.

### **Year 8**

Theodore Kulczykowski for being resilient and showing maturity in a challenging first week back and Patryk Bialas for excellence in English.

### **Year 10**

Alfie Mewett for some outstanding contributions in English and Caitlin Ellis-Callow for independent learning in writing her Drama monologue.

### **Year 12**

**Savannah Khan** – for being accepted on the prestigious Sutton Trust Pathways for Law programme (**autonomous**).

**Stewart Arthur** – for an outstanding start to his Sixth Form study.