



ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all the support shown to us over this last week – the emails coming in have been a real bonus as we're adapting to getting back on line. In short, it makes it all worthwhile. We're going to try to limit the amount of communication to just the newsletter, once a week, in the hope that everything you'll need to know can be accessed in one place rather than over a series of interspersed announcements which over time become lost. The key principle we're working towards is that everything remains in the same routine as normal – it's just that we're on line rather than face to face. So with that in mind this is where we're at in what's happening at St Joseph's:

1. All lessons are now on line according to the children's timetable, including registration time and assemblies. Children are expected to log in and participate in each lesson and form time where the lessons take place.

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2. Standards of behaviour are the same as in class as on line and there have only been one or two incidents where this hasn't been the case in the 400+ lessons that have been taught each day– you can see the Trust's policy on remote learning on the website for any adaptations. If students breach our standards their access to Teams may be taken away until the issue is resolved with parents.
3. The BTEC and Cambridge National exams are taking place in school as normal. Students should attend in school uniform, arriving at school 30 minutes before hand and meet in the Hall. There's been several letters out this week with more detail concerning these exams.
4. The returns for permissions for the Lateral Flow Testing we'll be required to do closes today. *We'd be grateful if we could have your replies before the end of the weekend* so we can process where we are with this before we can begin testing. We've been asked to test all students as they return back and staff will need to be tested once a week. Please see the letter sent earlier this week for access to further information.
5. We're aware that everything is reliant on broadband – and if it fails – it's difficult to let us know sometimes. Form tutors will be phoning home to see how things are and how we can support you and the children in getting to grips with the learning on line.

The feedback we're getting after the first week of on line teaching this week for all students and the week before we broke up is that it's been tough on the students looking at screens for 5 hours a day. Mr Nicol will be contacting the students for feedback to get some finer detail and data from their experience so we can make the experience more conducive for long term learning under the current restrictions.

The expectations of remote learning were published by the Department of Education on Thursday and came into effect and enforceable from today. The good news is that we're already covering them all. These include:

- 5 hours of on line teaching per day for key stages 3 & 4
- Meaningful and ambitious work each day in an appropriate range of subjects
- Provision of teaching that is the equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school – including independent tasks
- Publishing of information for all parents and children about how we're delivering the education (we're on Microsoft Teams)
- A named person for Remote Learning (Mr Nicol)
- Have a system in place for daily checking of whether pupils are engaging with their work and families to rapidly identify effective solutions where engagement is a concern.

What's not on that list but ought to be, and is the most important:

- Have fun with all of this
- Remember ...at the heart of it - it's all about relationships

And A big welcome to 2 new members of staff who join us as Teaching Assistants (Mr Romero-Cruz and Ms Gokmen-Romero). Also congratulations to Miss Butler who becomes the new Head of English, Miss Thompson who takes on 2nd in charge of the SEN department and Miss Ure who takes on the role of Assistant Head of Year 9.

And – here's the big news – always left to last. The Roman Catholic Church has designated this **The Year of St Joseph**. Although somewhat overshadowed by the events of this week in the news and the impact of the virus over the last 3 months, nonetheless – we're up for any great ideas about

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how to celebrate this over the next 12 months. If you, as parents and carers and the students have any ideas – we'd love to know.

St Joseph, Pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

Theme of the Week – Baptism

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the season of Christmas. Baptism is the first of the seven sacraments of the Church. This feast retells the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Immersion in water symbolises not only death and purification, but also regeneration and renewal. In Biology, when a living organism regenerates, it grows new tissue after loss or damage. This is rather appropriate for the time that we currently find ourselves in. 2020 has been a difficult year for so many of us around the world. However, with a vaccine in full flow, it will soon be time for us to grow new tissue, and leave behind the damage that has occurred in the past.

When we are baptised, we are leaving behind our old lives and entering a new life with Jesus; symbolised by his white garment. The oil symbolises the anointing into the ministry of Jesus – priest, prophet and king. The lit candle represents the light of Christ in our lives.

As we consider the privileges and responsibilities of our own baptism this week, let us reflect on our own sense of being set apart and chosen by God.

Let us consider what it means to be a baptised Christian.

What have the consequences of our baptism been, and how are our lives different because of it?

How strong is your sense of being 'beloved' and 'favoured' by God?

How much time do you spend alone in prayer?

Learning and Teaching

Dear Parents and Guardians

What an amazing group of young people our students, your children, are! Amidst all the turmoil going on around lockdown, examination announcements and a fairly bleak national news feed this week, they have adjusted to an entire timetable being delivered live, online and simply got on with it. Participation, feedback, questioning and answering, live whole class writing and discussion have all been pretty widely experienced across the school and all on screen. This is a huge achievement and from all of us here in school, please accept our warmest thanks for your support in helping this happen.

Inevitably, when things have to come into force at short notice, there are some hurdles which emerge and we would really appreciate your help and feedback. Next week we will be sending out a short electronic questionnaire seeking your views about any challenges your daughter/son may be experiencing during the working day and request that you take just a couple of minutes to send us back your thoughts which will help us further improve what we do. In the meantime, it would also be greatly appreciated if you could familiarise yourselves with the following list of key general principles and expectations which guide our lockdown learning and teaching:

1. Whilst it may sound odd in the context of this week, we would like to try to keep a sense of normal routines and procedures as far as possible for and with the students.
2. All students are expected to be attending timetabled sessions at the appropriate time ie. according to the timetable they have been following since September. This includes the start of the day at 8.30am with registration in which they receive updates, key messages, regular tutor contact and engagement with the Catholic life of the school.
3. Period 5 is reverting back to 1 hour for all year groups.
4. Attendance and punctuality to, **along with participation** in, lessons is being closely monitored by staff so please don't be alarmed if a Head of Year or Department contacts you or a teacher has emailed – we are simply following up a care and/or concern.
5. One hour's learning is planned for each lesson but there is variety in how this is delivered. Please don't expect them to simply be glued to the screen for 60 minutes, five times a day. In some instances the lesson may end online early in order to allow them time to complete independent tasks or to allow a break before the next lesson starts.
6. Students are being encouraged to physically exercise between lessons to keep them as fresh as possible. We know sitting relentlessly can be a challenge!
7. Wherever possible we would encourage you to talk to your daughter/son about their learning and activities in the day, whether they have submitted their classwork or homework as requested to help them consolidate their learning and keep on top of things.
8. Should you or your child have any pastoral or non-subject specific question please do contact the Form Tutor in the first instance who will be able to direct you to the most appropriate person to answer your query.

On behalf of everyone here, thank you again for creating the conditions to allow for such a positive response to the current situation. Nonetheless, we look forward to welcoming everyone back in through the school gates at the earliest opportunity!

Mr Nicol

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Geography News

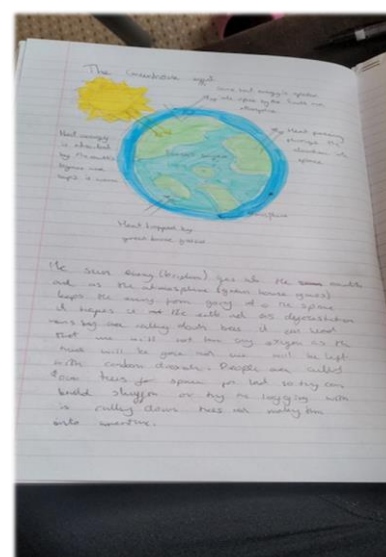
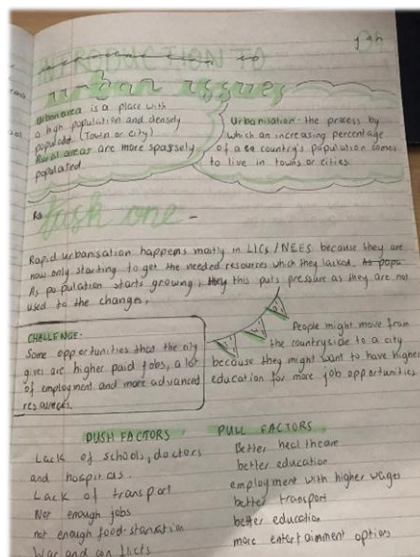
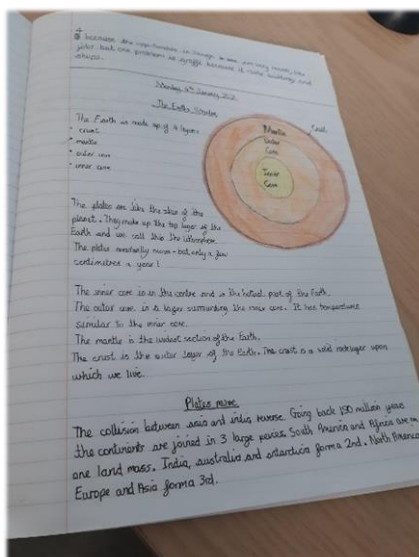
The Geography Department have been very proud and impressed with the level of participation and quality of work sent to us during online learning during our live Microsoft Teams lessons this week. Well done and keep up the good work. Many of you were given revision guides before Christmas- please make sure you are referring to these to help you in your studies. Other useful revision websites to support your learning at home are:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2f3cdm>

<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>

<https://www.internetgeography.net/gcse-geography-revision/>

If anyone requires additional support or assistance, do not hesitate to contact one of the Geography team. You can also follow us on our Instagram @stjosephsgeography for more up to date information and news in the world.



Year 7 News

Well what a week. I am so proud of the resilience you have shown in these uncertain times. I have had excellent feedback from your teachers. Can I remind you that you should be online for all of your lessons and form time. This weekend make sure you go out and have a walk, enjoy a movie, spend time with loved ones. There will be an online assembly with Wayne Dixon on Monday morning during form time.

Mrs Dunleavy

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Year 8 News

Dear Year 8,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a fantastic Christmas holidays and are well rested for this new year. An exciting year it is for us, with the picking of our GCSE subjects not so far away.

Firstly, let me say how sorry I am that you are not in school. None of us expected to be back in a lockdown and subsequently back to online learning. I am very proud of every single one of you, for the resilience you have shown this week to your online learning. I have had some fantastic news from your teachers; 8 Veronica's excellence in Geography and 8 Mark's inquisitiveness in History, to name a couple. Well done.

Regardless, this is our present and we must make the most of it and move forward with positivity.

Myself and your tutors have been discussing ways in which we can keep the fire of Year 8 alight and allow your enthusiasm and competitiveness for the Everest League still take place whilst we are online learning. Therefore we are launching the **Everest League Challenges!** Every week a challenge will be sent out to you via your tutor times and this newsletter. Once you have completed the challenge you must send confirmation to myself (take a photograph and send it to me over teams). The tutor group with the most individuals who have completed the challenge will win that week!

Your first Everest League Challenge is: **The Great Year 8 Bake Off** you must bake a cake and send a photograph to myself (feel free to also upload it onto your tutor group teams page so you can all share your creations with each other). The tutor group with the most baked cakes will win the prize that week, and the individual with the most intriguing and inventive flavours will win the individual prize.

Thank you so much to all our key workers in our Year 8 school community who are helping us in the fight against coronavirus.

Wishing you all a blessed weekend,

Miss WD

Year 9 News

Firstly, I would like to say what a fantastic week it has been for Year 9 in terms of online learning. I have received a huge amount of positive feedback from teachers about the hard work Year 9 students have been doing. This is fantastic!

A few key things to bear in mind with online learning:

- Students should be logged on for 8:30 so that they can attend registration.
- All lessons are at the same time they would be if students are in school.
- Period 5 lessons now finish at 3pm rather than 2:50pm. The early finish was so that we could stagger students exiting the school.
- Students should be fully engaged in the lesson and ready to answer questions from their teachers. They can do this by unmuting or by typing in the chat.

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- Illness/absences – please do still contact the school if your child cannot participate in online learning due to illness. Any absences will impact their attendance.
- If there are any problems with accessing or completing the online work, please get in contact with me.

Best regards,

Mr C Robinson
Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

Well done everyone for all you have been doing on line this week. It's so important that you are fully engaged in all your lessons throughout lockdown so you have good notes to revise from for your end of year exams in the summer.

I have been really impressed with the majority who have adapted well to learning online-make sure you have a tidy and organised area to work (not on your bed) and all your books are ready for your day.

If you need a new book, you can go to the school reception desk and ask for one, please bring your full book to show them.

Last thing-please email me or your form tutor if you are in any way worried about anything however small you think it may be. We are here to help in any way we can.

Make sure you are using your free time to do something positive for you or your family.

Below is a well-being challenge, how many of these can you do by February half term. Send me pictures of all the things you are getting up to.

Kindness and Wellbeing Challenge – Year 10

Whilst you are working from home, try and complete AS MANY of these as possible. Fill in the boxes in a colour OR simply add the date you did this. Share your photos and videos with us so we can share them.



HAVE A DAY A WEEK WITH NO SCREENS, NO IT & NO PHONES.	MAKE A HOME MADE PIZZA FOR ALL THE FAMILY	WATCH A PLAY ON LINE (NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE)	LOG ONTO 'FUTURE LEARN' AND COMPLETE AN ONLINE COURSE OF YOUR CHOICE
READ THE BOOK AND WATCH THE FILM Eg To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee	TIDY YOUR ROOM (TAKE A BEFORE & AFTER PICTURE).	WRITE A DAILY LOG OF YOUR OBSERVATIONS OF HOW THE WORLD IS BEING AFFECTED BY THE CORONA VIRUS.	WALK TO ETON, LANGLEY PARK OR BLACK PARK AND TAKE SOME PICTURES OF THESE BEAUTIFUL PLACES
COMPLETE THE 5 ADAY CHALLENGE ON CORBETT MATHS FOR 2 WEEKS AND COMPARE YOUR SCORES	WRITE A LETTER TO A RELATIVE OR FRIEND YOU HAVE NOT SPOKEN TO IN A WHILE.	WASH YOUR FAMILY CAR OR A NEIGHBOURS CAR (ask them first)	TRY A NEW PHYSICAL CHALLENGE (workout online, a run, a bike ride)
PLAY A BOARD GAME OR CARD GAME WITH A FAMILY MEMBER	DO SOME HOUSEWORK	SET UP A FITNESS CIRCUIT FOR YOUR FAMILY TO COMPLETE	CALL SOMEONE JUST TO SAY HI AND SEE HOW THEY ARE

Top ATL students from report number 2- outstanding achievement, congratulations to you all. We will organise some treats on our return to school:

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Aiden Daliling, Eugenia Fernandes, Sheryl Fernandes, Matylda Labuz, Daisy Loft, Alana Shiel, Isabel Stachura, Jakub Brukalo, Yohanie Sathsari Fernando, Natalia Malczewska, Ola Olejnicka, Clinton Ganiste, Clinton Njoku and Matteo Ramsay-Scuderi.

Top epraisers of the week:

This week

1. 🍌 Dominic Witkowski (10 Jerome) (53)
2. Clinton Ganiste (10 Peter) (35)
3. Niamh Conlon (10 Teresa) (30)
3. 🍌 Oliver Radomyski (10 Teresa) (30)
5. Petruta Badea (10 Veronic) (27)
6. Elisha Morris (10 Peter) (25)
7. Maria Jakubowska (10 Mark) (22)
7. Alexander Kulczykowski (10 Teresa) (22)
7. Alex Chappell (10 Jerome) (22)
7. Steven Anamanya (10 Peter) (22)

Year 11 News

Dear Year 11,

This certainly wasn't how I expected the first week after to Christmas to be, but here we are, and a massive congratulations to you all for how you have conducted yourself this week. I'd like to welcome Miss Paines to the Year 11 tutor team; she will be taking over in 11P in Mrs Otters absence.

We have heard lots of information this week about your grades in the summer, and whilst the outcome still isn't set in stone, what do we know is if we all work exceptionally hard until the end, you will be rewarded.

Please remember that even though we are learning online, we expect you to behave in the normal, exceptional manner. For your reference, our COVID 19 online behaviour policy can be found on the school website.

As we enter this period of lockdown, remember that there will always be someone to talk to if you are struggling. Our form tutor team are incredibly helpful, and I will always be there for any of you at any time if necessary.

Well done for a successful first week, continue to send all your work to your teachers (it could be used as evidence) and continue to prepare for your centre assessed grades.

Stay Safe, and Stay Excellent!

Mr Oakley

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Sixth Form News

The Sutton Trust University UK Summer Schools - this is an exciting opportunity for our Year 12 students, applications for Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools are opening on Monday 11th January (these are a different programme to the pathways programme that our students applied for earlier in the term).

The Sutton Trust offers students the chance to spend a week with one of 13 leading universities around the UK, at absolutely no cost to them. They can choose from over 40 courses to study while sampling university-level academics and participating in fun activities with students like you from around the UK. See the following video for more information: <https://youtu.be/g6WbZb7nCFI>

“Before the programme, I felt there were certain stereotypes about the type of people applying to top universities, and that I wouldn’t be good enough as I didn’t fit this profile. After the programme, I gained confidence overall, knowing I’m good enough to make a competitive application.” – Denise, Llanelli, Cardiff University UK Summer School 2020

This is a great opportunity for students to explore a course or a university during the summer break. **Students are 4x more likely to be offered a space at a Russell Group university after attending their programme.** Applications are open until Tuesday, March 2nd. You can find out more information about the programme on the Sutton Trust website, here: <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>

Sutton Trust Apprenticeship Summer Schools - this is an exciting opportunity for our Year 12 students, applications for Sutton Trust Apprenticeship Summer Schools are opening on Monday 11th January (these are different to the opportunity outline for universities as this focusses on those who wish to follow an apprenticeship route).

Students will gain an in depth understanding of degree apprenticeships, what they involve and whether a degree apprenticeship is the right choice for them. They will hear from current apprentices, experience networking opportunities, attend sessions hosted by employers and learn the different application processes employers use. Every student will receive a range of digital resources to support their future choices. It is also a chance to develop networking and digital skills whilst interacting with employers.

Please click here for more information on entry requirements: <https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/apprenticeship-summer-school/>

Best wishes,

Mr Clark

Year 12

Welcome back to all the Year 12 students! Although it hasn’t been the return we had envisaged, you have all got to grips with online learning this week and I’m really impressed with your adaptability. It’s really important that you continue to follow your timetable to keep up with your normal school routine. For many this will be crucial in staying ahead and engaged in lessons. We have

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been and we will continue to monitor your lesson attendance. Please make sure you are contributing and using this time wisely. Keep up the hard work and stay positive.

Additionally this week remember to take time for yourself to consider your own wellbeing. Go for a walk, watch a movie or cook dinner. Reflect and be grateful during this difficult period.

Stay safe and take care.

Mrs Bray

Year 13

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all Year 13 students. It is a shame that we are back in lockdown and learning is remote for now. However, I have been very impressed with the start that you have made with remote learning so far this week. Please ensure that you are doing the following from now on:

- Checking your emails every morning and throughout the day
- Attending all lessons on MS Teams according to your timetable (including EPQ, PSHE and Resit classes)
- Attending registration on the days that you have a lesson period 1

A particularly special mention to those students that have completed a BTEC exam this week in the most difficult of circumstances.

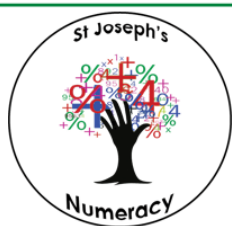
Following the announcement by the Education Secretary on Wednesday afternoon, it is vital that we continue as normal for now because we do not know for certain yet exactly how you are going to be awarded your grades this summer. The attitude that we need to take is to treat classwork as coursework and the PPE's when we return as your final exams. Therefore, we must continue to complete the following:

- Submitting your UCAS application (please make this a priority if you have not yet done so)
- Completing your EPQ and any outstanding subject coursework
- Revision for the Centre Assessments when we return after February Half Term

Please keep up the hard work and stay positive. Do remember to take time for yourself and consider your wellbeing. Despite the cold, make sure that you are taking your hour a day to get outside and go for a walk or a bike ride.

Work hard, Be positive, Stay safe.

Mr Matthews



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- E** Suppose that at a particular stage there are m tarts available for a Knave to eat and that there are n left after he has finished eating.

$$\text{Then } n = m - \left(\frac{1}{2}m + \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2}m - \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } m = 2n + 1.$$

As the Knave of Spades received one tart, then the number of tarts which the Knave of Clubs was given was $2 \times 1 + 1 = 3$.

Similarly, the number of tarts which the Knave of Diamonds was given was $2 \times 3 + 1 = 7$.

Finally, the number of tarts which the Knave of Hearts stole was $2 \times 7 + 1 = 15$.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- C** The exterior angle of a regular pentagon is $\frac{360^\circ}{5} = 72^\circ$.

Therefore the interior angle of a regular pentagon, in degrees, is $180 - 72 = 108$. The angles at a point sum to 360° , so the reflex angle in the irregular quadrilateral, in degrees, is $360 - 108 = 252$.

Finally the interior angles of a quadrilateral sum to 360° , so the sum of the marked angles, in degrees, is $360 - 252 = 108$.

(Note that the sum of the three marked angles equals the interior angle of the pentagon.)

Well done and epraise awards to Nicola Szuba (8V), Izan IT (8M) and Piotr Basinski (8T) for correct answers to both the Challenge and the break time teaser.

Problem of the week

Someone has switched the numbers around on Harry's calculator!

The numbers should be in the positions shown in the left-hand diagram, but have been switched to the positions in the right-hand diagram.

7	8	9
4	5	6
1	2	3

9	8	7
6	5	4
3	2	1

Which of the following calculations will *not* give the correct answer when Harry uses his calculator?

- A 79×97 B 78×98 C 147×369 D 123×321 E 159×951

Break time Teaser:

Four of the following coordinate pairs are the corners of a square.

Which is the odd one out?

- A (4, 1) B (2, 4) C (5, 6) D (3, 5) E (7, 3)

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

Debating Society

So much to debate about in our current climate. This week we debated if the British government should be more proactive and less reactive; next week we are looking at if everyone should become a vegetarian, something that has become quite trendy in our modern 'woke' world.

Debating will happen every Wednesday on Teams from 3:10-4:15. Everyone is welcome.

History News

Happy New Year, historians!

Should you be stuck for some activities to carry out over the weekend or in the evenings, please find below some recommendations which may interest you or the whole family!

Activities:

- Re-enact the Battle of Hastings (should you need instructions, please let me know).
- Create a toga using old sheets and create a role play/ feast from Roman times.
- Build a model of a castle, monastery, trench, or any other historical artefact or landmark using recyclable household items, play dough or cake.
- Play Kahoot!
- Historical Heads Up
- Recreate trench warfare – use sound effects from YouTube, a blindfold, and party poppers to make it a little more realistic.

For Kahoot or Heads Up, maybe the children can use their own knowledge to make the game for the whole family to play!

Museums:

The following museums can be visited virtually. You could ask students to identify 5 things from their "visit" to the museum. If they're unsure of what the artefacts or symbols are, ask the students to use the internet to find out what they are, and encourage them to develop their research skills and find out a little more about the time period which they come from.

- British Museum of London
- Guggenheim Museum, New York
- Musée d'Orsay, Paris
- Pergamon Museum, Berlin
- Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam
- Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
- Sistine Chapel, Vatican City.
- The Bayeaux Tapestry, France.
- HMS Belfast, London
- Anne Frank's House
- Auschwitz Concentration Camp

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The History Department would love to see and share your activities in our Newsletter and on our Instagram page, @stjosephshistory, so please do send us in some pictures.

Take care, and keep safe!

Ms. Weir.

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7

Luca Mays (7T) for leading exercise sessions in school
Wiktoria Rygielski (7C) for excellent work this week.

Year 9

Oliwier Bartosiewicz for excellent work in Geography and
Zoe Galang for brilliant engagement in her learning.

Year 11

Lewis Passos-Wiggs for his excellent engagement to his online learning, particularly in Maths.

Sharelle Connor for her excellent work in Geography producing a top level 9 marker.

Year 13

All the Business and Sports BTEC students that completed their exam yesterday morning despite the country being in a National Lockdown!

Year 8

Gabriel Kraszewski, Maya Kravitz, Jack Deegan, Oskar Belniak, Oliwia Mroz and Antoinette Samar for contribution to their Geography lessons this week and Toby Slaney for resilience and contribution to lessons.

Year 10

Aiden Daliling and Eugenia Fernandes for the highest ATL scores last term- congratulations.

Year 12

Heloisa Schmite-Nunes: for her independent and effective participation in History.

Rosheoil Michael: for consistently working hard in Performing Arts.