



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 2nd December 2022



Cinema Trip!

On Wednesday evening we took the cast of Matilda to see the film in Slough. We had a great evening and had the whole cinema to ourselves. Watch this space for more trips to our theatres next year!

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

My weekly message is in video format. Please do take a listen and let us know what you think, any feedback is welcome.

Please find below the link to our website to view my message:

<https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Letters/Head-Teacher-Message-Newsletter-1.m4v>

St Joseph, pray for us

Word of the Week

“Diminish” - This is a verb meaning to make or become less, which can cause something to be less impressive or less valuable

Idiom of the Week

“Every cloud has a silver lining” - Every negative situation has the potential to result in or produce something positive or beneficial. There is something good in everything that is bad. (A silver lining on a cloud is an indication that the sun is behind it.)

Theme of the Week – JOY

Last Sunday we heard about John the Baptist, who based himself at Bethabara, on the Eastern bank of the river Jordan, and preached a baptism of Conversion (change of mind). When Pharisees and Sadducees approached him, he rebuked them sternly because they were coming forward for an external rite but were not prepared to leave behind their wrong understanding of God and religion. He used very strong words: “wrath to come”, “every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown it into the fire”, “the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire”. Now, we are not scandalised by this type of language, because it was the language of all the old prophets who, when Israel went astray from God, tried to bring them back by instilling fear of chastisement. John the Baptist though, unaware as he may have been, was announcing a really GOOD NEWS. The fire that was about to come to consume the chaff was not a punishment for sinners, but the FIRE OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD which would have transformed sinners by the power of this love shown in Jesus Christ. **Are you afraid of God? Do you practice your faith for fear of chastisement or to have a relationship with a loving Father?**

This Sunday John is in a different place: in jail. We know from the Jewish historian Josephus that he was imprisoned in the fortress of Machaerus, which was also the palace where King Herod Antipas entertained his illustrious guests. Josephus tells us that he was imprisoned because Herod feared that he would start a rebellion against his rule, while Matthew tells us that it was because John had publicly denounced the immorality of Herod's relationship with his sister-in-law Herodias.

John was in prison but treated with great respect, so much so that he was allowed to receive his disciples. When they informed him about what Jesus was doing, he sent them to ask him whether he was really the Christ. **WHY IS HE DOUBTING?** We thought he knew Jesus was the Messiah. In two chapters (8 and 9) preceding the one from which our gospel is taken, Jesus heals 10 people. The disciples of John must have told him that this Messiah was very different from the one expected in Israel; **no axe or sword or fire to kill the enemies, but only TENDERNESS, COMPASSION, and LOVE for the poor, the sick, the marginalised, all people who were considered cursed by God because of their sins.** Jesus ate and drank in their company and was happy to be considered their friend. **Do we follow the example of our master or are we enslaved by the cruel, selfish mentality of the world?**

These people could not approach God as they were forbidden entry in the temple lest they contaminated it with their sin...but in Jesus **GOD GOES TO THEM**, touches their suffering with his holy hands and brings to them new life. **THIS IS THE REAL JOY**, knowing that we are loved by God even when we make mistakes or fall short of our Christian vocation. If John the Baptist could speak to us today, he would say: *What sort of Christ are you expecting? I too was expecting a Messiah who would get rid of sinners and reward the good, but I was surprised and disappointed! This Jesus indeed spoke against evil and sin, but sinners...he just loved them and changed them through the fire of his love.* If we expect from Christ something that he has not come to bring, like solving our problems with a few miracles, we will be disappointed too! For example, if we pray for peace but then expect it to fall from heaven, we will be disappointed. God gives us his Spirit and his strength, but **it is US who have to build peace with our efforts, bringing justice, forgiveness and reconciliation wherever we go, in our family, in our school and in the wider world.** The JOY of Christmas is the joy of those who know to be loved so much by a Father who would never give up on them. **DO YOU WANT THIS JOY IN YOUR LIFE?**

JOY

Weekly Reflections

11th December 2022

A reading from the Gospel of St Matthew (Mt 11:2-11)

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Prayer for the Week

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Day 1

John the Baptist, like most Old Testament prophets, was looking forward to the coming of the Messiah (the anointed one of God) so that he could finally kill all evil people and reward the good ones.

- Is this your understanding of God?

Day 2

While he is in prison, his disciples tell John the Baptist about Jesus and what they saw him doing. He is confused and sends them back to him to enquire whether he really is the Messiah.

- Why do you think he wasn't sure?

Day 3

St John of the Cross



A Carmelite friar, Saint Teresa of Ávila persuaded him to pioneer the reform of his order as she had done for the nuns. This was a difficult and dangerous task: he suffered imprisonment and severe punishment at the hands of the Church authorities. He died at the monastery of Ubeda, where the monks had initially treated him as the worst of sinners, but by the time he died they had recognised his sanctity and his funeral was the occasion of a great outburst of enthusiasm.

He is a good example of perseverance in doing good even when hardships come our way!

Day 4

Jesus was seen healing people, spending time with the poor, the outcasts, lepers, sinners, and showing them love and compassion - not what people were expecting from the Messiah.

- And you? What Redeemer are you expecting?

Day 5

St Augustine wrote:

You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.

- What do you think he meant by that?

The theme of the week is JOY. Read the Gospel again:

- What do you think JOY is for a person who does not believe?
- And what is JOY for a Christian?



St. Joseph's Catholic High School
warmly invites all staff to the
Induction Mass of our new School
Chaplain:

Dr. Orazio Camaioni

Time: Thursday 5th January 2023 at
3:30pm

Location: St Joseph's Catholic High
School, Shaggy Calf Lane,
Slough. SL2 5HW

Polish Carol Service



Venue: Holy Family Church

Tuesday 27th Dec

Time: 17:00 - 18:00.

An hour of traditional Polish Carols with readings. For any non-Polish speakers, reading texts and prayers will be in English on the screen. Children especially welcome to hear and sing the carols their parents remember & love so dearly.

Support at St Joseph's

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

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

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

Fighting the Cost of Living

Attached to the newsletter is a 'Fighting the cost of living' pack from Slough Borough Council. In this, there are a list of resources that may help families with the rising cost of living.

Mr Gibbons

Year 7 News

This week year 7 had tests. This is benchmarked across the country to see where they are in accordance to a GCSE score.

Next week is the last week of term.

Next Tuesday is our annual Carol Service where some Year 7's will be performing the Nativity. It is a lovely evening please come and support.

On Thursday we all have Christmas dinner which is a day where we all celebrate as a team. Can I remind you all that it is a Mufti day and we are asking for a £1.00 donation for our charity.

In the meantime have a great weekend.

Come on England!

Mrs Dunleavy

Year 7 Football Team News

The Y7 boys football team finished off their calendar year of fixtures with a district Power League tournament.

Seb N, Edzio S, Tobi L, William O, David G, Freddie C & Jenson B, all played a massive part in the team's success through the group stages.

The team brushed aside the opponents of all of their 4 group games with ease.

Unfortunately having a tough draw in the Semi finals and losing narrowly to Langley Grammar 2-1 in a hard fought game.

Overall the Y7 Football team came 4th out of 12 teams in the district.

The resilience and passion the team displayed through a cold night of hard work was unprecedented.

Well done to all involved.



Mr Hunt

Year 8 news:

It was lovely to see so many of you last night at our Year 8 Parents Evening. It was a really successful evening with many parents and students commenting on how helpful it was to receive face to face feedback about the progress being made in class. I am sure you will join me in thanking all of the staff who gave up their time to be there.

Mrs Miller

Year 11 News

Key dates – January

4th January – Academic review day

Please ensure you have booked an appointment with your child's form tutor for this day. This is a crucial review of where we are at and an opportunity to discuss any barriers we may have.

12th January – Year 11 Parents evening

Parents evening is also early in January as this is a crucial opportunity to speak to your child's subject teachers following PPE1 results. It is paramount that we have everyone in attendance for this.

If you would like to see me during academic review day or parents evening please get in touch to arrange an appointment.

Attendance

I am aware that lots of winter viruses are going around at the moment. Where possible please endeavor to get your child into school. The lessons going on at the moment are vital in providing feedback from the PPEs so it is so important these are not misses.

Have a great weekend

Mr Robinson

Year 12 News

Sutton Trust (for those in Year 12)

The Sutton Trust is a mentoring organization that, in this current cycle, provides Mentoring Pathways to both the Medicine and US university study, which are still open. You can find more information here:

Medicine: <https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/pathways-to-medicine/>

US Programme: <https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/us-programme/>

Mr Stack-Clark

Exam Certificates

If you have sat an exam at St Joseph's in 2021 or 2022, your exam certificates are now ready for collection from the office.

We are unable to post these out to you as they must be signed for on collection.

Homework Reward

Homework Super Stars this week are:



- ♦ Pawel Krzanowski 7P
- ♦ Oliver Kroliczek 8T
- ♦ Simona Siqueira 11P
- ♦ Maria Jakubowska 12M

Chess Club - Relaunch

We are pleased to announce the relaunching of The St Joseph's Catholic High School's Chess Club. This will be held every Friday P6 in M3, beginning **January 6th, 2023**.



Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 - School Immunisations – FLU VACCINATION - Tuesday 13th December

The School Immunisation Team will be visiting St Josephs on Tuesday 13th December for the Flu Vaccination. On the day the nurse will be vaccinating all Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students.

Consent is required in order for your son/daughter to receive their vaccination. Please provide e-consent using the website link which was distributed to parents via email.

Consent must be provided deadline is 9am on Monday

Any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

Kind Regards,

School-aged Immunisation Team



Year 9 - School Immunisations – Tuesday 24th January 2023 - Meningococcal ACWY & Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio Booster

The School Immunisation Team will be visiting St Josephs on Tuesday 24th January for the Meningococcal ACWY & Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio Booster Vaccination. On the day the nurse will be vaccinating only students in Year 9 students.

Consent is required in order for your son/daughter to receive their vaccination. Please provide e-consent using the website link. The link can be found in the letter attached with the newsletter.

Any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office

Many thanks in advance for your co-operation.

Kind Regards,

School-aged Immunisation Team



Rewards day – Monday 12th December

On Monday we are having a big inflatables rewards event for this term. Huge congratulations to your son/daughter if they made it into the top 30 of their year group based on their combined points (positive – negative). These students all received a letter via their form tutor during Wednesday's reading time. Please do ensure your son/daughter has brought their permission slip back to me (Mrs Paines), otherwise they won't be able to attend the inflatables event. Students are to come to school in their PE kit so they are ready for the session. Please see the students involved below:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Maya Biskupiak-Shah	Jeff Sibanda	Mia Ramananthan	Hannah Marie Anaya
Edzio Stacey	Celine Sidyk	Wiktoria Rygielski	Perase Thomas
Jude Martin	Patrick Lopez	Che Saini	Jose Osei-Agyarko
Annabel Lomas	Marcell Enwere	Romain Janot	Dhembher Villegas
Vanessa Buda	Samantha Albalate	Gabriel Konarski	Oskar Luniewski
David Fedorowicz	James Mpungu	Oliwia Foksinska	Zuzanna Drewnowska
Viki Cieslak	Mikah Aungon	Esinam Deynoo	Shenali Palihawadana
Pawel Krzanowski	Alessia Celorico-Jones	Maryanne Rojas	Isabelle Pace
Jenson Boggi	Mikolaj Ignatowicz	Alicia Kasongo	Nikhil Wight
Kacper Smigielski	Dominic Szczepanek	Nathan James	Nicole Lewandowska
Eilis Conlon	Emmanuel Muinde	Darragh O'Connor	Chauntell Filipowicz
Nathaniel San Juan De Leon	Antoni Tobjaszewski	Kacper Kocur	Ana Passos
Nikodem Marciniak	Oliver Stacey	Nick Tolwinski	Karolina Woronowicz
Thomas Walls	Jayona George	Tyreese Chatyoka	Ethan Fernandes
Alexey Popovic	Emma Powell	Sweenal Fernandes	Jessica Morrissey
Eoin Brennan	Vanessa Masna	Gabriela Majewska	Adrian Wrobel
Theolyn Jokonya	Alexander Baptista	Gabriela Wilczko	Serfine Ogosa
Julian Wojciechowski	Viktorija Voloshyn	Luca Mays	Freda Lourenco
Victoria Pantlin	Oliver Kroliczek	Oliver Ventura	Cameron Fyfe

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Izzy Bown	Michal Kundys	Ariyana Maraj	Toby Slaney
Victor Dobrowolski	Jose Afonso Reis Gomes	Dominik Maslach	Luke Codeniera
Ella O'Neill	Phoebe Tomar	Adriel Dias	Paige Lomas
David Gheorghita	Sara Najdo	Kara Cullen	Inma Wylie
Mikolaj Zmudzinski	Paulina Konopka	Rosa Jarrett	Wiktoria Trzos
Adriana Paulusz	Ryan Passos-Wiggs	Emmanuel Ofori	Gianina Lica
John Cartwright	Amelia Misiak Chmielewska	Maksymilian Oleszak	Adrian Konstantyn
Carla Comaneci	Maksymilian Wedrzyk	Sydelle Vaz	Mary Anamanya
Elena Rydzio	Mateusz Stroczyński	Vince Lacsamana	Joel Manalody
Amelia Gibas	Jayden Jonga	Jovan Kasujja	Aldrick Castillo
Wiktoria Wrobel	Csenge Bodor	Olivia Seweryn	Nathaniel Basa

Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Julia Saladyk	Harry Jackson-Lowe	Belatriz Lamelo De Souza
Bara Allababidi	Daisy Loft	Joe Stabler
Aleksander Jozwiak	Melissa Pala	Hannah Crow
Ava Scott	Alex Chappell	Kacper Kolmetz
Martyna Krzesaj	Al Patrick Pereira	Piotr Augustyn-Sharma
Hebron Yosuf	Reuben Jaques	Natan Slimakowski
Daniel Da Fonseca Soares	Bobby Kadiri	Kelly Ogbeide
Lena Bojarska	Esther Owusu-Ansah	Francesca Mendoza
Nikola Wietchy	Max Ishchuk	Jakub Buczek
Nikola Siuta	Steven Anamanya	Mateusz Cieslak
Zoe Galang	Sheryl Fernandes	Dorien Chakaodza
Laura Wilkanowska	Tyler De Jesus	Rodney Ganyaupfu
Pamela Lopez	Megan Shea	Joel Tabil
Chiara Tilocca	Cameron Martin	Rebecca Conlon
Simona Siqueira	Christopher Szalajko	Sean Teodoro
Princess Chukwudi		
Tyrone Crooks		
Leah Walls		
Timothy Banas		
Luke Pleace		
Shanti Kumar		
Felmica Souza		
Patrycja Masko		
David Redzimska		
Vanessa Szulc		
Alexander Tawroginski		
Amelia Zabieglinska		
Valentin Lefebvre		
Kacper Kozak		
Joy Nwachukwu		

Drama News:

On Wednesday evening we took the cast of Matilda to see the film in Slough. We had a great evening and had the whole cinema to ourselves. Watch this space for more trips to our theatres next year!



Winter football tournaments

Over the Christmas break Slough Borough Council are providing football tournaments at the Power League. More information is provided in the poster below.



SPORTS
Inc

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

Football Tournaments

Winter Junior 5 a side

Mon 19 - Thurs 22 Dec

10:30am-2:30pm

11-14 years old: Arbour Park, Slough, Stoke Road, SL2 5AY
14-16 years old: Powerleague, Ragstone Road, Slough, SL1 2PU

FREE 5 A SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS
BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME

It's all about getting involved.

To register go to www.sportsinc.org.uk and click the **sign up** button to fill out the registration form.

Spaces are limited so register early to secure your spot.

Healthy Hot Lunch and snacks available each day.

Make sure to include your HAF number if you have one.

 Slough
Holiday Activities
and Food Programme

For more information
Email: info@sportsinc.org.uk

 Department
for Education



SVP Christmas Hampers

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done (Proverbs 19:17)

Help families and vulnerable people in Slough this Christmas- donate to your forms Christmas hamper!
All forms are asked to put together at least one hamper.
Hampers should include non-perishable food, toiletries and Christmas items

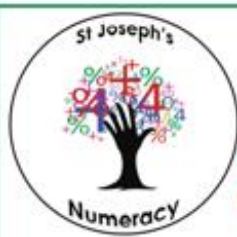
Please ensure items donated have a use by date of no earlier than February 2023

Your hampers should include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Christmas card or festive message | - Tinned fruit |
| - Christmas pudding, biscuits or cake | - Fruit juice |
| - Christmas selection boxes | - Instant mash potato |
| - Cereal | - Noodles |
| - Soup | - Sugar |
| - Pasta/Rice | - Shower gel |
| - Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce | - Shampoo |
| - Lentils, beans and pulses | - Soap |
| - Tinned meat | - Deodorant |
| - Tinned vegetables | - Toothpaste |
| - Tea/coffee | - Toothbrush |
| | - Flannel |
| | - Towels |
| | - Scarf/Gloves/socks |

All hampers to be completed and delivered to the school hall (under the tree) for Monday 12th December

Thank you!



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

A The amount of topping required is $2\frac{1}{2} \times (100 + 50 + 50) \text{ g} = 2\frac{1}{2} \times 200 \text{ g} = 500 \text{ g} = 0.5 \text{ kg}$.

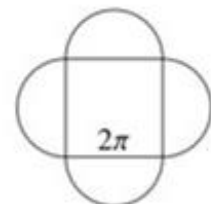
Solution to the Break time Teaser:

A 40% of 50% of 60 equals 40% of 30 = 12. Also, 50% of 60% of 70 is 50% of 42 = 21. So the required difference is $21 - 12 = 9$.

Problem of the week

A semicircle is drawn on each side of a square, as shown.
The square has sides of length 2π .
What is the area of the resulting shape?

- A $2\pi^2(\pi + 1)$ B $\pi^2(\pi + 2)$ C $2\pi^2(2\pi + 1)$ D $\pi^2(\pi + 4)$
E $2\pi^2(\pi + 2)$



Break time Teaser:

What is the value of $(4 - \frac{1}{4}) \div (2 - \frac{1}{2})$?

- A $1\frac{1}{2}$ B 2 C $2\frac{1}{2}$ D 3 E $4\frac{1}{4}$

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

Pupil Nominations of the Week

YEAR 7

Jude Martin (7P) and **Aleksander Maciejewski** (7M) for the most amount of positive points

YEAR 8

Paulina Konopka (8 Veronica) and **Michal Kundys** (8 Teresa) for achieving the most positive points in the year this week.

YEAR 9

Tracy Paterson (9 Veronica) for getting lots of positives in the past month

Dominik Maslach and **Sweenal Fernandes** for the most positive points

YEAR 10

Most improved students: **Arthur Pantlin** and **Liam Recio**
Most positive points: **Karolina Woronowicz** and **Anna Passos**

YEAR 11

Mateusz Skowera (Year 11) for his eloquence in his French writing and speaking exams.
Felmica Souza (Year 11) for being proactive in reorganising her French speaking exam this week.

YEAR 12

Cameron Martin for helping at parents evening and being the embodiment of the pupil profile.
Liam Wilson for amazing work in Geography.

YEAR 13

Kacper Kolmetz has gone above and beyond with revision in business
and a big thank you to all the helpers at year 8 parents evening