

# St Joseph's

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Friday, 10 December 2021

## ***NEWSLETTER***



As a school community, we have been making hampers for those in our local area in need this Christmas time. Students and staff have been extremely generous.

A special mention must go to Miss Irvine and her Form Group 7 Veronica for their spectacular offering!

## FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well,

We have decided this week to present my weekly message in a new video format. Please do 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/Headteacher-Message-10-v2.12.21-1-V2.m4v>

Have a cracking weekend.

St Joseph, pray for us

Ciran

### Uniform Update

As the end of the Year of St Joseph approaches we will be returning to the normal school ties from the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Our Year 7s will be presented with a tie during registration upon return first day back to school.

If you have lost your normal school tie a replacement can be purchased on ParentPay.

### November Behaviour Challenge Concludes - BIG PRIZE DAY!

Our November Behaviour Challenge has now been completed. **15 Winners in each year group** have been determined were announced this week.

Our winners will have a **One Day Pass** to our Mega Inflatables event taking place in the Sports Hall on **Tuesday 14th December**. If your child is a winner, they will be coming home with a consent letter for you to sign, which will also contain the details that you will need to know.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Dann

### Christmas Dinner arrangements 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

As has become tradition at St Josephs, **ALL students will be provided with Christmas Dinner by the school**

Form Time: 8.30-9.00	Form Time	
Lesson 1: 9.00-10.00	Normal lessons for all	
BREAK: 10.00-10.30		
Lesson 2: 10.30-11.30	Year 9 Lunch	everyone else go to lesson 2
Lesson 3: 11.30-12.30	Year 7 & 12 Lunch	everyone else go to lesson 3
BREAK: 12.30-1.00		
Lesson 4: 1.00-2.00	Year 8 & 11 Lunch	everyone else go to lesson 4
Lesson 5: 2.00-3.00	Year 10 & 13 Lunch	everyone else go to lesson 5

Students should go to the lesson they would normally have during their Christmas dinner slot. They should leave their bags and coats before being escorted by their teacher, down to the canteen/hall for their lunch.

Once the lunch session ends they will then return to their classroom to pick up bags and coats before moving on to their next lesson.

Please let students know that the canteen will not be open for breakfast or during the two breaks on Christmas Dinner day.

It is also mufti/Christmas jumper day – students should contribute £1 via parent pay. The £1 donation will go towards charities the school supports.

Miss Cheston



## **THEME OF THE WEEK- Expectant Hope!**

As we come ever closer to Christmas and the end of term, there is great excitement and expectation of the coming of Christ at Christmas. We hear in the Gospel of John the Baptist proclaiming the good news of the long expected Messiah, Jesus. The people around John think that He is the Messiah but John tells them that he is not, that there is someone 'more powerful' than he that is coming, that being Jesus. Let us look forward with expectant hope and joy for the great celebration of Christmas.

**Why is the celebration of Christmas so exciting?**

**What is it you hope for at Christmas?**

As we have heard already, John the Baptist proclaims the good news of Jesus the Messiah. At the end of the Gospel St Luke writes; "he proclaimed the good news to the people". John came to prepare the way for Jesus the Messiah to come. His role was to tell everyone about Jesus, and to announce His arrival.

**When did you first hear about Jesus?**

**Who was it who told you about Him?**

**What do you know about Jesus?**

**What would you like to know about Jesus or the Christian faith?**

The third week of Advent focuses on the word 'joy' as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. As we continue to wait for Jesus to come, we must be joyful during this time of expectant hope. This reminder to be joyful and hopeful tells us that the Lord is near.

**In what ways can you bring joy to others around you today?**



# Expectant Hope

Weekly Reflections  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2021



joy



A reading from St Luke's Gospel  
Luke 3:10-18

And the crowds asked him [John], "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## Prayer for the Week

Lord, send your light upon your family. May they continue to enjoy your favour and devote themselves to doing good. We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### Day 1

As we enter into the third week of Advent, there is a feeling of expectancy and excitement as we come ever closer to Christmas. In our Gospel this week, the people gathered around John are just as excited but wonder whether he is the Messiah himself. John explains that he is not but that someone 'more powerful' than he is coming, that being Christ. Why is the celebration of Christmas so exciting? What is it you hope for at Christmas?

### Day 2

"he proclaimed the good news to the people" - John came to prepare the way for Jesus the Messiah to come. His role was to tell everyone about Jesus, and to announce His arrival. When did you first hear about Jesus? Who was it who told you about Him? What do you know about Jesus? What would you like to know about Jesus or the Christian faith?

### Day 3 Psalms

The psalms in the Bible are poems and songs, which Jesus prayed during His life on earth. Today, you will be praying with Psalm 32. One person will read out the verses and between each verse everyone will say together; *May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.* The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

#### Response

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

#### Response

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

#### Response

### Day 4 'Joy'

The third week of Advent focuses on the word 'joy' as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. As we continue to wait for Jesus to come, we must be joyful during this time of expectant hope. This reminder to be joyful and hopeful tells us that the Lord is near. In what ways can you bring joy to others around you today?



### Day 5

Lord, come, live in your people and strengthen them by your grace. Help them to remain close to you in prayer and give them a true love for one another.  
Amen.

## YEAR 8 NEWS

We are nearly at the end of term and it has flown by. This week I sampled some Christmas Cookies made by Year 8 in food tech, delicious. Next week we have our Champions League Pizza lunch on Tuesday, Inflatables for the rewards students (they have had a letter to invite them) Thursday is our Christmas Dinner day where as a year group we sit down all together and eat Christmas lunch, it is a great St Joseph's tradition and can I encourage you all to take part. On Friday we will have end of term Liturgys and then finish for Christmas at 12.30pm!

In the meantime have a great weekend.

Mrs Dunleavy

## YEAR 9 NEWS

9 Cecilia and 9 Peter were both awarded this week with a pizza party for their participation in the Everest League and being the most outstanding tutor groups for standards and expectations - congrats! It's all to play next term, scores are re-set!

A reminder that our Christmas RAKs Challenge is taking place - thank you to those year 9s who are already spreading the Christmas cheer and kindness, I have had some fantastic feedback from staff about the joy Year 9 have brought them through their kindness, including personalised notes, holding doors open and helping out with resources in a lesson.

One more week!

Miss WD

## YEAR 10 NEWS

A busy week for the Y10 football team with two fixtures!

Tuesday afternoon saw the boys take on Khalsa School at Arbour Park Stadium. After taking an early lead via Xavier's boot. The boys looked to keep the pressure on throughout the game finishing with Eryk scoring to seal off a 13-0 victory.

**Goals came from: Michale x3, Ryleigh x3, Eryk, Xavier x4 and Wisdom x2**

Thursday saw the boys travel away to Langley Academy and play under the lights on their pitch. They came against a strong Langley Academy team. A critical moment during the game saw Valentin make a game breaking slide tackle to push the team onto a counter attack to set up the first goal from Xavier. Unfortunately the game had to finish early due to an injury. The final score was 2-2.

**Goals came from: Ryleigh and Xavier!**

The team and PE department would like to wish Eryk a speedy recovery with his injury.

Mr Hunt



## YEAR 11 NEWS

Well done on completing another week. I hope everyone found the taster day on Tuesday to be useful and will help guide your choices next year.

Have a great weekend all!

Mr Cudmore

### Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 11's

Our Year 11 students enjoyed a very successful Sixth Form Taster Day this week.

Take a look at some of their smiley faces!



## SIXTH FORM NEWS

### YEAR 12

Work Ready Support programme for Y12 students

Sixth Form department has got a funded programme for 15 of our students to support them along their future journey helping them with job interviews, curriculums, university applications, apprenticeship...

They have had their first introduction hour with Pushpinder Kalsi who came to our school in very short notice and delivered a wonderful session. The students gave to me very good feedback and they are already looking forward to having the next session 12th January. Well done for our 15 brave who accepted the challenge!



## YEAR 13

Lots of exciting events are taking place next week to celebrate the end of a fantastic term.

- ♦ **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>:** 15 students have been invited to join in the mega inflatables day as they earnt the most positive behavior points in November. Congratulations; Lia, Gian, Przemyslaw, Noor, Clarence, Rutendo, Lucy, Selena, Kaya, Marvin, Jayne, Samreen, Joshua, Robert and Martyna.
- ♦ **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>:** During form time, all year 13 pupils will have a PPE results assembly in the hall.
- ♦ **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>:** Year 13 will have Christmas dinner together during period 5. It will be mufti for the day, so Christmas jumpers are encouraged and a £1 donation can be made through parent pay. This is an exciting event to celebrate the festive season and fantastic way to end the term.

Just a reminder of the Covid rules. All students must LAT flow twice a week and wear masks in communal areas. This includes the corridors and study room.

Next week PSHE is on Tuesday period 1.

Have a great week, only 1 more week to go!

Mrs Bray

## Sixth Form News from the Science Department

Congratulations to Mrs Hameed and the Sixth Form Physics students for participating in the first round of the British Physics Olympiad. This is the first time that the school has participated, so well done all. The British Physics Olympiad is held to encourage the study of physics and to recognise excellence in young physicists through ten annual physics competitions. Participants in this round were: Adrian Fernandes from Year 12, as well as Sean Agustin, Thabani Chikwanha, Emma Kadiri, Mia Lopez and Mateusz Powazka from Year 13.

Dr Wait

## Computer Science News

St Joseph's students celebrating Computer Science Education week by completing the Hour of Code.

#ComputerScienceEverywhere





### **'Hands down' questioning practice in class**

Following on from my note to you a few weeks ago, I just wanted to follow up regarding our 'hands down' questioning practice in class. Students have adapted very positively to this approach but in some instances there have been a few questions arising which I wanted to address.

- The 'hands down' approach is a strategy to be used by teachers – when asking questions we are giving students time to consider responses and then directly asking individuals for answers, as opposed to simply taking answers from students with their hands up. We use a range of techniques to ensure that all students are involved over the course of a lesson.
- A few students have raised the concern that they feel they aren't meant to put their hands up to **ask** questions. This is not the case. We strongly encourage students to ask questions as it is a vital part of their learning process and it also gives teachers a clear idea of how well the lesson content has been taught.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could take a moment to check with your daughter/son to ask about this approach to questioning and ensure there are no misunderstandings. Teachers at school will also be clarifying this over the next few days and we will be continuing with this strategy after the Christmas holidays.

Speaking of Christmas, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, holy and restful Christmas.

Best wishes, Mr Nicol

### **Reading Tests**

We will be conducting a second round of online reading tests towards the end of January. This is just to give you an early indication of our intentions and a more fixed date will be provided shortly. This will mean that we can see the progress that our students have made with their reading skills and this will give us an up to date reading age. As with the autumn test, all students (as well as teachers and parents) will receive the personalised reading test feedback sheet, with personalised strategies to support and challenge our students. We will have a final test in the summer so that students can celebrate the progress that they have made throughout the year.

### **Form time Reading Programme – Feedback**

Our Year 7-10 students have been engaged in reading novels during their form time. This year we have dedicated 20 minutes a day to this, resulting in our students reading 4 novels by the end of this year (potentially 30 by the time they leave us in Year 13!). In order to ensure the student experience of our reading programme remains high quality, I would like all of our Year 7-10 students to complete this feedback form: <https://forms.office.com/r/zG46fhdxUx>. Thank you very much for your assistance in this.

### **Literacy - Word and Idiom of the Week**

The word this coming week is **'eloquent'**, an adjective, which means to be 'fluent or persuasive in speaking or writing' and to 'clearly express or indicate something'. Eloquence means that have the language to ask questions, express emotions, speak beliefs, talk about matters of faith and hope, debate points of view, and engage in conversation.

The idiom this coming week is **'the world is your oyster'**. This means to be being in a position to take advantage of life's opportunities. This originates from "The Merry Wives of Windsor", a play by William Shakespeare.

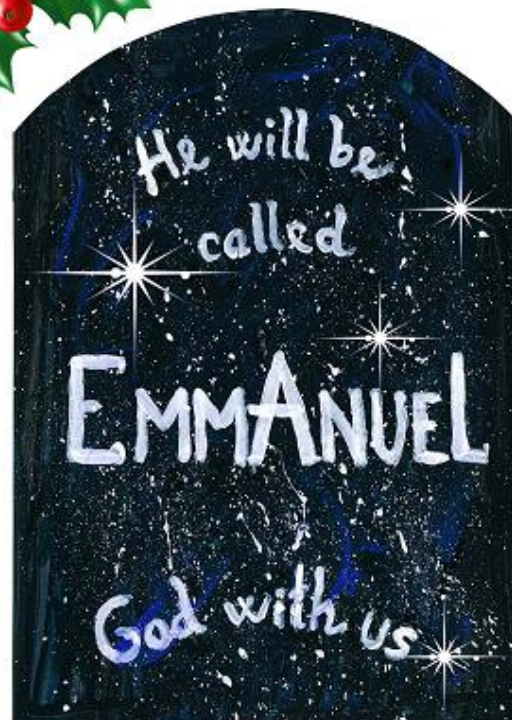
Mr Clark

## St Joseph Christmas Card Competition

### St. Joseph's Christmas Card competition 2021 results

Thank you to all students who submitted designs for the annual Christmas card competition. There were some amazing entries and the designs were really difficult to choose from, so we asked Mr Stapleton to help the Art department to choose the overall winner.

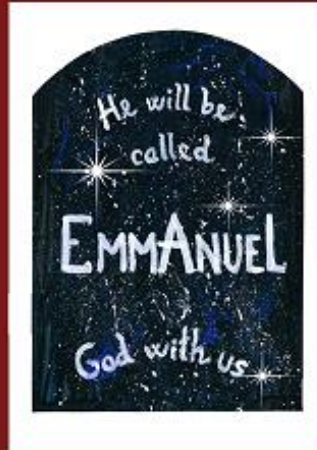
A huge congratulations to Romain Janot from Year 8 Cecilia who produced the winning design. His design, pictured below is taken from St. Matthew's gospel and quotes the words, 'Emmanuel-God with us'. It is a beautifully dark, Christmas Eve sky, which really encapsulates the Spirit of Christmas, and the excitement we feel when we look towards the birth of our Lord, baby Jesus.



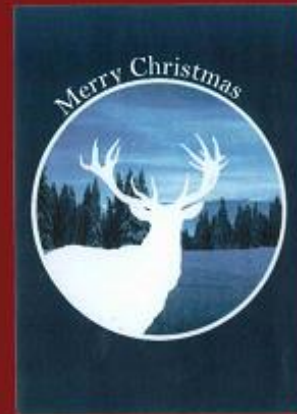
Thank you to all the students who entered. Here are the winning designs for each Year group. Please pop over to the Art department next week to collect your prizes.



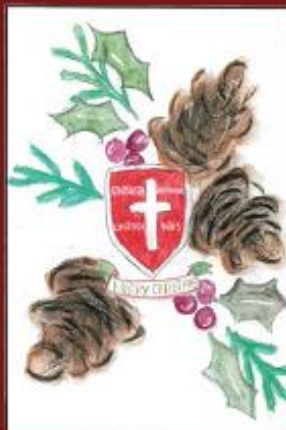
Year 7  
Ola Czajakowska



Year 8  
Romain Janot  
Overall winner



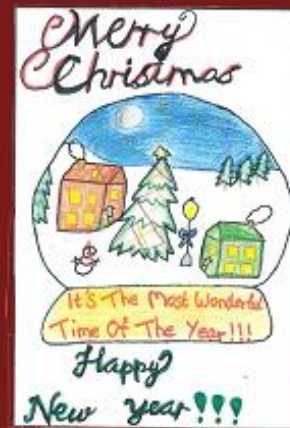
Year 9  
Cameron  
Fyfe



Year 10  
Melanie  
Lukomsaka



Year 11  
Sheryl  
Fernandes



Year 12  
Piotr  
Augustyn-Sharma



Happy Holidays and  
a restful Christmas.





# CHAPEL PRAYER ROTA

Year 10: Blue   Year 11: Green   6<sup>th</sup> Form: Orange   Year 7: Maroon   Year 8: Red   Year 9: Purple

	Monday (Yr 7 & 6 <sup>th</sup> Form)	Tuesday (Yr 11)	Wednesday (Yr 10)	Thursday (Yr 9)	Friday (Yr 8)
W/B 15/11	Year 8 – Veronica Miss Berber		Year 8 – Peter Mrs Ura		
W/B 22/11					
W/B 29/11			Year 8 - Cecilia Mr Mall	Year 8 – Jerome Mrs Rodriguez	
W/B 6/12	Year 8 – Teresa – Mr Silver		6 <sup>th</sup> Form – Cecilia & Jerome Mr Simmons & Mr Evans	6 <sup>th</sup> Form – Joseph & Mark Ms Prince & Mrs Stockings	
W/B 13/12	Year 8 – Mark – Miss Street		6 <sup>th</sup> Form – Peter & Teresa Miss Hurley & Mr Allinson	6 <sup>th</sup> Form – Thomas & Veronica Mr Kuczynski & Dr Wait	
W/B 20/12	Christmas Holidays				
W/B 27/12					
W/B 3/1			Year 11 – Teresa Ms Kell/Mrs Anstiss	Year 11 – Peter Mr Carey	
W/B 10/1	Year 11 – Veronica Mrs Debais/Ms Kell		Year 11 – Mark Mr Watson	Year 11 – Jerome Mrs Buck	
W/B 17/1	Year 11 – Cecilia Mr Hunt		Year 9 – Cecilia Miss Weir	Year 10 – Cecilia Mrs Rolfe	
W/B 24/1	Year 9 – Jerome Miss Aushana		Year 9 – Mark Mr Spencer	Year 10 – Jerome Miss Boland	
W/B 31/1	Year 9 – Peter Ms Aldridge		Year 9 – Teresa Miss Toro Sanchez	Year 10 – Mark Miss Ure	
W/B 7/2	Year 9 – Veronica Miss Joseph		Year 7 – Cecilia Ms Marciniak-Grabowicz	Year 10 – Peter Mrs Lionel	
W/B 14/2	Year 10 – Teresa Mrs Hameed		Year 7 – Jerome Miss Viegas	Year 10 – Veronica Mr Nyuydzewira	
W/B 21/2	Half Term				
W/B 28/2					
W/B 7/3			Year 7 – Mark Miss Basson	Year 7 – Peter Mr Richardson	
			Year 7 – Teresa - Mrs Rodrigues	Year 7 - Veronica Miss Irvine	

*“Unlocking Belief in All”*



## Christmas Carol Singing

As we come to the end of the term, we would like St Joseph's students to join in on the festivities as we say farewell to 2021! It is a lovely way for your child to get involved this Christmas at St Josephs.

Please do have conversations with them about getting involved. For parents/guardians who may live nearby the school entrance, please be informed that there will be some music playing to help the students with their carols.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a very, Merry Christmas.

Miss Pisavadia



## Maths Club

Maths Club is now every Wednesday - 3 pm to 4 pm in M1

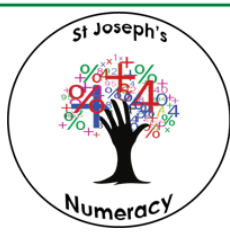
Benefits of the maths club:

- ◆ To develop children's knowledge and understanding of maths.
- ◆ Strengthen the cross curricular links with maths and other subjects.
- ◆ Provide children with opportunities to try new things.
- ◆ Help children apply their maths skills to other 'real-life' maths investigations.

For questions or more information speak to Mr. D. Nyuydzewira

Email: [D.Nyuydzewira@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:D.Nyuydzewira@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

Mr D. Nyuydzewira



# #IcandoMaths

## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- D** The first four expressions expand to  $x^2 - 1$ ;  $x^2 - \frac{1}{4}$ ;  $x^2 - \frac{1}{9}$ ;  $x^2 - \frac{1}{16}$  respectively. Note that  $\frac{1}{16} < \frac{1}{9} < \frac{1}{4} < 1$ . Therefore the least value is  $x^2 - \frac{1}{16}$ , that is  $(x + \frac{1}{4})(x - \frac{1}{4})$ . This result is irrespective of the value of  $x$ .

## Solution to the Break time Teaser:

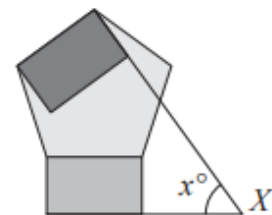
- A** Note that  $9 \times 11 \times 13 \times 15 \times 17$  is a multiple of 9. Therefore the sum of its digits is also a multiple of 9. The sum of the digits of '3n8185' equals  $25 + n$ . So  $n = 2$ , since 27 is a multiple of 9.

## Problem of the week

The diagram shows two rectangles and a regular pentagon. One side of each rectangle has been extended to meet at  $X$ .

What is the value of  $x$ ?

- A 52    B 54    C 56    D 58    E 60



## Break time Teaser:

The angles of a quadrilateral are in the ratio 3 : 4 : 5 : 6.

What is the difference between the largest angle and the smallest angle?

- A  $30^\circ$     B  $40^\circ$     C  $50^\circ$     D  $60^\circ$     E  $70^\circ$

**Send your answers to Mr Allinson. The first full complete answer will get satchel points.**

# PUPIL NOMINATIONS OF THE WEEK

## YEAR 7

**Ben'jamin Dobos** for his active participation in basketball, and **Micah Aungon** for her loving nature within our community

## YEAR 8

**Gabriel Kornaski** and **Anika Garnie** for being curious and attentive students.

## YEAR 9

Jakub P for being **wise** and **curioius** in Geography and Alina Rodrigues for being **eloquent** and **compassionate** around school.

Student of the week **Elisa Balchan** for her amazing self portrait.



## YEAR 10

**Nicholas Lewkowicz** for creative work in Maths.

**Joy Nwachukwu** for being intentional in catching up missed work.

## YEAR 11

**Grace Mcgechie** for being a finalist in the Slough Youth Awards and the Young Inspiration 2021 category.

## YEAR 12

**Aloysius Fernandes** who got 2nd in the MUN simulation. **Julia Laskawiec** for her constant effort and hard work in Mathematics.

## YEAR 13

**Noor Shehzad** for hard work in geography and **Patryk N** for excellent work in maths.