

Friday 13th November 2020



DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION

ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

With so many restrictions around what the children can do inside and particularly outside of school we've been trying to think through what we can do to create some memories of what is a pretty restrictive time for many of our students.

The **Remembrance Service** earlier this week was the first of its kind we've done at the school and even with the timings of the day and the split break times we managed to include all students in it. With Year 11 and Year 7 on their respective playgrounds The Last Post was played live and prayers

'Unlocking Belief in All'

Friday 13th November 2020

offered by the students. It was a moving service and I'd like to say how respectful our students were throughout the occasion, giving the ceremony its due gravity.

Likewise the **Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award** took place in the school grounds and from what I saw it was thoroughly entertaining as well as a great learning experience – my take home memory being watching one of the students boil up their baked beans for dinner. We all learn!

These are testing times for all our students and staff with Covid seemingly all around the school in the locality. We're painfully aware that a number of schools around us have unfortunately had to undergo partial closures and send considerable numbers of students home to self-isolate. Inevitably such measures in the locality will impact on the students in different ways. Please do keep in contact with us if you know that there is a strain on your child. We've been fortunate to team up with a counselling service named *Number 22* who are providing a service for our children over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile we've a number of practical measures in the school now in place to help minimise the risk of the virus coming into the school. All students were provided with a cloth mask (free of charge) on Monday. Please do reinforce to the students that they are required to wear them in the buildings where social distancing between other year groups is difficult. Effectively this means the children (and staff) are required to wear them in the corridors and buildings in transition from lesson to lesson, before during and after school. This is as a direct implication of the current Tier restrictions that came into force on the 5th November and I have to make it clear that, unless there is a medical exception, it is now a requirement that students follow these rules and I ask for your support in this. If your son or daughter has a medical condition that exempts them from wearing a mask, please help us by sending through the relevant medical supporting paperwork from your GP. Thank you in advance for your help with all of this.

The **Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening** is now on line <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/joining-us/apply/>. Whilst we will always be open for applications from our students they do need to formally apply. In recent years we've had a significant number of external students apply as our Sixth Form consistently performs amongst the highest locally and nationally when compared to all other post 16 institutions – but we've had to limit the number to 100 per year group as the school is, quite frankly, bursting at the seams.

Finally, have a great weekend and thanks once again for all your support without which we could do nothing.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran

Theme of the Week – God-given Talents

Matthew is giving us instructions on how we should act whilst we wait for the return of Jesus. The absent landowner has given his servants a fortune, and on his return they must show that they had followed his instructions and invested wisely.

The Jewish talent was a coin that contained more than 43,000g of silver. A substantial sum of money which at that time would have bought an ox. Absent landlords were common in Jesus' time. The coins in the story were not equally distributed. We are each endowed with different 'talents' so that we can work together generously and share our abilities. **We each have responsibility for every one of our gifts** – to use them rightly is to share in the joy of God's kingdom.

It is always tempting to look at other people's talents and gifts and consider them more valuable than our own. But today's Gospel challenges us to reflect on the God-given gifts that we have. Perhaps we don't value them hugely. But we must use them wisely, generously, and for the benefit of others. Jesus, after all, praised the servants for *using* their talents and not just for *having* them.

It can be very daunting using our talents. However, they can have a huge impact on others who benefit from them. I was very apprehensive about picking up the trumpet for the first time in ten years, and putting myself 'out there'. But it was an honour to play 'The Last Post' in our Remembrance Service, during such an important occasion.

Can you name your gifts and talents?

How do you use them?

It is often the little things that we do for each other that mean the most, and we often overlook some of our most basic gifts.

During the week, make an effort to **use your talents specifically to bless others**. In Covid times, we might need to be a bit creative in how we go about using them.

Remembrance Day

St. Joseph's marked this year's Remembrance Day by gathering together around the edge of the school playground as a community. We laid poppy wreaths at the foot of the cross. Thank you to Mr. Deans for making the Year 7 cross from scratch! This was followed by the two minute silence, after which point, our one and only Mrs. Fenn and myself played 'The Last Post'. We were then treated to the Ode of Remembrance by Harry and Wiktor in Year 7, and Francesca and Juhaim in Year 11.

Well done to Mateusz, Sharelle, Robert, Wilette, Leon, Rebecca, Hastings, Nirvanah, Hannah, Michael, Taylor and Piotr in Year 11 for laying the poppy wreaths at the foot of the cross. Also, well done to Rokšana, Olek, Nathan, Ariyana, Loris, Liza, Anthony, Siobhan, Rosa, Emmanuel, Matilda and Kieran in Year 7 for doing the same in the lower school playground.

The Book of Remembrance is still in the Chapel. Everyone is most welcome to write a prayer for a loved one who has sadly passed away. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making this day so special.

Mr Ojakovoh



Year 7 News

Another successful week for Year 7. I was really proud with how they conducted themselves during our Remembrance Service on Wednesday. They showed real respect. They have been covering various topics in lessons. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in Drama, Wonder in English, making fruit salad for Food Technology homework. I know they are really looking forward to making a marble run in Technology.

Can I remind you that masks are compulsory when walking around the school building.

Have a good lockdown weekend.

Mrs Dunleavy

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Year 8 News

Dear all,

The 'Theme of the Week' this week was all about being prepared. The students this year are preparing for their future GCSEs and I am pleased to say that Year 8 have worked incredibly hard this week in their lessons, I have been so proud to see the work they are producing in their books. This is really fantastic to see ahead of them picking for their GCSE options.

Some other success in the year group includes 8 Veronica winning the Everest League this week! They have finally taken the top spot from 8 Teresa who were reigning champions from the beginning. Fantastic work to ALL in 8 Veronica - you are superb St Joseph's students. Congratulations to Piotr B (8T), Arthur P (8P) and Stefan N (8V) who are the top ePraisers of the week, showing everyone your commitment to your studies. Finally to 8 Cecilia who are the champion tutor group for ePraise and continue to show us all how mature and well-mannered you are!

Next week, sports is not allowed on the lower school playground in the morning before tutor time - only break time and lunch time. Please play responsibly and kindly.


Good luck to you all with your AWS GetIt competition in the Computing Department at school, I can't wait to see all the fantastic apps you will be creating!

Have a safe weekend,

Miss WD

Everest League Weekly Scores

"Soaring to Success"



8 Cecilia: TOTAL: 161 UP: 29 DOWN: 2 POSITION: 5 th	8 Jerome: TOTAL: 148 UP: 19 DOWN: 6 POSITION: 6 th	8 Mark: TOTAL: 185 UP: 23 DOWN: 5 POSITION: 3 rd
8 Peter: TOTAL: 188 UP: 27 DOWN: 2 POSITION: 2 nd	8 Teresa: TOTAL: 179 UP: 22 DOWN: 22 POSITION: 4 th	8 Veronica: TOTAL: 192 UP: 44 DOWN: 5 POSITION: 1 st


Highlights:
Top: 8 VERONICA!! Moving from 4th to 1st!
Piotr B was ePraise student of the week! With Arthur Pantlin as second and Stefan as third. Well done 😊
8 Cecilia were the top ePraise tutor group 😊

No tutor group had all of their reading books, meaning a total of 22 points has been taken off across the tutor groups, with the most in Jerome.

Teresa have also lost 20 points for being unkind to each other.

Students of the Week (10 points):
- Gabriel and Joel 8V for outstanding contribution to geography lessons. Miss Boland has been very impressed!

All teams started with 50 points.



Year 9 News

Thank you Year 9 for such a brilliant start to the half term. The learning I have seen going on in lessons is absolutely fantastic.

Well done to last week's students of the week (Michael McMahon and Marcel Temroski) and also to this week's (Sunny Sharma and Melanie Lukomska). It is always a difficult decision to choose which students go in the newsletter because so many teachers have so much praise for our year group.

Please can you make sure that form tutors know of any students who aren't able to access Microsoft Teams. This is incredibly important so that students can access work remotely. In addition to this, lots of homework is now being set through Teams.

Have a great weekend everyone and keep up the hard work on Monday.

Mr Robinson

Year 10 News

28 Year 10 students from the GCSE and BTEC sport groups took part in a Leadership conference as part of their personal development. The conference focused on how students can put a positive point of view on different scenarios that they may face during their life and how they can develop themselves as leaders moving forward. It provided students with strategies that they can employ both within school and outside of school to do this, examples included: trying to place yourself into the position where you can be a role model for those who proceed you. This allows the students to demonstrate how to avoid making mistakes that they have made in their own lives, leading them to become better leaders. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and learned lots of useful strategies which they can take forward throughout their lives. Thank you again for allowing them to take part in this opportunity.



This week there has been some great work taking place and Year 10 have settled in well to their studies. In Science they have been investigating the periodic table and the reactions of various metals, great to see everyone so engaged and focussed.

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In assembly this week we talked about the importance of being prepared and how we can plan ahead in order to achieve the best results possible at the end of Year 10 and then in Year 11.

Year 10 students should be doing on average two hours of independent work at home each evening and up to 4 hours over the weekend, this can either be a HW set by their teachers or going over the content of the lessons from that day. If they have less HW on an evening they can go that little bit further by reading and researching around the topics, this will put them in a great position to achieve some of the top grades in their assessments.

The next round of assessments will be taking place in a couple of weeks' time so now is the time to start revising to ensure they build on the last reports results.

Miss Cheston

Year 11 News

Dear Year 11,

Another week gone by, and it's been really pleasing to see how attentive you have been in your lessons. A big thank you to everyone who has attended intervention sessions this week; the progress you will make from going to these will be evident in your next set of exams. On Wednesday, as a year group you filled me with pride as you paid your respects to those who fell during the war in our Remembrance Day silence. Thank you so much to those who laid the wreaths down, and to Juhaime and Fran who spoke so eloquently at the end of the service. Well done both of you! Let's keep on working hard, keep on attending interventions!

Stay Excellent,

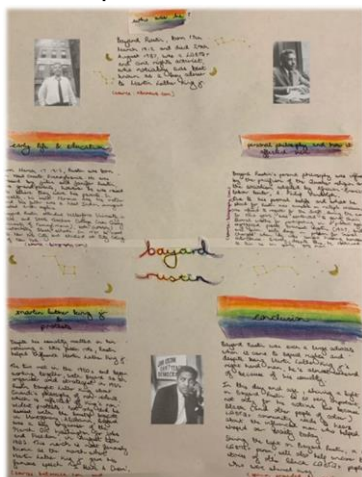
Mr Oakley

Friday 13th November 2020

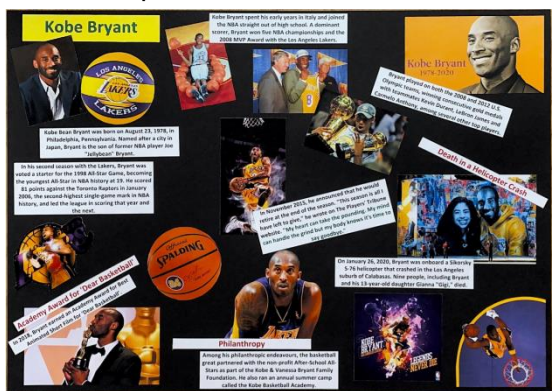
Black History Competition

This year, students were asked to complete a poster or presentation on any significant person in Black History. With almost 30 entries of excellent work and independent research carried out, the History Department had a big task on our hands! Finally, the winners were announced this week.

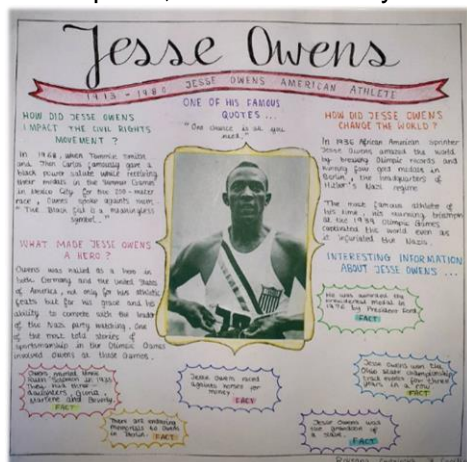
In third place, was Hannah-Marie Anaya in 8C:



In second place, was Piotr Basinska in 8T:



In first place, was Roksana Lydzinska in 7C:



A huge well done to all three winners, and to everyone involved!

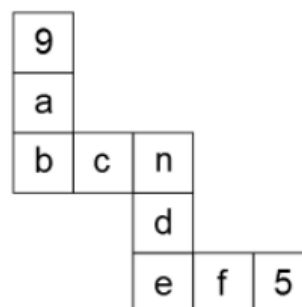
Miss Weir

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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:

Mode 1 : Median 2

Congratulations to: Piotr Basinski (8T), Izan IT (8M) and Adrian Jurys (8J) for correct answers.

Problem of the week

In this subtraction, P, Q, R and S are digits. What is the value of $P + Q + R + S$?

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \ Q \ 0 \ S \\ - \ P \ 0 \ R \ 2 \\ \hline 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 8 \end{array}$$

Break time Teaser:

Which of these is the sum of the cubes of two consecutive integers?

A 4

B 9

C 16

D 25

E 36

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

Year 11 iMedia News: OCR Cambridge Nationals **Creative iMedia Controlled Assessment**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As part of your child's ICT GCSE, where students are studying the course OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia, they are to complete 3 controlled assessment units.

With the current COVID-19 disruption, students have missed 30+ hours that they require to complete the coursework units. These have to be completed under controlled conditions in school. We therefore require your child to attend **compulsory after school sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays 3-4pm** as well as **Monday period 5 when they have PE**.

Week 1 Monday period 5 – 11Y PE – CP2

Week 2 Monday period 5 – 11X PE – CP1

Wednesday afterschool 3-4pm – All Year 11 iMedia students - CP2

Friday afterschool 3-4pm – All Year 11 iMedia students - CP1

If you have any concerns or, have any problems with your child attending these sessions, please do not hesitate to contact me on email: e.buck@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk and we will endeavour to seek an alternative for your child.

Thank you for your anticipated and continued support.

Best regards,

Ms Buck

Subject Leader of Computer Science

Sixth Form News

Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening now live! – We have put together a Virtual Open Evening for parents of prospective Sixth Form students for entry in September 2021. This is now live on the Apply page of the Sixth Form section of the school website, which you can access by clicking [here](#).

This 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).

You will also find our departmental Open Evening videos here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/home/joining-us/open-evening-videos-2020/>

Please note that **the deadline for Sixth Form 2021 Entry Applications is on 14th December**. Applications should be made via an electronic form on the Apply page of the sixth form website. This will go live at 3pm on Tuesday 24th November (after Year 11 have experienced the Sixth Form Taster Day).

Year 13 Intervention

Year 13 have made an excellent start to this half term, which has been supported by a good set of grades from the recent PPEs. However, preparation for the next set must now begin. Therefore, after school intervention for Year 13 students will begin next week. Students have been given the timetable and are aware of which sessions they must attend.

Virtual work experience run by doctors

Apply for FREE work experience for those who wish to become a doctor, dentist or vet.

'The Queen Elizabeth Hospital has partnered with Medic Mentor, the UK's largest medical family, to provide free live virtual work experience to any student in the UK wanting to become a doctor, dentist or vet. This work experience programme is completely unique because unlike other virtual work experience programmes, it is **LIVE**, using high fidelity simulation in the best state-of-the-art simulation centre in the country, at the QE Hospital in Birmingham. It follows 3 patients over a 6-month period as they go from diagnosis, to treatment and follow up that is provided by real doctors and a multidisciplinary team. As a student, you will be able to ask any of the doctors questions about the cases you see. **It will be as if you are really there**, but from the comfort of your own home and without putting you at risk during the COVID pandemic. UHB and Medic Mentor are committed to ensuring that students still have the opportunity to gain valuable insight into healthcare careers and high quality application support, even in these difficult times.'

Go to <https://medicmentor.co.uk/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/> if interested!

If there are any questions, please ask Dr Wait.

Duke of Edinburgh

After numerous phone calls throughout the week, Ms. Prince succeeded in gaining the consent from Slough Borough Council to go ahead with last weekend's Duke of Edinburgh expedition! Although we were not allowed to camp overnight, Year 11 still had the full experience of cooking hot meals on Friday and Saturday evening, and completing their walks on Saturday and Sunday during the day.

Having walked over 31,000 steps on the Saturday, there were concerns over whether or not the more independent walk on Sunday would go according to plan. However, the staff from Ben Bullen Adventures were impressed, as all four of our groups made it to their destination of Burnham Beeches much quicker than expected. An excellent demonstration of their navigational skills. Year 11 should be really proud of what they have achieved. They are well on the way to completing the silver award. Well done to all who were involved.

Ms. Prince and Mr. Ojakovoh

Friday 13th November 2020



The St Joseph's Christmas Card Competition

Christmas is coming!

The Art Department is once again running the St Joseph's Christmas Card competition, open for all years to enter! Simply design your card on the entry slip (available from the Art Department) and hand in your design to Miss Irvine.

Deadline is Wednesday 25th November at 3pm.

Prizes to be won:

3rd place: A selection of festive sweets

2nd place: Art supplies

1st place: Your design will be made into the official St Joseph's Christmas Card for 2020

'Unlocking Belief in All'

The LRC presents The Bookmark Competition!

We are holding a competition for Year 7s to enter a brilliantly designed bookmark that encapsulates the spirit of St Joseph's! It can be done on paper or on the computer. Make it engaging and reference your favourite books!

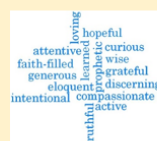
Please deliver your entries to Mrs Higgins in the LRC. There will be six top prizes for the best book marks which will also be published as official bookmarks to be used in the LRC.

Deadline: **Monday 30th November**



St Joseph's
Catholic
High School

Unlocking
Belief in All



ART INTERVENTION TIMETABLE

ALL ARE WELCOME

YEAR 9 - TUESDAY 3-4

YEAR 10 - WEDNESDAY 3-4

YEAR 11 - FRIDAY 3-4

KS3 ART CLUB

MONDAYS 3-4PM

YEAR 7 - A1 WITH MISS LEIBINGER

YEAR 8 - A2 WITH MISS IRVINE

ALL ARE WELCOME

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7

Jessica Sobala for resilience and
Harry Oguike-Ibenana for reading in
assembly and the Remembrance Service.

Year 8

Joel Manalody and Gabriel Kraszewski for
excellence in Geography.

Year 9

Sunny Sharma for excellent work in
Business Studies and Melanie Lukomska
for working well with her peers in Science.

Year 10

Mihnea Preda for his outstanding contribution
to a debate in Geography.

Tania Pereira for kindness in looking out for
her peers.

Cameron Martin for his performance on the
piano in assembly this week.

Year 11

Malachi Lukusha for his excellent attitude
towards his learning throughout the week.

Maria Youssef for achieving a 4 for her ATL
in every single subject this half term.

Year 12

**Lia O'Brien, Stephanie Redmond and Mia
Lopez** – for outstanding PPE1 results
(particularly Mia's independent learning in
Geography).

Alex Passos-Wiggs – for great results and a
continued mature approach to sixth form life.

Year 13

Charlotte Jackson-Lowe and Efue Mahmud
for their excellent PPEs grades.