



St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023



## Year 9 vs Hollyport College County Cup

Year 9 progress onto the next round of the county cup with an emphatic win over Hollyport College.

The final score was 6-2.

Goals coming from **Emanuel** x 2  
**Jovan** x 2 **Lorris** and **Zac**.

A **man of the match** performance from **Adriel** displaying excellent discipline and tactical awareness."

## Word of the Week

"**Fluctuate**" is a verb meaning the irregular rise and fall in number or amount.

"Your attention can **fluctuate** throughout the school day."

## Idiom of the Week

"Once in a blue moon."

**Meaning:** When we say that something happens once in a blue moon, what we mean is that it happens very rarely.

**Example:** "Once in a blue moon I go to the cinema, only when there's a film I really, really want to see."

## Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

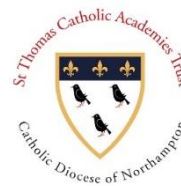
My weekly message is in video format. Please do take a listen and let us know what you think, any feedback is welcome.

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

[St Joseph's Catholic High School \(st-josephs.slough.sch.uk\)](https://st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

St Joseph, pray for us

Mr Stapleton



"The glory of God is a human being fully alive!"

## Theme of the Week – The Lamb of God

While the three synoptic gospels (Mark, Matthew and Luke) present John the Baptist as a forerunner, or one who announces the coming of someone important, John the evangelist characterises him as a **witness**. In fact the word ‘witness’ occurs twice in our gospel. What is a witness? One who attests that something really happened (for example a wedding, a crime, etc.).

The gospel begins with the words ‘The next day’. What happened the previous day? A delegation of priests and Levites (the guards of the temple) was sent down to Bethabara to question John on who he was and what he was doing. John immediately answered that he was not the Messiah, and that they had nothing to fear from him. The fact that the Levites were involved may suggest that they were ready to arrest him.

The day after this visit John sees Jesus walking towards him and erupted in this beautiful profession of faith: **Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.** A **LAMB**, why? The mind of those who heard John probably went back to two instances in the Bible where a lamb is mentioned. Firstly the Paschal Lamb of Exodus, where God commands Moses to instruct the people of Israel to slaughter a Lamb and put its blood on doorposts, so that the destructing angel may pass by and spare the people of the house. (This is the origin of the word **Passover**, as the angel ‘passed over’ the doors of the Hebrews). A second place is Isaiah 53, where the Suffering Servant of God is described as being *like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is dumb*. The Lamb is the symbol of purity, meekness, tenderness and fragility. It is very significant that John should point the Messiah and refer to him as a LAMB. **Israel was expecting a Saviour, but not in the form of a Lamb, but rather THE LION OF JUDAH (Genesis 49:9), a roaring king in the line of David who would subdue all the earth and reign forever.**

What does this lamb do? He takes away (literally sweep away) the sin of the world. What is this sin? It is the innate tendency of human being to establish themselves through violence, oppression, selfishness, accumulation of goods, misuse of the gifts of God etc. The Lamb has come to free us of all these things, but how? Imagine a village where all the villagers wore dirty clothes. After a while they get used to that sight and consider those dirty clothes normal. One day a man comes to the village with shining white clothes. What would they do? They see with their eyes that that is the ideal, that’s what their clothes are supposed to look like! How will they react? In two possible ways. Some will go to this man and ask how they can make their own clothes white and clean, but the majority will reject that man, criticise him, revile him, tell him that he must leave the village and that they don’t need him because he reminds them of their dirt, and they are fine as they are.

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT JESUS DID WITH US. He came as a meek lamb in a world of ravenous wolves. He came as peace in a world that normalises violence, as forgiveness in a world of revenge, as a giver in a world of selfishness, as purity in an immoral world. John tells us **LOOK! THE LAMB OF GOD WHO DOES AWAY WITH THE SIN OF THE WORLD BY PROPOSING TO YOU A NEW WAY OF BEING MEN AND WOMEN.** If we want to be disciples of Jesus, we cannot shy away from becoming lambs ourselves, after all, this is the meaning of the Eucharist. When the body of Christ is lifted, the priest echoes John’s words: *Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world, blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.* **Jesus offer himself in Holy communion, so that by receiving him we assimilate his life, and make a step forward in the exciting journey of becoming Lambs in a world of wolves.**

Our call as Christians is to be witnesses to this Lamb of God with our own lives. Jesus once told his disciples: *Behold, I send you out as sheep (or lambs) among wolves.* He wants us to be just like him, meek and humble of heart, because this is the most powerful witness we can give to the world, and because nothing can overcome sin apart from **LOVE**.

# The Lamb of God

Weekly Reflections

15<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## A reading from the Gospel of St John (1:29-34)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

## Prayer for the Week

Father God, like John, you call us to bear witness that Jesus is the Lamb that brings us back to you: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; Through Christ our Lord. Amen

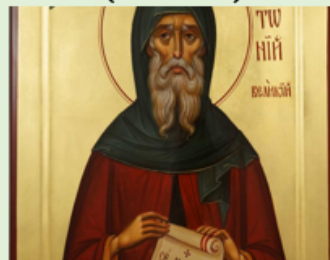
### Day 1

While Matthew, Mark and Luke present John the Baptist as a 'forerunner', or one who prepares the way, John the Evangelist focuses on him as a **WITNESS** to the true light that was Jesus.

- What is a witness?
- As Christians we are called to be witnessed of Jesus and His message. How can we do that?

### Day 2

St Anthony, Abbot  
(251 - 356)



One day God revealed to St Anthony that there was a doctor in the town who was as holy as he was. The doctor gave to the poor whatever he had beyond his needs, and therefore everyday he prayed surrounded by the angels.

The meaning of this story is that in order to live a life pleasing to God we don't necessarily need to become monks and go live in the desert in prayer and fasting. If we love God and our neighbour by being attentive to their needs, **we too can pray daily surrounded by the angels of God!**

### Day 3

John sees Jesus coming towards him and deliberately points him out using the words LAMB OF GOD.

- Why do you think he chose that image?
- Do you remember other mentions of a Lamb in the Bible?

### Day 4

John talks about a Lamb that takes away the sin of the world. Look at the world we live in.

- What do you think is this 'sin of the world' John is talking about?
- How can a poor, helpless lamb sweep away this great sin?

### Day 5

Think for a moment about the words of John: *Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.* We hear these words week after week.

- Do you remember where and when?
- What do you think they mean to us?

Dear Parents of Year 11 and 13,

## **RE: Upcoming webinar for parents – *How to Help Your Child Make Better Notes***

St Joseph's is excited to announce that Elevate Education's first free webinar of the Spring Term will be taking place on Tuesday 17th January.

Elevate Education works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how you can help better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school:

### **Tuesday 17th January (6-7pm) *How to Help Your Child Make Better Notes***

[Click here to register for free](#)

**Here's what we'll be covering on the night:**

- ✓ The most effective way to structure notes
- ✓ The 3 levels of acquiring knowledge and how to implement this with your child at home
- ✓ The power of deliberate practice and the fastest way for your child to improve their marks.

Mr J Gibbons

## **Am I eligible for free school meals?**

With the current cost of living crisis, you may find that your child is eligible for Free School Meals. Please find attached to the newsletter, a letter outlining the criteria for this and how to apply.

Mr J Gibbons

**Rewards Screen** – see attached for full details

THIS TERM'S REWARD CHALLENGE

Qualify for our  
**Day of Inflatable  
Activities** every  
time there is a  
**Fortnightly  
Challenge**










Mr R Dann

## Year 9 - Student Vaccination - 24th January 2023 - Men ACWY & TDIPV

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find in separate attachment letter from the Student Immunisation team regarding upcoming vaccines on 24th January 2023. For Year 9 students for Men ACWY & TDIPV.

**Polite reminder that E-Consent is required.** Access to the e-consent will close 24 hours prior to the immunisation session.

All parents need to complete a consent form even if it is a NO consent. Nurses will be in contact any non-responders.

Regards,

Student Immunisation Team



  
**Berkshire Healthcare**  
 Children, Young People and  
 Families services

## Year 10 & Year 11 - Catch Up Session 24th January 2023 - Men and DTP

Dear Parents and Carers,

The student immunisation team will be attending St Joseph on 24th January 2023 for a Year 10 & Year 11 catch up session for Meningitis and DTP vaccines.

Please see separate attachment with letter with further details and to provide E-Consent (if required).

Polite reminder that YEAR 10 and 11 parents ONLY need to complete the forms for Meningitis and DTP if they did not previously consent and have now decided they want their children to be vaccinated.

If your child has already had Meningitis and DTP in Year 9 then parents DO NOT need to complete another form when in Year 10 and 11 as the nurses will have duplicate forms which can create confusion and the potential of over vaccinating.

Any questions please contact the school office.

Regards,

St Josephs



## Year 7 News

This week year 7 have been studying the following. In Drama students are creating their own prequel to Inside Out, in English Alice in Wonderland, fractions in Maths and lots of other topics. Keep your eyes peeled for the lantern activities that will be happening soon.

I hope you have a lovely weekend

Mrs Dunleavy

## Year 8 news:

Year 8 have made a great start back to school during our first full week of the new year and have already achieved an impressive number of positive points, 1048 at my last count.

We are seeing lower attendance than normal for the year group, so a reminder that we do expect 100% attendance from all of our students. If pupils are feeling slightly under the weather, the mind-set needs to be to get into school and get through the day. By all means bring in medication to leave at the front office if needed.

Also a quick reminder for everyone that Year 8 are working from home next week and will be following the normal times of their lessons online via Teams.

Mrs Miller

## Year 9 news:

Dear Year 9

This strange week is finally over and on Monday we are back to our routines (am I the only one tired of online lessons?) . There are few important dates to keep in our calendar. I mentioned them last week but here you have a reminder:

- CIAG Evening is next week 19<sup>th</sup> January starting at 6 pm. Please bring the slits on Monday and give them to your form tutor
- Year 9 Parents Evening 9<sup>th</sup> February.
- Whole School Agreement. You and your parents have to sign it. Deadline 20<sup>th</sup> January

One more key message: I have noticed that many older students use fake eyelashes, nails or dyed their hair. Just remember the School Policy in terms of uniform is quite clear. No fake eyelashes, nails, unnatural hair colour, lines on your hair or any unprofessional make up.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday

Mr Romero

## Year 11 News

Dear all,

I hope you've had a wonderful week.

### Parents evening

Thank you for your presence and engagement at yesterday's parents evening. I hope the evening was valuable and we have left knowing exactly what we need to do to continue to progress. If any question have arisen as a result of this please do get in touch.

### Year 11 Key dates for the diary

PPE2 Preparation evening – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 6:30pm

PPE2 exam series – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March

**Additional targeted parents evening** – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 4:30pm

Have a great weekend

Mr Robinson

## Year 11 Football News

"Year 11 travel to Bohunt school, Wokingham for their first round of the country cup.

They played the best football of the year holding a tight game that was 2-2 until the final 10 minutes.

Unfortunately a quick double from Bohunt put the score to 4-2 and a final goal right at the death made it an unfair 5-2.

**Man of the match** for his determination and excellent work rate in defense, Daniel O-O"

Mr Hunt

## Sixth form News

### Year 13 Parents Evening – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> of January

We will be holding a parents evening for Year 13 students on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January. It is really important that we have full attendance as this is a critical step in the students' preparation for their summer exams, which will be back to 2019 standards (there will be no assistance). Given that this will be the first set of national exams that our Year 13 have sat, they will need every opportunity to be successful in getting their grades and places at university or apprenticeships. The feedback and guidance as to how parents and guardians can support at home and how students can reach their grades will be invaluable. Parents and guardians will receive a letter early next week, please RSVP via Parent Pay.

### Sutton Trust – Year 12

The Sutton Trust offers programmes (often residential) that support students in successful at university or apprenticeship:

#### University

- Experiencing university life
- Academic taster sessions
- University application guidance
- Social activities

#### Apprenticeship

- Peer networking and social events
- Information and guidance on apprenticeships
- Professional networking and mentoring
- Application process guidance
- Skills sessions

Application for both is open now and you will find more information on how to apply on the link below.

<https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/>

Mr G Stack-Clark

## Music Department News

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 8:00am-08:20am		<b>Music Theory Club (All Year Groups)</b>		<b>Singing Club (All Year Groups)</b>	
Break: 10:45am -11:05am	Practice Rooms Open		Practice Rooms Open		
Lunch 1: 1:05pm - 1:40pm		Practice Rooms Open		<b>Keyboard Club (Yr 8, 9 and 11)</b>	Practice Rooms Open
Lunch 2: 1:40pm - 2:15pm		Practice Rooms Open		<b>Keyboard Club (Yr7, 10 and 6th form)</b>	Practice Rooms Open
Afterschool 3:15pm - 4:15pm	GCSE Lesson 6/ Composition	GCSE Lesson 6/ Composition/ <b>Matilda Rehearsals</b>	GCSE Lesson 6/ Composition		<b>Matilda Rehearsals</b>

# Music Department Schedule

## KS3 Listening Survey

Thank you to all of the students who have already submitted responses (164 so far!), some amazing suggestions being made.

Remember, the survey can be accessed via ClassCharts. It is optional and is an opportunity for you to help us develop our curriculum to be more inclusive. Those students who demonstrate detailed explanations for their suggestions will receive positive points.

If you have any questions about it, please contact Miss Ure.

Miss K Ure

# NO KNIVES ANTI - KNIFE CRIME COMPETITION



#KNIFE ANGEL



**SLOUGH MUSIC SERVICE** in conjunction with  
THAMES VALLEY POLICE & LOVE MUSIC HATE VIOLENCE

Invites Young People aged **11-18** to **SING, RAP, COMPOSE A  
PIECE OF MUSIC** or **WRITE A POEM** to express their feelings  
about **KNIFE CRIME**.

This comes as part of January's '**Month of Action Against Violence**' during which the  
'**KNIFE ANGEL**', a 27ft sculpture made up of around 100,000 seized bladed weapons, will be  
hosted in the Borough Of **SLOUGH** at the Arbour Park Stadium.

# COMPETITION

To Enter...

**RAP**  
**SING**  
**WRITE**  
**POEM**  
**COMPOSE**  
**MUSIC**

To ENTER the COMPETITION you must be...

**AGE 11-18**

**3 WINNERS**

**+ RUNNERS UP**

## COMPETITION RULES

**NO SWEARING, SONGS CAN BE REAL  
LIFE BUT WITH A POSITIVE OUTLOOK**

PRIZES • GIVEAWAYS • STUDIO TIME • MUSIC VIDEO • FREE MERCHANDISE

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ENTRIES to: [MUSIC.SERVICE@SLOUGH.GOV.UK](mailto:MUSIC.SERVICE@SLOUGH.GOV.UK)

Competition Closes at 8pm on Friday 20th January 2023



## TVLP News

**FOR TVLP STUDENTS:** All FREE to attend.

**NEW. TVLP career speaker: Monica Chadha**, Non-Executive Director, British Film Institute (BFI) and Member of the President's Advisory Board, Chartered Management Institute. Wednesday 18th January 2023, 6:00pm-7:30pm. Students and staff can attend online (Zoom webinar) or in-person at Slough & Eton C of E Business & Enterprise College, SL1 2PU. Sign up to attend online here: [TVLP career speaker: Monica Chadha. Tickets, Wed 18 Jan 2023 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#). To attend in-person, email [info@tvlp.org.uk](mailto:info@tvlp.org.uk)

**NEW. Career speaker: 'Practising Law in the Army'**, with Captain William Kark. Thursday 2nd February 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc & LawSoc - Capt. William Kark OE - Practising Law in the Army Tickets, Thu 2 Feb 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**NEW. Speaker: Biometric Data Live from the Horse's Back: Evolution or Revolution?**, with Will Duff Gordon. Tuesday 7th February 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc & Rous Society - Will Duff Gordon Tickets, Tue 7 Feb 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**NEW. Career speaker: A Career in Business**, with Colin Webb. Thursday 23rd February 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc - Colin Webb - A Career in Business Tickets, Thu 23 Feb 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**NEW. Career speaker: Careers in Structural Engineering**, with Mark Bowers. Tuesday 28th February 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc - Mark Bowers, Careers in Structural Engineering Tickets, Tue 28 Feb 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**Career speaker: 'A Career as a Corporate Fundraiser'**, with Ed Garrett. Monday 16th January 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book your place by sending your first name, surname and school email address to [info@tvlp.org.uk](mailto:info@tvlp.org.uk)

**Career speaker: 'A Career in Brand Strategy'**, with Sarah Howell and Ellen Fazakerley. Tuesday 17th January 2023, 8:30pm-9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc - Sarah Howell & Ellen Fazakerley - A Career in Brand Strategy Tickets, Tue 17 Jan 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**Career speaker: 'Architecture: Shifting perspectives - Tech, Space & Social influence of Architecture'**, with Robert Kerr. Thursday 26th January 2023, 8:30pm - 9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc - Robert Kerr Oe - Architecture Tickets, Thu 26 Jan 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**Career speaker: 'Careers in Sports'** with Charlie Methven. Tuesday 31st January 2023, 8:30pm - 9:30pm. This is an in-person event at Eton College. TVLP students and staff are welcome to attend. Book here: [VocSoc - Charlie Methven - Careers in Sports Tickets, Tue 31 Jan 2023 at 20:30 | Eventbrite](#)

TVLP TALKS

# Professor Redlich

University Professor in the Department of Criminology, Law and Society, and the past President of the American Psychology-Law Society.

Professor Redlich will talk about psychology and law, as well as her career in this field. She was trained as an experimental psychologist but uses multiple methods to conduct her research on whether legal decision-making is knowing, intelligent, and voluntary. She is also a published author.

There will be an opportunity for students to ask Professor Redlich questions during this event.

**Tuesday 11th April 2023.**  
**6:00pm - 7:00pm.**

This is an online Zoom webinar.

Sign up via our website:  
[tvlp.org.uk/upcoming-events](https://tvlp.org.uk/upcoming-events)

**TVLP**  
THAMES VALLEY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



This free talk is open to secondary-aged students from schools within the Thames Valley Learning Partnership (TVLP).



## Homework Reward

There are 2 rewards: Homework Super Star of the week and Homework Super Star of the term.

**Homework Super Star of the week:** The student with the most Excellent Homework positive points on ClassCharts in each year group will have a shout out on the weekly newsletter

**Homework Super Star of the Term:** The student with the most homework positive points in each year group will win a **£10 voucher** of their choice at the end of the term

### Homework Super Stars this week are:



- ♦ David Gheorghita 7T
- ♦ Princess Chukwudi 11P
- ♦ Patrycja Masko 11V
- ♦ Matteo Mennone 11T
- ♦ Laura Wilkanowska 11P
- ♦ Angel Omale 13J

Mrs E Buck

## **EAL NEWS**

**(English as an Additional Language)**



### **EAL Parent/Carer Coffee Evening**

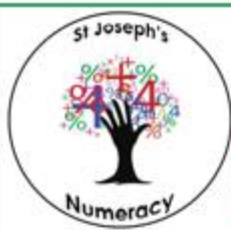
We are welcoming our bilingual families to join us in school for our first coffee evening. If you are a parent/carers or family member of a student who speaks an additional language.

- Have a brew, biscuits and cake.
- Meet our EAL Support team
- Chat with other parents/families
- Receive support and help others
- Ask questions
- Share your thoughts and concerns
- Get involved in EAL parties 😊

Please join us on:  
**1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**  
**3:35 - 4:15pm**  
**At the school Hall**



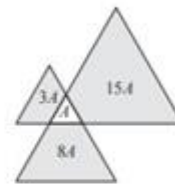
Mrs J Ura



# #IcandoMaths

## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- E Let the area of the equilateral triangle of side 1 be  $A$ . If similar figures have sides which are in the ratio  $k : 1$ , then the ratio of their areas is  $k^2 : 1$ . So the areas of the triangles with sides 2, 3, 4 are  $4A$ ,  $9A$ ,  $16A$  respectively. So, as shown in the diagram, the total shaded area is  $3A + 8A + 15A = 26A$ . Therefore  $n = 26$ .



## Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- D The sum of the interior angles of a quadrilateral is  $360^\circ$ . So the smallest angle in the quadrilateral is  $3 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 60^\circ$  and the largest angle is  $6 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 120^\circ$ . Hence the required difference is  $60^\circ$ .

## Problem of the week

The equilateral triangle and regular hexagon shown have perimeters of the same length.

What is the ratio of the area of the triangle to the area of the hexagon?

A 5 : 6

B 4 : 5

C 3 : 4

D 2 : 3

E 1 : 1



## Break time Teaser:

A tetrahedron is a solid figure which has four faces, all of which are triangles.

What is the product of the number of edges and the number of vertices of the tetrahedron?

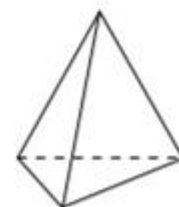
A 8

B 10

C 12

D 18

E 24



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

## Pupil Nominations of the Week

### YEAR 7

**Amber Nunes** and **David Gheorghita** for excellent positive points  
**Rio Fleming-Moore** for his continuous hard work and motivation in French  
**Jude Martin** for effort in French.  
**Darren Bailey** for knowledge recall in French

### YEAR 8

**Michal Kundys** (8 Teresa), **Jose Afonso Reis Gomes** (8 Teresa), **Vanessa Masna** (8 Peter), **Oliver Kroliczek** (8 Teresa) for all achieving a really impressive number of positive points this week - Really well done!  
**Wiktor Sztuba** who has won a prize from Bedrock for excellent work  
**Lynn Keyrouz** for great participation in Spanish.  
**8Y2** and **8X3** for their excellent work and engagement in Spanish lessons this week

### YEAR 9

**Rianna Picardo** and **Harry Oguike-Ibenana** for the highest number of positive points achieved this week  
 Nominate the **whole of 9 Veronica** for their great focus online this week

### YEAR 10

**Shenali Palihawadana**, **Toby Slaney**, **Adrian Konstantyn** and **Ana Passos** for the most positive points this week  
  
**Kacper Moszumanski** for progress in Spanish.

### YEAR 11

**Lena Bojarska** for amazing progress in Spanish.

### YEAR 12

**Alex Chappell** for great work in his EPQ and submitting his work on time.  
**Sophie Betchley** for making great progress in English Literature and engaging in some extra curricular study.

### YEAR 13

**Johnny Brennan** for significant progress in coursework and application of skill