



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 14th February 2025



Celebrating students' hard work during **Rewards Assembly** this week. Below are some pictures of our Year 10 and 11 students.



Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

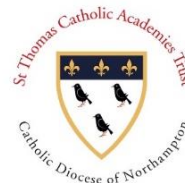
I hope you are all safe and well. Please click on the image below to be directed to this week's Head Teacher Message.



Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Joseph's content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

The Beatitudes

Weekly Reflections
16th February 2025
6th week of Ordinary Time
Year C



From the Gospel of Luke (6:17, 20-26)

At that time: Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.'

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father,

Help us to keep a firm hold of the conviction that you continue to change us for the better - that whoever we are, whatever we do, whatever we face, nothing is outside the scope of your renewing power.

Through Christ Our Lord

Amen

Reflection on the Gospel from Sunday:

In Sunday's Gospel, Luke presents an image that is different to what the world teaches. The poor and needy are truly blessed! It is they who are marginalised by society today, whom this sermon brings very specific good news. People in power are threatened by Jesus' message, which challenges the very things that society regards as essential to happiness. Luke proposes that material poverty leads us to greater detachment from the things of this world, thereby allowing us to attach ourselves to spiritual values.

The beatitudes confront us with choices concerning temporal or earthly possessions. They challenge us to purify our hearts, to embrace the values of God that are completely opposed to those of the world. The things that we think we need to be happy and successful are exposed as being of no value at all in God's economy. The beatitudes provide us with the heart of the Christian way of life. It takes complete trust to live the beatitudes. Jesus is asking us for that complete trust in God, no matter what our condition in life.

What does the church teach us about worldly wealth and the responsibilities required of those who have an abundance of it? Social justice teachings of the church have been consistently forthcoming and this half term we have reflected on the Catholic Social teaching of Dignity of Work and Participation. This reminds us that the teachings of Jesus were not just for that time, but for all time. Jesus is addressing us with the challenge of his teaching. How does this make you feel? Jesus did not say that it was wrong to own things, have enough to eat or have a comfortable home, but his sermon reminds us that this should not be our sole focus in life. What steps might you take this week to focus more attention on spiritual values?



Pilgrimage to Rome – October 2025

As part of our celebration to mark the Jubilee Year of Hope, I am pleased to be able to offer your child the opportunity to take part in a **Pilgrimage to Rome. This will take place from Monday 20th October 2025 – Thursday 23rd October 2025. This is open to all students who are currently in Year 7-12. If any student wishes to go from Year 11, they must remain a student at this school in 6th form. There are only 40 spaces available on a first come first serve basis and a £200 deposit must be paid on ParentPay.** Please find attached a letter with all the details of the trip and please do not hesitate to contact Mr Gibbons (j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) for more information.

Catholic Social Teaching and Spring Term 2

As a Catholic community, making the virtues known in everyday conversations will allow us to live out the teachings of Christ. Serving God and one another through the development of love, charity and relationships throughout the whole year allows us to show this. Our Virtues of being: Learned and Wise, Loving and Compassionate, eloquent and truthful, intentional and prophetic, attentive and discerning, faith-filled and hopeful, curious and active, grateful and generous are closely aligned to the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of the Church. This will allow us to listen and learn from the Church and enact it in our actions to one another.

On a day-to-day basis, we will lead by example:

- **Human dignity – Compassionate and Loving** by showing respect to one another and building strong relationships with our teachers and peers.
- **Human dignity – Learned and Wise** by unlocking our *Belief in All* in our own abilities and striving to be the best we can in our learning.

Throughout each half term, we will also promote a focus to the following principles and how they link to our school virtues:

Term	Catholic Social Teaching Principle	Link to values
Autumn Term 1	Common good	Intentional and Prophetic - for example we expect pupils to take on leadership responsibility and as a result they have the right to contribute in a meaningful way to school life.
Autumn Term 2	Preferential option for the poor	Faith-filled and hopeful - for example we learn about social and historical inequality and its causes, pupils will be actively supporting and being advocates for the poor.
Spring Term 1	Dignity of work and Participation	Active and curious - for example we teach learn and promote community cohesion with our ecumenical work.

Spring Term 2	Solidarity	Grateful and generous - Care by our words and actions.
Summer Term 1	Peace	Eloquent and truthful - leaders called to listen to people affected by decisions
Summer Term 2	Stewardship	Attentive and discerning - for example being proactive and informed as guardians of the earth and all creation.

After half term, we will be entering the season of Lent. This is a great opportunity for all to come together in solidarity and help those most in need through our Lenten Fundraising activities. Please can Parents/Carers promote this at home with your child. Ask them how they have been showing the principles above in their daily encounters.

Free School Meals

Free School Meal vouchers have been issued to all Parents/Carers of students who are eligible for Free School Meals for the half term break via email. The vouchers have been provided through the HUGGG platform and **they must be redeemed by 23/02/2025**. If vouchers have not been redeemed by then, Slough Borough Council will claim back. Please do check your junk email too, to find the vouchers.

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7 Niamh Casewell-Harrison and Zak Andaloussi-Sadsad for excellent final week before Half Term.
Year 8 Daniel Celorico-Jones and Felicity Kuziela
Year 9 Tesia Teji and Annbel Joyson for achieving the most positive points this week.
Year 10 Adewale Adeduro and Kaitlyn Wynne for receiving the most positive points.
Year 11 Vince Lacsamana and Nathan James for achieving the highest amount of positive points this week.
Year 12 Perase Thomas and Mumtaz Hanifi for great attitude to learning.
Year 13 Hannah Mascarenhas for excellent work in Travel and Tourism and Deborah Coker for making superb progress in History.

Homework Superstars

Year 7	Natasha D'Cunha
Year 9	Brianne Barrozo
Year 10	Mikah Aungon
Year 12	Vanessa Anane



D&T Stars



Well done to the DT stars this half term who **have shown excellence in DT and food lessons!**

Y7 - Madelyn Robinson, Iliana Borek
Y8 - Orla O'Connor, Bianka Bodor
Y9 - Viki Cieslak, Bianca Lacsamana
Y10 Food - Ava Bellamy, Declan Fagan
Y10 DT - Michal Kundys, Dominik Tokarski
Y11 Food - Rosa Bavington, Nicole P
Y11 DT - Nathan James, Victoria Galicka
Y12+13 - Oliwia Mroz, Ninah Bangalan, Ashley Mohammed

Year 7 News

A massive well done to all students who won an award in our end-of-half-term Rewards Assembly. Lots of happy and proud people stood up on the stage! It was very lovely to see. I hope that everyone has a lovely Half-Term Break, **we will be back on Monday 24th February**.

Have a great break.

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

Another fantastic half-term is in the bag for Year 8, with every single student making progress in their lessons. Congratulations to 8 Veronica for winning the XL Competition and enjoying a fun Zorbing experience! A huge well done also to all students who came in mufti yesterday for not receiving an XH.

This term has been outstanding, with **Year 8 earning over 6,000 positives** and achieving an impressive **94% positive ratio**. The top reasons for these positives were '**Good Work**', '**Active & Curious**', and '**Learned & Wise**'. However, the main areas where Xs were received were for homework and equipment. Please make sure you stay organised and prepared for each day of learning.

Have a restful half-term, and take some time to do something nice for your loved ones.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

The final week of Half Term is always exciting with Rewards Assembly, Mufti Day and Celebration of the winners of the XL Competition. 9 Veronica achieved the least number of Lates this Half Term and therefore had the opportunity to do Zorbing on Thursday. We had Rewards Assembly on Thursday morning and also Mufti Day for those that have received 0 XH's this Half Term. I just want to say a massive Thank You for attendance (94%) at Parents' Evening last week. It really gives the students the best opportunity when choosing their options, which were due in this week. Have a great Half Term

Miss McCormack – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

What an eventful last week Year 10s had! On Wednesday, we had our Celebration Assembly where students were awarded certificates by their subject teachers for outstanding performance and most progress. Congratulations again to all of the winners!

On Thursday, all students who did not receive an XH this half term came into school in their own clothes and 10 Veronica enjoyed some Zorb Football in the field, as Veronica House won the lates House Competition.

Hope you all have a restful half term!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

As we reach the end of another important week, I want to acknowledge the continued efforts of our Year 11 students. This week, we recorded **590 positive points**, reflecting the hard work and commitment many students are showing. However, **102 negative points** were also recorded, with the main concerns being **homework (25)**, **lateness (13)**, and **equipment (22)**. These are areas that must improve, as consistency and preparation are key to success in the months ahead.

Reflecting on PPE Results & Taking Action

Students have now received their **PPE (mock exam) results**, and this is the time to reflect and take action. These results provide a clear indication of current progress and highlight areas that need improvement before the final exams. The next steps must be taken quickly—waiting too long to address weaknesses will only make the journey more difficult. I urge students to be proactive, seek support when needed, and commit fully to their revision and classwork.

After-School Interventions – Attendance is Crucial

Interventions are now running **every day after school from 15:15 to 16:15**, with small, targeted groups designed to provide focused support. These sessions are a valuable opportunity to reinforce understanding and improve performance. Attendance is **essential**, and students must make full use of them.

We request **parental support** in ensuring students attend these sessions, including making arrangements for pick-up if needed. Encouragement and reinforcement at home will make a significant difference. The full intervention timetable is shared below.

Parents' Evening – Thursday, 27th February (Compulsory Attendance)

A reminder that **Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday, 27th February**. Attendance is **compulsory**, and students must arrange appointments with their teachers **as soon as possible**. This is a crucial opportunity to discuss progress, identify strategies for improvement, and ensure students are on track for their final exams.

Final Thoughts

With only a few months remaining until GCSE exams, every decision matters. Success is built on consistency, discipline, and effort. I urge all students to take their studies seriously, attend their interventions, complete their homework, and be fully prepared for the challenges ahead. Parents, your continued support is invaluable in making this happen.

Thank you for your commitment, and I look forward to seeing continued focus and determination in the weeks to come.

Mr Romero – Head of Year 11

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Maths	Science	English	RE		Maths
Week A	Science PP	Maths PP	Computer science			
Week B	Geography	French	Business	Sports BTEC	Product Design	Maths
	History	Drama	Vocational Business			
	Spanish	Child Development	Food Tech			
		Sports BTEC	Creative Media			
		PE	Music			

Year 11 Parents' Evening

We are delighted to inform you that Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place on **Thursday 27th February, from 4.15pm until 6.45pm**. This will take place in the Assembly Hall. It is essential that you attend this evening with your child.

We ask that you **confirm your child's attendance on ParentPay by Monday 24th February**. If you are unable to attend for any reason, or have any further questions, please contact your child's Form Tutor.

Year 12 News

This week, the students have begun to plan ahead for half term as we have been made aware of a number of interesting Work Experience opportunities being offered at this time for them. Many have registered to attend a Work Experience Day with Clifford Chance Law Firm, whilst others plan to attend a KMPG webinar which aims to give students advice on applying for careers in the commercial sector. After half term, we will begin our preparations for our annual Interview Day with Learning to Work in July. In preparation for this, students will all need to produce a CV and cover letter applying for one of five fictitious jobs based on the information given to them. In July, they will then attend a mock interview with an industry professional where this CV and cover letter, alongside their performance at interview will be scrutinized!

Mrs Stevens – Head of Year 12

Year 13 News

This week on Monday, Year 13 received their PPE results. It is really important that the students digest these and start making action plans to work hard towards their summer exams. We have a **Parents' Evening coming up on 6th March**, it is **crucial** that all parents/carers attend so that you can meet with your son or daughter's teachers to discuss how you can support their study at home.

We have taken the decision to suspend Year 13 privileges of leaving the school site during the day to enable the students to focus on study. **After half-term, all Year 13 students will be required to attend school from 8:20am-3:15pm**. I thank you in advance for your support with this, we want our students to get the results they deserve in their summer exams and in order for that to happen, they need to spend as much time studying as they can.

I hope you all enjoy the half-term break.

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 13

Please Note – Year 12 and 13 will have a combined Sixth Form Parents' Evening on 6th March 2025. Please confirm attendance via ParentPay.

House Competition: Minute Madness



A huge **WELL DONE** to all the students who took part in the Minute Madness competition! Your hard work, enthusiasm, and determination were truly amazing. You gave it your all.

A special congratulations to **Peter House**, our winners. Throughout the competition, all students showcased excellent time management skills, staying focused and making the most of every second in each challenge.

A big thank you as well to our dedicated **Jerome House Captains** for helping to organize this exciting house competition. Your efforts made it a great success!



MINUTE MADNESS HOUSE COMPETITION RESULTS

	HOUSE POINTS	HOUSE
1ST PLACE	Peter	1000
2ND PLACE	Jerome & Veronica	800
3RD PLACE	Mark	600
4TH PLACE	Teresa	400
5TH PLACE	Cecilia	100

THE QUICKEST CONTESTANTS WERE:

Year 7: Benjael Rebelo and Max Nolan-Knowles
Year 8: Kingston Da Costa
Year 9: Pawel Krzanowski and Perez Mbidom
Year 10: Kasper Gazda
Year 11: Adriel Dias

Current Standings

Standings	House	XH Comp 1	Poetry	Countdown	Christmas Card	Lip Sync	Synonym Smash	XH Comp 2	Rock Paper Scissors	Paper Plane Flying	Hook & Chase	Spaghetti Slurp	XL Comp 1	Minute Madness	Positive Points	Total
1	Peter	1000	800	1000	1000	100	1000	100	800	100	400	600	200	1000	17655	25755
2	Veronica	600	0	200	800	600	600	600	400	800	800	1000	1000	800	16251	24451
3	Jerome	400	1000	800	600	800	400	800	100	400	1000	400	800	800	16047	24347
4	Teresa	200	0	400	400	200	0	1000	600	1000	800	800	400	400	16346	22546
5	Mark	800	0	600	200	400	200	400	1000	200	400	200	600	600	16536	22136
6	Cecilia	100	0	100	100	1000	800	200	200	600	100	100	100	100	15071	18571

Rewards Day

Yesterday was an exciting day as we celebrated and rewarded our students for their hard work and dedication this term. A total of **700 students** across the school achieved zero XHs this half-term, earning the privilege of wearing mufti as a reward!

Additionally, all students from **Veronica House in Years 7–11** and **Mark House in Years 12–13** were given the opportunity to participate in Zorb football! This special activity was a recognition of their collective effort in maintaining the lowest number of late arrivals to school and lessons so far this term. The students fully embraced the challenge, playing with enthusiasm and great spirit. It was a fantastic event, filled with laughter and teamwork, and our students represented the school exceptionally well.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all parents for supporting their children in completing their homework and ensuring punctuality to school and lessons. Your encouragement and involvement make a huge difference.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful half-term break!



Trampolining Squad Success

On Friday 8th February, the Trampolining Squad for Year 7/8 and 9/10 competed in a Slough competition. Leading up to the event, the girls all showed excellent commitment to training, to learn and practice their routines. Year 7/8 students had to perform a series of set skills and a set routine, whilst the Year 9/10 team had to perform a set and a voluntary routine.

On the day, they all performed well and despite a lot of nerves, they completed their routines. For the Year 7/8 competition, **Amelia finished in 1st** whilst **Maddie and Molly came joint-2nd**. As a team, **St Joseph's finished in 1st place**. In the Year 9/10 competition, **Arina finished 1st** and **Chloe 2nd**, as individual competitors. **As a team, they also won overall**.

An excellent result for all competitors and the student were so enthused, they couldn't wait to get back to school to show off their medals. We are very proud of you all!



Year 11-13 Mindfulness Event

Students had an incredible experience at the TVLP Mindfulness Event at Beechwood School this week. The day was packed with activities designed to support wellbeing, including a deeply relaxing 'sound bath' session where students unwound in sleeping bags, a workshop exploring the importance of sleep and nutrition, and guided mindfulness meditations to help develop focus and calm. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to learn practical strategies for managing stress and enhancing their overall wellbeing.



'Macbeth' Trip

On Tuesday, some of the Year 11 students travelled to the Odeon in Uxbridge to watch a streamed filming of the award winning West End production of 'Macbeth'. The students loved David Tennant as the protagonist and Cush Jumbo as the manipulative Lady Macbeth. This was a successful trip and all pupils said that it helped to bring the themes and motifs alive for them.



Science Club

Making crystals in Science Club. The beautiful images and the awe of the students was lovely to see.



Languages Club

Our energetic KS3 students have had a great term in their MFL club. After Half Term, please note that we have changed club timings to **every Wednesday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in T5** with Ms Shaw. Our aim continues being; to explore languages, cultural ideas and activities, have fun with friends, and forge new friendships – full of (jelly) beans of course!

We were very proud to present our Year 7 assembly on Monday 10th February, based on last Sunday's Gospel theme of "Follow Me" and inspired by famous figures to follow in our communities and cultures, both past and present. I'd like to thank three students particularly: **Keith** for putting the assembly

together so cleverly, **Lennon** for being our ICT champion, and **Johanna** for writing the beautiful prayer which we read altogether at the close. Thank you also to **Mr Cooper-Santos**, **Mr Gibbons** and **Ms Toro-Sanchez** for supporting our endeavours.

Please read our attached PowerPoint, with the names and roles of our brave and confident Year 7 participants and the themes they researched and chose to talk about. This comprised topics like history, politics, poetry, Romance Languages and sport: **Bryan** who shares the same Cameroonian heritage as the famous footballer Kylian Mbappe, told us that this famous philanthropic footballer speaks his native tongue, French, fluently along with Spanish, English and even Arabic! Please also listen to two inspiring music tracks including Spanish subtitles on the legendary Genesis song "*Follow you, Follow me*" and Muse's moving lyrics of "*Follow Me*". Finally, have a lovely, restful half term.

See how many languages you recognise worldwide:



Crochet Elective

Below are the works being created by Crochet Elective students this half term. It was a great elective experience and student were excellent on their first project.



Design and Technology Department



D+T Make It Elective

We have been so impressed by the work and attitudes of the pupils in this term's DT elective. Some great pen-pots and scrap-bots were taken home this week.



Year 10 - Celebrations.

We have been so impressed with the Year 10 chefs. This week, pupils have been expertly and independently preparing dishes for a celebration of their choosing. What a wide range of superb dishes! Well done Year 10



Year 10 Designer Boxes

Our Year 10 designers have been putting finishing touches to their designer boxes. We have been impressed with their dedication and efforts to make high quality products! We look forward to seeing more of their work!

A reminder that Year 10s have half term homework to prepare their groups' Design Ventura entries.



Year 12 Physics Trip to Cambridge

Last Thursday, Year 12 Physics students travelled to Cambridge to participate in the Cavendish lab's hands-on physics workshop. They participated in workshops to practise Isaac Newton's Physics problem-solving techniques and gained practical experience using a pendulum to determine gravity at Cambridge.

Ski Trip April 2025

There are 2 spaces available on this year's Ski Trip, taking place between 4th - 11th April. The cost is £1070 and would need to be paid imminently. If you are interested in your child taking place, please email Mr Robinson (c.robinson@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) by **24th February**.

World Book Day – 7th March

During the w/c 3rd March, we will be celebrating World Book Day. We are lucky to have two author talks (arranged by TVLP). The details are as follows:

- On **5th March**, author Helen Comerford will deliver an assembly to our **Year 8 students**. This will be during period 4.
- On **7th March**, author of Orange Boy, Patrice Lawrence, will deliver an assembly to our **Year 9 students** (who have read Orange Boy). This will be during period 5.

On **7th March**, there will be a number of other activities, including a creative writing workshop.

Dress up (7th March) – we encourage all students and staff to take part in World Book Day by dressing up as literary characters. In the past, we have had some incredible efforts to this, and I'm hoping this year is even better. It's a whole lot of fun and prizes are to be won. The intent by the day is that it is a celebration of literature and not a multi-day. Here is some key information, if students wish to take part:

- Students must be dressed as an identifiable character from literature – not from a film, TV show or game (that does not originate from a novel). Think Harry Potter, not Super Mario.
- Costumes must be appropriate - please ensure clothes worn are appropriate for school, with no inappropriate logos or slogans, no bare shoulders, no stomachs on show or low-cut tops. If a student's attire is deemed inappropriate, they will be sent home to change.

Thank you so much for your support, I hope the students have an enjoyable and informative day.
– Mr Stack-Clark

<p>TVLP FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS MARCH 2025</p> <p>Carnegie Short Listed and Bestselling Author Helen Comerford</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH</p> <p>Helen writes funny and fantastical tales, with a diverse casts of characters. She is fuelled by a love of all things super-powered, feminism, and chocolate raisins.</p>  <p>TVLP</p>	 <p>Helen will be offering talks on Her latest book, Short Listed for the Carnegie Prize 2025</p> <p>The Love Interest</p> 	<p>TVLP FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS MARCH 2025 Award Winning and Best Selling Author Patrice Lawrence MBE</p> <p>FRIDAY 7TH MARCH</p> <p>Patrice Lawrence MBE, FRSL is a British writer and journalist Her awards include The Waterstones Children's Book Prize for Older Children The Bookseller YA Book Prize. Shortlisted for the Carnegie</p>    <p>2025 Writer in Residence for</p>  <p>TVLP</p>
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Solution to last Week's Puzzler

D The number of days required to dig the tunnel is $\frac{2000}{5} = 400$. This is just over one year.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

C The correct answer may be found by calculating the value of $10\,006 - 8008$ and comparing it with the values of the five options. However, it is clear that $10\,000 - 8002 = 10\,006 - 8008$ as each number on the left of the equation is 6 less than the corresponding number on the right of the equation.

Puzzler of the week

What is the difference between 40% of 50% of 60 and 50% of 60% of 70?

- A 9 B 8 C 7 D 6 E 5

Break-time Teaser

A number x is greater than 2022. Which is the smallest of the following?

- A $\frac{x}{2022}$ B $\frac{2022}{x-1}$ C $\frac{x+1}{2022}$ D $\frac{2022}{x}$ E $\frac{2022}{x+1}$

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

Menu

St Josephs Catholic High School - Week 3				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spicy Beef Nacho's with Sour Cream & Cheese	Thai Green Chicken Curry served with Rice	Cottage Pie	Volcano Chicken Pasta	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips, Tartare Sauce & a Lemon Wedge
Quorn Sausage served with Spring Onion Mash	Falafel with Pitta Bread, Salad & Tzatziki	Quorn Bolognese served with Pasta & Parmesan Cheese	Chickpea & Vegetable Fried Rice	Spinach, Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza with Red Onion
Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad
Pasta with a Cheese Sauce	Pasta Arrabbiata	Red Pesto Pasta	Pasta with Tomato & Dill Sauce	-
Iced Carrot Cake	Toffee Apple Crumble served with Custard	Caramel Cake	Chocolate Sponge served with Chocolate Sauce	Banana Cake

Available daily:
Sandwiches, Wraps &
Baguettes, Panini, Jacket
Potatoes, Cold Desserts & Fruit



EAL NEWS **(English as an Additional Language)**

Creating Opportunity to Talk Family Debates

Dear Parents,

As we enter the half-term break, I want to take this opportunity to **thank you** for your ongoing support in helping your child develop their English language skills. One of the most effective ways to support their learning is by **creating opportunities for conversation at home**. Engaging in family debates can be a fun and interactive way to build their confidence and enhance their **oracy skills**.

Here are four engaging debate topics to try with your child:

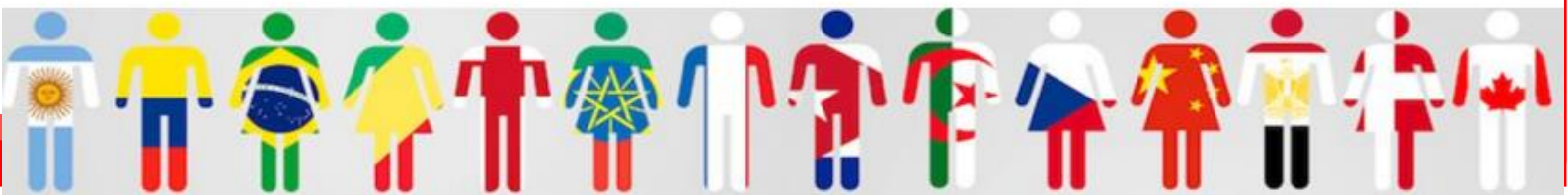
- **Should school days be shorter or longer?**
- **Is it better to have a pet or not?**
- **Should children have more or less screen time?**
- **Is it more fun to play indoors or outdoors?**

Encouraging your child to express their thoughts, justify their opinions, and **listen actively** will help them develop essential **communication skills**. Keep the debates light-hearted and **enjoyable**, and **praise their efforts in using English!**

Thank you for your continued support, and I hope you have a wonderful half-term break.

Best regards

Ms Ura



SCHOOL CLUBS



Languages Department

Our KS3 students are thriving in our MFL club, which meets after school on Wednesdays from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in T5 with Ms Shaw. Our aim is to explore languages, cultural ideas and activities, have fun with friends, and forge new friendships – full of (jelly) beans of course!

Mr. Orval welcomes you to:

STRINGS CLUB

bowed string instruments available

TUESDAYS
3:15-4PM
XA room

Love music? Want to learn how to play in a string ensemble? Strings Club is back! Join Mr Orval on **Tuesdays at 3:15pm** in the XA room. Several instruments (violin, viola, cello) are available for new/aspiring members. Contact your music teacher for further details.

D+T Club- KS3 DESIGNeers



If you love a challenge, enjoy solving problems and Designing and Making, consider joining our D&T team of DESIGNeers (designers and engineers). We would LOVE you to join us! Please see, or message **Mrs Stacey on Teams** and join us at **DESIGNeers Club** on a **Monday afterschool in A3**.

Welcome to Geography Club

Aims
1) To appreciate nature and its resources.
2) To create awareness of the environmental problems and adopt various measures to protect the earth.

Geography club meeting will be held every week after school on Friday, 3.30-4.00pm in T-15. Open to year 7 to year 11.

In these sessions we will have geography quizzes, competitions(wealth out of waste, poster competition), paper bag making, creating landform models (volcano, coastal landforms, riverine landforms and glacial landforms) and planting herbs.

Ham Radio Club

Most Fridays 15:15-16:15, at the top of the Tower Block,
An interesting club for everyone.
For any questions, please message Mr Allinson

Radio Society of Great Britain
Advancing amateur radio since 1913

YEAR 7 & YEAR 8 AFTERSCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:15PM TILL 4PM

Come along and see why Science is so cool!

Led by Mrs. Lionel & Ms. Jetwani

For more information please contact Mrs. Lionel

PE After School Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball
Afterschool	Year 7-9 Basketball JCO Rugby Girls and Boys HMC/THU Girls Football MJO Year 7+8 boys Football FWA	Netball- all year groups AAN MJO KBR Dance HST Basketball year 10, 11, 12 and 13 JCO	Year 9-11 boys Football THU Trampolining KBR		Fitness - all year groups