

14th November 2025



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Head Teachers Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

*Hope you are all safe and well. Link to the latest video is: <https://youtu.be/QRS3M0N5qMQ>
Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Josephs content.*

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton







Please follow the below link to see:

[Mr Ojakovoh playing 'The Last Post' for Remembrance Day](#)

Theme of the Week - 16th November 2025

Trust in the Lord



Weekly Reflections
16th November 2025
33rd week in Ordinary time



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 21: 5- 19

At that time: While some were speaking of the Temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, Jesus said, ‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.’ And they asked him, ‘Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?’ And he said, ‘See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, “I am he!” and, “The time is at hand!” Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.’

Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it, therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and sisters, and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.’

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK
Heavenly Father,

We ask for wisdom and the opportunities to be a witness for you.
Open our eyes, ears and heart. Transform us and make us new and overflowing with
love.
Amen.

Day 1

Can you list some examples Jesus gives in the Gospel of the terrors that the disciples will encounter?

Can you list some examples of conflict or struggles people face in the world today?

Day 2

Think about some journeys within your own life. What caused the upheavals and struggles?

What support was given to you so you could deal with these struggles?

Day 3

How can you be more Hopeful and Faith-filled when trusting in the Lord and carrying out his will?

Days of the week



Within our lives, we come across struggles and conflict. Whether this be ones we witness from afar or our own struggles with relationships with others, doubt or anxiety that may question ourselves, our values and even our faith. In the Gospel reading from Sunday, Jesus explain this to the disciples. There will be times where things will be told or done to you, which will be really scary. But in our struggle to deal with the pressures and difficulties of life we can draw on the promise of Jesus and experience His peace.

Day 1

Can you list some examples Jesus gives in the Gospel of the terrors that the disciples will encounter?

Can you list some examples of conflict or struggles people face in the world today?

Days of the week



Many times Jesus promises the gift of his peace to his faithful followers. This peace does not avoid challenge or conflict, or seek its own comfort, but responds to the demands of the gospel - endurance in faith and sharing the good news. Faith is a journey, and when we think about some journeys in our lives, simple ones like coming to and from school, or the journey or our own education to date, some days these journeys are simple without any challenges, however other days they can be quite the struggle. Can you reflect on some of the upheavals in your life? What are the things that have supported you through times of struggle and difficulty?

Day 2

Think about some journeys within your own life. What caused the upheavals and struggles?

What support was given to you so you deal with these struggles?

Days of the week



The gospel today calls us to a very specific response. In what ways have you begun to join in the building up of the Kingdom of God? And in doing so have you faced opposition over your faith? How can you be more **Hopeful** and **Faith-filled** when trusting in the Lord and carrying out his will?

Day 3

How can you be more **Hopeful** and **Faith-filled** when trusting in the Lord and carrying out his will?

Year 7 News

Year 7 have been doing very well this week, another well done to Veronica House who won the Musical Chairs House Competition last week. These week we had the Emoji Pictionary House Competition. Massive well done to the winners!

Have a lovely weekend all!

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

This week, Year 8 students continued to demonstrate excellent attitude to learning, receiving **95% positive points**. It is encouraging to see so many maintaining a positive attitude and strong engagement in their learning. Well done to all students for their focus, effort, and dedication throughout the week.

However, there has been a noticeable increase in negative points for lateness to school. I kindly ask parents and guardians to support students in ensuring they arrive on time each morning. Establishing consistent routines, such as preparing school bags the night before and allowing extra time for travel, can significantly reduce lateness and help students start their day calmly and ready to learn.

This week, we also held our **Emoji Pictionary House Competition**. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

If parents or guardians have not yet confirmed their attendance for **Year 8 Parents' Evening**, please do so via ParentPay at your earliest convenience. Please ensure appointments are scheduled promptly to secure preferred times and to take full advantage of the opportunity to meet with subject teachers.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining high standards and promoting positive learning habits across the year group.

Mrs Viegas - Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

Another fantastic week for Year 9 this week! Every member of Year 9 showing great application in lesson and this showed in a 95% positive point ratio across the board. Our main area of negatives coming from Homework.

Well done to Veronica house who won Musical Chairs house competition last week. Yesterday we had the Emoji Pictionary house competition.

Keep up the good work, look after your loved ones.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

Well done, Year 10; this week we achieved a **93% positive ratio**, a strong reflection of your focus and conduct.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our **Emoji Pictionary House competition**; brilliant creativity and team spirit on show.

As we head into and beyond **Friday's Careers Fair**, please keep the momentum going: follow up conversations, note contact details, and speak with tutors or our careers team about next steps (work experience ideas, subject choices, CVs).

Let's turn opportunities into action—great work, and keep it up.

Mr Whiteside - Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

Another fantastic week! Thank you for your continued effort and focus. Please remember to complete all homework on time to stay on track as we move closer to exams.

It was great to see so many of you and your families at the Sixth Form Open Evening. We hope you found it helpful in planning your next steps.

On Friday, we had the Careers Fair, and we hope you enjoyed exploring different opportunities and had lots of insightful conversations with employers and providers. These experiences are invaluable for shaping your future choices.

Please be reminded that after-school intervention sessions for English, Maths, and Science are now in place and attendance is mandatory for identified students. These sessions are designed to provide targeted support and help close any gaps in learning. It is essential that students attend every session to ensure progress and meet their academic targets.

Have a lovely weekend :)

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 11

Year 12 News

Another great week for year 12. I could not be prouder of all of the students for all their hard work and the commitment they are showing to their studies. It is also lovely to see so many of the students making such valuable contributions to the school community, be that helping out at various events or even giving up their free time to support students in other

year groups. Two of our values are being loving and compassionate and our students are truly living out these values in all they do.

To thank the students for their hard work we are taking them to Winter Wonderland on the 16th December. There is a cost of £19 to cover travel and entrance into the event, if your child wishes to attend could I please ask that you have paid for the trip via Parent Pay by Monday 17th November.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 12

Year 13 News

Year 13 have shown great dedication this week - not only towards their studies but also towards the wider life of the school community and we have all appreciated their support immensely.

A number of students have been involved in collecting charity donations for Jamaica, whilst others have enthusiastically led a series of lunchtime societies for year 7 students focusing on STEM subjects, Fashion and Cartooning. The Year 7s are having a great time and really appreciating all that our Year 13 students are doing for them! Additionally, some core members of our Student Leadership team were involved in speaking most eloquently at our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday as we begin recruiting for next year!

After school interventions continue to run for a number of subjects in preparation for their upcoming PPE mock examinations which will take place from 6th-23rd January. There have also been some important Criminology assessments taking place this week and we wish the students every success with them!

As a reward for all of their hard work, we will be running a trip to Winter Wonderland again this year which will take place on Thursday 18th November for Year 13. There is a cost of £19 to cover travel and entrance to the event; if your child is interested in attending (as we very much hope they will be!) please could you ensure that this is paid on ParentPay by Monday 17th November.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 13

Students of the Week

Year 7: Inigo Narvaez & Sienna-Rose Carroll for receiving the most positive points this week

Year 8: Nathan Daniels & Lillie Green for receiving the most positive points this week

Year 9: Sufyan Syed & Sophia D'Amaro for outstanding application in lessons

Year 10: Ben Bull & Bruno Valek for the most positive points this week.

Year 11: Alessia Celorico-Jones and Oliwer Wlodkowski for receiving the most positive points this week

Year 12: Michael Njau and Mia Ramananthan for working hard and making great progress across all subjects

Year 13: Johanna Nakasujja for excellent participation in electives and Warrick Passos-Wiggs for showing focus and determination in his studies

Reading and Progress Test Reports

Dear Parent and Guardians,

As part of our commitment to tracking student progress and supporting achievement, all students have recently completed a series of national assessments provided by **GL Assessment**. These assessments help us identify individual learning needs, target support, and inform the curriculum that we provide. They also provide a reliable national benchmark to monitor progress over time. The following tests took place:

- **Year 7** – English, Maths, Science Reading and Spelling,
- **Year 8** – English, Maths and Reading,
- **Year 9** – English, Maths and Reading,
- **Year 10, 11, 12 and 13** – Reading only,

Year 7 have recently been provided with a paper copy of their results and a report for English, Maths and Science. The results overview letter explains what scores they achieved, what the scores mean and a GCSE predictor for English, Maths and Science. They have also received a GCSE English Language prediction based on their Spelling and Reading tests. The predictions are worked out based on the historical data that GL has regarding students who have taken the test historically, the scores they got and what they went on to achieve at GCSE. This is a good indication of the current trajectory that your son or daughter is on and the report provides information as to how they can make even better progress.

The overview results letter has some information on how to improve reading and spelling because GL do not provide a report for parents, in the same way that they do for English, Maths and Science.

The overview letter provides information as to what the scores (out of 141) mean. If you would like an electronic copy, please do contact our main school office at office@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

Overview results letters and parent reports for Year 8 and 9 will be given to students over the coming weeks as well as a reading test result for KS4 and 5 students.

If a student has an N/A as a result, this means they did not sit the test but there will be another opportunity in the summer term.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at g.stack-clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk and of course your feedback is welcome.

Best wishes,

Mr G Stack-Clark

Year 11 Netball Tournament

A huge congratulations to our Year 11 girls' netball team! They played exceptionally well, winning 4 out of 5 games and showing fantastic teamwork and determination throughout the tournament. Highlights included impressive victories over St Bernard's, Herschel Grammar, Beechwood, and Baylis.



Year 8 Football Success

The Year 8 football team travelled to Piggott School last Friday for their third round of the National Cup. In a tough game, the St Joseph's squad maintained control throughout. The final score was a 3–2 win for St Joseph's. The next round of the National Schools Cup is against John Hampden Grammar School.

Goals from: Jacob F X2 & Dayen K-S



District Cross Country

A group of students took a short trip to Upton Court Park to compete in the district cross-country event. It was a strong performance from all involved, but a special shout-out goes to Chetachi for finishing 2nd in the Year 7 girls' race, and to the Year 10 & 11 girls' team for winning the overall team event.





Lost Property Alert!

Hey everyone! We've noticed lots of lost items popping up all over the school, and we want to help get them back to their owners. If you spot any lost property, please bring it to the school office — we'll keep it safe until its owner comes to claim it.

And if you've lost something, swing by the office and see if it's waiting for you! Parents, if your child accidentally brings home the wrong item, please remind them to drop it back at the office so we can return it to the right person.

Thanks for helping us keep our school community happy and organised!

Ski Trip Meeting 26th November

There will be a meeting for parents/carers and students on Wednesday 26th November from 5:45pm to 6:30pm to go through the key details from this year's trip.

Please come through the school office and sign in.

Sustainability Elective

Students in the Sustainability elective have been taking part in a letter-writing project with the Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care (SCCCC). SCCCC is a small charity dedicated to reducing loneliness and supporting older people through friendship, practical help, and community connection. Their mission is to ensure that everyone, especially the elderly, feels valued and cared for.

We were delighted to receive a letter back from one of the older participants, who shared how much joy and comfort our students' messages brought- This letter is attached.

This project links closely to the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)** and **Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10)**. It also reflects key principles of **Catholic Social Teaching**—upholding the dignity of every person, promoting solidarity across generations, and working for the common good. Through this small act of kindness, our students are helping to build a more compassionate and sustainable community.

Mrs Burby looks forward to connecting more to this charity in Sustainability Elective- if you would like to take part then please sign up to the elective!



4th November 2025

Dear Lauren,

We were thrilled to receive a second delivery of Pen Pal letters and cards from your students at St. Joseph's Catholic High School, following the donation of letters you made to SCCCC earlier this year.

The timing couldn't have been better actually! Just a few days before your post arrived, we received a letter of appreciation from one of the older people on our mailing list, in reply to a card made earlier this year by one of your students called Joel. Here's a little snippet:

*"Hello Joel, thank you for your letter with news of yourself and the lovely prayer, it was good to receive your post. I hope you and your family are well and I look forward to hearing from you again if you would like.
Best wishes from Della".*

Della's letter is a perfect illustration of the very real, positive difference your students are making to the people we support. We couldn't run our project without such acts of kindness, so a very big thank you from us to your class!

Regarding future engagement with the Pen Pal Scheme, please feel free to drop me an email or call me at the number below and we can have a chat about possible activities your students could get involved with.

Very best wishes,

Ben Webster

Good Neighbour Scheme Team Member

0114 250 5293 (Option 2)

ben@scccc.co.uk

Unit 11, President Buildings, Savile Street East, Sheffield, S4 7UQ
0114 250 5293 | www.scccc.co.uk
Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales
(1168077)



Geography Club

Members of the Geography Club watched a video exploring the growing problem of plastic pollution in our oceans and its devastating impact on marine life. The video sparked a thoughtful discussion, with students sharing creative ideas and practical solutions to help reduce plastic waste in their communities. Building on this learning, next week the group will put their ideas into action by creating colourful flowers from recycled plastic bottles — a fun and meaningful way to promote sustainability and raise awareness about protecting our planet.

Spreading Kindness Through Words: Sustainability Students Connect with Post Pals

This term, students in the Sustainability elective have taken their learning beyond the classroom by creating and writing heartfelt cards to children who are unwell, through the charity *Post Pals*. The activity invited students to reflect on how small acts of kindness can make a big difference — brightening someone's day while deepening their own understanding of compassion and community.

This initiative beautifully reflects **Catholic Social Teaching** values, particularly the principles of **Human Dignity, Solidarity**, and the **Call to Family and Community**. By reaching out to children facing illness, students recognised the inherent worth of every person and demonstrated care for those most in need.

The project also connects to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, especially **Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing** and **Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**, by promoting emotional wellbeing, empathy, and a culture of inclusion.

Through this simple yet powerful act, our Sustainability students have shown that living sustainably is not just about caring for the planet — it's also about nurturing the hearts of others and building a more compassionate world.



Competition Time Here at St Joseph's

Last week we started our St Joseph's House Competitions with our new student Heads of House.

We began with Wiktoria's Musical Statues and **Veronica** were the overall victors showcasing some interesting moves!

Yesterday we had our Emoji Competition with Adriel at the helm where the students had to guess Film Titles, Countries and Fast Food Chains this time **Cecila** came out on top.

Next Week it is Jason's turn with arm wrestling!

Looking forward to seeing you all there

Mrs Dunleavy







Dates for the diary

Upcoming PE events:

Wednesday 19th November- Yr 11 netball vs Beechwood (A)

Thursday 20th November - Sports hall athletics

I Can do Maths



Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- C Bertie travelled 5.5 m in 19.6 s, which is just less than one-third of a minute. So his average speed was approximately 16.5 m per minute, which is equal to 990 m in one hour, as $16.5 \times 60 = 990$. Now $990 \text{ m} = 0.99 \text{ km}$, so Bertie's approximate average speed was 1 km per hour.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- B The values of the five expressions are 5, 13, 25, 41 and 61 respectively. Of these, only 25 is non-prime.

Puzzler 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

Last year, Australian Suzy Walsham won the annual women's race up the 1576 steps of the Empire State Building in New York for a record fifth time. Her winning time was 11 minutes 57 seconds. Approximately how many steps did she climb per minute?

- A 13 B 20 C 80 D 100 E 130

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

Our Lady of Peace Church in Burnham Confirmation programme for 2026

**OUR LADY OF PEACE & ST. ANDREW'S
CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2026**

Registration is now open for our 2026 Confirmation Programme!


If your son or daughter is currently in **Year 8 or above** and you would like them to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation next year**, we warmly invite you to register them for this important stage of their faith journey.

To register, please use the QR code. Registration closes on 30th November 2025.


Once registration has closed, we will contact all registered families with further details about the programme, including preparation sessions and key dates.



Drop in Flu Clinic Poster



Information for
parents and carers



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Drop-in flu clinics


At Foundation House, Windsor SL4 4LE


We are holding drop-in clinics for your child's flu vaccination on the following dates:

- 18.11.25 14:30-16:30
- 27.11.25 14:30-16:00
- 5.12.25 12:00-16:00

If you haven't completed a consent form yet, you can complete one using the information sent by your child's school or complete one at the clinic with one of the team.

Goto the address below to share your views and ideas

 cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/feedback



Menu: To see the dinner choices and price list please click [HERE](#)

| WEEKLY MENU | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| St Josephs Catholic High School - Week One | | | | | |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | |
| Szechuan Chicken served with Rice | Minced Beef Enchilada | Chicken & Vegetable Pie served with New Potatoes | Spicy Beef Nachos served with Sour Cream & Cheese | Battered Fish served with Chips & a Lemon Wedge | |
| Cauliflower Cheese Stuffed Jacket Potato | Mixed Bean Stroganoff served with Rice | Quorn Bolognaise served with Pasta | Quorn Sausage & Mash served with Caramelised Onion Gravy | Mediterranean Vegetable & Feta Frittata | |
| 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 Tomato & Basil Sauce | Pesto Pasta | Pasta with Garlic & Parmesan | Pasta with a Cheese Sauce | - | |
| Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings | - | |
| Apple & Cherry Crumble served with Custard | Iced Lemon Cake | Iced Carrot Cake | Chocolate Chip Flapjack | Rice Crispy Cake | |

Supplies, Sandwiches, Eggs & Waffles

Home/Cold Drinks & Fresh Fruit

Salted But

HARRISON

food with thought

Clubs



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 Allison








Radio Society of Great Britain
Advancing amateur radio since 1913



The first Geography Club meeting will be held on Friday, 3rd October 2025 in T-15 at 3:20 - 4:00 p.m.

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 meetings will be held every week after school on Fridays, 3.20-4.00pm. Open to year 7 to year 9.

In these sessions we will have geography quizzes, competitions (Wealth out of Waste, poster competition), paper bag making, creating coastal landform models and planting herbs.



HASTA LUEGO!

esperando VOCE



LANGUAGE CLUB



ANYWHERE



A bientôt

HANGONG BA MULI

Halo, Bonjour, Cześć to all you keen Year 7 & 8 linguists! Come and join us on Tuesdays 3.20pm to 4.40 p.m in T5. (NB: my apologies no club on 11.11.25 / Remembrance Day)
Get ahead with your extra-curricular house points.
Try out something different & have fun with friends.
Tasty treats will keep you full of beans after school!
How many ways can you say "See you soon" in our array of beautiful languages worldwide? Is there someone in your class who knows how to pronounce our suggestions?

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lunch 1 | Badminton and Basketball | Basketball and table tennis | Badminton and Table tennis | Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only) | Basketball and Volleyball |
| Lunch 2 | Badminton and Basketball | Basketball and table tennis | Badminton and Table tennis | Badminton and Basketball | Basketball and Volleyball |
| Afterschool | Netball Year 7-13 AAN and MJO Football Year 7+8 boys FWA Volleyball/ Badminton Year 7-13 JRO Trampoline KBR Year 7-13 | Basketball Year 7-13 JCO Fitness Year 7-13 THU | Trampoline KBR Year 7-13 Badminton Year 7-13 AAN Football Year 9-13 THU, JCO Girls Football Year 7-13 MJO Dance Year 7-13 Creative Dance academy. | | |

Term Dates

Term Dates

School Year 2025 - 2026

| Autumn Term | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inset Day | Monday 1 st September 2025 |
| Inset Day | Tuesday 2 nd September 2025 |
| Year 7 + 12 | Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 |
| Whole school returns | Thursday 4 th September 2025 |
| Inset Day | Friday 19 th September 2025 |
| Half Term | Monday 20 th October 2025 to Friday 31 st October 2025 |
| Term Ends | Friday 19 th December 2025 (12:30pm finish) |
| Spring Term | |
| Term Begins | Monday 5 th January 2026 |
| Half Term | Monday 16 th February 2026 to Friday 20 th February 2026 |
| Term Ends | Friday 27 th March 2026 (12:30pm finish) |
| Summer Term | |
| Inset Day | Monday 13 th April 2026 |
| Term Begins | Tuesday 14 th April 2026 |
| Half Term | Monday 25 th May 2026 to Friday 29 th May 2026 |
| Term Ends | Friday 17 th July 2026 (12:30pm finish) |