

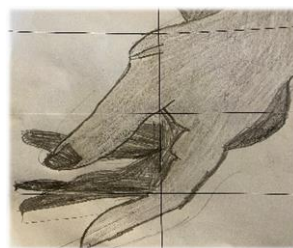
Friday 16th October 2020



YEAR 13 OXBRIDGE PREPARATION
VIRTUAL SEMINAR WITH JOE ORGAN
FROM BRASENOSE COLLEGE



YEAR 9 STUDENTS PAINTING
WITH ACRYLICS



ART WORK BY MATTHEW
KOSIBA – YEAR 8

ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER JAY
CRAWFORD FROM FIX UP VISITED
OUR YEAR 11 STUDENTS ON
TUESDAY

From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you again for the quite incredible support you've shown the staff here at the school. We honestly couldn't do it without your support. In a term where most schools talked of simply surviving I honestly feel we've moved forward despite all the external reasons why we shouldn't. The students of Years 11-13 have simply been amazing at the end of this term in their exams, both those in school in the hall and those who had the added difficulty of having to start them via Post Office

'Unlocking Belief in All'

delivery service. We've understood through your communication that many of the papers arrived later than we desired (and there's still a few yet to reach you), please do simply return the completed papers as soon as you can. Our new Year 7 have bedded in well, become fully immersed into what it is to be a part of this school community and have proven to be a year to watch for the future in the best possible sense. Thank you for all of your communication over this term – we understand this hasn't been easy when family members haven't been well and where there's been occasion for great anxiety in families at home – we take and talk of the inspiration we gain here from you. Finally, a very long and overdue thank you to our Local Academy Committee Members (perhaps better known as our local Governors) who have done a fantastic job in ensuring the school has been safe to open for all staff and students and been 100% behind driving forward the standards we now wish all the children here to experience and benefit from.

When we return

The Autumn Series of Exams will be in progress. We've only a handful of students involved but we'd like them to know we're wishing them all the best in their preparations over the half term.

What if.....

The Prime Minister makes the decision we're extending half term for 2 weeks over the half term? If that happens – we'll finish our half term first as normal. Then, in the event that it overlaps into the time we would have returned to school we'll go live teaching on Microsoft teams until we return. Your son/daughter can access their account via their email address. We'll teach according to the regular timetable set down in school from 8.30am – 3pm. Needless to say, we'll confirm all of this via email and *Schoolcomms* (text message) and the school website.

Advanced notice

Next half term we have a number of significant events coming up.

PPE (mock) Results morning: This is the morning where we release the results of the PPE exams to the students, in the Hall as if it was the real results. We've pushed this back a week to 10th November for Year 11 and Year 13 to allow for later returns of exams that have been posted for their return and the inevitable 72 hour quarantine rules before teachers are allowed to mark them after they arrived.

Year 11 Parents' Evening 10th December and Year 12 Parents' Evening 26th November:

We suggesting that this will take place over Microsoft Teams. Your son/daughter will sign up to time slots with their subject tutor/form tutor etc who will then call you on your child's email address through Microsoft teams account. It's our expectation that all parents should be involved in discussions around the children's progress. We trial led this over the summer lockdown and it worked surprisingly well for other year groups. I should say at this point that given the time schedule, we'll have to keep to time slots available – please don't be offended by hard stops so that others won't be left waiting.

Sixth Form Open Evening (Scheduled for 12th November) will be a virtual event (as will all the Sixth Forms in Slough this year). The second part of the virtual Open Evening will be posted on the website today and will include the Sixth Form.

Year 11-12 Taster day 24th November will take place. On this day the Year 12&13 take a study day break (the subject tutors load them up with work) and Year 11 come in to study for a number of

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lessons available to study in the Sixth Form in Business Dress Code. We're planning on this still taking place as normal.

School Christmas Festival of Carols: Is most likely to be a virtual affair this year. We'll start filming early in anticipation of this being the case – particularly with the current strong restrictions around music and singing.

Christmas Dinner Day – possibly one of the best days in the Autumn term will pose a number of logistical problems for us. However, suffice to say at this stage that, we're determined it'll still go ahead – we're working through all the permutations at the moment.

Have a great weekend and a great rest over the half term.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

Theme of the Week – All Saints

During the Feast of All Saints, we remember those men and women who have lived heroic Gospel-inspired lives and have been recognised by the Church. This feast reminds us of our ultimate goal: to be with God. We can replicate the behaviour of these Saints by examining *The Beatitudes*.

This week's Gospel reading is taken from the *Sermon on the Mount*. The list is known as '*The Beatitudes*'. If we split this word into two parts, Jesus is effectively telling us about the "**attitudes** that we should **be**". The underlying sentiment is that even if we suffer now and embody humility, we will be rewarded in heaven.

This is demonstrated well in Roald Dahl's classic novel, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Charlie's family have such a capacity for sharing, and the bond between Charlie and his grandparents is particularly strong. He is as **willing to sacrifice things** for his grandparents as they are for him. They are reliant upon one another because they have very little. However, **their mutual dependence is a catalyst for love and generosity**. They find joy in their relationships, even if they don't know where their next meal is coming from. Charlie enters the factory with four children who are rather selfish and self-centred. Charlie remains humble and is eventually rewarded when Willy Wonka gives him the factory.

Perhaps it is true that those in material poverty – like Charlie's family and the far too many people in our world who are denied the basics of life – show a stronger sense of being "poor in spirit". They exhibit that total dependence on God because they have very little else to rely on. And God will reward their dependence by giving them the kingdom of heaven.

Charlie manages to **create an atmosphere of selflessness and humility**. These are attractive qualities that the Saints embodied throughout their lives.

Choose one of the beatitudes and seek to live it out this week.

Seek to be humble, seek to be pure, seek to be merciful. In order to find true blessing, we must seek Jesus and his ways.

'Unlocking Belief in All'

Geography News

We have had many exciting lessons in Geography this week. 8C have been learning about the formation of headlands and bays, and headland erosion (cracks, caves, arch, stack, stump). To support their studies, Miss WD had students making headland landforms out of play-doh- we had some excellent creativity from some of the students! Coastal studies are an important strand of Geography learning, which students recall and build upon in each key stage from 3-5. So it is amazing to see students grasp these concepts so early on!

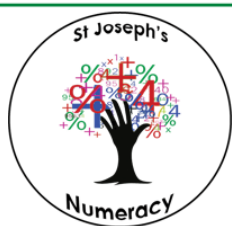
In Year 12 students have been planning group proposals for the 'Earth Shot' Prize. The Earthshot Prize is the most ambitious and prestigious of its kind – designed to incentivise change and help to repair our planet over the next ten years.

Taking inspiration from President John F. Kennedy's Moonshot which united millions of people around an organising goal to put man on the moon and catalysed the development of new technology in the 1960s, The Earthshot Prize is centred around five 'Earthshots' – simple but ambitious goals for our planet which, if achieved by 2030, will improve life for us all, for generations to come. Prince William, who is an ambassador for this initiative, has said: "The Earth is at a tipping point and we face a stark choice: either we continue as we are and irreparably damage our planet, or we remember our unique power as human beings and our continual ability to lead, innovate and problem-solve. People can achieve great things. The next ten years present us with one of our greatest tests – a decade of action to repair the Earth."

Through students improving skills of communication and group work, we hope that we can create some solutions to our ongoing climate and global crisis. We also encourage other students to have a look at this at home and create independent solutions during the half term break. More information can be found here: <https://earthshotprize.org/> #StayExcellent

Miss Boland





#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

$$(2x + 3y - 20) + (4x + 5y - 72) = 6x + 8y - 92$$

and

$$(5x - 2y + 38) + (x - 4y + 108) = 6x - 6y + 146$$

These two results must both equal the same value.

And since $6x$ is in both expressions, contributing the same to each expression whatever its actual value, $8y - 92$ must match $146 - 6y$

from which it follows that $14y = 238$ with $y = 17$

x can then be found with a similar approach :

$$(2x + 3y - 20) + (5x - 2y + 38) = 7x + y + 18$$

$$(4x + 5y - 72) + (x - 4y + 108) = 5x + y + 36$$

And since $7x + y + 18$ matches the value of $5x + y + 36$, x must be 9

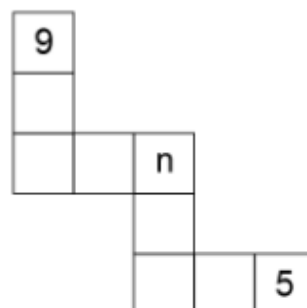
Solution to the Break time Teaser:

B The required fraction is $\frac{26}{206} = \frac{13}{103} \approx \frac{13}{104} = \frac{1}{8}$.

Congratulations to: Piotr Basinski (8T), Izan IT (8M), Nicola Szuba (8V) and Franciszek Hermanowski (7P). For correct answers.

Problem of the week

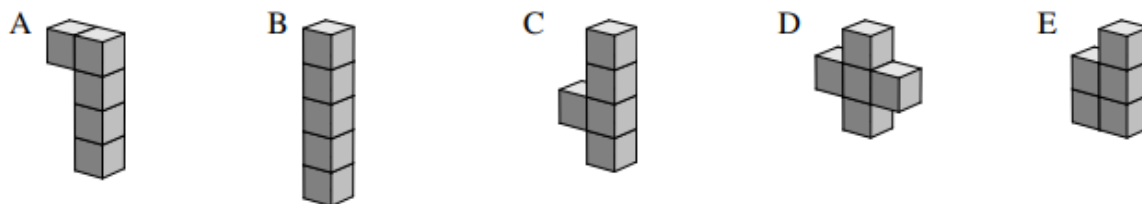
The digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 are to be written in the squares so that every row and every column of three squares has a total of 13. Two numbers have already been entered. What is the value of n ?



Break time Teaser:

Each of the five shapes shown below is made from five unit cubes.

Which has the smallest surface area?



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

Year 7 Half Term News

Well what a great first half term we have had as a year group. It has been a real pleasure getting to know you all. It has been great seeing your progress in lessons from grid referencing in Geography, The Pied Piper in Drama, learning about cells and body systems in Science and many more fabulous things. I have enjoyed seeing you on the playground at lunchtime, watching you play table tennis and watching Miss Araf compete with Jakub at Connect 4. Thank you to all my eco warriors who have been litter picking at lunchtime. A big shout out to those who came to support the Year 10/11 football match this evening.

Well done to all Year 7 pupils who have maintained 100% attendance, 76 pupils! Also, well done to 7 Veronica who have the highest tutor group attendance – 97.06%.

Epraise Leaderboard

Top students

1. Alexander Homot (7 Mark) (405)
2. Natalia Kozluk (7 Mark) (205)
3. Jack Green (7 Mark) (201)
4. Kieran Mugume (7 Mark) (196)
5. Oliver Mahoney (7 Mark) (191)
6. Matilda Kemp (7 Mark) (190)
7. Darragh O'Connor (7 Teresa) (175)
7. Nathan James (7 Teresa) (175)
9. Vince Lacsamana (7 Veronica) (170)
10. Tydus Chetty (7 Mark) (164)

Tutor groups

1. 7 Mark (3481)
2. 7 Teresa (2859)
3. 7 Veronica (2508)
4. 7 Cecilia (2226)
5. 7 Jerome (2107)
6. 7 Peter (2089)

Finally I wish everyone a happy and holy half term.

Mrs Dunleavy

Year 8 Half Term News

Dear Year 8,

HAPPY HALF TERM!

You made it to the first half term of this academic year. I am so incredibly proud of the resilience you have all shown in your return to school, given what is going on in the world. Considering you did not have your full Year 7 year at St Joseph's, you have come back and set an incredibly high standard to the new Year 7s. You wear your uniform with pride, you are polite and courteous, kind and caring, and never fail to fill mine and your tutor's days with happiness.

We've had some great success this half term, with the launch of the Everest League! 8 Teresa are leading the way for the fourth week in a row, but they are not difficult to catch. Their success has been down to the consistency of them all having their planner signed and a reading book with them; minimal detentions; fantastic attendance and classroom culture; and a strong following of the non-negotiables. Well done 8 Teresa you have all contributed to this lead.

Other success in the year group goes to our pupils who have been nominated for student of the week for the past 7 weeks, these include: Jayden B (8M), Daniel R (8M), Alessandra P (8J), Jakub R (8P), Wiktoria T (8T), Barbara S (8T), Dawid D (8V), Cayden R (8J), Liam R (8V), Bernard N (8P), Adrian W (8M), Adrian K (8T), Serfine O (8M). Well done to you all - keep up the fantastic work.

Our motto in Year 8 this year is "soaring to success", with the vision that in being **loving** and **active** the Year 8 students will soar to success ahead of picking their GCSEs towards the end of the year. I am looking forward to reading through all your academic reports to see how we have begun our ascent to the top, and how we can continue our journey next half term.

Below are some photographs of all the fantastic things you have been up to in school.

I am wishing you all a well-rested, happy and loving half term this Autumn.

Love always,

Miss G. Wellesley-Davies



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Year 9 Half Term News

Hello Year 9! What an amazing start we have had to our GCSEs in this first half term. The amount of positive feedback I have received about all of you is incredible. Every week it is so hard for me to pick just two 'students of the week', as there are so many of you doing amazing things. There have been a lot of changes to our normal school routine this year and you have dealt with them with such maturity. I am so proud of you all.

Please have a restful and safe half term. Read a book, get some exercise and spend some time with family and friends. Please ensure you are also completing any homework and using Microsoft teams to catch up work you may have missed this half term.

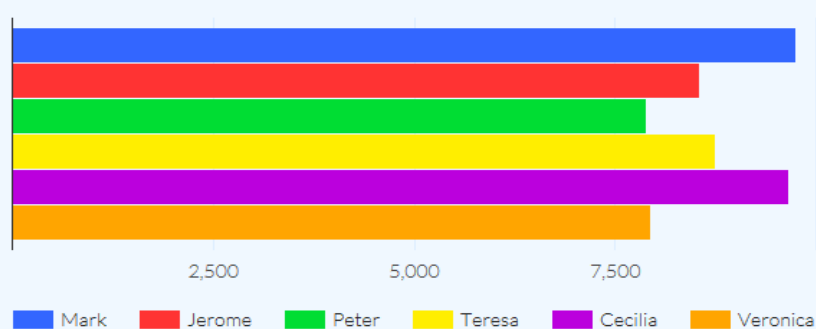
I'm really looking forward to seeing you all after the break for another brilliant half term. If there's anything you need from me, please feel free to contact me via email or Microsoft teams.

Best regards,

Mr Robinson



House points



Top students

1. Camron Carty (9 Mark) (134)
1. Patrycja Artemska (9 Cecilia) (134)
3. Leah Walls (9 Peter) (133)
4. David Najdo (9 Cecilia) (130)
5. Michael McMahon (9 Cecilia) (110)
6. Laura Wilkanowska (9 Peter) (105)
7. Nicola Lawicka (9 Cecilia) (103)
7. Daniel Rada (9 Teresa) (103)
9. Saskia Adams (9 Teresa) (98)
10. Shiman Singh (9 Mark) (95)

This week

1. Saskia Adams (9 Teresa) (61)
2. Daniel Rada (9 Teresa) (56)
3. Patrycja Artemska (9 Cecilia) (47)
4. Liam Paes (9 Cecilia) (42)
5. David Najdo (9 Cecilia) (34)
6. Padraig Vaughan (9 Cecilia) (25)
7. Nicola Lawicka (9 Cecilia) (23)
7. Kewin Mikos (9 Cecilia) (23)
9. Jasmine Fernandez (9 Mark) (21)
9. Charlene Daguplo (9 Teresa) (21)

Tutor groups

1. 9 Cecilia (2198)
2. 9 Mark (1914)
3. 9 Jerome (1572)
4. 9 Teresa (1450)
5. 9 Peter (1427)
6. 9 Veronica (1113)

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Year 10 Half Term News

It has been another great week for Year 10 with some amazing results in their end of term assessments.

The latest data came out this week and over 80% of the year group scored really positive attitude to learning scores with an average of over 3.

Congratulations to our highest achieving students below:

Victoria Sobala
Michelle Arzoo
Sheryl Fernandes
Tilly Harcup
Maria Jakubowska
Matylda Labuz
Clinton Njoku
Danica Amon
Christopher Boyle
Emerald Cardoso
Janetta Czajkowska
Aiden Daliling
Eugenia Fernanes
Mary Koroma
Daisy Loft
Lorraine Ofori
Alana Shiel
Zuzanna Slomczewska
Isabel Stachura

Epraise:

I would also like to congratulate the top 10 epraise students:

Top students

1. Olivier Lydzinski (10 Peter) (139)
2. Matteo Ramsay-Scuderi (10 Jerome) (121)
3. Michelle Arzoo (10 Peter) (113)
4. Daisy Loft (10 Teresa) (111)
5. Jakub Olszanski (10 Cecilia) (95)
6. Maddie Woodley (10 Peter) (84)
7. Oliver Radomyski (10 Teresa) (83)
8. Alfie Mewett (10 Mark) (81)
9. Rafal Konieczny (10 Mark) (78)
9. Daniel Keys (10 Mark) (78)

Tutor groups

1. 10 Jerome (1459)
2. 10 Peter (1254)
3. 10 Teresa (1164)
4. 10 Cecilia (1036)
5. 10 Veronic (910)
6. 10 Mark (820)

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Attendance: in Year 10 we have 88 students who have achieved 100% attendance this term and another 28 students with attendance of above 95%, well done to all of you. It's so important to maintain an attendance of over 95% to ensure you give yourself the best chance possible of achieving your target grades by the end of the year and give you the best outcomes for the end of Year 11 GCSE exams.

Make sure you use the next 2 weeks to spend some quality time with your family and to help out at home where you can; to relax and replenish your energy levels and to catch up on any work missed by accessing this term's lessons on Teams. It's a long break so it really is worth keeping on top of your academic work by going over the topics covered this term in the subjects where you feel you have may not achieved as well as you wanted.

Have a great break and I will see you all on Monday 2nd November ready for another successful half term.

Miss Cheston

Year 11 Half Term News

Dear Year 11,

Firstly, I want to say thank you to you all. The way you have all conducted yourself over this half term, especially in the last two weeks, has made me very happy. You have shown a maturity beyond what I have expected, and long may it continue. We have had our challenges this half term, both in and out of the classroom, but as always, we have grown from them.

I ask all of you to rest during the first week of half term to recharge the batteries and I challenge you all to pick up a book and read. During the second week, ensure you are starting to get back into the habits of learning and revising. Remember what Jay Crawford told us: "Do the hard things now, and the rest of your life will be easier".

Next half term will bring interventions and it will bring new content in lessons. It will bring a whole load of new challenges that we won't expect, but we will be ready to face them head on. Year 11, this year already I am very proud of you. Enjoy your break, and I'll see you all in two weeks!

Mr Oakley

Sixth Form Half Term News

It has been an extremely positive term for both Year 12 and 13. As I was saying earlier this week in Monday's assembly, it is one that has made me extremely proud to be their Head of Sixth Form. So many members of staff have commented on their maturity and positive 'can-do' attitude, particularly in working to catch up on the disruption caused to their education this year. They have not let their mindset be challenged by the impact of the pandemic and are continuing to work hard and expand their horizons. We have had students applying to the prestigious Sutton Trust Pathways Programme, the Aspiring Professionals Programme, eight early applications to courses such as Medicine, Dentistry and Oxbridge as well as the outstanding quality of applicants for the Head Boy

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and Head Girl positions. I know that students have worked incredibly hard in their preparation for their PPEs and they now have a well-deserved rest. Have a great half term.

Mr Clark

UCAS update for Year 13 – currently, the summer exam series will start on 7 June 2021 and end on 2 July for almost all AS/A-levels and GCSEs. Vocational and technical qualifications will also be moved back. Also, A-Level results day will be 24 August 2021 – in short most exams are currently set to go ahead but later in the term so that we have more time to ensure the impact of lockdown is mitigated. Therefore, I believe our students should continue to be bold in aspiration when it comes to choosing their university courses. To help them with this, UCAS have produced the following resource:

Helping students pick their five choices - to support our students' decision making, UCAS have brought together experts for their new '**UCAS futures in...**' series of virtual exhibitions. **Go to the following link for dates & times and to book your place:**

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and-digital/type/scheme/virtual-and-digital/type/exhibition>

These virtual exhibitions are opportunities for students to speak to universities and colleges, and to get dedicated personal statement advice.

UCAS say there have been no substantial rise in deferrals from last year's Year 13 cohort to this year, which could have limited spaces. Further, many universities are planning to raise their capacity. In addition, our school is in a very good place whereby we have limited disruption by online learning/catch up sessions and so I urge our students to continue to aim high.

Super Curricular Reading Sixth Form – in form time each Tuesday, students are given time to read something that will extend their learning and boost their vocabulary set. This should be a book from the reading list, a novel or an academic style magazine linked to their courses. There are some students who are regularly not bringing books to this session, could I ask that they do so. We have bought books for students who receive the bursary and we are able to do so for all of those that receive it.

Sixth Form Uniform – in order to prepare students for the world of work, we ask that students in the sixth form dress smartly. Could I ask that all sixth form students have a blazer and that jumpers are of a smart, office-style nature (i.e. not think knit, roll necks or overly baggy). This is an example below of what we consider to be uniform. Thank you for your continued support in these matters.



'Unlocking Belief in All'

Science News

Young Scientists of the Term

Wiktoria Rygielski (7C), Gabriel Konarski (7C) and Gabriela Majewska (7T) for their enthusiasm in building a 3D model of a cell.

Music Department News

Music Super Stars

Following lockdown, I think many students were concerned about how their music lessons would continue with all the government guidelines to follow in school. Thankfully, our St Joseph's music students have been incredibly attentive and considerate of using equipment, caring and cleaning the equipment and keeping all of our music bubbles safe. I am so very proud of them and wanted to offer all of them congratulations for displaying so many pupil profile characteristics during this time.

I want to give a special shout out to the following students for their consistent and outstanding contribution to their music lessons.

Year 7: Luca Mays, Tydus Chetty, Matilda Kemp, Albie Galloway, Rosa Bavington, Sara Piasecka, Maisie Hayman, Esinam Deynnoo, Siobhan O'Connor, Kye Simpson, Anthony Omale, Keya Patelia.

Year 8: Gianina Lica, Adrian Jurys, Bartek Wojtala, Elise Johannes-Williams, Aldrick Castillo, Oskar Belniak, Lauren Purcell, Mary Tanner, Amelka Zak, Hannah-Marie Anaya, Paige Lomas, Ethan Fernandes

Year 9: Leah Walls, Edina Vinojan

Year 10: Matteo Ramsay-Scuderi, Jakub Brukalo.

Year 11: Adrian Fernandes, Cinera Mathew

Year 12: Clarence Aligaen, Azariah Thomas, Ginaluca Piscopo-Evans

Year 13: Rachel Xavier, Meleeona Fernandes, Callum Brennan, Daniela Tobongbanua

Instrumental Lessons

One-to-one instrumental lessons are provided by the Slough Music Service. If your child would like to take lessons in an instrument, please complete the online application form from their website: <https://www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk/For-Pupils/Lessons-in-School>

Lessons usually take place during the school day or afterschool.

Help with Uniform and Equipment

If you would benefit from financial help with buying uniform and equipment and funding for trips, the quickest way to receive funding for a child is by applying for school meals. If a student is eligible for FSM they will receive Pupil Premium funding for 6 years. The process is really efficient and eligible pupils will be able to receive support within a few days.

You can check your eligibility funding here:

<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

Or apply straight through Slough:

https://slough-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_school_meals

Please get in touch if you have any questions:

a.stockings@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Anna Stockings

Half Term Activities

We are so lucky to have a two week half term - but it feels like an endless amount of time to fill for young energetic teenagers!

Please see the attached document for details of events running throughout the holiday, and some activities to try at home.

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7

Connie Oakes and Darragh O'Connor for helping Mrs Dunleavy with her staff presentation.

Year 8

Adrian Wrobel and Adrian Konstantyn for a consistently fantastic start to the school year and Serfine Ogosa for excellence and commitment in Art.

Year 9

Megan Fullam and Pamela Lopez for amazing work in Food Technology this half-term.

Year 10

Victoria Sobala and Michelle Arzoo for their hard work and positive attitude to learning this term-scoring the highest ATL scores in the latest data collection.

Year 11

Jayden Salkey for an excellent attitude towards his studies throughout the week and Flora Ezeoke for consistently displaying the values of a St Joseph's pupil.

Year 12

Thomas Armstrong – for a consistently mature, polite and professional attitude and manner.

Jarek Homot – for big improvements in punctuality and attendance.

Year 13

Chris Zabski for showing a big improvement in his ATL in class over the last week and Karolina Cal for an outstanding UCAS Application especially the personal statement.