

## St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 17th October 2025



Many thanks to 11V for their highly engaging assembly based on faith. They beautifully delivered and explained Luke chapter 17, verses 5 to 10. At the end of the assembly, 11V set each year 11 group the challenge of growing their own Mulberry tree as a symbol of their ever growing and consistent faith. Each form group must work together as a team to nurture and care for their tree, just as they nurture and care for each other. They delivered seeds, compost and flowerpots to each form and we are now all set to watch these seeds grow and flourish.

## **Head Teacher Message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well. Link to the latest video is:

https://youtu.be/k7NsiHrQnBo

Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Josephs content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

## Steadfast in Spirit

Weekly Reflections 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time





## From the Gospel of Luke (10:38-42)

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, "Give me justice against my adversary." For a while he refused, but afterwards he said to himself, "Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming."

And the Lord said, 'Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

## Prayer for the Week

Let us be still and ask the Holy Spirit to be with us.

Dear Father, be with us as we pray. Open our ears to hear your Word in the Gospel. Unite us in faith, hope and love as we pray together. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire and sustain us in our mission.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Reflection on the Gospel from Sunday:

For a lot of us, especially when we think of our own education, there have been times where things didn't go as we would have wanted and we may have given up. Whether that be not being selected for a team, being upset because we have fallen out with our friends, or not doing as we had hoped in our exams. I think this last point is quite poignant at the moment for all those in Slough who may not have done as they had hoped in their 11+. Unfortunately, many of us may have also questioned God as to why he let this happen to us. The parable given by Jesus in the Gospel on Sunday tells us not to give up, especially when we pray. Our prayers are always listened to by God, and in God we should trust and we can continue to do this through prayer. Jesus uses a widow within this parable, and for this time a women widow would have been quite alone. Women would not have had the same right or status as men, so to use a widow, Jesus implies that justice and the seeking and fulfilment of justice may have been near impossible for her. Refusal to give in to discouragement in the face of difficulties and disappointments is an aspect of discipline in our lives, and the widow's persistence becomes a model of resoluteness for God's chosen ones who have to wait on God's timing. God will answer in God's time, and we are being asked to trust in God's concern for us.

Prayer is a regular part of the church's life and should be a regular part of our own life! Over the course of this half term, make some time for prayer. Pray silently to God, listen to Him as He listens to you. Look at using Lectio Divina too so through prayer, as you speak to God, He too can speak to you.

#### **Year 7 News**

Year 7 have completed their first half term here at St Joseph's, they have done extremely well. They have picked up over 8,000 positive points, which means an average of 50 Positive Points per student, which is incredible! They also have the lowest number of X's in the whole school, which is also an incredible result!

We also had our first awards assembly where lots of students picked up awards!

Have a lovely half term and look forward to welcome students back on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

#### **Year 7 Student of the Week**

Ayden Ricalde & Natalie Andrew for excellent weeks!

#### **Year 8 News**

Well done to all students for their continued hard work and positive attitude this week, with a total of **912 positive points awarded**. It has been encouraging to see so many demonstrating focus, effort, and commitment across their lessons.

However, there has been an increase in homework-related negative points, with 33% of Year 8 students having missed or incomplete tasks. I strongly encourage all students to use the upcoming half term break to catch up on any outstanding homework and ensure they are fully up to date in all subjects. Please also take this time to check that all equipment is organised and ready for the next term. Replacing any missing items now will help set the tone for a well-prepared and successful start to the new term. Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in maintaining high standards and fostering a positive learning culture.

Well done to all the year 8's your hard work and resilience doesn't go unnoticed.

Wishing all students and families a restful half term, and we look forward to welcoming all students back refreshed and ready to learn.

Mrs Viegas - Head of Year 8

#### **Year 8 Student of the week:**

Jasmine Singh and Ben Bojarski for receiving the most positive points this week.

#### Year 9 News

A fantastic week this week with far fewer XH's. Yesterday we had our end of half term rewards assembly celebrating all the success in the year. Well done to everyone who received a certificate in that assembly.

Yesterday I went to the Hairspray performance yesterday, well done to all students involved it was fantastic and an extra shout out to all the Year 9 students.

Have a restful half term, complete your half term homework, look after your loved ones.

Have a great weekend, look after your loved ones.

Mr Hunt - Head of Year 9

#### **Year 9 Students of the Week**

Julia Dulak and Victor Widawski

#### **Year 10 News**

What a half term, Year 10. We've passed 5,000 positive points with a 92% positive-to-X ratio—a brilliant reflection of your effort, conduct and consistency in lessons and around school.

Well done to everyone who received certificates in our Rewards Assembly; your hard work is being noticed. A huge shout-out to all involved in this week's production of Hairspray—especially our Year 10 cast and crew—for the energy, professionalism and teamwork you brought to the stage.

Over the break, please check ClassCharts for homework, and use the time to restock equipment and uniform so you're ready for a strong start next half term. Have a fantastic two-week rest—see you in November!

Mr Whiteside - Head of Year 10

### **Year 10 Students of the Week**

Ben Bull and Kevin Kaszubski

### **Year 11 News**

What a fantastic way to wrap up the half term! On Tuesday, we came together for the Year 11 Celebration Assembly, where we proudly recognised students for their outstanding attainment and exemplary attitude to learning across all subjects.

A huge congratulations to everyone who received awards.

As we head into a well-deserved two-week half term break, take this opportunity to:

- Rest your mind and body
- Recuperate from the busy term
- Revise

You've conducted yourselves with maturity, focus, and resilience this half term. Let's carry that same momentum into the next one!

Enjoy your half term; you've earned it!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 11

### **Year 11 Students of the week**

Patrick Lopez and Abigail Samar for receiving the most positive points this week

#### **Year 12 News**

The Year 12 students have settled into 6<sup>th</sup> Form life well this half term. It has been lovely to hear from their subject teachers that so many of them are producing excellent work both inside and outside of class. It is really important that the students get off to a good start in this first term and they have certainly made every effort to do so.

With the half-term break now on the horizon I would just like to take this opportunity to put out a few reminders to ensure that next half term starts as well as this one did. We do have a uniform policy in the 6<sup>th</sup> form that is there to ensure students are professionally dressed at all times. The policy includes not having skirts that are too short, blazers should be worn at all times and no polo shirts are allowed at all. Please could I ask that you and your child make sure that when they return their uniform is correct from day one.

Just one more reminder about absence reporting. If your child cannot make it into school due to illness it is really important that a parent/carer makes, contact with the school first thing in the morning via class charts. We want to make sure your child is safe so it is important that absence is communicated with us.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 12

#### **Year 12 Students of the Week**

Michelle Njau for excellent work in Travel and Tourism and Yurand Kwiatkowski for great work in English Language

#### **Year 13 News**

Early Entry UCAS applications for Medicine and Oxbridge are now complete. In support of this two members from an admissions team at Oxford University came to school on Monday to give our Year 13 scholars who have applied to Oxbridge some valuable advice on interview technique.

Class assessments for this half term have now been completed and data is being used to formulate CWA grades for reports which will be sent out over the next few days. In addition to this, a number of Year 13 students attended the TVLP Leadership Conference on Wednesday which gave them the opportunity to network with students in other schools in the local area and develop their skills by pitching to industry professionals in support of their chosen charity.

A big thank you is also extended to those Year 13 students who helped behind the scenes with our school musical 'Hairspray' this week. Your service to the school community is much appreciated!

Miss Stevens - Head of Year 13

#### **Year 13 Students of the Week**

This week I nominate Megan Connolly for improved focus on her studies and being Active and Curious, particularly in Business Studies. I also nominate Alex Zabski for general academic improvement this half term.

## **History News**

The month of October marks Black History Month in the UK. To celebrate Black History, students have been asked to create a poster or fact-file based on an individual in black history. This is currently being displayed in the History Department. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this celebration!

In History Elective this week, students were learning about the origins of Halloween and "The Day of the Dead" or *El Díá de los Muertos* festival. In preparation for these festivals, students created calaveras and Jack-olanterns. A big well done to all of our students for their enthusiasm and works of art!



#### **Progress & Reading Tests – baseline information**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Students have recently completed our baseline assessments for the year:

- Year 7: English, Maths, Science, Reading, Spelling
- Year 8: English, Maths, Reading, Spelling
- Year 9: English, Maths, Reading, Spelling
- Years 10–13: Reading

We will repeat these in the summer term to measure progress against a national comparison.

A quick note on Standard Age Scores (SAS)

Many reports show a Standard Age Score (SAS). This compares your child's result with pupils of the same age nationally.

- The national average is 100.
- Most pupils fall roughly between 85–115.
- A higher SAS means performance above the national average for their age; a lower SAS means below.
- SAS is not a GCSE grade; it's a fair, age-adjusted indicator to help us plan support and stretch.

If you would like an electronic copy of your child's report, please contact the school office and request it via mail office@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

## **Important Notice Regarding Lost Property**

To ensure lost items are returned promptly, please make sure your child's name is clearly written on all personal belongings, including clothing, bags, and equipment. Proper labelling greatly assists our staff in identifying and returning lost property.

We also encourage students to take responsibility for our school community by bringing any found items directly to the school office. Your cooperation helps maintain an organised environment and reduces the likelihood of belongings going missing.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school's lost property system efficient and effective.

## **Bikeability Cycle Safety Training**

Once again the school will be working with BeSpoke Cycle Instruction to offer Cycle Training for Everyone - Deliver Safer Training | Bikeability in the spring term.

Before this can be booked I need to know roughly how many people might take part.

Register your interest by replying to the Microsoft Form that has been sent out on ClassCharts

Mr Silver

## St. Joseph's Presents: Hairspray the Musical!

What a show! The St. Joseph's production of *Hairspray the Musical* was an unforgettable celebration of talent, teamwork, and pure joy. Our incredibly talented **cast** lit up the stage with energy, confidence, and professionalism — delivering powerful performances that had the audience singing and clapping along from start to finish!

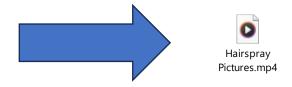
A huge round of applause must also go to our amazing **backstage crew** and **front of house team**, whose hard work, organisation, and creativity helped make every
performance run seamlessly. From lighting and sound to set changes and
welcoming guests, our students showcased true dedication and teamwork behind
the scenes.

We would like to give a special **thank you** to **Director Mrs. Dunleavy** for her vision and leadership, **Musical Directors Miss Ure and Mr Orval** for their outstanding musical guidance, **Choreographer Miss Stone** for the vibrant and dynamic routines, **Lighting Designer Ms McCormack** for creating such striking stage atmospheres and **Mrs. Coulson** for her fantastic support with promotion and front of house.

An enormous **thank you** also goes to all the **volunteer staff** who kindly gave up their time to support across the show nights — helping with supervision, and backstage assistance. Your enthusiasm and commitment made a huge difference and helped create such a welcoming, professional atmosphere for our audiences.

Congratulations to everyone involved — *Hairspray* was a shining example of the spirit and talent that make St. Joseph's so special!

Click the link below to see some fantastic photos from Hairspray!



### Year 8 Football Match Against Charters on Thursday 09th October

Last week the Year 8 football team battled against a strong Charters side in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the National Cup. St Josephs trailed going into the final minute. A superlative free kick from Chris levelled the game and after extra time it went to penalties.

St Josephs came out on top of the penalty shoot-out and will progress onto the next round.



## Year 8 Football Match Against Trevelyan on Monday 13th October

We had a game away on Monday to Trevelyan, it was a cracking game where we controlled play from start to finish! The game ended as 3-0 to us! 3 wins from 3 for the Year 8s.

Man of the Match

Riley O'Neill

#### **Year 11 Netball Tournament**

On Wednesday, the Year 11 netball team stormed through their tournament, delivering a flawless performance. With a clean sweep of victories, the girls now sit proudly at the top of the league table. Their dominance was on full display as they beat Ditton Park 15-0 and St Bernard's 10-0, What a phenomenal showcase of teamwork and determination! Well done to Sam, Licia, Celine, Ava, Mikah, Abby, Arina and Natalia

#### **TVLP Conference**

This Wednesday a group of Year 12 and Year 13 students attended a Leadership Conference run by TVLP (Thames Valley Learning Partnership) at Slough and Eton College. TVLP runs several dynamic and engaging events for students throughout the school year – many of which are students are involved in – and this event was no exception.

The day began with a humble yet inspiring talk by the Sheriff of Buckinghamshire and CEO for Content Guru (a global leader in AI) Sean Taylor, before students were split into groups to meet students from other schools and discover more about their own personal leadership styles. After lunch, they were introduced to their main task for the day which was to work within their assigned group to select a worthy charity and pitch to a group of industry professionals to explain potential fundraising strategies and compete for investment.

All the students performed excellently, and it was particularly exciting to see Johanna Nakasujja give a special mention to our own school charity, Access to Shine! In the end Adriel Dias's team, The Seven Savior's, managed to win the competition and secure investment for their chosen charity. A great day was had by all!













## **Geography Club**

The Geography Club recently enjoyed a highly interactive and engaging session with a competitive round on Sporcle's "Countries of the World", where members enthusiastically raced to identify and locate nations globally, putting their knowledge of world maps and political geography to the ultimate test. This was followed by a dynamic teamwork activity: one student acted as the 'guesser' for a challenging geographical keyword while all other members provided creative and strategic clues. The session was a fantastic success, providing a fun and highly engaging environment for members to sharpen both their world knowledge and specialized terminology.

## **Pupil Premium at St Joseph's**

If you have any enquiry about Pupil Premium whether it be how we can support your child or whether to know whether your child is eligible for Pupil Premium please do email Mr Gibbons at j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk. Attached to the newsletter is a letter regarding Pupil Premium that will have some more information.

## **Media Studies Visit to Windsor**

Our Year 13 Media Studies students recently enjoyed an inspiring trip to Windsor, where they spent the day capturing photographs for their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) projects.

Armed with cameras and creative vision, students explored the town's rich architecture, atmospheric streets, and historic landmarks — using Windsor's unique mise-en-scène to experiment with composition, lighting, and setting.

The group produced some fantastic images that beautifully reflect their individual project ideas and demonstrate a real understanding of how visual codes communicate meaning. It was a brilliant opportunity to bring classroom theory to life and develop professional-level media production skills in a real-world environment.

Well done, Year 13 — your creativity and enthusiasm truly shone through!













Click the link for a video of the

day: https://www.instagram.com/p/DPyrGOECO\_A/

# Sustainability in Action: Spreading Kindness Through Connection

As part of our Sustainability elective, students recently took part in a heartwarming project — writing cards to elderly members of the community who may be feeling lonely. The letters were sent through the SCCCC Pen Pal Scheme, bringing joy, comfort, and a reminder that they are not forgotten.

This simple act of compassion links directly to the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 3: Good Health and
Wellbeing and Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, by fostering
social inclusion and care for others.

Inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, our students lived out the principles of human dignity, solidarity, and the common good. Through their words, they recognised the importance of relationships in building a more caring and connected world — showing that sustainability is not only about protecting the planet, but also about nurturing the people who share it.



## **Media Studies Update**

This week in Media Studies, our students have been getting creative behind the camera! Year 13 students have been using their brand-new photography equipment to capture stunning images for their very own magazine projects — showcasing their individuality, style, and flair for professional production.

Meanwhile, our Year 12 students stepped back in time, producing 1950s-inspired advertisement posters, experimenting with vintage aesthetics and classic design techniques.

Please enjoy a selection of photographs from their shoots — a fantastic display of creativity, skill, and imagination from our talented Media Studies students!







## Design and Technology Department



#### Year 7.

Year 7 chefs have been receiving their aprons, personalised with the logos they designed at the start of the term. Thankyou to those parents who have already made their monetary contributions to the food curriculum. We remind pupils to please bring aprons and a container to all food lessons.







#### Year 8.

Pupils have been exploring the properties of thermoplastics. They have finished and shaped Acrylic and recycled HIPS demonstrating different ways of reforming plastic into different shapes.











#### Year 9.



Year 9s are working through short units and focussed tasks in a variety of different materials. They have made crosses from wood. They have recycled and fused plastic to make poppies. They will continue short units working with Textiles and exploring CAD/CAM before embarking on their longer design and make unit.



#### Year 12:











Manni-Quin had a lovely time lounging in the designer corner of A3 testing out the scale versions of designer chairs made by the year 12 product designers.

#### DT MAKE IT Elective

The DT Make It groups made some positively positive positivity plaques this week-Inspirational! Wishing all a marvellous half term!









#### D&T Stars of the half term

Well done to the DT stars of the half term. Keep up the good work.



Year 7	Adam Grzywnowicz, Justyna Brzezinska	
Year 8	Gabriel Wiaderek, Oliwia Palusinska	
Year 9 Joseph Cartwright, Elena Rooney		
Year 10	Wiktoria Wrobel, Alexs Maciejewski	
Year 10	Oliwier Stadnicki, Bruno Valek	
Year 11	1 Ava Bellamy, Kasper Gazda	
Year 11	Oliver Kroliczek, Maksymilian Wedrzyk	
Year 12	Evie Leonard-Finn	
Year 13	Warrick Passos-Wiggs	



## REQUEST for RECYCLING help in D&T

The D&T department would love to have your Colourful.

Plastic bottle lids. Please remove them from the plastic bottle and bring them to A3.





## DESIGNeers- DT club returns- Monday afterschool

If you love a challenge; enjoy solving problems and Designing and Making; please consider joining our D&T team! Please see or message Mrs Stacey on Teams and join us at DESIGNeers Club on a Monday afterschool in A3.

## **Enter the Trunks Across the Thames Student Art Competition**

This competition is open to ALL STUDENTS

(you don't have to study art!)

 You can design the whole elephant or part of it (E.g. tusk or trunk). There is a stencil you can use if you wish- ask Mrs Burby for it- or be creative and use your own!

Send entries to j.kemp@tvlp.org.uk

^Or ask Mrs Burby for more information.

- Need more inspiration or would like some support in school? Mrs Chambers
  is hosting a club for this next Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October after school in the Art
  room to offer guidance, ideas and resources- all are welcome to show up!
  - Winners will paint the actual sculpture that will be displayed along the Thames. You can work in pairs if you wish!



## **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club is available from 7:30am to 8:15am, which is complimentary to all students.

## **Logging your Child's Absences and Appointments**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We kindly remind you of the following procedures for reporting your child's absence to ensure smooth communication and accurate record-keeping:

- Absences must be reported *exclusively* via ClassCharts.
- Absences should be reported by 8:00am on the day of absence.
- For medical and health appointments:
  - Please notify us in advance via ClassCharts.
  - o Upload supporting documentation (e.g., proof of appointment).
  - o Absences without proof will be marked as unauthorised.
- For other types of absence requests:
  - o Follow the same ClassCharts reporting procedure.
  - Supporting information may be required (e.g., full outbound and inbound flight details, including booking dates, for travel abroad).
  - If additional information is needed, the school will contact you directly.
- Please refrain from emailing the school office (office@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) or your child's teachers directly about absences.
  - All absence notifications must be submitted to the Attendance Officer via ClassCharts to be processed correctly.

Please find attached a PDF guide with step-by-step instructions on how to report absences through ClassCharts.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support in helping us safeguard and ensure high levels of attendance for your child.

Kind regards,

Miss Lungeanu

office@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

### Homework

"The importance of homework to educational achievement cannot be denied. If pupils receive appropriate homework and do it on a regular basis over a five-year period, they will, in effect, be receiving the equivalent of at least one additional year of full-time education" 'Improving Secondary schools'

#### At St Joseph, we believe that homework is important to:

- Prepare for, consolidate and embed work covered in lessons to support learning;
- **Encourage** responsibility for, and ownership of, learning through 'flipped learning' activities;
- Enhance study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline;
- Broaden and extend the school curriculum;
- Engage parental co-operation and support;

#### Tips to help support your child with homework:

- Regularly check Classcharts, ask them to show you completed homework against ClassCharts assignment.
- Create a homework schedule: A schedule can help your child stay organized and keep track of what's due.
- Choose a homework area: Pick a dedicated place for homework and gather the necessary supplies.
- Limit distractions: Turn off electronics and put away cell phones to help your child focus.
- **Motivate** your child: Alternate motivators, such as "homework then computer" or "homework then a favourite video". Use positive words of encouragement when your child is working well

#### **Homework Expectation**

Each subject gives specific guidance to students regarding homework expectations. Below are the minimum general homework expectations.

#### **Key Stage 3**

- Maths, English, Science, RE once per week for 10 -30 mins
- History, Geography, MFL, History, Art, Computing, Music, Technology, Drama fortnightly 10-30min

#### **Key Stage 4**

• All subjects once per week for 30 mins

#### **Key Stage 5 (Flipped Learning)**

- Sixth Form students are required to match every hour of lesson time with an hour of independent study outside of the classroom.
- Flipped homework should form the basis of the tasks, enabling students to prepare for their next lessons and use their knowledge to develop deeper understanding and practice the associated skills.

## Pupil Premium at St Joseph's

If you have any enquiry about Pupil Premium whether it be how we can support your child or whether to know whether your child is eligible for Pupil Premium please do email Mr Gibbons at j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk. Attached to the newsletter is a letter regarding Pupil Premium that will have some more information.

## **Upcoming PE Events/Fixtures:**

Monday 3rd November- Year 10 Btec Sport rock climbing

Tuesday 4th November- Yr 7 football vs TLA (A)

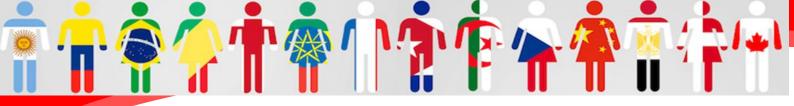
Thursday 6th November- Yr 10 basketball vs Windsor Boys (H)

## **Dates for the Diary**

Date	What's On		
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	First day of Term		
	All souls' day		
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov			
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov			
Thu 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov			
Fri 7 <sup>TH</sup> Nov			

Don't miss the upcoming Black Park Halloween Trail in half-term, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

**Eventbrite link:** https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-black-park-halloween-trail-2025-tickets-1753986233039



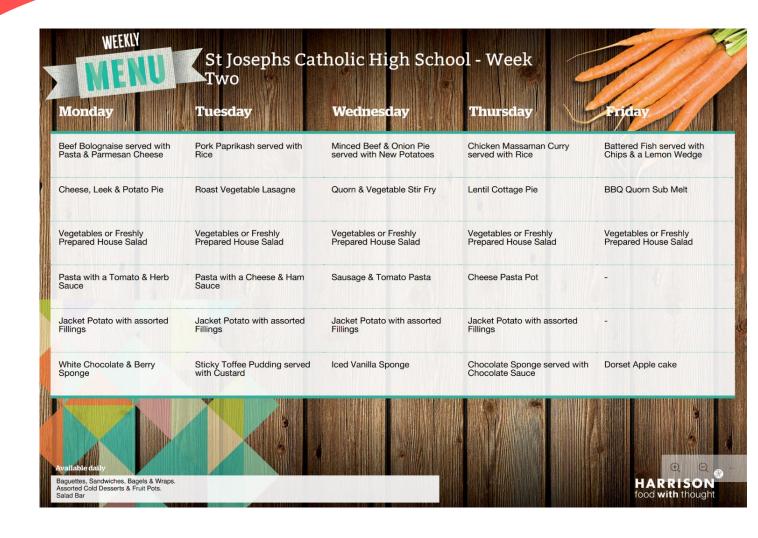
## **EAL NEWS** (English as an Additional Language)

## Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer many opportunities for learning.

Ħ	Questions	All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to'. Ask questions before, during,
Ħ		and after reading aloud. This can help your child focus attention on the ideas in the book.
t	Fill free to use your home language when talking about the book.	So, ask many 'Wh' questions, such as: Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for
t		<ul> <li>example:</li> <li>What is happening?</li> <li>Where is this?</li> <li>Who is that?</li> <li>When might this he happening?</li> </ul>
1	Ask your child to summarise what	When might this be happening?  Model how to summarise the key events/facts in the book. Encourage your
	they have read	child to have a go using a proper sentence.  Model good literacy behavior by reading regularly yourself. Read and discuss reading with friends or family encourage
	Maintain the motivation to read	them to the same.  Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Engage in conversations, offer a literacy-rich environment, even talk about
1		school, magazines, or current events. Ask them what they are reading and discuss the books. Ask them about their reading age and appreciate their efforts.





## **Diocesan Schools Mass**







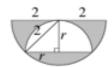
## Solution to last Week's Puzzler

B First note that the radius of the larger semicircle is 2. So its area is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \pi \times 2^2 = 2\pi$ . Let the radius of the smaller semicircle be r. Then, by Pythagoras' Theorem,  $r^2 + r^2 = 2^2$ . So  $r^2 = 2$ .

Therefore the area of the smaller semicircle is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \pi \times 2 = \pi$ .

So the shaded area is  $2\pi - \pi = \pi$ .

Hence half the area of the large semicircle is shaded.



## Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

D Let the mean of Aroon's five integers be m. Then the median is m + 2 and the mode is m + 4. Hence we can let the five integers in ascending order be x, y, m + 2, m + 4, m + 4, where x and y are to be determined. Since the mean of the integers is m, their sum is 5m. So x + y + 3m + 10 = 5m. Therefore x + y = 2m - 10. Now for the range of the integers to be as large as possible, x needs to be as small as possible. In turn, this means that y must be as large as possible. We know that y is an integer which is less than m + 2, so its maximum value is m + 1. So the smallest possible value of x is 2m - 10 - (m + 1) = m - 11. Hence the largest possible value of the range of the integers is m + 4 - (m - 11) = 15.

## Puzzler of the week

The numbers x and y satisfy both of the equations

$$23x + 977y = 2023$$
 and  $977x + 23y = 2977$ .

What is the value of  $x^2 - y^2$ ?

A 1 B 2 C 3 D 4 E 5

## <u>Break-Time Teaser</u>

It is possible to choose, in two different ways, six different integers from 1 to 9 inclusive such that their product is a square. Let the two squares so obtained be  $p^2$  and  $q^2$ , where p and q are both positive. What is the value of p + q?

A 72 B 84 C 96 D 108 E 120

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

## **Clubs**









You are invited to join in with us this term! Why?: Languages, fun and friendship.

Who?: All Year 7 + 8 students. When?: Tuesday 15.20-16.20 p.m. Where?: T5 with Ms Shaw & Team.



Come to our club if you feel you are a empathetic and enthusiastic linguist!
You get extra-curricular positive points AND tasty treats to keep you keen!
We can't wait to see you there soon!



## Welcome to Geography Club



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

#### 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.

## PE After School Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	Dance (creative dance academy)	Badminton and Table tennis	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Basketball and Volleyball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	Dance (creative dance academy)	Badminton and Table tennis	Badminton and Basketball	Basketball and Volleyball
Afterschool	Netball Year 7-13 AAN, KBR, MJO	Basketball Year 7-13 JCO	Trampolining KBR Year 7-13 Badminton Year 7-		
	7+8 boys FWA	Fitness Year 7-13 THU	13 AAN		
	Volleyball Year 7-13	NFL Girls and Boys Year 7-11 HMC	Football Year 9-13 THU, JCO		
	нмс		Girls Football Year 7-13 MJO		

# Term Dates

School Year 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term				
Inset Day	Monday 1₅t September 2025			
Inset Day	Tuesday 2nd September 2025			
Year 7 + 12	Wednesday 3rd September 2025			
Whole school returns	Thursday 4th September 2025			
Inset Day	Friday 19th September 2025			
Half Term	Monday 20th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025			
Term Ends	Friday 19th December 2025 (12:30pm finish)			
Spring Term				
Term Begins	Monday 5th January 2026			
Half Term	Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026			
Term Ends	Friday 27th March 2026 (12:30pm finish)			
Summer Term				
Inset Day	Monday 13th April 2026			
Term Begins	Tuesday 14th April 2026			
Half Term	Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026			
Term Ends	Friday 17th July 2026 (12:30pm finish)			