

Newsletter 17th April 2026



Head Teachers Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well. Link to the latest video is: [Head Teacher message 17th April 2026](#)

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

St Joseph, pray for us.

Miss Riddles

Links from the Head Teacher Message:

NL - Harry Clark goes to Rome link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m002thdy>

31. Theme of the week 19th April 2026



Open our Eyes

Weekly Reflections
19th April 2026
3rd Sunday of Easter



From the Gospel of Luke (24:13-35)

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going further, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Prayer for the Week

Loving God,
Enable us to see life from your perspective, with all its opportunities,
potential, goodness and beauty.
Loving God,
Open our eyes.
Amen

Day 1

Can you think of a hobby or pastime that you enjoy that others think is a waste of time? What don't they understand about it?

Day 2

What happens at Mass? What and why do we celebrate as a school community? How does it give you a better understanding of Jesus?

Day 3

How can you be more **Active** and **Curious** in sharing your own Good News experiences with others?

Theme of the Week - Open your eyes

In our own lives we can all be quite dismissive of others and what they do especially when it comes to hobbies. Think of golf for instance! For some they will see it as a complete waste of time. Walking around for 4 hours hitting a ball and trying to get it into hole (18 of them for that matter!) However, if you ask the golfer, it's much more than that! It's a 4-hour journey, where you play some amazing shots but also some horrible ones! But even with the disappointment of the horrible shots, you can be with your friends or opponents and give time to talk to one another freely and without the worries of work you might have to do. The disciples on Sunday are disappointed at the death of Jesus, but their journey gave them time to talk and reflect on Scripture and the Eucharist and gave them a deeper experience than they imagined.

When we listen to the Gospel on Sunday, it helps us understand more fully what happens every time we attend Mass. When we come together as a school community in the sports hall for Mass, others from outside St Joseph's may go what's the point? Why do you do that for? What a waste of time! However, when we do then and every Sunday, we become more informed of Scripture and the nourishment of the Holy Communion we receive.

Just as the two disciples, in their dejection, found Jesus walking alongside them, have you ever had a sense of Jesus walking alongside you in your low moments? For all the golfers, when you play badly you don't walk away, you continue because you value those around you. The disciples recognised that their hearts were burning within them as Jesus broke open the Scriptures to them. On your own Christian journey, even when it becomes tough, what keeps you committed? During this week, be more **active** and **curious** and look for opportunities to share your own Good News experience with someone.

Year 7 News

Hi all,

I hope we had a wonderful rest over the Easter Break, it is going to be a jam packed Summer Term for the Year 7s, we have had a nice week back to start and things are slowly going to begin to ramp up.

Please can I ask that ParentPay is checked as we have St Joseph's Day on the 1st of May, there needs to be consent given so please ensure this is done, more details on the day to follow.

I just wanted to say a big well done to the following students:

Heidi Wells (Year 7) and Lisa Mwaura (Year 8), who both play for Slough Town's Under 13 Girls Academy team.

The team has had an outstanding season and has reached the final of the FA Invitational County Cup while also playing in a highly competitive league in the JPL warriors.

This is a particularly significant achievement, as this competition was expanded beyond the usual Berkshire and Buckinghamshire teams to include strong sides from counties such as Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire.

The format consisted of two highly competitive groups of four teams, with each team playing each other twice. Only the group winners progressed to the final.

The level of competition has been extremely high, including teams such as MK Dons, Watford FC, Reading, Oxford United, and Peterborough United. Slough Town topped their group, with MK Dons topping the other, setting up what promises to be a fantastic final.

If you are interested in attending the Final then please see details for the game below:

Milton Keynes Dons v Slough Town

Thursday 30th April 2026

Kick-off: 7:30pm

Venue:

Risborough Rangers FC

Horsenden Lane

Princes Risborough

HP27 9NF

The ground opens at 6:00pm. There is limited parking on-site, with additional parking available along the approach lane and at the nearby cricket club.

Admission:

Adults: £5

Under 16s: £1

Under 5s: Free

This is a huge achievement for the girls so massive well done!

For any girls who may be interested in getting involved in football, Slough Town offers a strong development pathway, providing opportunities to progress through the academy and

into women's football. I have copies of flyers with more information in my office if you are interested.

Have a good weekend!

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

As we begin the new term, please remember to keep on top of your homework. Make sure you complete tasks when they are set, rather than leaving them until the last minute. This will help you stay organised and get the most out of your learning.

Please can I ask that ParentPay is checked as we have St Joseph's Day on the 1st of May, there needs to be consent given so please ensure this is done, more details on the day to follow.

Let's have a positive and productive term ahead.

Have a good weekend!

Mrs Viegas - Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

Welcome back Year 9! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break and are ready for a positive and productive return to school.

As we begin the final term of the academic year, this is an important time to stay focused.

A reminder to all students to continue upholding our high standards of uniform and keeping up to date with homework.

Look after your loved ones

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful Easter break and were able to spend some quality time with loved ones.

This week Year 10 achieved an 88% positive ratio. Our main focus this half term is **Homework** and **Attendance**. In just half a week we have already recorded 36 Homework Xs: this is not the standard we expect during GCSE years. Please make sure you are logged into

ClassCharts and checking it regularly so you can support your child with deadlines, completion, and producing work to a high standard at home.

A reminder that **year 10 Parents' Evening is on 7 May**. This is a hugely important date in the calendar, especially as we move towards our first official PPE exams in the summer term.

Students and parents must attend. If you need to discuss circumstances surrounding attendance, please email me at c.whiteside@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Well done to our girls NFL team, who won their fixture again on Wednesday, great job. Unfortunately, our boys' football team lost to a strong Slough and Eton side this week, which puts us out of the cup race: unlucky boys.

Have a great weekend. God bless.

Mr Whiteside - Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

Welcome back! It has been lovely to see all Year 11 students returning refreshed after the Easter break.

As we move closer to the first GCSE examinations, it is essential that students remain fully focused on their attendance, punctuality and engagement during these final weeks of preparation.

After-school intervention sessions for all core subjects will continue next week. Please ensure that students attend these sessions where expected, as they are a vital part of exam preparation.

A letter regarding St Joseph's Day on Friday 1st May has been sent home. Please ensure that permission is provided via ParentPay.

Year 11 Leavers assembly will be on Friday 22nd May. If you have any pictures over the years please send them to Miss Joseph on teams by 15th May.

With just 24 days remaining until the English Literature examination, I strongly encourage all students to maintain a consistent revision routine.

Have a lovely weekend :)

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 11

Year 12 News

Welcome back, I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

We have a busy half -term with lots going on for Year 12 students. The first notable event will be our St. Joseph's day celebrations on **Friday 1st May 2026**. The day will begin with a whole school mass and then the Year 12 students will be going out to St. Ethelbert's Primary School to lead some workshops for the children. Please could I ask that all parents log on to parent pay to give consent to enable us to take the students off site.

In June we will be hosting an interview day for all Year 12 students. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to practice their interview techniques and receive some feedback from a team of industry experts. In preparation for this day all students will need to create a CV and cover letter, all information will be shared with the students next week. Whether you son or daughter is applying to university, apprenticeships or going into the world of work this will be a valuable experience to help them be successful on their chosen path.

I hope you all have a great weekend,

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 12

Year 13 News

Welcome Back!

We hope that you all had a restful break as well as a productive one for our Year 13 students.

It's a tense but also potentially exciting time of year for our Year 13 students as their future plans begin to be finalized. If your son or daughter has applied to University and received offers please engage in conversation with them about which offers they would like to accept - firm and reserve choices should be confirmed as soon as they feel ready now. For those who intend to enter the world of work or apply for an Apprenticeship, it is also time for them to begin looking in earnest (if they have not already) at what is available. If the students need any support with this then of course they are always able to come and speak with us. I don't much like to think about it as I will be sad to let them go, but the time is rapidly approaching now where Year 13 will have their final assembly with us and go on study leave before the examinations begin. I will confirm the exact date with you and more arrangements next week. It goes without saying then that revision should be underway for all their subjects outside of lessons as time is so short.

In the meantime, we also have St Joseph's Day to look forward to on May 1st which will be a wonderful opportunity for the students to make some last few precious memories celebrating with the school and going out into the wider community to serve them. Letters about this have been sent home this week for more information. Please do confirm your son or daughter's attendance as soon as possible on Parent

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 13

Students of the Week

Year 7: Seth Wijayamuni & Sienna-Rose Carroll for having the most Positive Points this week!

Year 8: Leon Sidyk & Amanda Onumba for having the most Positive Points this week!

Year 9: Chloe Cinco & Filip Maslach

Year 10: Kitty Wilder and Katerina Nozdrina

Year 11: Vanessa Masna and Oliver Kroliczek for receiving the most positive points this week

Year 12: Oliwia Foksinska and David Bialek for excellent work in Geography

Year 13: Joel Manalody for his continued support to the wider school community and Nicol Burakowska for her renewed commitment to her studies.

Our School Production: We Will Rock You!



We Will Rock YOU

Tickets are now available on Parent Pay :

Wednesday 22nd April 5.30
Thursday 23rd April 5.30
Friday 24th April 6.00

If you want to come please purchase your tickets from Parent Pay £5.00 per ticket

Any questions see Mrs Dunleavy



The Lodge Gardening Elective

This half term we have seen the start of our Gardening Elective here in The Lodge. Recently built, we want to make our garden looking beautiful and full of life for us to use during the summer.

Here is our first group of students who have been busy planning where our plants are going to be planted, what tools and equipment we are going to be using!

It's going to be an amazing 7 weeks!

Mr Martin & Mrs Niculae.



1 - Our amazing Lodge Gardners

NFL

The NFL team returned after Easter in emphatic style, securing their fourth win of the season with a commanding 32–0 victory over Turing House. This result keeps them unbeaten so far.

With just one game remaining next Wednesday and St Joseph's currently sitting top of the table, the team will be aiming to finish the season with a perfect 100% win record.



Design the future

- **The Prize:** The winning school receives a **fully funded place** on the STEM On Track programme, which includes a **racing kart kit** for the school team to build, brand, and race! The winning design will be unveiled at the National Finals in June.
- **How to Enter:**
 - **Deadline:** All entries must be submitted by **Friday, 24th April**.
 - **Submission:** Please hand all completed entries to **Mr Allinson**.
 - **Get Your Template:** You can pick up a design template from the **school office** or request one directly from **Mr Allinson**.

Why Enter? STEM On Track is an exciting initiative that brings Science and Maths to life through motorsport. By participating, you have the chance to apply real-world STEM concepts—like calculating gear ratios and energy transfer—to a real racing machine. BWT Alpine Formula One Team is proud to support this programme to help invest in the future minds of motorsport.

GET READY TO DESIGN THE FUTURE!
ENTER THE STEM ON TRACK KART LIVERY COMPETITION!

THEME: "CHANGE AND ADAPT"
Focus on ADAPTATION and INNOVATION in motorsport & STEM. Think of new materials, smart technologies, and future-ready designs.

THE GRAND PRIZE: WIN A RACING KART FOR YOUR SCHOOL!
FULLY FUNDED place on the STEM On Track programme for the school.
RACING KART KIT for the school to build, brand, and race.

Adaptable chameleon skin on part of the body. Adjustable aerodynamics. Modular components. Cool far a cool, student-designed livery.

HOW TO ENTER

1 GET YOUR TEMPLATE!
Templates available from THE OFFICE & MR ALLINSON. Also at www.stemontrack.com/competition

2 DESIGN YOUR LIVERY!

3 SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY!
Submit all entries to MR ALLINSON.

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 24TH APRIL.
Submit all completed designs by this date.

PARTNERSHIP WITH **BWT ALPINE F1 TEAM** and **STEM ON TRACK**

Templates available from the office and Mr Allinson.
www.stemontrack.com/competition

EAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and I hope you had a restful and joyful Easter. As we begin the Summer Term, we look forward to a fresh start filled with growth, confidence, and continued success for our EAL learners.

This term, we will continue to support students through our key strategies: building vocabulary, developing confidence in speaking and writing, and ensuring understanding across all subjects. In lessons, teachers will be using clear language, visual supports, and structured opportunities for discussion to help every student thrive.

We encourage you to continue supporting your child at home by:

- Talking about their school day and new vocabulary
- Encouraging reading, even for a short time each day
- Supporting homework routines and organisation

As a Catholic school, we remain guided by faith, hope, and love. May this new term be one of progress and blessing for all our families.

If you have any questions or would like further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards,

EAL Coordinator

Dates

Upcoming PE dates:

Monday 20th April- New Age Kurling

Wednesday 22nd April- NFL

Thursday 23rd April- GCSE PE moderation

Upcoming

Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd: Y7 Science museum trip

A message from The GEMS team

We are excited to announce a new date for our sleep workshop with the wonderful Parenting Special Children.

This workshop is open to families in East Berkshire whose children have or are suspected to have autism and/or ADHD. It explores children's sleep cycles and sleep needs. Reasons behind night settling and night waking. Strategies to feel less stressed when sleep training. Strategies for settling your child to sleep, and staying asleep.

Booking can be found here: <https://parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/events/sleep-autism-and-adhd-berkshire-east-june-2026/>

Weekly Student Competition – Get Involved!

We're excited to launch our new weekly student competition!

This week's challenge: design an eye-catching poster all about **eating breakfast** and why it's so important for teenagers. Think about energy, focus in lessons, and overall health — and get creative with how you present your ideas.

🏆 The winning poster will be featured in the school newsletter, and the winner will receive **10 positive points**.

✉ Please send all entries to T.OLeary@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk T.OLeary@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Get creative — we can't wait to see your designs!

I Can do Maths



Solution to last Week's Puzzler

B Let the squares on the border of the large square have side-length 1. Then the large square has side-length 5 and area 25. Note that 8 of the 16 squares on the border of the large square are shaded. The area of the central region of the large square is $25 - 16 = 9$. Three-quarters of this area is shaded.

Therefore, the fraction of the large square which is shaded is $\frac{8 + \frac{3}{4} \times 9}{25} = \frac{32 + 27}{100} = \frac{59}{100}$.
So 59% of the large square is shaded.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- E** Let the speed, in m/s, of the escalator when it is working be v . Let the length of the escalator be l m and let Thomas's running and walking speeds, in m/s, be r and w respectively. As Thomas can run down the moving escalator in 15 seconds and walk down it in 30 seconds,
- $$\frac{l}{v+r} = 15 \dots [1]; \quad \frac{l}{v+w} = 30 \dots [2].$$
- Also, as Thomas runs down the broken escalator in 20 seconds, $\frac{l}{r} = 20 \dots [3]$.
- From [1] $v+r = \frac{l}{15} \dots [4]$; from [2] $v+w = \frac{l}{30} \dots [5]$; from [3] $r = \frac{l}{20} \dots [6]$.
- Adding [5] and [6] and subtracting [4] gives $v+w+r-v-r = \frac{l}{30} + \frac{l}{20} - \frac{l}{15}$.
- Therefore $w = \frac{l(2+3-4)}{60} = \frac{l}{60}$. So $\frac{l}{w} = 60$.
- Hence it would take Thomas 60 seconds to walk down the broken escalator.

Puzzler of the week

Two straight lines have equations $y = px + 4$ and $py = qx - 7$, where p and q are constants. The two lines meet at the point (3, 1). What is the value of q ?

- A 1 B 2 C 3 D 4 E 5

Break-Time Teaser

Which of these is closest in size to 1?

- A 0.95 B 1.05 C 0.960 D 1.040 E 0.95

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

Clubs

DESIGNeers- DT club - Monday afterschool 3.20-4.15



Make it Monday!

If you love a challenge; enjoy solving problems and Designing and Making; consider joining our D&T team!
Please see or message **Mrs Stacey on Teams**
Join us in A3 for DT Club on Monday afterschool. 3.20-4.15.

This week we are planning a bit of CAD/CAM

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



**KEY STAGE 3
AFTERSCHOOL
SCIENCE CLUB**


WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:15PM TILL 4PM

Come along and see why
Science is so cool!

Led by
Mrs. Lionel and Mrs.Hameed

For more information please
contact Mrs. Lionel

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.

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



MFL Offer

- To foster curiosity about different cultures.
- To allow communication with people in another language.
- To enhance cultural and linguistic understanding and create compassionate and tolerant students.


WELCOME TO OUR MFL CLUB (SPRING 2)

Reaching out to KEY STAGE 3 LANGUAGE FANS. Get ready to join us WEEK A TUESDAYS 15.20 in T5. Have fun with your friends and make new ones. Join us for Easter themed fun & treats (oh & the Year 8 boys think "his biscuits" are the best bite) snacks are provided by Ms Shaw but you can also bring your own snack (Nut Free please.) If you wish to be a "role model mini mentor" and lead a practical session for our MFL students, just let me know so I can print the resources for you in advance, get extra-curricular points & a prize! Exciting activities we get involved in: languages games; music; video; projects; displays; assembly; & competitions. Goldfish Bowl for over & beyond. Always ensure your zefs travel home afterwards.



CHALLENGE: Do you speak another language? Can you translate WOW/OW? and "Enjoy Friendship"?

HELLO in different languages:

- French: Salut
- German: Gend
- Latin: Salve
- Arabic: Salam
- Chinese: Ni Hao
- Spanish: Hola
- Italian: Ciao
- Japanese: Konnichiwa
- Dutch: Hallo
- Welsh: Hello
- Spanish: Hola
- For me, just simply YOLO!





FRÖHE OSTERN
VROLIJK PASËN
GLAD PÅSK
GOZAN PASKON
FELICES PASCUAS
HAPPY *EASTER
WESOLEYCH ŚWIAT
BUONA PASQUA
JOYEUSES PÂQUES
PÂSCOA FELIZ

St Josephs Dance Club

Starting Monday 12th January in the Assembly Hall

Move. Groove. Repeat.
Dance Club — Mondays after school
Fun routines • New skills
No experience needed!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	GCSE Students Badminton	Badminton and Table tennis	Badminton and Basketball	Basketball and Volleyball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	GCSE Students Badminton	Badminton and Table tennis	Badminton and Basketball	Basketball and Volleyball
Afterschool	Netball Year 7-13 AAN and MJO Football Year 7-13 boys FWA and THU Volleyball/ Badminton Year 7-13 JRO Fitness KBR Year 7-13 Dance Year 7-13 HST	Basketball Year 7-13 JCO Fitness Year 7-13 THU	Fitness KBR Year 7-13 Badminton Year 7-13 AAN Girls Football Year 7-13 MJO		

Term Dates

Term Dates

School Year 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term

Inset Day Monday 1st 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)

School Year 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term

Inset Day Tuesday 1st September 2026

Year 7 + 12 Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Whole school returns Thursday 3rd September 2026

Half Term Monday 19th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026

Term Ends Friday 18th December 2026 (12:30pm finish)

Spring Term

Term Begins Monday 4th January 2027

Half Term Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027

Term End Thursday 25th March 2027 (12:30pm finish)

Summer Term

Term Begins Monday 12th April 2027

Half Term Monday 31st May 2027 to Friday 4th June 2027

Term Ends Friday 16th July 2027 (12:30pm finish)