



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 19th September 2025



On Monday 15th September, ten lucky students had the incredible opportunity to take part in the 'Riding a Dream' day at the prestigious Ascot Racecourse.

Head Teacher Message

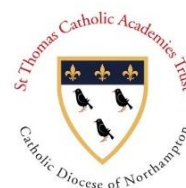
Dear Parents and Carers,

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

<https://youtu.be/ZAJ36fTDGIQ> Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Joseph's content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

Theme of the Week – Serving God

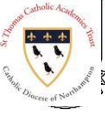
Around the school you will see signs reflecting the different Catholic Social Teaching Principles of the Church. Can you name each principle? There are seven in total? On each poster, at the bottom, a question is posed to us, what would you do? What is the right choice to make in a given scenario. On one of the posters the question is, someone has dropped £20 on the floor and this is the only money they have to feed themselves for the week, what do you do? We are called to be honest when serving God. Jesus knew that we would often be tested about being honest in our everyday lives. Being honest is a choice we make every day. God wants to be sure that we can be trusted with the most precious treasure of all when we serve Him.

In the Gospel reading from Sunday, wealth was thought to be a sign of God's favour and blessing, so Jesus' words would have been challenging to his audience when he said you cannot serve God and money. Let us reflect on this with the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Stewardship. We must recognise that we (the whole world) are stewards trusted to use and administer God given resources and be Learned and Wise when doing so. We can't serve God if we use these resources for ourselves! Jesus' teaching gives insight into the ways of God and ultimately the choice that we each have to make regarding our priorities and how we treat our world. How Learned and Wise are we in how we deal with what has been given to us.

We again are being invited (like the first theme of the week for this year) in Sunday's Gospel to consider our priorities in a new light. How we use our money and world has implications for us and all around us. There is nothing wrong with seeking money or using resources in the world, we need it to survive. However, does your attitude to money and how much you have affect your decisions and the way you live your life? How does it affect or reflect your attitude to God? How we use the world, is there elements of greed? Are our priorities ones that Jesus would approve of? This week can you be more **Learned** in the teachings Jesus gives us and then act **wisely** to make a conscious effort to make use of a resource you have - time, money or talent - to make life better for someone in need.

Serving God

Weekly Reflections
21st September 2025
25th Week in Ordinary Time



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 16: 1-13

At that time: Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager." And the manager said to himself, "What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He said, "A hundred measures of oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty." Then he said to another, "And how much do you owe?" He said, "A hundred measures of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and write eighty." The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.' And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.'

Prayer for the Week

Lord Jesus Christ,

Yours was the way of service, compassion and reconciliation. Despite rejection of so many, you saw the best in people, the good, the worth that others overlooked.

Allow us to be honest with ourselves so we can truly follow in your footsteps.

Amen.

Day 1

What are the seven different Catholic Social Teaching Principles?
Positive points for naming all seven

Day 2

Why do you think Jesus teaches that you cannot serve both God and money?
In what ways do we both serve and unserved God when you look at how we use the world today?

Day 3

Reflect on the Gospel, read it again - what word/words stand out to you? How can you be **learned** with what Jesus is telling you?

How can you be **wiser** in serving God in a more just way?

Year 7 News

Please can we all ensure that all of the necessary equipment as stated on Page 23 of the Journal is obtained over the weekend to ensure that students are coming fully equipped to all their lessons. Additionally, please make sure weekly journal signings are done ready for Monday morning each week and that the Homeschool Agreement is signed, this can be found on Page 42.

Have a lovely weekend
Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 7 Student of the Week

Olivia Kret & Sire Akinleye for excellent weeks

Year 8 News

We've had a great week, and it's wonderful to see all the progress being made. Let's keep the momentum going! Remember to stay focused, continue working hard, and make sure to stay on top of homework. Consistency and effort now will set us up for even more success ahead.

Keep up the great work—you're doing amazing!

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Viegas - Head of Year 8

Year 8 Student of the week:

Ugo Ibekwe and Nicole Gill for receiving the most positive points

Year 9 News

Another excellent week for Year 9 with a 93% positive ratio. The majority of the positives coming from been Active & Curious and producing good work. 46% of the negatives this week came from homework X's. Please can we ensure homework is complete and if you are having problems with it, speak to your class teacher before the day it is due.

It's been fantastic to see so many Year 9 students helping out at the welcome evening, showing the future students what a fantastic school this is.

Have a great weekend, look after your loved ones.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 9

Year 9 Students of the Week

Afia Berefo and Allan Lutecki

Year 10 News

We've closed the week on 1,193 positive points, a fantastic effort across the year group. Good luck to our boys' football team in the National Cup; we're all behind you.

Thank you to everyone who supported Thursday's Open Evening, your maturity and service were noticed and appreciated.

A quick reminder that GCSE option changes are now closed, so please speak to your subject teachers or to me if you need support settling into your choices.

Let's carry this momentum into another brilliant week, aim high, be kind, and represent Year 10 well.

Mr Whiteside - Head of Year 10

Year 10 Students of the Week

Michalina Branska – 10J 26 positives and Conor Wooley – 10C 23 positives

Year 11 News

Well done to all our Year 11 students on a fantastic week. Your energy, focus, and commitment have not gone unnoticed. A special thank you to everyone who supported our recent Open Evening on Thursday, your help made a real difference and showcased the very best of our school community.

As we continue through the term, homework remains a key focus. If you're finding any tasks challenging, please speak to your teacher *before* the due date—not on the day it's due. Your teachers are here to support you, but early communication is the key to success!

Enjoy your long weekend, see you on Monday

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 11

Year 11 Students of the week

Winners Nwachukwu and Lynn Keyrouz for receiving the most positive points

Year 12 News

Year 12 have had a great week earning 290 positive points for all their hard work. I have been really impressed with the way they have settled into lessons as well as making productive use of their study time. Can I just remind you that all students are expected in school by 8:20am, form time is where we give out important messages to the students and of, they are late then they will be missing these messages.

The final day for any course changes is the 30th of September, so if you know your child is wanting to change courses, please could encourage them to come and see myself or Mr Dann before that date.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 12

Year 12 Students of the Week

Mia Ramanathan for excellent work in French and Nathan James for excellent work in Maths and being a support to staff and students.

Year 13 News

This week our Year 13 Student Leadership Team have been busy making plans for the year. Our biggest upcoming project involves starting a series of lunchtime societies for Year 7. The team are very excited about launching these and helping our new Year 7s really feel welcome and settled at St Joseph's. We are very proud of our Head Boys, Cameron Fyfe and Joel Manalody, our Head Girl, Isabelle Byamukama and our Deputy Head Girl, Ann Kavalakkat, who spoke some beautifully at Open Evening. More generally, our students have been busy these week considering career choices, course options and drafting their personal statements. It has been encouraging to see their focus, ambition and determination at this key moment at the start of the year.

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 13

Year 13 Students of the Week

Vanessa Anane and Oskar Belniak for their service to the school.

Year 7 Cricket Skills.

A selection of Year 7 students went on a cricket skills morning at Slough Cricket Club. They had coaching sessions from Berkshire cricket coaches (including an ex-St Joseph's student). They finished the morning off by playing a game of quick cricket against Pioneer who they beat comfortably. A fantastic morning all round.



Riding a Dream Academy

On Monday 15th September, ten lucky students had the incredible opportunity to take part in the **'Riding a Dream'** day at the prestigious **Ascot Racecourse**.

Organised by the **British Racing School**, the event offered a hands-on experience into the world of horse racing. Students got stuck into a range of exciting activities, including **riding, grooming, horse handling**, and a **behind-the-scenes tour** of Ascot Racecourse itself.

While some students felt a little nervous at first, it didn't take long before everyone came out of their shells and fully embraced the day. By the end, there were smiles all round and memories to last a lifetime!

A huge thank you to the British Racing School and everyone at Ascot for making the day so special.





EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Language)

NEW ARRIVALS: Learning English as an additional language

The multilingualism of our EAL students enriches our school and our community. To become fully competent in the use of curriculum/academic English is a long process; students require long-term support. Having a home language other than English is not a learning difficulty.

Please inform us if your child has access to another language or if English is an additional language for them.

All new arrivals, including the Year 7 cohort, are assessed and assigned an EAL code to represent their competency in accordance with the statutory measure of English Language Proficiency as instructed by the DfE. This five-stage scale of English proficiency maps the progress from beginner to fluent users of English and the codes are as follows:

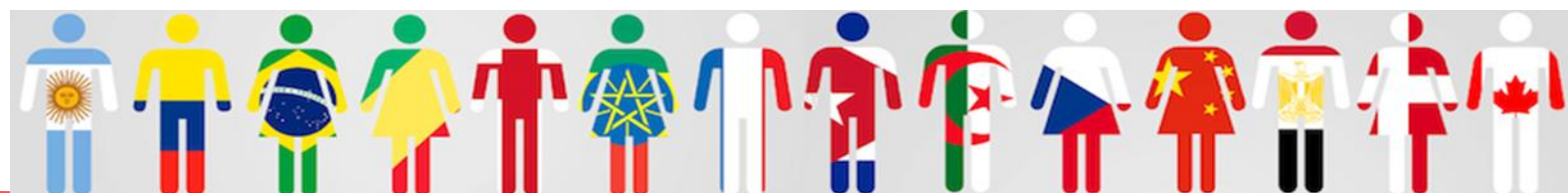
- **Code A.** New to English
- **Code B.** Early acquisition
- **Code C.** Developing competence
- **Code D.** Competent
- **Code E.** Fluent

By assessing students on arrival, we are able to put the necessary interventions in place as soon as possible in order to provide the best start for the student.

We will:

- Give students suspected of having language difficulties an initial assessment
- Provide small group English acquisition intervention where appropriate
- Monitor language acquisition and adjust the level of support appropriately.

For any further queries regarding English as an Additional Language please contact Ms Ura (EAL Coordinator) a J.Ura@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk



Pupil premium at St Joseph's

If you have any enquiry about Pupil Premium, whether it be how we can support your child or to know 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.

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,

A kind reminder to report your child's absence via ClassCharts by 8am if they are absent from school.

If your child has an upcoming appointment, please also report this via ClassCharts, along with proof of the appointment.

The attached PDF provides further guidance and step-by-step instructions.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

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

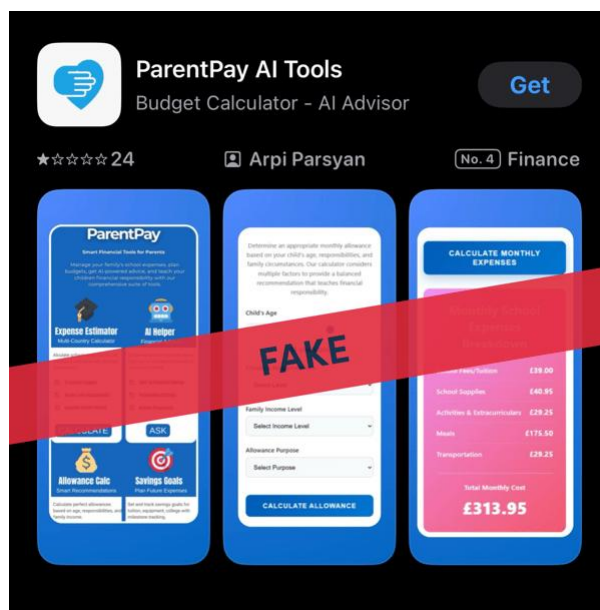
- All subjects once per week for 30 mins

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.



We have been alerted to a fraudulent app in the Apple App Store that mimics ParentPay branding.



Security and safeguarding are top priorities at ParentPay Group, and we took swift action to report the app and are working closely with Apple to have it removed.

To date, we have recorded only 2 cases of affected parents.

Please be aware:

- ParentPay **does not** have an app available for download from any app stores
- To use ParentPay, parents should visit <https://www.parentpay.com/> from a mobile phone or computer
- After logging in, parents can save a shortcut onto their phone's home screen

This message is for awareness only, so you can confidently and quickly respond to any parent queries.

Yours sincerely,

ParentPay Group Customer Service Team

You are receiving this email because you work for a current customer or partner of ParentPay Group. We are contacting you regarding essential service or product information as per the terms of our contract. If you are not the correct person to receive these updates, please provide an alternative email address.

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ENTER THE TRUNKS AROSS THE THAMES STUDENT ART COMPETITION

WINNING ARTISTS WILL BE CHOSEN TO PAINT OUR ELEPHANT
FOR THE PUBLIC SCULPTURE TRAIL

SEND IN YOUR COLOURFUL IMAGINATIVE IDEA.

ART DESIGN ENTRIES CAN BE HAND DRAWN OR PAINTED
CONTACT JEANETTE HEMP

J.HEMP@TULP.ORG.UK TO PLACE YOUR ENTRY

CLOSING DATE MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

GET DESIGNING TODAY YOUR ELEPHANT COULD JOIN THE HERD





Hola



Do you have a French or Spanish GCSE?
If you are a Sixth former and would like to join our MFL team as a KS3 Language Assistant, please submit your interest to Ms Toro Sánchez via Teams or email (m.torosanchez@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)



<div>WEEKLY</div> <div>MENU</div> <div>St Josephs Catholic High School - Week One</div>				
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
Baguettes, Sandwiches, Bagels & Wraps. Assorted Cold Desserts & Fresh Fruit. Salad Bar				
HARRISON food with thought				



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- D The sum of the interior angles of a quadrilateral is 360° . So the smallest angle in the quadrilateral is $3 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 60^\circ$ and the largest angle is $6 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 120^\circ$. Hence the required difference is 60° .

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- D Let the ages of Alice, Bob, Clare, Dan and Eve be a, b, c, d, e respectively. So, for example, $b + c = 40$ and $d + e = 44$. Adding these gives $b + c + d + e = 84$. We are also told that $a + b + c + d + e = 105$. The difference between these equations shows that $a = 105 - 84 = 21$. Hence $b = 39 - 21 = 18$ and, similarly, $c = 40 - 18 = 22$, $d = 38 - 22 = 16$ and $e = 44 - 16 = 28$. So Dan is the youngest.

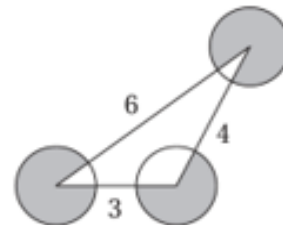
Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows a triangle with edges of length 3, 4 and 6.

A circle of radius 1 is drawn at each vertex of the triangle.

What is the total shaded area?

- A 2π B $\frac{9\pi}{4}$ C $\frac{5\pi}{2}$ D $\frac{11\pi}{4}$ E 3π



Break-Time Teaser

How many three-digit numbers are increased by 99 when their digits are reversed?

- A 4 B 8 C 10 D 80 E 90

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



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
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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!

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 Football Year 7+8 boys FWA Volleyball Year 7-13 HMC	Basketball Year 7-13 JCO Fitness Year 7-13 THU NFL Girls and Boys Year 7-11 HMC	Trampolining KBR Year 7-13 Badminton Year 7-13 AAN Football Year 9-13 THU, JCO Girls Football Year 7-13 MJO		