

24th September 2021



ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



This year's Bake-off was a great success! Results from this house competition will follow in next week's newsletter.

From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big thank you to all the parents from both Year 8 and Year 12 this week who came to the Welcome and Information Evenings this week. It was a good chance to meet the tutors and to hear how the year will unfold and the plan for the children's curriculum. We're aware that there were some who couldn't make it and we're keen to understand your views on how we can make these important evenings more accessible. To this end we're sending out a questionnaire that should take no more than 4 minutes to complete – we'd be very grateful for your views, if you couldn't make it.

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If your child rides to school you will have received a letter regarding bike safety and a new requirement to wear helmets and have bike lights for when it gets dark. We are giving families a few weeks to get this organised. At the school our main aim is to keep your children safe and we feel that this action is the best way to protect our students.

A reminder that next week on Tuesday we have our Year 10 Welcome Evening and on Wednesday we have our Year 9 Welcome Evening. During these evenings we pass on essential information and it is essential that parents and children in these year groups attend. We look forward to welcoming you on these days.

Finally, the very best of luck tonight to the Duke of Edinburgh students who embark on an overnight residential this weekend.

St Joseph,

Pray for us

Ciran Stapleton

Absence

If your son/daughter is absent for any reason, please ring the school as soon as possible on the first morning of their absence. **Please also send an explanatory note to the form tutor on his/her return. In certain circumstances we may need to obtain copies of medical notes from doctors to confirm the reasons for absence.**

If you know in advance about a medical appointment, it would help if you could send a note before the absence, letting the form tutor know when the pupil should leave the school and when he/she is likely to return so that we can get the anticipated work missed to you in advance.

Theme of the Week

In His Name

‘In His Name’ is a beautiful theme for our week. Jesus says in the Gospel “no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me”. The name of Jesus has strength and authority in it. With Jesus in our lives, we can be filled with this strength of His. His words are an encouragement for us to do everything with Him.

Often at the end of a prayer, we will say ‘through Christ our Lord’ or ‘in Jesus’ name’. Jesus brings our prayers to God our Father.

How can you include Jesus in your day today?

The Gospel reading this week seems to be very harsh and over-the-top. We need to try and see the deeper message of what Jesus is trying to say to us.

At a first glance, what do you think Jesus is trying to say to us?

His message is about thinking about doing what is right first. But how do we know when to do the right thing? We can stop and think about our actions before doing them, but also, we can ask Jesus to help us in these times of decision making, He can help us too.

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Again within the Gospel reading, Jesus talks about those “who have faith”. It takes faith and trust to ask for help sometimes, but when we ask Jesus for help, He is always there to listen.

What does the word ‘faith’ mean to you?

Year 7 News

The past 7 days have been eventful for Year 7. We have had spaghetti slurpers, baking champions, and more and more new friendships formed. There has been so much going on, and we are starting to feel the physical toll. It is at this time of the year that the alarm gets snoozed, and the importance of being in school by 8:20 slips for some students. I ask that we all work together to ensure that all students are here on time. Two lates in one week does result in an SLT detention for an hour after school on a Friday.

I wish you all a restful weekend,

Miss O'Connor

Year 8 News

What a great week we have had. I have had so many reports of how engaged you are in lesson time. Can I remind you to have full equipment every day. What a great turn out we had for Welcome evening on Wednesday, it was so great to meet many of you face to face. Remember we are working as one team. A special mention to the year 8 football team who beat Beechwood 7-1 well done boys. A big well done to everyone who participated in the Bake off this week.

Have a great weekend

Mrs Dunleavy

Year 9 News

Year 10 News

It has been a fantastic week at St Joseph's with lots of learning going on. Year 10 have been learning about in simultaneous equations in Maths, unseen poetry in English, diseases in Science and Creation in RE.

Letters have gone out for the Year 10 welcome evening on Tuesday 28th September. Please do return these to your child's tutor, so we have an idea of numbers.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Robinson

Year 11 News

Happy Friday all. Remember to get some rest this weekend in between revision. Don't forget Revision Tip 5 (Make Time For You) and give yourself plenty of rewards. Have a great weekend and I will see you Monday.

Year 12 News

Grammar Problem of last week - solution

However, there are some spelling rules for suffixes. What is the rule can you draw from the examples below?

Root Word	Suffix	New Word
Achieve	-able	Achievable
Care	-er	Carer

Solution! For root words ending in 'e', you drop the e and add the suffix

Grammar Problem of this week!

Generally, we use the rule 'i' before 'e', when spelling. That is to say, with words that contain I and an E next to each other, the I generally comes before the E. Examples of this are **belief** and **thief**.

Here are five exceptions: **receive, eight, neighbour and science** – can you develop a rule to help you remember to exceptions to this rule? Answers next week!

Year 12

A big well done to Year 12 for another really positive week! Here are a couple of notices ahead of next week:

- I have attached the **Super Curricular** list for the Sixth Form. These are the materials that students must be engaging with to ensure they become accomplished in their subjects. Success at Sixth Form is really about hard graft and as a general rule of thumb, we say that each hour of lesson time must be reflected with an hour's study in non-contact periods and at home. Further, please see a link to your **Revision and Student Resource pages** on the Sixth Form website: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/about-us/widening-participation/>

Super Curriculum page: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/about-us/widening-participation/>

Future Learn courses are a really good way of enhancing sixth form study – you can find a plethora of subject specific, free, online courses (accredited by Universities) here: <https://www.futurelearn.com/>

- **Student Communication** – now that students are getting their devices (hats off to our IT Manager for getting these out quicker than I have ever seen!) it is important that students are using them effectively. We provided students with an iPad induction in PSHE last week and you can find the resource attached. We request that students check their email on Outlook daily and the Sixth Form Teams Group for important information and opportunities please.
- A reminder that **absence** must be reported to the school by a parent head of the school day please.

Thank you and have a wonderful weekend!



Sixth Form News

Well done to all 6th form students who got involved and baked cakes on Friday for the St Joseph's bake off. They looked delicious! Your next house competition is the spelling bee so get practicing in your forms.

Centre assessments are fast approaching therefore all students should now be following their revision timetable, to help them prepare. They need to think about which revision strategy to use and really focus on areas where they have gaps in their knowledge. Past papers, flashcards and mind maps are all excellent ways to help students revise and consolidate learning.

Please can year 13 remember to wash hands and sanitize regularly as you enter the buildings. In addition, you must still be LAT flow testing twice a week and registering your results to help keep everyone safe.

Next week PSHE will be on Tuesday 28th September during period 1.

Have a great week

Mrs Bray

School Photos - Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th October 2021.

We've got external photographers coming into school to photograph all students Year 7 to Year 13. The photos will take place in the School Hall. The broad timetable will be detailed in next week's newsletter.

Please can you make sure your all students are in correct uniform and look extra smart on these dates please.

School Vaccinations – Nasal Flu Vaccine and COVID-19 vaccination

The school-aged immunisation team will be visiting St Josephs on **Monday 1st November 2021** to offer nasal flu to students in years 7-11 and a single dose of the Pfizer/ BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to students in years 8-11. We plan to co-administer these vaccines within the same session (if consent is obtained for both).

Due to the recent announcement of the COVID-19 programme to students in years 12-15 we are still awaiting a number of guidance documents before we can start administering the COVID-19 vaccine. If this guidance is not received in advance of your planned session date we will not be able to safely co-administer both COVID-19 and flu, therefore we would just administer nasal flu to all eligible students in years 7-11.

To prepare for the delivery of one or both of the above programmes parents need to gain consent. **A separate consent form must be completed for each jab.**

Copies of these forms can be found as attachments to this newsletter.

For the latest Government guidance regarding the COVID-19 vaccination programme for young people: guidance for parents please visit: GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

GCSE Autumn Exam Series

Students who were awarded a GCSE grade in August 2021 or if an exam board reasonably believes a student would have been entered for an exam in the summer 2021 but didn't due to the pandemic, are now eligible to sit their GCSE exams in the Autumn Exam Series. These will be sat in November and students will be required to complete all the required papers within a subject in order to gain a GCSE grade for that respective subject. For any students interested please can you complete the letter attached and return to Mr Gibbons before the 27th September.

'Unlocking Belief in All'

English Department News



'Theatre trip to watch Hamlet' written by Olivia Quinn, Year 12

Watching the 2021 Hamlet production at the Theatre Royal in Windsor this week was such a great opportunity. It was really helpful being able to see in real life what we have been studying for English Literature A level and see a different and modern interpretation of the play to help in future essays (such as contrasts with other productions). Seeing the amazing actor Sir Ian McKellen play Hamlet live was also such a privilege considering his vast career. I am very grateful to see one of the last runs of this show and I am thankful for the experience.

Geography News

Geography club continued this Tuesday and we have been creating our ecobricks. This remains open to students every Tuesday in T16 3-4:00. So do come and have a go and get involved to create change in our environment.

Every day approximately 8 million pieces of plastic end up in our oceans. We can do our bit to mitigate this. Any plastic wrappers from foods at home please keep in a bag and bring them in for us or bring them to Miss Boland (even if you cannot attend the club!). Together we can make a difference.



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House Assemblies

This week, we had the first in-person house assemblies for the first time in 18 months! St. Joseph's pupils learnt about what it is to be selfless, and putting others first.

Miss Ure (Mark), Mr. Carey (Peter) and Miss Boland (Jerome) are continuing their roles as Heads of House.

We welcome Miss Joseph (Veronica), Mr. Hunt (Cecilia) and Mr. Silver (Teresa) as new Heads of House this year!"

Have a great day!



Become a Mathemagician

St. Joseph's Mathematics Club Sessions (Every Monday at M1 15:00 to 16:00)

The Mathematics Club sessions are out-of-timetable sessions that enrich and broaden the maths curriculum, giving our pupils the chance to explore maths in less formal settings. The St. Joseph's Mathematics Club is an important outlet to ignite new interest and to raise attainment in Mathematics through more imaginative and inventive teaching methods. Extra-curricular Mathematics get-togethers that breathe new life into Mathematics beyond the classroom. They come in all shapes and sizes and there is no one model that works. However, they all focus on two things: having fun with Mathematics and learning.

For more information or questions please email Mr. D.Nyuydzewira | D.Nyuydzewira@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

DofE News

This weekend the Year 11's are doing their Qualifying Bronze Expedition. The weather looks set to be good. Please wish them luck.

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TVLP Nature Art Competition

As part of our involvement with the Thames Valley Learning Partnership, which brings St Joseph's together with a number of other local schools for educational and creative opportunities, we are opening the Nature Art Competition to our Year 7 and 8 students!

Prizes include free entry to RHS Garden Wisley for the winner and a guest.

Winning and shortlisted artwork will be publicly displayed, as well as being featured on the TVLP's website.

To be in with a chance of winning, you should create a piece of artwork inspired by nature. This could be a drawing, painting, textile artwork or sculpture that relates in some way to nature. *Please note – digital artworks are not accepted on this occasion.*

Deadline for entries is 3pm on Thursday 21st October 2021.

Poetry Club

A big thank you to those that took part in KS3 poetry club on Tuesday afterschool. Our team has grown and we had some very interesting and insightful conversations about how poetry can be used to change our world for the better. KS3 poetry club takes place every Tuesday afterschool in E3. Many thanks, Miss Aushana

Sports News

Firstly a massive well done to the Y11 boys football team on winning their first game of the year. Secondly another huge well done to the Y8 boys on winning their fixture. Thank you to all boys who participated.

PE department

Meeting our Local MP Tan Dhesi

Last Friday 17th September, some of our students met with our local MP Tan Dhesi to ask him some questions about climate change and other topics that are very relevant at this time. He answered their questions very well and was a great opportunity to hear what he had to say to them. Well done especially to Luke Pleace and Anthony Omale who asked very good questions!



'Unlocking Belief in All'

European Day of Languages

This Sunday (26th September) is the "European Day of Languages". In order to create some momentum around this event we will be including an activity related to languages every morning in the notices. Each activity takes only a couple of minutes so please do encourage your tutees to take part. In addition, we are also running a couple of competitions:

"Spelling bee" Competition

It will take place on Friday 1st October in the Hall at lunch time.

The "spelling bee" will be in French and Spanish. We would like 1 representative from each Yr7 House. Yr7 Form tutors, please email r.rodriguez@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk the names of the participants from your forms by Monday 27th September. Participants will be given a list of words to learn for the competition.

"European Day of Languages" T-shirt design competition

Please continue to promote our T-shirt design competition during form time. These are the rules:

- The design should be about languages, not countries. So please, don't use flags or similar.
- You can use up to 3 colours.
- The design cannot contain third party copyright logos or material.
- The design mustn't be too complex or have small details. This will increase printing quality.
- The winner will be awarded an Amazon voucher and a T-shirt with the logo designed by them.

Deadline for submitting designs to r.rodriguez@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk : Friday 15th October.

Thanks in advance for helping us promote these events, which are an excellent opportunity to celebrate our cultural and linguistic diversity.

House Competition – Spaghetti Slurping



Last Friday saw the return of house competitions involving food! The atmosphere in the hall was electric! Pupils raced each other to see who could finish a bowl of spaghetti in the fastest time. The standings for each year group were as follows:

Year 7:

1st place – Teresa House – Oliwer Wlodowski

2nd place – Peter House – Fabian Lumowski

3rd place – Jerome House – James Mpungu

Year 8:

1st place – Jerome House – Harry Joseph

2nd place – Veronica House – Emmanuel Ofori

3rd place – Teresa House – Cameron Stock

Year 9:

1st place – Teresa House - Liam Recio

2nd place – Cecilia House – David Nwachukwu

3rd place – Mark House – Jayden Baron

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Year 10:

1st place – Cecilia House – Shaquille Michaelwicz

2nd place – Mark House – Jeremy Kasoka

3rd place – Peter House – Nicholas Lewkowicz

Year 11 and VI Form:

1st place – Mark House – Bobby Kadiri

2nd place – Cecilia House – Karol Czajkowski

3rd place – Jerome House – Dominic Witkowski

Well done to all involved.”

TVLP

As part of our involvement in the Thames Valley Learning Partnership (TVLP), students are offered to get involved in a number of events and competitions with other local schools.

Please can I bring your attention to the following that are open to all our students currently:

Online talk with Dr Alex George, UK Youth Mental Health Ambassador

Wednesday 29th September 8.30-9.30pm

To attend the talk, email your name and school email address to info@tvlp.org.uk



Nature Art Competition



To be in with a chance of winning, you should create a piece of artwork inspired by nature. This could be a drawing, painting, textile artwork or sculpture that relates in some way to nature. *Please note – digital artworks are not accepted on this occasion.* Photographs of your entry should be emailed to info@tvlp.org.uk and the Deadline for entries is 3pm on Thursday 29th October 2021.

‘Unlocking Belief in All’

St Joseph's Mission to Thailand to support the Father Ray Foundation



The Father Ray Foundation in Pattaya, Thailand, provides a home, an education, nutritious meals, medical assistance and the opportunity for children and students to reach their full potential and become independent and decent members of society.

In the pictures above you can see just one aspect of how the Father Ray Foundation has changed the lives of many children: from an unsafe barren desert to a smooth safe playground. Another example of the work that the Father Ray Foundation has done is in setting up the Pattaya Redemptorist Technological College for People with Disabilities. In Thailand, Buddhism is the biggest religion and karma is a main tenet of Buddhism. This means you do good things and good things will come back to you.; but this also means innocent children that are born with disabilities are blamed for their ailments. As a result, society shuns them and they are often deprived of love, comfort and a fair chance in life. This is where the Father Ray Foundation has stepped in to care for these children. Education, accommodation, meals and health care free of charge are provided and the students are guaranteed employment when they graduate.

This is one of the many reasons why our school has been working with the Father Ray Foundation for several years.

In order to help the Father Ray Foundation carry out life changing work, every year a dozen or so students are selected from 6th Form to volunteer and help the Father Ray Foundation in Thailand.

The students fundraise to pay for the cost of the trip and donations to the charity. If you would like to help us fundraise for our volunteering expenses whilst also helping a charity that has changed the lives of thousands of children for decades, please donate here: <https://gofund.me/d322d800>

Many thanks,

The year 13 Mission to Thailand team



Design and Technology Department

We're delighted to see some fine work from all year groups in D&T. Year 11s and 13s are currently working to tight deadlines as they work on their Assessments. Year 7s have impressed us with designs for their mini-Mes, Year 8s have embarked on practical tasks, and we have a steady stream of delicious dishes leaving the food room from all year groups.

DT social media



We try to post updates and points of interest on our Instagram page and share some of the great work being done by our DT pupils, please do take a look! Updates have started to be posters this week.

Plastics Challenge

We would love your help to source materials for a new project. In a sustainable and considerate of our use of resources we are collecting plastic bottle tops (and in fact any recyclable HDPE plastics) Please bring in your plastic bottle tops and put them into the collection boxes in A4. Thankyou in advance for your efforts..... I wonder which house will in the most!



DT club: KS3 DESIGNers

Our KS3 DT club which will start on Monday after-school 3-4pm. Please speak to Mr Silver to confirm your place! We look forward to welcoming you to DESIGNers.

Year 10 Chefs.

A reminder to please make sure you bring your aprons and equipment to all practical lessons. Details are given in class and are also on Satchel One.

D&T Stars of the week



For participation, positivity and excellent work in lessons.

Mikah Aungon 7Mark

Daragh Byrne 7Cecilia

Kanav Bara Year 9

Ivan Martinez year 12



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A** By train, the distance in miles of the second sign from Edinburgh is $200 - 3\frac{1}{2}$. This sign is halfway between London and Edinburgh, so the distance in miles between the two cities is $2(200 - 3\frac{1}{2}) = 400 - 7 = 393$.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

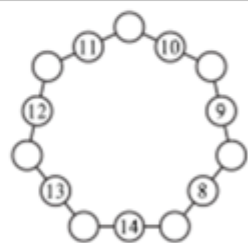
- D** The difference between the given options and 1 is $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{7}$, $\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{1}{11}$ and $\frac{1}{10}$ respectively. As $\frac{1}{11}$ is the smallest of these fractions, $\frac{10}{11}$ is closest to 1.

Problem of the week

The diagram shows a heptagon with a line of three circles on each side. Each circle is to contain exactly one number. The numbers 8 to 14 are distributed as shown and the numbers 1 to 7 are to be distributed to the remaining circles. The total of the numbers in each of the lines of three circles is to be the same.

What is this total?

- A 18 B 19 C 20 D 21 E 22



Break time Teaser:

Amrita is baking a cake today. She bakes a cake every fifth day. How many days will it be before she next bakes a cake on a Thursday?

- A 5 B 7 C 14 D 25 E 35

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. The first full complete answer will get satchel points.

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7 James Mpungu for his loving attitude around the school and in lessons, and Amrita Dylak for her active participation in lessons. Well done!	Year 8 Oliver Hannigan for excellent work in Geography and Drama. Ariyana Maraj for such a positive and eloquent attitude to her studies.
Year 9	Year 10 Sunny Sharma, has recently been so helpful when helping clear equipment away, I do not even have to ask. He has also applied himself in English since beginning this term! Valentin Lefebvre - For being intentional and making a superb start in business. Nikola Niezgoda – For being active and engaged in Maths.
Year 11 Jude Arthur and Megan Cobb for having an outstanding week	

Sixth Form Krzysztof Trezeciak and Lia O'Brien for excellent work. Piotr Agustyn for effort in Spanish, and Bela De Souza for excellent classwork in English. Giya George and Kacper Kolmetz – for 100% attendance, no late marks to school or lessons and a really positive and mature start to Year 12.
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