

Friday 26th February 2021



ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all Year 8 parents found the information for the next steps in Careers, Information and Advice Guidance (Options) accessible and helpful last night. If there are further questions please don't hesitate to contact either Miss Wellesley Davies and / or Miss Araf.

GCSE, A Level, BTEC, Cambridge Nationals and EPQ Gratings

On Thursday Ofqual (the organisation in charge of all Examination Boards) published their conclusions from the recent consultation. Essentially it's a framework for the Exam Boards to follow in setting out the arrangements for each subject for this summer. What happens next is that the Exam Boards now need to inform us of the

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procedures we will be required to follow in order to come to a conclusion how to assess the final grades for the children in GCSE, Cambridge Nationals, AS, EPQ, A Level and BTEC qualifications. The Boards will tell us what internal quality assurance mechanisms we'll be required to follow and what the external quality assurances from the boards to the schools will look like (there will be targeted and random checks on schools to ensure procedures and standards are met). We'll also be provided with further unpublished papers, past papers, sample mark schemes and the final grading boundaries and minimum standards to be met for the awarding of grades. We'll have until 18th June to submit all grades in all subjects and qualifications for all of our students.

The basic principles which Ofqual have laid down to the Boards are as follows:

- Teachers must assess their students' performance, only on what content has been delivered to them by their teachers, to determine the grade each student should receive.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.
- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable, and not confined to a defined window, to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Schools and colleges should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards.
- In GCSE and A Level Art and Design, the student's grade must be based on the portfolio only, whether or not it has been completed.
- Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared to previous years.

What this means for us at St Joseph's

Essentially it's good news in that we'll have 2 sets of centre assessments (PPE) results behind us before heading into May and whilst we're waiting for confirmation from the Boards, we're pretty confident we'll be able to use these to help support a final Grade for the students in June. Students' grades will be put forward to the Exam Boards based on what they have achieved (and can evidence) and the Boards will then check to see these conform to the standards of qualifications from the past. The past performance of schools will also be taken into consideration to cap national grade inflation. However, as St Joseph's has performed exceptionally highly over the last 6 years you can be assured that the legacy handed down from past pupils means the current students won't be capped in what they will be able to achieve. They now just need to focus on doing it. In the meantime, like last year, please don't contact the teachers about grades until the final grade is given in August. Any attempt to pressure a teacher to change a grade is considered malpractice under the Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ) Code of Practice 2020.

Furthermore, there'll be a final opportunity for students to secure and earn their best grade in May using the materials that will be provided to us by the Exam Boards (we'll call these the 'May Series'). We don't know yet what that will look like nor do we know the circumstances around which the final assessments will be undertaken but you be assured, as soon as it comes out we'll let you know what it is and what the plan is. Simply put we want the students to have every opportunity to show what they can achieve.

Either way, students of Year 11 and 13 need to continue to come to school right up to and including the 18th June – so please – don't plan any early holidays or time away from school over this period.

We'll be looking closely at the Internal and External Quality Assurance benchmarks and we've already teamed up with 6 other schools in a partnership who between us have matching exam boards in our subjects so that we can ensure rigorous moderation, standardisation and internal quality assurance of student's scripts for our judgements.

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The DfE has announced that all students return to school from Monday 8th March.

Here is our plan:

1. We'll get each year group back in one day at a time. It'll take 6 days to test the entire cohort. We'll call in the students by form group over the day and send them home once they have been tested on the same day – they won't return until the whole student body have had a test.
We'll send out the details of which students should come in and at what time separately next week.
2. Except Year 11 and 13 who after their tests will do the remainder of their centre assessments/ PPE2 in the Hall according to the exam timetable (we'll prioritise those doing the exams in the afternoon of 8th March by getting those students tested in the morning). The plan for testing will look as follows:

Day of 1 st Lateral Flow Device Test	Year Group being tested via Lateral Flow Devices
Monday 8 th March	11
Tuesday 9 th	12&13
Wednesday 10 th	10
Thursday 11 th	9
Friday 12 th	8
Monday 15 th	7
Tuesday March 16 th – All students back, face to face teaching starts and testing continues in school	

3. Covid testing at home: Home test kits are arriving for children to take at home after the tests have been completed. We should get our first batch of these between 8th and 15th March. The DfE are asking that children test at home and then enter the result on line or via telephone. We'll show them how to do this when they are tested here at school first.
4. We'll continue to remote teach over the period 8th – 15th March inclusive and return to face to face lessons from the 16th March onwards.
5. From the 16th March onwards we'll rota the students to take the 2nd and 3rd LAT Flow Test (LFT), but this will be in school and over the day and will take some time to do – more of this plan in due course.
6. In order for these tests to take place, we'll need to have your active consent. We'll send out a text questionnaire and I'm asking if you could complete it in time for 8th March. We'll need 100% returns (either indicating consent/ non consent). Can I thank you in advance for yet another infringement of your time.
7. Finally, and more controversially, the government will now require students to wear masks in classrooms whereas previously they only had to wear them whilst moving from classroom to classroom. The government will review this at Easter.

Getting ready for the 8th March

Please do take the time to check to see if the shirts, blouses, and most importantly shoes all still fit the children. It's been 3 months since they were last at school, and as my children's food bill demonstrates beyond comprehension, they keep growing. Can you also ensure that nails, piercings, hairstyles etc. are also in line with the uniform policy which can be found on the school website, as curiously, when we ask them to remove piercings or confiscate them, they often get upset about it.

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School Lunches and the Canteen

School lunches will resume from the 16th March. Those students eligible for Free School meals will continue to receive school vouchers up to that date.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

Theme of the Week – Real Revelation

Last week, we explored the temptations experienced by the very human nature of Jesus. Today's Gospel passage explores the events of the Transfiguration, which affirms the dual nature of Jesus as both man and God. The word "transfiguration" comes from the Latin roots *trans-* (meaning "across") and *figura* (meaning "form" or "shape"). It thus signifies a change of form or appearance. This duality of nature is often difficult for us to comprehend. However, it is one of the foundational beliefs of the Church. **Christ's Transfiguration aims at strengthening the apostles' faith in anticipation of his suffering and death:** the ascent onto the 'high mountain' prepares for the ascent to Calvary – where he is crucified.

Jesus' appearance changed whilst they were up the high mountain. His clothes became dazzlingly white, and both Old Testament prophets Moses and Elijah appeared alongside him. This is so important because **it linked Jesus with the expectations of the Jewish people**. Moses was the giver of the Law, and Elijah was considered the greatest of all the prophets, looked forward to God's supreme intervention in human affairs (Jesus). The voice from heaven echoed those words spoken at the Baptism of Jesus. The Transfiguration makes us realise that Jesus is not just the son of any god; but that he is the Son of the God of Abraham.

Can you recall an experience, that has revealed another person to you in a completely new light?

Can you recall an experience where you have seen attributes in someone that you had previously been unaware of?

It can be a wonderful experience seeing people in a completely different light. We can realise the hidden talents they possess. Think of the Staff vs. Students football matches that occur every year. There are often several members of staff who participate in these matches who are usually very calm and composed, and not usually associated with high-energy sports. However, when they take to the field, we put aside our former misconceptions of them, and instead we applaud their skills!

A key message in this week's Gospel is to not take people at face value, but to fully appreciate them, and not write them off. Despite spending a lot of time with Jesus, the disciples still had much to learn about him. We can always learn more about the people in our own lives.

During this week, try as a follower of Jesus, to respond to people with greater generosity, forgiveness, acceptance and love.

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Year 8 Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance Evening 2021

Year 8 CIAG Information is available on our website. This includes the CIAG Presentations which explains the Key Stage 4 curriculum we deliver at St Joseph's, what kind of curriculum your child will follow according to the pathways process as well as careers support available to further contextualize the option choices your child would like to take.

There is also an online Subjects Fair with a video for each subject we offer at Key Stage 4 detailing the content, type of assessment and what careers the subject lends itself to.

You will have received an email by myself detailing what pathway your child is on and the corresponding Pathways Options Booklet that summarises the key information regarding each of the subjects. Within the email is a link to your Pathways Options Form which needs to be filled in and submitted online by **Thursday 11th March 3pm**.

If you have not received this email please do get in touch, my email is below.

If you had any further queries on any of the subjects we offer, you can contact the relevant Subject Leader – their details are in the Options Booklet and website.

If you had any further queries regarding the CIAG information please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself. We are happy to support you in the choices as well as clarify any details.

Best Wishes,

Fahimah Araf

Assistant Headteacher

f.araf@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Show My Homework

Show My Homework, the online homework tool, has successfully launched in school this week. This is where all your child/children's homework assignments will be posted. A letter is being sent to all parents this week outlining how to set up an account and link this to your child/children's accounts; this will give you full access to the homework assignments that have been set so that you can support your child/children's completion of them.



If you have any questions, please contact me on e.paines@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

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Year 7 News

Another week of online learning and positive comments from staff regarding your work. Well done. The nights are getting lighter and I feel spring is on its way. As I say every week make sure you are having downtime from screens of any sort, read a book, go for a walk do some mindfulness.

A polite reminder to be booking in your Parents' Evening appointments with your teachers. Parents' Evening will be taking place on Thursday 11th March on Microsoft Teams from 3:30pm-6:30pm. It is so important to spend this time with your teachers to discuss your progress this year

I will be on Microsoft Teams between 3:15-5:00pm available for Head of Year appointments, this is not a requirement, however I wanted to be available for any questions or discussions you would like to have regarding your child. Please feel free to email me to book an appointment in that time. After 5pm is reserved for my Drama students.

Mrs Dunleavy

Year 8 News

Dear Year 8,

Congratulations on a great first week back, I have heard nothing but praise and our attendance has been really good - well done! Yesterday afternoon our Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance (CIAG Evening) went live on the website, if you have not yet accessed this and viewed the videos, please do so. These videos are to aid you in making the decisions surrounding your GCSE Options. Please, if you have any questions, just get in touch.

All homework is now being set online on the Show My Homework platform. All students have been shown how to access this during tutor time this week, please can you now begin to use this to access homework activities. It is a great tool to clearly see what homework has been set and when it is due, and parents can also use this to track their child's homework. Any pupils who are not sure about their log in details should email t.bojanowski@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

St Joseph's has purchased an online library with over 2000 books to read. Please see Mrs Darrie's message in the newsletter for instructions on how to access the library.

Finally, Year 8 will be in school on Friday 12th March for their LAT Flow test, before returning to school full-time on Tuesday 16th March with the rest of the school. Online lessons will continue until then. Mr Stapleton has created a video on the school's YouTube channel outlining our return to school process. Please get in touch if you have any questions regarding this.

Have a great weekend, and see you very soon!

Miss WD

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Year 9 News

Dear all,

A big welcome back to all our fantastic Year 9 students at the start of a new half term. The return to school is on the horizon and we can't wait to see all your children again.

A couple of new online systems were introduced this week. All students should have already logged into these. Could you please ensure they have tried this and contact form tutors with any issues.

The 2 new platforms are:

Showmyhomework – a new system to communicate with both students and parents regarding homework.

Soraapp – online library with access to over 2000 books.

Have a great weekend.

Best regards,

Mr Robinson

Year 10 News

We are a week in to this half term and I have been so impressed with the number of positive emails and messages I have received from all your teachers. We have 2 more weeks of live on line lessons so please ensure you maintain the high standards that you have achieved throughout lockdown. Attendance this week was one of the highest we have achieved as a year group so well done to all of you.

Next week form time will be slightly different as it is National Careers Week. You will need to log into the Team called *Year 10 Careers Assemblies* instead of your normal form time Team.

Every day we will hear a talk by a professional from a range of different careers. Your attendance will be recorded when you log in so your tutor will not be taking a normal tutor time register. Please log in before 8.30 as the talks start promptly at 8.30.



I am really looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 10th March when you will come into school, a form at a time, to have your LAT Flow Tests.

Mr Stapleton has explained all the details here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQHPOHJGYw>.

Make sure you are in full school uniform, no hoodies, extra studs, nail varnish etc. Use this week and next to make sure all your uniform fits and is clean and ready for school. On days when you have PE continue to wear your PE kit all day. Any questions do let your tutor know or drop me a message. Remember every Monday I am available from 3-4.30pm for anyone who would like a chat on Teams if you have any questions or concerns.

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Epraise points

Top students	This week	Tutor groups
1. ● Megan Cobb (10 Cecilia) (548)	1. ● Megan Cobb (10 Cecilia) (60)	1. 10 Teresa (4472)
2. ● Daisy Loft (10 Teresa) (441)	2. ● Cameron Martin (10 Peter) (57)	2. 10 Peter (4433)
3. ● Matteo Ramsay-Scuderi (10 Jerome) (392)	3. ● Aliyu Mahmud (10 Veronica) (47)	3. 10 Jerome (4328)
4. ● Natalia Kochanowska (10 Mark) (390)	4. ● Clinton Ganiste (10 Peter) (42)	4. 10 Veronica (4293)
5. ● Emerald Cardoso (10 Veronica) (337)	4. ● Vollen Vaz (10 Teresa) (42)	5. 10 Cecilia (3237)
6. ● Maddie Woodley (10 Peter) (311)	6. ● Melissa Pala (10 Veronica) (38)	6. 10 Mark (2623)
7. ● Dominic Witkowski (10 Jerome) (301)	7. ● Daisy Loft (10 Teresa) (30)	
7. ● Cameron Martin (10 Peter) (301)	8. ● Alex Chappell (10 Jerome) (27)	
9. ● Megan Shea (10 Peter) (287)	8. Adrianna Wroblewska (10 Teresa) (27)	
10. ● Alfie Mewett (10 Mark) (281)	8. ● Kilian Torok-Pena (10 Veronica) (27)	

Miss Cheston

Year 11 News

Dear Year 11,

Well done for an excellent first week of your centre assessed exams. You have conducted yourself brilliantly so far, and I'm certain you will all have done yourselves proud! A reminder that on Monday, you will bring your completed papers back to school at the allocated time, and then you will collect your new papers for the second week. If you have any issues with the allocated times, please do let me know as soon as possible.

Secondly, it is absolutely vital that the students register for every single exam. For these exams to be viable to use as evidence, we need to know the students has registered for the exam. If you do not register for the exam (without letting anyone know why ASAP) then we will not be able to grade that paper because as far as we are aware, you haven't sat it at the allocated time. I cannot stress this any clearer as to the importance of registering for the exam so I suggest setting an alarm at 8.25am and 1.10pm on every day you have an exam as a reminder to register!

Thirdly, please do remember that you will be sitting your final week of exams in school. We are trusting you to do your exams at home in exam conditions, so if there are extreme disparities in your results from doing them at home and doing them in school then there will be questions asked into the validity of some of your exams.

Finally, I know that this is an incredibly stressful time for all of us at the moment, so if at any point you feel that you are a little overwhelmed just know that myself and the Year 11 Tutor Team are always free to talk and listen to you. We want to make sure you are in a great place mentally and physically whilst we're in this exam period. Keep up the excellent work!

Stay Safe, Stay Excellent!

Mr Oakley

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Sixth Form News

Apprenticeships Talk for Parents – 3rd March

The school will be holding an apprenticeships talk for parents and guardians (of all year groups) on the 3rd March at 6pm. It will be virtual and will be no longer than 30 minutes. This will provide parents and guardians with information for apprenticeships for their children but also an opportunity to have your questions answered. Please express interest via the following link as well as submitting any questions you would like to be addressed in the talk:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nRr-BijQTU2WCf5rTXAvSRiBf91E8yd-FjjDy7Q9yтуJUQkFVM1Q5VFhGOERLWVkwT01NQ0szUzdKSC4u>

Sixth Form UCAS and Student Finance web page updates

We have updated the sixth form website for UCAS with video guidance on student finance for students and parents. Mr Matthews will be in touch shortly with guidance on accommodation, student finance and unconditional offers. You will find it here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/after-the-6th-form/applying-to-university/>

Year 12 Super Curriculum PSHE – yesterday, Year 12 had a key PSHE session on the super curriculum, which is key to achieving mastery of a given subject but also to achieving offers to the top universities. Please see the presentation and associated resources here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/about-us/widening-participation/>

The Work Ready Club FAO Year 12 – please see the attached PowerPoint slide for information as to how to sign up to the FREE opportunity run by Learning to Work and SEGRO. They are holding monthly, free employability skills workshops, which are free to our students. Find more information here: <https://www.learning-towork.org.uk/the-work-ready-club/>

PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) Virtual Insights Weeks – PwC is a multinational professional services network of firms, operating as partnerships under the PwC brand. Our Virtual Insight Week applications are now open. This programme is for students in Year 12 in England and Wales (Year 13 in Northern Ireland, or S5 in Scotland) and gives students the chance to gain new experiences, skills and confidence, as they take their first steps towards their career. Applications close on Sunday 14 March. More information here: http://pwctrk.co.uk/tp/rj6.zJNsQ.J_K

Year 12

I hope everyone had a restful half term and I'm sure after the recent announcement you are all delighted at the prospect of attending school again very soon. We are really looking forward to having you back for some face to face teaching. You will be required to visit school on Tuesday 9th for your Lateral Flow test. More details will be given out soon regarding timings. Just a reminder to turn cameras on during the remaining virtual lessons. The engagement since doing this has been greatly improved and thank you to all who have cooperated.

Can we all make sure you are logging into form time every Monday morning and on the days where you have a period 1 lesson. PSHE next week will be taking place on Friday 5th March period 1 therefore you all need to join form time at 8:30 on this day to register and receive important notices.

Congratulations to Imsal for being accepted onto the Social Mobility Aspiring Professional's programme. This is a fantastic opportunity. Well done!

Take care and stay safe – Mrs Bray

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Year 13

Welcome back (sort of!)! I hope that you all managed to get some rest during half term despite the revision. Also, I hope that exams this week have gone well for all those that have had them. Good luck to everyone sitting exams over the next two weeks.

I am sure that you have seen the government's announcement regarding the return to school and I am sure that, like me, you can't wait to get back to normality! The plan is as follows:

- Those with exams in the afternoon of Monday 8th March will need to come into school on Monday morning for a test and then will complete the exam in school that afternoon (if negative)
- Everyone else will then come into school on Tuesday morning for a test and all exams will be completed in school
- There are no lessons WB 8th March so you are only required to come into school for your exams (must be in school uniform)

As for next week (1st-5th March), please make sure that you are joining the Centre Assessment Registration meeting on MS Teams for every exam that you have. Failure to do so will result in your paper not being marked and a U grade being awarded for that paper. If you are having difficulty joining the call, please email Mr Dann and Mrs Oliver at the time (any later will not be accepted).

Have a great weekend

Mr Matthews

Online Library

We have recently purchased a subscription to an online library that will provide all the staff and students with access to over 2000 texts. This has been a very difficult year for everyone and reading is an excellent pastime to not only learn about different cultures, ideas and beliefs, but it is also a fantastic way to develop ones' vocabulary and imagination. A recent survey conducted by the BBC suggested that Reading is the number one hobby during lockdown. Book sales have skyrocketed, alongside tablets that provide easy access to online literature streaming. Therefore, why not join in and be a part of this fantastic trend. For many years we have seen a 'dip' in the popularity of reading, for that reason it is vital that we encourage both ourselves and our students to develop a love for reading.

The online library will work in a similar way to a physical library. All the staff and students at St. Joseph's have been provided with an account. When you log-in to your account you can sign books out on loan for a specific amount of time. When the loan period is over the digital copy will be given back to the library. At that point, you can either sign that book out again or choose another text to read.

How do I log-in?

- ✓ You will need to log in via the Sora App: www.soraapp.com
- ✓ You will be brought to the home page
- ✓ Click on the green box. You will be re-directed to another page where you will need to type in our school: **St. Joseph's Catholic High School**
- ✓ You will then be brought to a log-in page
- ✓ Please note that your user name and password is the same at your computer log in. For example:

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- m.banks (first initial . surname)
- Your password is your St. Joseph's password
- ✓ Once you are logged on you can search for books, sign books out and begin reading
- ✓ *It is important to note that you can access the library on any electronic device*

What are you reading?

I am currently Reading *Punching the Air* by Ibi Zoboi and Yousef Salaam. *Punching The Air* centres on Amal Shahid, a Black Muslim teenager who is convicted of a crime he didn't commit – in this instance, assaulting a white boy during an altercation in a gentrifying neighbourhood – and sent to prison. As an art student and poet, Amal had a bright future ahead of him but that one fateful night upends his entire life. Locked up and treated like a criminal, Amal is filled with hopelessness and anger – both at his own misguided decision that put him in the wrong place at the wrong time, and also the biased system that condemned him to a sentence he didn't deserve. This text can be found on the Sora App.

Mrs Darrie



Uniform



Please check that all children have the correct uniform for the return to school, and that it all still fits. Any low income families or pupil premium students that require uniform please let me know asap.

Mrs Stockings

Free School Meals

The Edenred voucher scheme will not run from the week beginning 8th March. For children who usually receive FSM and require meals from that date, we will update you shortly.

Please email for more details. A.Stockings@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

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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:

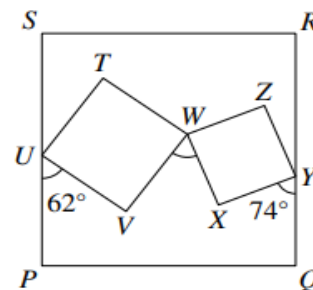
- A** Today is Thursday, so the day before the day before yesterday was Monday. This was two days after the day before my birthday, hence the day before my birthday was Saturday. Therefore my birthday was on Sunday.

Well done and epraise awards to Annabell Lysiak (8C), Piotr Basinski (8T) and Emerald Cardoso (10V) for correct answers to both the Challenge and the break time teaser.

Problem of the week

The diagram shows three squares, $PQRS$, $TUVW$ and $WXYZ$.
Angles PUV and QYX are 62° and 74° respectively.
What is angle VWX ?

- A 44° B 48° C 60° D 64° E 68°



Break time Teaser:

April, May and June have 90 sweets between them. May has three-quarters of the number of sweets that June has. April has two-thirds of the number of sweets that May has.
How many sweets does June have?

- A 60 B 52 C 48 D 40 E 36

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

History News

This week's recommendations...

To visit:

Ever wanted to take a trip to Pompeii, but lockdown got in the way? Well this weekend, why not take a weekend break to Pompeii? Virtually, of course! This week's must watch recommendation is a virtual tour to one of the most captivating archaeological excavations - originally a prosperous town on the outskirts of Naples, until it was covered in lava from an eruption of nearby volcano, Mount Vesuvius, in 79AD.

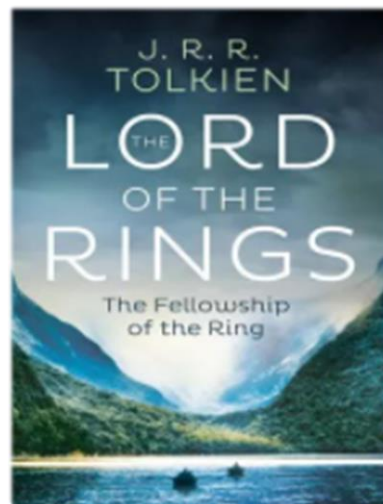
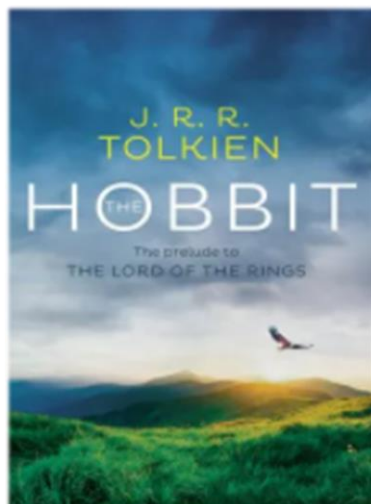
You can use this link to access this virtual tour for free:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4flx14q5OE>



To Read:

This week's book recommendation can also double as a film recommendation. J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* series conveys a great representation of Anglo-Saxon times! The films make for a great lazy Sunday watch, particularly on a cold or rainy day! The books themselves allow for the imagination to run free, and are a definite must read! An added bonus is that the first two books in the series are available in the school's new electronic library via the Sora App.



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Please do continue to send in your book, film, podcast, and virtual tour recommendations, and we will share them in the Newsletter and through our Instagram page, @stjosephshistory.

Recipe of the Week:

Our Instagram followers asked, and we listened! Each week, the History Department will be uploading a recipe onto our Instagram page as well as a brief history of where the recipe came from. This week's recipe is the traditional English bakewell tart, which originated outside the Peak District as a bakewell pudding.

We would love to see our students' creations, so please do send pictures of your to Ms. Weir by email or private Teams message, and we can share them in the Newsletter and on our Instagram page!

Design and Technology Department

Year 7

Some wonderful practical work being seen this week! What a treat to see pupils working with a range of modelling materials through teams! Well done Year 7 on your efforts so far, looking forward to seeing new avatars and mini me adventures next week!

Pancakes

Thank you to all who shared their delicious looking pancakes last week, it certainly looked like St Joe's chefs feasted well before Lent!

GBBO- spring cakes!

Well done and good luck to those that entered! Here are 2 that passed through our inboxes.... Well done **Karolina Woronowicz** and **Gianina Lica** on these fabulous efforts!



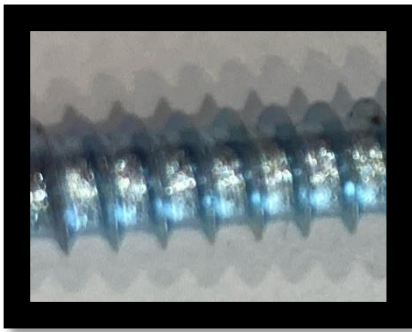
DT CHALLENGE

We are on Instagram and we welcome you to get involved and participate..... share your fabulous February positivity creations with us, and your answers to this weeks what izzit..... well done to **Gabriella Majewska** for guessing that last week's mystery object wasa whisk!



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#Whatizzit- What is it?



Can you identify this week's mystery item, and give an example of what it is used for.....

Science News

With all this extra time at home, why not expand your general knowledge with some fascinating science?

Each week, the science department will be recommending for you something to watch/read/listen to.

Something to watch: My Octopus Teacher (Netflix) The documentary maker Craig Foster decided that he would dive, every day, in a cold, underwater kelp forest near his home in Cape Town, South Africa. It was on one such dive that he encountered a common octopus that was hiding from sharks. Watching behaviour so complex and mesmerising gave Foster an idea: for the next year, he visited the octopus and tracked her movements. Over time, the octopus responded, greeted him, even played with him, and so Foster began to map the common ground that exists between two wildly different forms of intelligence.



Something to read: Can wildfires cool the climate? Wildfires have captured headlines around the globe in recent years. In 2018, California wildfires caused record destruction and death. But the area they incinerated would be eclipsed by fires in 2020. Could these fires work to reduce global temperatures?



<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/wildfires-australia-siberia-california-cool-climate-aerosols>

PE @ Home

Challenges

1. **Physical Challenge #6 – Balance on your head** – Click on the link below to watch the tutorial. Film your successful attempts and send it through <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4RrHB92fck>

2. Strava – We have created a St. Joseph's Fitness Challenge Strava group so you can track any walk, runs or rides that you do out of school. You will need to create your own Strava account first (you have to be 13) and then request to join the group through the link below:

<https://www.strava.com/clubs/st-joseph-s-fitness-challenge-826785>



St Joseph's Fitness Challenge

Slough, England, United Kingdom

St Joseph's PE department Fitness Challenge

Club Leaderboard

Compare your training with other Club members and stay motivated throughout the week.
Request to join this club

Helpful Reminders

- Strava should be used with parental control and consent
 - Strava tracks location through GPS. If you wish to not show your location you will need to manually input the exercise each time.
 - You can also set your profile's to private so that the general public cannot see your activity
 - Strava is a FREE app, you only pay for a premium version. You DO NOT need the premium version to participate in the group
3. Workout of the Week (WOW) – Complete the workout and send your results to your PE teachers.



<u>30 Second AMRAP Abs</u> 3 rounds for time: 30-second plank shoulder taps (AMRAP) 30-second plank 30-second sit-ups (AMRAP) 30-second mountain climbers (AMRAP) 30-second rest between rounds	<u>Squat -> Push Up Countdown</u> 3 rounds for time: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Air squat Push up (Still got energy? Work your way back up from 1 through 10 reps)	<u>Burp Squat Non-Stop</u> 25 rounds of: 3 burpees 20 air squats
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'Unlocking Belief in All'

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A reminder to follow us on Instagram @stjosephsmfl

Next Tuesday, Simone Gagliesi will represent St Joseph's in the TVLP Spelling Bee competition against Langley Academy, well done for stepping up to the challenge and best of luck in Round 1!

On Monday, our Year 11 cohort will take their first centre assessments in French and Spanish – good luck to everyone!

'Unlocking Belief in All'

El día de Andalucía 28/02

The Día de Andalucía (The Day of Andalusia) is celebrated on the 28th February (on Sunday) and it commemorates the day that Andalucía became an autonomous community in Spain. Andalucía is in the most southern region of Spain, there are 8 different provinces: Jaén, Córdoba, Sevilla (Seville), Huelva, Cádiz, Málaga, Granada and Almería. You might know some of them, as some cities like Granada, Málaga and Sevilla are very common touristic destinations. This day is celebrated all over Andalucía and we usually have a special breakfast called 'desayuno andaluz'. It consists of pan (bread), aceite (oil) and zumo (juice) or ColaCao. There are three Andalusian teachers in St. Joseph's, so it could be fun if you celebrate the day of Andalucía by having a typical 'desayuno andaluz' like us!



Drama News

Next week is the House drama competition Monologues. If you are interested in this competition you will need to do the following:

Either write your own monologue or perform an already written one. Get someone in your family to film you and send it to me on Teams or email me s.dunleavy@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk. I am looking forward to seeing them. Closing date is Friday 5th March.

Mrs Dunleavy

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7 Szymon Strzelczyk for outstanding work in Geography and Anna-Emiliya Larionova for outstanding work in History.	Year 8 Jose Osei-Agyarko (8C) for outstanding commitment to his online learning across all subjects. Liam Barrett (8P) for settling in to his new school well and having a fantastic first half term.
Year 9 Riah Newman-Lake for amazing work in Geography. Wiktoria Dudek for an excellent piece of creative writing.	Year 10 Olivier Lydzinski and Matylda Labuz for their great contribution and participation in Science.
Year 11 The whole year group for being incredibly resilient during this first week of exams!	Year 12 Imsal Khan for being accepted onto the SMF programme. Karan Ghotra for his brilliant work in Maths.

Friday 26th February 2021

Year 13

Krystian Abramowicz and Sarah Allababidi for
their excellent attendance and attitude to
learning throughout the year.