

St Joseph's

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Friday, 03 December 2021

NEWSLETTER



Week One of Advent symbolised Hope & Faith. At St Joseph's we are preparing to light our second candle on Sunday.

Advent theme for next week is peace

"Unlocking Belief in All"

FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 Parents Evening. Just a reminder that we wrote earlier this term to say that the Year 11 parents evening was moved from this coming Thursday to 13th January 2022 following the push back of the PPE exams. Please see Mr Cudmore's notice later in this Newsletter.

Invite to the first Parent Forum Group

Our first ever Parent Forum Group will be meeting at 5.30pm Monday 6th December 2021 in the school hall.

Alongside our typical continuous work to improve the school, we have been working hard to develop plans to support the recovery process from the short and longer-term effects of Covid-19 on the education of the children we serve. Throughout the past few terms, we have been working on a number of approaches to help evolve the school to help us provide the best possible education for the children in our care given these challenges.

The purpose of the group is for us to share, discuss and evolve new initiatives, ideas and policies that will enhance the education provided at the school over the years ahead.

Thank you to all our parents who have already confirmed their interest in attending this group – if you would like to participate in this group then please email m.mclaughlin@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

Please be aware of fake news and Information regarding Covid Testing. As if life isn't challenging enough at the moment we've been asked by the NHS to let you know that there are reports of parents and schools receiving scam emails purporting to be from NHS offering free "Omicron PCR tests" to "avoid restrictions" (see attached screenshot of an email sent to a central London school this morning 30/11/2021). The following has been sent out on NHS Twitter and the Department for Education LinkedIn page:

<https://twitter.com/NHSuk/status/1465693768380604431>

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/uk-department-for-education_phishing-spot-and-report-scam-emails-texts-activity-6871480540285976576-vAJ2

Hoax Survey. Disappointingly, on the back of the peer to peer sexual abuse survey the students participated in this week we've also been made aware of a Hoax or fake survey circulating around on social media sites about St Joseph's. Please don't worry, the police and our solicitors are aware and will take any necessary action rather than eat up precious time the staff need to put into the development of the children's learning.

Thailand

St Joseph, pray for us

Ciran Stapleton

November Behaviour Challenge Concludes - BIG PRIZE DAY COMING SOON!

Our November Behaviour Challenge has now been completed. **15 Winners in each year group** have been determined and these will be announced on Monday morning next week.

Our winners will have a **One Day Pass** to our Mega Inflatables event taking place in the Sports Hall on **Tuesday 14th December**. If your child is a winner, they will be coming home with a consent letter for you to sign, which will also contain the details that you will need to know.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Dann

Christmas Dinner Day



As has become tradition at St Josephs, all students will be provided with Christmas Dinner by the school on Thursday 16th December 2021.

This will be a mufti day (Christmas Jumpers to be encouraged!). The £1 donation will go towards charities the school supports.

Students in each Year Group will sit together in the hall at time throughout the day and enjoy the Christmas Party spirit with entertainment provided by some of the school staff.

The canteen will not be open for breakfast or during break and lunchtimes

on Christmas Dinner day.

Full details will be released in the Newsletter next week.

Miss Cheston



THEME OF THE WEEK- Prepare!

Our theme in school this week is 'Prepare!' and as we enter into the second week of Advent, we hear in the Gospel a prophecy from the prophet Isaiah being fulfilled. Everything in the Old Testament points towards the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. Here is John the Baptist who was the one to prepare the way for the Lord. We are also called to be like John the Baptist, preparing a way for the Lord in our daily lives, especially during this time of Advent.

How are you going to prepare a way for the Lord Jesus in your life?

Can you find some time to remember Jesus each day?

The second week of Advent follows the theme of 'peace'. Let us pray today, for places around the world where this is war and violence, for peace in the hearts of all people. It's important for us to remember our brothers and sisters around the world who are in difficulty. Take some time to pause and offer up your own prayers for peace in your heart and mind for these people.

As we remember and pray for our brothers and sisters around the world, we remember too that we are all children of God, and He loves us.

What does it mean to you to know that you are a child of God?

In the Gospel, we hear the words; "all people will see God's salvation" – Salvation is for everyone. Jesus came to die and to rise from the dead for you and for me, for everyone. It's no good thinking that faith and Jesus is not for you, that you don't need Him in your life. Jesus is for you, and you need Him in your life. Without Jesus' Incarnation, His birth at Christmas, He would not have been able to die for us opening the way back to God our Father.

Let us continue on their journey of Advent with an openness, preparing the way for Jesus to come into our hearts at Christmas, to be mindful of our brothers and sisters around the world, that we are all children of God.

Prepare!

Weekly Reflections
6th December 2021



Peace



A reading from St Luke's Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.
And all people will see God's salvation.'"

Prayer for the Week

Lord, by the work of
our hands, the
gentleness of our
thoughts and the
power of our prayers,
may seeds of hope
grow to peace in
hearts and lives.
Amen.

Day 1

As we enter into the second week of Advent, we hear in the Gospel a prophecy from the prophet Isaiah being fulfilled. Everything in the Old Testament points towards the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. Here is John the Baptist who was the one to prepare the way for the Lord. We are also called to be like John the Baptist, preparing a way for the Lord in our daily lives, especially during this time of Advent. How are you going to prepare a way for the Lord Jesus in your life? Can you find some time to remember Jesus each day?



Day 2

"all people will see God's salvation" - Salvation is for everyone. Jesus came to die and to rise from the dead for you and for me, for everyone. It's no good thinking that faith and Jesus is not for you, that you don't need Him in your life. Jesus is for you, and you need Him in your life. Without Jesus' Incarnation, His birth at Christmas, He would not have been able to die for us opening the way back to God our Father. We are all children of God, and He loves us. What does it mean to you to know that you are a child of God?



Day 3

This week we celebrate The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8th December). Let us ask the prayer of Mary today as we pray;
*Hail Mary, full of Grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among
women
and blessed is the fruit of
thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God:
pray for us, sinners,
now and at the hour of our
death.
Amen.*

Day 4 'Peace'

The second week of Advent follows the theme of 'peace'. Let us pray today, for places around the world where this is war and violence, for peace in the hearts of all people. Pause for a moment, and offer up your own prayers for peace in your heart and mind.

Day 5

God, may we be people of gentleness and peace as we go about our lives today. Amen.

YEAR 11 NEWS

A huge congratulations to the Y11 football team finishing off the calendar year with a great 7-0 win over Westgate on Tuesday. Throughout the game they kept their standards high and the quality of football showed."

I would also like to remind you as per the newsletter on 15th October that parents evening has been moved to 13th January and more details will follow closer to the time.

We have 2 weeks left to go and this lesson time will be incredibly valuable as you will be going through gaps in knowledge identified from the assessments.

See you all on Monday.

Mr Cudmore

SIXTH FORM NEWS

On Monday, Year 12 and 13 Law students visited the Houses of Parliament, gaining a tour of both the House of Commons as well as the House of Lords to see how Law is made. We were also greeted by our M.P Tan Dhesi. The students then went on to the Royal Courts of Justice where they took part in a mock murder trial. It was a truly valuable experience and the students were amazing.

Mr Gibbons



Year 12 and 13 Computer Science students Virtual Enrichment Computer conference



On Friday 3rd December Year 12 and 13 Computer Science students attend a Virtual Enrichment Computer conference.

The inspirational day of Computer Science talks for KS5 students featured Universities, industry leaders and media. Students attended five highly educational and interactive sessions on areas covered in their course, such as: Machine Learning, Algorithms and data Structure, Animation, Fighting Cancer with computers, Robotics in Finance. This was an invaluable opportunity for students to get some

real-world insight in to the world of technology. Students thoroughly enjoyed the event and the immersion in to real life Technology in Action! Students were able to engage in a live Q&A session and live polls to get them thinking about key topics. The day also featured a special session with hints and tips for examination success.

Quotes from students:

"The interactive Computer Science in Action event empowered us with the fascinating use of programming in the real world to successfully simulate situations as well as its use in graphic design, movies, and games. It also went into great detail about how machine learning is the future of computer science and the maths behind animation"

"I enjoyed the Q&A section making the session interactive and learning about the animation of movies and games and how different programming languages are used to create games and movies"

"I enjoyed the interactive experience allowing me to ask questions to further my understanding of the topic"

"The webinar is inspiring and the concept of computing science and biology seemed mind blowing but now I envision a possibly of it in the future. So many opportunities in computer science, Wow!"



YEAR 12

YEAR 13

A big congratulations to all the students who have already submitted their UCAS applications. Offers and interviews are starting to be given which is very exciting. For all who have not submitted; completing your personal statement must be a priority to ensure your application is finished before we break up for Christmas.

Interventions have begun to help students fill in gaps in their knowledge. Teachers will review the most recent exams to ensure the relevant content is revised and recapped.

Each form group are going to put together a Christmas hamper, which will be given to people in the local area. Hampers should include non-perishable food, toiletries and Christmas items. Thank you to all who are contributing towards this. Generosity and thoughtfulness are all part of the St Joseph's pupil profile therefore its excellent seeing these values upheld.

Next week PSHE will be on Friday 10th period 5.

Have a great week!

Mrs Bray

Update! Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 11 Students – 7th of December 2021

Year 11 students will find information specific to the Taster Day on our school website, here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/joining-us/taster-day-2021/>

Taster Day is an exciting first step for Year 11 students into their journey beyond Year 11. The students will take part in a Sixth Form Taster Day on the 7th of November, in which they will experience a full day as a sixth form student. They will join a sixth form tutor for registration, attend taster lessons and attend a PSHE assembly in their final period of the day. The lessons will provide deeper insight into the A Level Curriculum and Pathways Information and Guidance, tailored to their needs. The day is an important part of the process of ensuring students are on the right courses for them that lead them to progression to university or employment in line with their career goals. Students will come dressed as sixth formers, i.e. in professional, office wear (please see the policy here: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/home/news-and-events/term-dates/>)

For more information and guidance on how to choose subjects, please see our prospectus on the Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening page: <https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/sixth-form/joining-us/virtual-open-evening-2021/>

Year 12 and 13 will complete work at home via Teams on the Taster Day and so will not be required to come into school. Teachers will provide the work online to be completed independently, on the same day with it submitted on Teams via a submission or photo of the written work.

Literacy - Word and Idiom of the Week

The word this coming week is '**intentional**', an adjective, which means 'an action that is done on purpose, with thought and intent'. An intentional person is someone who lives deliberately; someone who builds up their own worldview and then tries to live by it. To be **intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

The idiom this coming week is '**all the glitters is not gold**'. This is an aphorism stating that not everything that looks precious or true turns out to be so. It is someone or something may not be as good or as valuable as they first appear. An aphorism is a memorable expression of general truth or principle.

Mr Clark

Student Absences Reminder - Illness and Medical Appointments

If you are unwell, your parents/carer should contact the school before **08.00am** on the first day of your absence informing the school of the reason for absence.

If we do not hear from your parents or carer the school attendance office will endeavour to contact home to ensure you are safe.

1. Every effort should be made to arrange medical appointments outside school hours.
2. An appointment card or verification by the doctors/dentist/hospital is required both for late arrival and for absences and handed into Reception.
3. If it is necessary for you to be out of school for this reason, you should be returning to school directly after the appointment.

House Assemblies

This week, the Heads of House delivered assemblies around the theme of 'Be Alert'. Pupils were encouraged to respond to Jesus' call to prepare for the future with urgency. Their reaction times were tested, as well as the extent of their knowledge of the anatomy during the cup game! Thank you to Mr. Silver, Mr. Carey, Miss Ure, Miss Joseph, Miss Boland and Mr. Hunt for leading this.'



Carol Service Rehearsal - Monday 6th December 3:00-4:00pm

We are preparing for our virtual Carol Service this week, and will have a rehearsal afterschool to go through all of the songs for the Service.

If you are involved with the singing or playing, please make sure you attend this rehearsal.

If you want to be involved, please see Miss Ure Monday Morning.

Behaviour for Learning - Parent Voice Survey

St Josephs wish to give parents a voice and provide us with Behaviour for learning feedback. Please can we ask all parents and carers to respond.

Please note that the survey **expires on Monday 6th December at 8:30am**. Website address for the required form is:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nRr-BijQTU2WCf5rTXAvSfMmhZB4cQRFtn2lCv1l-kxUMkZONlZMSUtSSFUyOTBCSVdQRzZaWk1GUC4u>

Mr Dann

Year 7: Maroon

Year 10: Blue

Year 8: Red

Year 11: Green

Year 9: Purple

6th Form: Orange

Chapel Morning Prayer Rota



	Monday (Yr 7 & 6 th Form)	Tuesday (Yr 11)	Wednesday (Yr 10)	Thursday (Yr 9)	Friday (Yr 8)
W/B 15/11	Year 8 – Veronica Miss Berber		Year 8 – Peter Mrs Ura		
W/B 22/11					
W/B 29/11		Year 8 Teresa Mr Silver	Year 8 – Cecilia Mr Mall	Year 8 – Jerome Mrs Rodriguez	
W/B 6/12	Year 8 – Mark Miss Street		6 th Form – Cecilia & Jerome – Mr Simmons & Mr Evans	6 th Form – Joseph & Mark – Ms Prince & Mrs Stockings	
W/B 13/12			6 th Form – Peter & Teresa – Miss Hurley & Mr Allinson	6 th Form – Thomas & Veronica – Mr Kuczynski & Dr Wait	
W/B 20/12	Christmas Holidays				
W/B 27/12					
W/B 3/1			Year 11 – Teresa Ms Kell/Mrs Anstiss	Year 11 – Peter Mr Carey	
W/B 10/1	Year 11 – Veronica Mrs Debais/Ms Kell		Year 11 – Mark Mr Watson	Year 11 – Jerome Mrs Buck	
W/B 17/1	Year 11 – Cecilia Mr Hunt		Year 9 – Cecilia Miss Weir	Year 10 – Cecilia Mrs Rolfe	
W/B 24/1	Year 9 – Jerome Miss Aushana		Year 9 – Mark Mr Spencer	Year 10 – Jerome Miss Boland	
W/B 31/1	Year 9 – Peter Ms Aldridge		Year 9 – Teresa Miss Toro Sanchez	Year 10 – Mark Miss Ure	
W/B 7/2	Year 9 – Veronica Miss Joseph		Year 7 – Cecilia Ms Marciniak-Grabowicz	Year 10 – Peter Mrs Lionel	

“Unlocking Belief in All”

Christmas Carol Singing

As we come to the end of the term, we would like St Joseph's students to join in on the festivities as we say farewell to 2021! It is a lovely way for your child to get involved this Christmas at St Josephs.

Please do have conversations with them about getting involved. For parents/guardians who may live nearby the school entrance, please be informed that there will be some music playing to help the students with their carols.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a very, Merry Christmas.

Miss Pisavadia



Christmas Carol Singing!

Join in on the Christmas fun on Thursday 16th December where we will be singing Christmas carols at the front gate from 8:15 -8:30am

Let's say farewell to 2021 in high spirits!

You are welcome to wear something Christmassy, but still in uniform - so you can wear a Christmas hat/hairband/scarf/socks

If you would like to participate please ask your tutor to email your names to Miss Pisavadia;
p.pisavadia@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Computer Science News

Computer Science Club for the year 7 & 8s is on every Monday, 3:00 - 4:00pm in CP2.

Student will work on the AWS - GetIT Competition which is an initiative designed by Amazon Web Services (AWS) to encourage students to consider a career in tech. The aim of this competition is to design and create an application to solve real life issues faced by their schools or community.

In this club you will learn practical digital and IT skills which include problem solving, designing, and coding. It will also help with teamwork and oracy skills as you will have to present your design to wide audience.

Miss Viegas

History News

Year 11 Student of the Month:

A huge well done to Donnique Ngugi for winning November's History Student of the Month! Donnique has been working hard in lessons throughout the year, always contributes positively, and is making good progress in each lesson. A huge well done, Donnique – a £10 Amazon voucher is coming your way!

History Film Club:

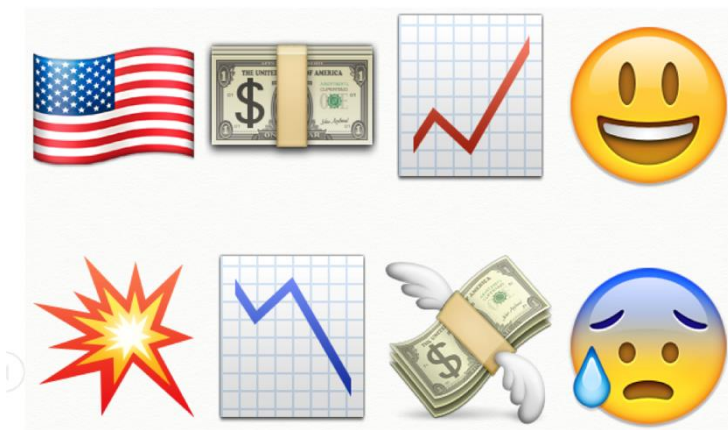
This half-term, the History Department will be showing "Private Peaceful" on Wednesday 8th December in T13. This film will begin promptly at 3.05pm, with a running time of 1 hour and 42 minutes. **The age rating is 12A years old.** This viewing will be supervised by a member of the History Department.

This term, Year 7 students have been reading *Private Peaceful*, by Michael Morpungo. *Private Peaceful* tells the story of two brothers who go off to fight in World War I, and portrays the challenges they face in their relationship as well as those on the Western Front. Exploring various themes and emotions, this text is a regular favourite amongst our students.



Emoji Competition:

Think you know what historical event the below emojis represent? To submit your answer, write your full name, form and answer on a piece of paper, and place inside the envelope on the emoji display in T14.



A reminder to join our History Instagram page - @stjosephshistory – to see some of the amazing work our students are carrying out, as well film and book recommendations.

Miss Weir

Christmas Hampers

As a school community, we're collecting items to fill hampers for those in our local area in need this Christmas time. Students are to bring in an item to contribute to the collection. Each form is being asked to put together one hamper. There will also be a box in the staff room for extra donations.

Hampers should include non-perishable food, toiletries and Christmas items. Please ensure items have a use by date of no earlier than February 2022.

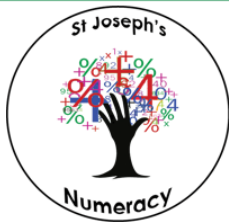
Items should be suitable for children, families AND vulnerable/older people:

- Christmas card or festive message
- Festive treats such as Christmas pudding, biscuits, cake & mince pies
- Christmas chocolate selection boxes
- Tinned goods such as meat, fish, vegetables, fruit & soup
- Pasta & pasta sauces
- Instant mash potato, rice or noodles
- Jams & marmalades
- Cereals & porridge
- Milk (UHT or powdered, not fresh)
- Tea bags, coffee & sugar
- Fruit juice cartons & squash
- Toiletries such as shower gel & flannel, aftershave & perfume
- Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Christmas gift sets
- Stationary & colouring books
- Scarves, gloves & socks

If you would like to fill more than one hamper, it will be gratefully received.

Deadline: Friday 10th December 2021

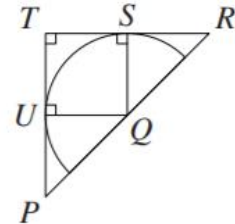




#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- B** The diagram shows the top left-hand corner of the original diagram. The centre of the semicircle shown is Q . Also, U and S are the points where the edges of the bigger square touch the semicircle shown. Therefore both QU and QS are radii of the semicircle and $\angle TSQ = \angle TUQ = 90^\circ$. Also $\angle UTS$ is a right angle as it is the corner of a square. Therefore $UQST$ is a square. Hence $QS = ST$.



Note that $TR = TP$ because P and R are midpoints of the original large square. Therefore $\angle PRT = 45^\circ$. So $QS = RS$.

Hence QS is half the length of TR , which is itself half of the length of a side of the outer square, which is 48 cm.

So the radius of the semicircle is one quarter of 48 cm = 12 cm.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- E** Note that the numbers 123 to 213 are in both option A and option C. Also, numbers 213 to 231 are in both option B and option C, and numbers 231 to 312 are in both C and D. However, numbers 313 to 321 are in option E only. So that must be where Adam's house is.

Problem of the week

For any fixed value of x , which of the following four expressions has the largest value?

$(x+1)(x-1)$	$(x+\frac{1}{2})(x-\frac{1}{2})$	$(x+\frac{1}{3})(x-\frac{1}{3})$	$(x+\frac{1}{4})(x-\frac{1}{4})$
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- A $(x+1)(x-1)$ B $(x+\frac{1}{2})(x-\frac{1}{2})$ C $(x+\frac{1}{3})(x-\frac{1}{3})$ D $(x+\frac{1}{4})(x-\frac{1}{4})$
 E it depends on the value of x

Break time Teaser:

The result of the calculation $9 \times 11 \times 13 \times 15 \times 17$ is the six-digit number '3n8185'. What is the value of n ?

- A 2 B 4 C 6 D 8 E 0

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

PUPIL NOMINATIONS OF THE WEEK

YEAR 7

Jared Fida and **Altaire Ricalde** for their active participation in Food Technology. Well done!

Lena Kuczynska for showing great progress in Spanish.

YEAR 8

Wiktor Rygielski, Nathan James, Nadia Ankiewicz-Heetun and **Romain Janot**. Massive well done for taking visitors around the school.

Maksymilian Oleszak for an outstanding attitude to learning.

YEAR 9

YEAR 10

Patrycja Artemska for the being intentional and gaining the most positive points in Year 10 this week.

Aidan Achong for participation in Spanish lessons.

YEAR 11

Year 11 boys football team for their outstanding performance on Tuesday

YEAR 12

Piotr Augustyn because of his outstanding implication with Drama department.
Beatriz Lamelo because of her amazing score in the positive point's competition.

YEAR 13

Lia O'Brien and **Gian Cajés** for earning the most positive points in November.