



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025



Sports Day at St Joseph's: A Day of Team Spirit

St Joseph's Sports Day was a fantastic success today, with students from all year groups showing enthusiasm and team spirit across a variety of events. It was an action-packed day full of energy and camaraderie, as students represented their Forms and Houses with pride.

Congratulations to everyone who earned points for their Houses, and a **special well done** to all participants for their sportsmanship!

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

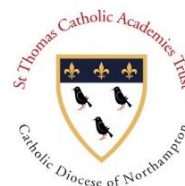
I hope you are all safe and well. Please click on the image below to be directed to this week's Head Teacher Message.



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!"

Harvest

Weekly Reflections
6th July 2025
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Gospel of Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20

At that time: The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no money bag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace be to this house!" And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the labourer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near." I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.'

Prayer for the Week

Loving God,

Allow us to truly listen and understand what you have sown in your Gospel messages to us. Help us to choose to do Your will today even in times of uncertainty and fear so we too can be like the disciples and harvest love and hope to others.

Amen.

Day 1

What does Pope Francis ask if us during this Jubilee Year?
How is this similar to what Jesus asked of the disciples?

Day 2

What is the message of bringing in the harvest?
How can you be **Intentional** and **Prophetic** in harvesting Hope to others?

Day 3

Jubilee year of Hope
Pledge - please see the PPT

Catholic Social Teaching - Stewardship

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." Genesis 2:15. We are guardians of God's creation, living sustainably and enhancing the wellbeing of our planet. Caring for the earth is integral to our task of tackling the scandal of global poverty, vulnerability, inequality, injustice and exclusion. Stewardship is all about caring for the many gifts that God has given to us. These include our environment, our own talents and other resources. The late Pope Francis said "Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home" Laudato Si' 13 and "...the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us." Laudato Si' 159.

How this half term can you promote Stewardship in all that you do in St Joseph's and society?

Theme of the Week – Harvest

This year, 2025, is a Jubilee Year in the Church, the Jubilee Year of Hope. In a letter written by the late Pope Francis he said about this year **“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, *Pilgrims of Hope*. This will indeed be the case if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity.”**

In the Gospel on Sunday, Jesus knew he would need help if the message of God’s love was to be taken to people throughout the world. He prepared his disciples to be sent out to prepare the people for him to come into their lives. We too are asked by God, through Francis, to embark on this journey, to bring Hope to others through love and peace just as Jesus wanted the disciples to share the love and peace of God through their actions and words.

When we reflect on the mission of ‘bringing in the harvest’, Jesus is implying that the planting and nurturing have been successfully completed and all is ready for the ministry of the missionaries. However, the harvesting itself is a dangerous occupation, and the missionaries are as vulnerable as lambs among wolves. Jesus directs them to take only the bare essentials – travel light. They are to trust God and depend on the hospitality of those who welcome them in. Jesus has not waited until the disciples are fully formed to send them on this mission – they will learn on the job.

We too have had the seed of Jesus planted within us; we know what it means to be followers of Him. Evangelisation is the main task of the Church, and each of us is responsible for this task. We too have been called by Francis to spread Hope to others. It’s really easy for us to say, ‘let others do it’, ‘but I don’t think I’m ready’ or ‘I don’t really know what I’m supposed to do?’ Like the disciples, we too will learn on the job. We are to go to others offering peace, love and hope. No matter what the response is of others, we will not lose it ourselves. During this week, be **Intentional** and **Prophetic** to the harvest. Yes, it’s not going to be easy at times, yes you may feel alone. But remember, God too will be by our side. Like Jesus needed the disciples, God too needs us to bring Hope to people who don’t have it in their lives at this time.



Pupil Nominations of the Week

<p>Year 7</p> <p>Grace Odei and Victor Kyazee for excellent weeks.</p> <p>7Y1/Spanish for demonstrating an excellent attitude towards learning and consistently producing good work in lessons since the beginning of this academic year.</p>
<p>Year 8</p> <p>Ciara Croxford-Shalloe and Stuart Stevenson</p>
<p>Year 9</p> <p>Charlotte Mapanzure and Freddie Clark, as voted for by Year 9 Form Tutors.</p> <p>9X3/Spanish for their excellent work, active participation and strong commitment to Spanish throughout last term and this term.</p>
<p>Year 10</p> <p>Ian Mapanzure and Vanessa Temrowska for receiving the most positive this week.</p> <p>Vanessa Temrowska for her proactive approach during Year 6 Transition Day, actively and effectively following instructions. She was an invaluable help, and Mrs Rodriguez would have found it challenging to manage without her support.</p>
<p>Year 12</p> <p>Milena Olech and Chesley Gyasi for their contributions to the wider life of the school, particularly their work with TVLP and Access to Shine.</p>
<p>Emily Szewczyk (10T), Ciara Croxford-Shalloe (8J) and Jemima Da Silva (8P) for their cheerful and patient attitude in supporting the Year 6 students during Transition Day. They demonstrated excellent teamwork throughout the day.</p>

Year 7 News

It has been a very full-on week this week with Parents' Evening and Sports Day. **Thank you to parents and carers who attended Parents' Evening**; it was lovely to see you all. A **massive well done to all Year 7s** for your engagement during Sports Day, it was lovely to see everyone have such a great time on your first Sports Day at St Joseph's.

A letter has gone out regarding **Academic Review Day on 14th July**, a reminder that slips should have been given to Form Tutors by now. I look forward to seeing you all then.

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

It has been a sunny week. **Thank you to all Year 8s who have worked hard this week, with the heat.** As well as the sun, it has been busy; it's great to see all the Year representing their Houses on Sports Day today.

Please make sure you get lots of rest over the weekend and are ready for the final two weeks of the term.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

One of the most exciting weeks of the year, where students get to represent their Forms and Houses and earn those well-deserved points, is finally here – SPORTS DAY on Friday! Students have selected their teams and events, so now it's time to compete for the all-important shields.

Well done to the Year 9 students who helped with Transition Day on Tuesday for the new Year 6s. They were all made to feel welcome and got a taste of what life at St Joseph's will be like.

Have a great weekend!

Ms McCormack – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

It's been a whirlwind week for our incredible Year 10 students, packed with exciting opportunities and hard work!

From gaining valuable insights during work experience placements to exploring the world on a Geography trip, Year 10s have been out and about, learning beyond the classroom. A group also had the thrilling chance to attend an F1 trip, experiencing the fast-paced world of motorsport up close!

On Friday, Sports Day brought out the competitive spirit, with Year 10 showing great teamwork, enthusiasm and sportsmanship across all events.

A huge shout-out to the many Year 10 students who stepped up to support our Year 6 Transition Day. Your leadership, kindness and maturity made a real difference in helping the younger students feel welcomed and excited about joining our school.

Well done Year 10 – your dedication and energy this week have been outstanding!

Have a lovely weekend. 😊

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10

Year 12 News

This week has been another busy one for Year 12. A number of students have taken part in Virtual Work Experience sessions run by Unifrog, gaining information about careers such as Accountancy, Finance, Animal Care and the NHS.

On Wednesday, all our students also took part in our annual Interview Day run by Learning to Work; where a number of industry professionals visited the school to lead the Year 12s through a mock interview process in preparation for their applications to final destinations next year. As always, the students really benefited from the experience and the volunteers were very impressed by them!

Exams are now finished and **students' reports with end of year grades should be available in time for Academic Review Day on Monday 16th July.**

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12

Music Department News

Mass Music Rehearsal: Monday 7th July Period 1

Please let Miss Ure know via Teams if you are participating in the music or singing for whole school Mass.



Year 8 Assembly

Last week, we had a wonderful Year 8 assembly with Mr Stapleton, full of energy and engagement. Everyone was involved – asking thoughtful questions and listening attentively throughout his talk.

At one point, he spoke about bread in a gospel-related context, making a powerful connection between sharing and *community*. Then he asked, “Who wants bread?” and the room lit up with enthusiastic responses: “Yes, yes!” It created a joyful and uplifting atmosphere.

The most memorable moment was when we all shared the bread together – a beautiful act of unity and reflection that left a lasting impression on everyone present.



Jubilee Pilgrimage to Stoner Park

As part of their Pilgrimage to Stoner Park, the students and Staff from St Joseph’s and St Bernard’s attended a reverent Mass celebrated by Father Kevin in the serene surroundings of the estate. The experience provided a meaningful opportunity for reflection and spiritual connection. The day continued with a guided visit to the historic Stoner House, one of England’s oldest family homes still in residence. Students were fascinated by its rich *Catholic heritage* and the role it played during the time of recusancy. Later, they enjoyed a relaxed picnic in the beautiful park grounds, taking in the peaceful natural setting. It was a memorable and enriching day filled with faith, history and community.



Basketball News

The **Year 9s** have come out on top this year as the best team in Slough. A **massive well done** to all the boys. Officially **the best School Basketball team in Slough!**



The Year 8s have made it to the Final and will be playing DPA prior to the Summer Break.

Year 10 Students Shine at Williams Racing Experience Centre

Our Year 10 students had an incredible day at the Williams Racing Experience Centre, where their enthusiasm, engagement and exemplary behaviour truly stood out. Highlights of the trip included an exciting session in the Esports Lounge and the simulator experience, offering students a taste of the high-speed world of motorsport.

They also enjoyed an exclusive tour of the museum and were given the chance to showcase their creativity and problem-solving skills in the Williams STEM Composites Challenge, where they designed the front end of a racing car, including the crucial crumple zone.

A huge congratulations to **Lucas Passos**, who took 1st place in the e-simulator event, and to **Oliver Kroliczek, Amrita Dylak, Jayden Jonga and Aidan Vaughan** for their victory in the STEM challenge.

Well done to all students for their fantastic attitude and achievements on the day!



"Unlocking Belief in All"

Year 10 Geography Fieldtrips

This week, our Year 10 Geography students took part in their compulsory AQA GCSE fieldtrip to London, exploring both human and physical geography first-hand. In the morning, they visited Stratford and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to investigate the effects of urban regeneration, collecting data to evaluate how the area has changed socially, economically and environmentally since the 2012 Olympics.

In the afternoon, the students carried out a physical geography enquiry in Hyde Park, studying how soil characteristics – such as moisture and pH – affect species distribution in different grassland areas.

Our students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day, showing great *curiosity and attentiveness*. The experience gave them valuable skills and knowledge that will support their GCSE studies moving forward.



Tennis Trip at Eton College

On Thursday 3rd July, six Year 7 students had the exciting opportunity to attend a tennis taster event at Eton College. This special day, designed to be inclusive and enjoyable, provided the students with a chance to explore the world of tennis while improving their skills and building confidence.

The event featured a range of fun activities that helped the students develop their tennis abilities in a supportive and friendly environment. They participated in various drills and exercises, learning new techniques while having a great time. The highlight of the day was the tennis matches, where the students were able to put their newfound skills to the test in friendly competition.

At the end of the event, all participants were rewarded for their effort and enthusiasm with a medal to celebrate their participation.



Science Club – Exploring Physics in action!

This week in Science Club, students explored the physics of bubbles and balance through two engaging hands-on activities. First, they investigated how volume and elasticity play a role in blowing soap bubbles. Students observed how air pressure, surface tension and the elasticity of the soap film work together to create perfect spheres of various sizes.

Next, they took on the fun and surprising challenge of balancing a can on its edge. Using small adjustments and a bit of physics know-how, they learned about centre of gravity and how weight distribution affects balance.

Everyone had a great time experimenting, learning and participating in the interactive activities!



Year 10 DofE Silver Expedition Begins

This morning, a group of our Year 10 students set off for their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Silver Expedition at Farmour Reservoir, where they will spend the next three days testing their resilience, teamwork and navigation skills. With the beautiful outdoors as their backdrop, the students will embark on a range of challenges, developing both personal growth and a deep connection to nature.

We wish them all the best of luck and look forward to hearing about their adventure upon their return!



"Unlocking Belief in All"

The St Joseph's Chess Club

St Joseph's Catholic High School competed in the Slough Schools Chess Competition on Wednesday 3rd July 2025. We came **3rd place**, even with **Joseph Cartwright (8T)** being awarded **Best Player** for the overall competition!

Bartek Wojtala 12M Filip Kaczmarek 12C Brianne Barrozo9V Joseph Cartwright 8T



Camilla Molenda 12J Ann Kavalakkat 12C Joyvin Menezes 12P Filip Marczuk 12J



Retreat to Worth – 27th June 2025

On 27th June, a group of Year 12s headed to Worth for a Retreat Day. The day was an opportunity to work with students at Worth and spend some time focused on prayer and spirituality. In the morning, students took part in team activities with the purpose of supporting one another with challenges faced. Then, as a cohort, we spent the afternoon in the Abbey reflecting on different types of prayer, particularly *Lectio Divina*, just to spend some time away from all the worries of life and give some time to God. Students had a great experience, and we will be going back there in October with other students across the country as part of the *Catholic Schools Youth Ministry International (CSYMI)*.





#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- E There is exactly one route from "1" to "2", but two routes from "1" to "3" - one route directly from "1" to "3" and one route which moves from "1" to "2" to "3".
To move from "1" to "4", it is necessary to move from "2" directly to "4" or to move from "3" to "4". So the number of routes from "1" to "4" is $1 + 2 = 3$.
By a similar method, the number of routes from "1" to "5" is $2 + 3 = 5$ and from "1" to "6" is $3 + 5 = 8$. Finally, the number of routes from "1" to "7" is $5 + 8 = 13$.
(Note that the numbers of routes to each of the squares is a term in the Fibonacci sequence.)

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- D First note that $AB = \sqrt{13}$, $AC = \sqrt{26}$, $AD = \sqrt{17}$ and $AE = \sqrt{13}$. Thus $AB = AE$.
Note also that $BC = \sqrt{13}$ and $CE = \sqrt{13}$. Therefore $ABCE$ is a rhombus.
Finally, $BE = \sqrt{26}$, so $ABCE$ is a rhombus with two equal diagonals and hence is a square.
So (3,5) is the odd point out.

Puzzler of the week

Two numbers x and y have a product which is equal to their sum.

Which of these expressions gives x in terms of y ?

A $\frac{y}{y-1}$

B $\frac{y}{y+1}$

C $\frac{y+1}{y}$

D $\frac{y-1}{y}$

E $\frac{y^2}{y+1}$

Break-Time Teaser

Megan writes down a list of five numbers. The mean of her first three numbers is -3 . The mean of her first four numbers is 4 . The mean of her first five numbers is -5 .

What is the difference between her fourth number and her fifth number?

A 66

B 55

C 44

D 33

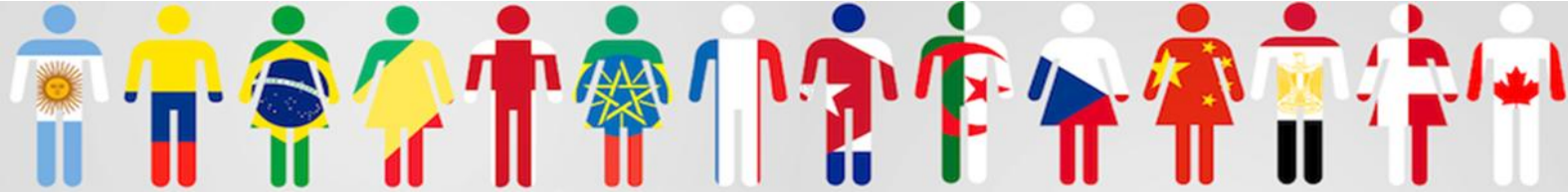
E 22

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

Menu

WEEKLY MENU				
St Joseph's Catholic High School - Week Two				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chilli Beef Nachos with Sour Cream & Cheese	Chicken Korma served with Rice	Beef Pastitsio	Chicken Shawarma in a folded Naan with Harissa Yoghurt & Rainbow Slaw	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips & Tartare Sauce
Quorn & Vegetable Shepherd's Pie with Sweet Potato Mash	Cheddar & Broccoli Quiche served with a New Potato Salad	Vegetable Spring Roll Served with Noodles	Red Lentil Bolognese served with Parmesan Cheese	Quorn Sausages with Sticky Onions
Vegetables & Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables & Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables of Freshly Prepared House Salad	Baked Beans or Mushy Peas
Pesto Pasta Pot	Pasta with a Cheese Sauce	Pasta with Garlic & Parmesan	Teriyaki Noodle Pot	-
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	-
Iced Carrot Cake	Lemon & Lime Drizzle Cake	Rice Crispy Cake	Sticky Toffee Pudding served with Custard	Marble Cake

Available daily:
Sandwiches, Wraps & Baguettes, Panini, Jacket Potatoes, Cold Desserts & Fruit



EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Languages)

Food for Thought over the Summer

Going away in the next couple of weeks? Whether you are going away or not, remember that children learn through play and curiosity. At the same time, playing with children is important for **supporting your child's literacy development, reducing stress and improving mental health among parents or caregivers.** Several studies suggest that learning is a major part of what occurs during play: Playing and learning are inextricably linked. For children, playing with adults is likely to be even more enriching.

Here are some fun games for all ages:

1. 20 Questions: [Click here to learn how to play this game](#)
2. Pass The Story: [Click here](#)
3. Scrabble: [How to play Scrabble](#)
4. Terraforming Mars: [Click here to Learn how to play](#)
5. Don't Eat Pete: [How to play](#)

Free Online Resources

[Document about Parenting and supporting Teenagers](#)

