



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 9th May 2025



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

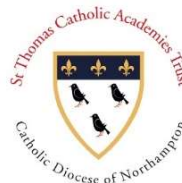
Year 7 Football League Champs

The Year 7 Football Team faced Ditton Park in the final of the League Competition. A strong St Joseph's side took control of the game from the start. The first half finished 4-0 to St Joseph's, with further dominance in the second half and all squad members playing fantastically. When the final whistle blew, the **final score was 6-0.**

It was a great performance from all involved and a fantastic way to finish the season!

Goals: Dayen x3, Jacob x2, Oli x1

Man of the Match: Dayen



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

I know my sheep

Weekly Reflections
4th May 2025
4th Sunday of Easter



From the Gospel of John (10: 27-30)

At that time: Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

Prayer for the Week

Loving Father,

We thank you for the many ways we hear your voice - through the scriptures, the world around us, and the people we meet; through prayer and reflection, through the experiences of life and through our daily walk with you.

Through Christ our Lord
Amen

Day 1

Who at St Joseph's would you turn too when in need?
What qualities does that person have for you to turn to them?

Day 2

If you have owned a pet in the past, how have you illustrated the teachings of Jesus? How have you been their shepherd?
Why does Jesus promise eternal life for His sheep?

Day 3

How can you be more **Attentive** and **Discerning** in listening to Jesus through prayer?
How can we be more **Attentive** and **Discerning** when listening to the needs of others?

Catholic Social Teaching - Peace

Today the world has a profound thirst for peace. In many countries, people are suffering due to wars which, though often forgotten, are always the cause of suffering and poverty." **Pope Francis, 20 September 2016**
Peace is not just the absence of war. It is part of God's nature, and a value we should all seek to live out in our daily lives.

"Inner peace is closely related to care for ecology and for the common good because, lived out authentically, it is reflected in a balanced lifestyle together with a capacity for wonder which takes us to a deeper understanding of life." **Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 225**

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

Theme of the Week – I know my sheep

Within a school like ours, the pastoral care given by your Form Tutor, Head of Year or any member of Staff for that matter is the most important aspect of our school life. It's important to know that your teacher cares deeply for you. They want you to be happy and safe in school. They want you to confide in them where needed and know that they will support you not just in your studies but as you move into adult life. So in this week's Gospel, where we see Jesus as the shepherd who knows His sheep, it's important to know that the Latin root word for shepherd is pastor, and it is from this root that springs the church's terminologies and concepts of pastoral care and roles within faith communities. These roles imply a duty of love and care.

In Jesus' day, flocks of sheep were very small and the shepherd knew each sheep by its name. They were a bit like pets. So if you are fortunate to have a pet or have had a pet, you as an owner have cared for them; Take them for walks, fed them when they were hungry, loved them like family. So Jesus as our shepherd is telling us that he will always be there for us when we need him, and that he watches over us and protects us always. The shepherd knows his sheep, and the sheep their shepherd. Complete trust is implicit. The Gospel today makes some sweeping claims – eternal life promised for his sheep, and total protection from anyone who would seek to snatch them away. It finishes up with the declaration that Jesus and God are one.

In what ways are you called to act as a 'shepherd', and to whom? Who are the people who act as shepherds to you? How do they carry out this role? As we place ourselves in the midst of this intimate relationship with Jesus, we might think about the ways in which we 'hear his voice'? Do you have a sense of being called by name? How have you been **Attentive** and **Discerning** in listening to the Lord's voice when He has spoken to you through prayer? What are the other conflicting voices that try to drown him out, and where are they leading us? During the week be **Attentive** and **Discerning** to the needs of people who are in your care.

St Joseph's the Worker Feast Day – Thursday 1st May 2025

Last Thursday, St Joseph's came together to celebrate our Feast Day, St Joseph the Worker. Fr Kevin O Driscoll from Holy Family Parish came into school to celebrate a whole school Mass before we all went out onto the school field for a photo where we spelt out St Joseph's.

We then went out into the community to serve and help others to live out our school mission statement of **"Unlocking Belief in All"** and demonstrate our school virtues of being: *Learned and Wise, Loving and Compassionate, Truthful and eloquent, intentional and prophetic, attentive and discerning, faith-filled and hopeful, curious and active, grateful and generous.*

Our staff and students went to either St Anthony's Primary School, St Bernard's' Prep, St Ethelbert's Primary School, Holy Family Primary School, Iqra Primary School, Our Lady Of Peace Primary School, The Riverside Day Nursery in Windsor, a Faith Walk to Eton and Windsor, Oxford House Care Home and Wexham Park Hospital. When in the community, we helped and supported all those we encountered whether through prayer, retreat or conversation; English and Maths, crafts and arts as well as selling cakes for charity. All students were outstanding. They engaged with all the activities they had to deliver with ease. All parents and carers should be very proud of how their child conducted themselves out in the community and it was a true privilege to see and hear their achievements.

Comments from the day of those involved said:

"What a great privilege to have your students here at Wexham today. They are all stars. I hope they had a great time here. Thanks must go to the staff as well. Thank you for allowing us to take part in your special day". (Wexham Park Hospital)

"I just wanted to let you know that your students who attended Iqra Primary were absolute stars! They were so polite with all our staff and pupils and really gave 100% to engage with everyone. I hope they achieved what they aimed for and had a positive experience.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your big day — our pupils really enjoyed themselves!" (Iqra Primary School)

"Enjoyable and it was really fun to play with the younger children, getting to know the students and seeing the students happy." (Year 12)

"We lived out the mission statement of our school and our values by helping the kids understand what they were learning and getting them engaged." (Year 8)

"Today was positive and exciting as we got to experience something different, meet new people and bring smiles to the children's faces." (Year 9)

Please see the next page for a photo collage of numerous fantastic moments captured from the day!





Pupil Nominations of the Week

<p>Year 7 Mitchell Simpson and Sybilla Wesoly for excellent weeks and starts to the term.</p>
<p>Year 8 Victoria Podoba and Marcus-Simon Bulley</p>
<p>Year 9 Abiezer Bakhsh and Arisfa Sarfraz for achieving the most positive points.</p>
<p>Year 10 Paulina Konopka and Victor Buda for receiving the most positive points this week.</p>
<p>Year 11 Maksymilian Oleszak and Oliver Ventura for achieving the highest amount of positive points this week.</p>
<p>Year 12 Emilia Augustyn-Sharma and Mary Jane Visitacion for the most positive points on ClassCharts.</p>
<p>Year 13 Liam Paes and Grzegorz Kuczynski for earning the most positive points this week.</p>

Please note that students will still have their Form Time before Period 1.

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

I am writing this letter to inform you of the slight amendments we are making to the timings in our school day. The changes will take effect from **Monday 5th May 2025**. The timetable below shows you the amendments. ***This new timetable has been created to support our pupils taking their GCSE & A Level examinations throughout this summer term.***

Lesson	Time
Period 1	8:45am – 9:45am
Period 2	9:45am – 10:45am
Break	10:45am – 11:05am
Period 3	11:05am – 12:05pm
Lunch 1	12:05pm – 12:40pm (Years 8, 9, 11, 13)
Lunch 2	12:40pm – 1:15pm (Years 7, 10, 12)
Period 4	1:15pm – 2:15pm
Period 5	2:15pm – 3:15pm

Yours faithfully,

Mr G Stack-Clark
 Assistant Headteacher

Year 7 News

A lovely week for the Year 7s, they have done lots of great things and been involved in the House Competition on Friday led by Miss Shaw. Some of our Year 7s will be representing our school in the Slough District Athletic Competition on Wednesday next week. Winners will be selected to represent the County in the upcoming County Championships. Let's hope we get some there!

As an advanced warning, **Year 7 will have their Parents' Evening on 3rd July**; letters and more information to come soon.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

Year 8's behaviour ratio has dipped slightly to 90%, with most negative points linked to incomplete homework. Please ensure students are completing homework regularly. If there are any issues, they should speak to their class teacher before the due date to get the necessary support.

As Year 11 and Year 13 students begin their national exams, we ask all Year 8 students to move quietly and respectfully around school, especially near exam venues.

Mr Hunt – Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

Another brilliant week for Year 9! They represented the school so well with prayer reflection and retreat across cluster schools and many students showed *empathy and leadership*; receiving both verbal and written praise from Staff at the primary schools. The next two weeks are very busy before Half Term, with the timetable changing to two lessons in the afternoon and Year 11 and 13 starting their exams. Next Monday is Year 9 and 10 District Athletics, where both boys and girls will be representing the school across all athletic events.

Hope you have a great weekend.

Miss McCormack – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

Congratulations on another positive and productive week! We continue to be impressed by the enthusiasm, effort, and maturity shown by our Year 10 students in their studies and wider school life. Thank you to all who attended our recent Parents' Evening last night. As students work towards their GCSEs, these conversations and the feedback provided are vital in helping them stay on track and make informed improvements. Let's keep the momentum going as we head into the next part of the term; well done, Year 10!

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

Dear parents/carers and students,

This week was slightly shorter, which naturally resulted in a lower number of behaviour points recorded. We celebrated **142 positives**, and had 49 negatives, with the main reasons being lateness to school (17), lack of equipment (9) and missed lunchtime detentions (9). As always, we ask for your continued support in helping students arrive on time and prepared for learning.

As we enter the GCSE exam season, please be aware that after-school interventions will change from next week to align with the exam timetable. These sessions will remain targeted and purposeful. In addition, interventions during Period 3 will begin shortly—the full schedule will be shared with students and parents/carers in the coming days.

A heartfelt thank you to all staff, students, and families who made the Leavers' Assembly such a memorable occasion. It was a truly special and emotional moment to reflect on the journey we've shared. We were proud to celebrate the hard work and growth of our students as they step into the final stage of their secondary education.

Leavers' hoodies have been ordered and will arrive in school by the end of May.

Thank you again for your continued support, and I wish all our Year 11 students the very best as they begin their exams.

Finally, I would like to **publicly thank Mr Kuczynski, Mrs Ossei-Brainoo and Miss Giannitto** for their outstanding support during the Model United Nations event. Their contribution as judges was greatly appreciated and helped make the event a real success.

Mr Romero – Head of Year 11

Letter from the Bishop – please see attached a letter from David J Oakley, Bishop of Northampton, to all our Year 11 students.

Year 12 News

Year 12 are turning their attention and focus onto their **end of year exams** at present. These will run from **16th–27th June**. We are also encouraging the students to begin thinking about University/Apprenticeship applications more seriously as many Universities will be holding Open Days over the coming months. This is a great opportunity for the students to visit and really get a good idea of what it would be like to study there before they commit to an official application. Some of these Open Days will be held on weekends. Students can attend those held during the week and during term time as long as they acquire permission from their HOY and they do not take place during the Year 12 exam period. Proof of absence will also need to be recorded onto ClassCharts by parents/carers (please see attached PDF for more information).

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12

Year 13 News

Next week, we see the exams start in earnest. All students have received an email and a printed copy of their exam timetable and it is really important that they arrive on time and focused for their examinations. **Morning exams begin at 8:45am, so students need to be ready and lined up at 8:30am and afternoon exams begin at 1pm, so students need to be lined up and ready at 12:45pm.**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the students the best of luck, remember you have all worked incredibly hard and you are well prepared. **I would also like to thank all the Year 13 parents for their support over the year**, as the saying goes “*it takes a village to raise a child*” and your support has been and will continue to be instrumental to your child’s success. If you have any concerns over the exam period, no matter how big or small, please do get in touch at l.finn@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

I hope you have a fabulous weekend.

Mrs Finn – Head of Year 13

Letter from the Bishop – please see attached a letter from David J Oakley, Bishop of Northampton, to all our Year 13 students.

Languages Department

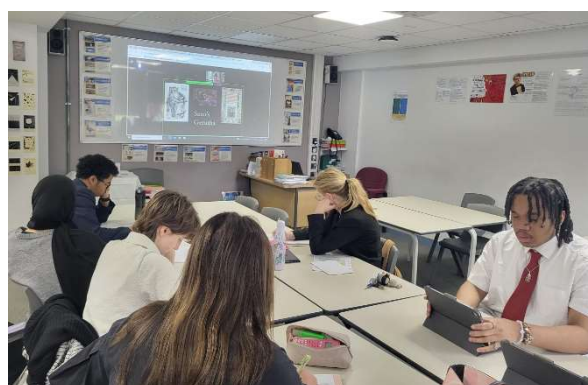
Our KS3 French and Spanish students have come back with a lamblike spring in their step, ready for a fun Summer of MFL club activities! We are currently working on a project to present to other students and staff. Come along **Tuesdays Week A at 3:30-4:30pm in T5 with Ms Shaw**. Our aim is to having lots of fun with languages, exploring cultural themes and enjoying existing and new friendships. We are *active, curious and compassionate!*

Club Cultural Corner: Thursday 8th May 2025 was a commemoration of Victory in Europe Day, known as "*Fête de la Victoire*" in Francophone countries & DOM-TOMS. It is a patriotic public holiday celebrated on a big scale. There is a public holiday in France, Belgium and Canada called "*Un jour férié*", the equivalent to our bank holiday. School is closed! Along with most banks, businesses, bars, hospitals and buses, supermarkets shut early too.



Hamlet Online Lecture

The Year 13 English Literature class enjoyed and benefitted from an online lecture on 'Gertrude as the Key to Understanding 'Hamlet''. This was a highly informative and interesting talk delivered with enthusiasm and humour. Diana Hallam is an expert on the play and she helped the students comprehend a complex topic. With exams just around the corner, this was perfectly timed and year 13 were very grateful for Diana's help.



Supporting Your Child Through Exam Pressure

Dear Parents/Carers,

As exams approach, it's natural for students to feel increased pressure. To help manage this, we're sharing a helpful poster from **Number22**, offering practical advice and tips for coping with exam stress. Please take a moment to review it with your child.

Together, we can ensure they feel supported during this challenging time.



EXAM PRESSURE?

Are you:

- Looking for some help and support?
- Wanting to chat with a counsellor about something that is worrying you?

Why not make a one off telephone appointment with one of our trained counsellors

ACCESS A COUNSELLOR QUICKLY, NO LONG WAITING LISTS

To make your appointment visit our website

number22.org/support22

Once you make your appointment, one of our trained counsellors will call you.
All calls last 25 minutes

bacp | Accredited Service
collective mark

Multi-Cultural Day

23rd May 2025



- Experience a Spectacular Visual Display of Countries
- Dress in Your Traditional Cultural Attire
- Savor Flavors from Around the World
- Dance and Sing Along to Cultural Performances
- Engage in Diverse and Exciting Activities

Join Us in Honoring and Appreciating the Rich Tapestry of Cultures That Make Our School Great!

Theme: United in Diversity 2025

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Join Us in Honoring and Appreciating the Rich Tapestry of Cultures That Make Our School Great!

- **Mufti Day:** Students are invited to wear clothing that reflects their own culture or a culture they admire and wish to **respectfully** represent.
- Bring a £1 donation- proceeds to our school charity

MULTICULTURAL DAY PRESENTATION

Entries Are Now Open!
Until 10th May

- **Get in the Spirit**
Bring artefacts symbols of your region or religion to share.
- **Cultural Dance, Poetry, Singing and Music**
- Sign up now! See Ms Ura or give your name to your form tutor
- **Cultural Clothing Fashion Show**
See Mr Ura with your ideas
- **Eat Up!**
Bring sweet treats to share! Give your name to your **form tutor** and what you would like to bring



#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- C Consider triangles MON and MPN . Note that $MO = MP = 4$ because M is the midpoint of OP , $\angle OMN = \angle PMN = 90^\circ$ because MN is perpendicular to OP , side NM is common to both triangles. So triangles MON and MPN are congruent (SAS). Therefore $PN = ON = 8$ because ON is a radius of the circle. By Pythagoras' Theorem in triangle OMN , $ON^2 = OM^2 + MN^2$, so $8^2 = 4^2 + MN^2$. Therefore $MN^2 = 8^2 - 4^2 = 48$. So $MN = \sqrt{48}$. The perimeter of triangle PNM is $PN + NM + MP = 8 + \sqrt{48} + 4 = 12 + \sqrt{48}$. Now $6.5 < \sqrt{48} < 7$, since $\sqrt{42.25} < \sqrt{48} < \sqrt{49}$. So $\sqrt{48}$ is closer in value to 7 than it is to 6. So $12 + \sqrt{48}$ is nearer to 19 than it is to 18.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- D Let the five positions in the photograph be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Then the boys may occupy a total of six positions: 1 and 3; 1 and 4; 1 and 5; 2 and 4; 2 and 5; 3 and 5. For each of these positions, the boys may be arranged in two ways as they can interchange places. So there are 12 ways of positioning the boys. For each of these, the girls must be placed in three positions. In each case, the first girl may choose any one of three positions, the second girl may choose either of two positions and then there is just one place remaining for the third girl. So for each arrangement of the two boys there are $3 \times 2 \times 1$ different ways of arranging the three girls. Therefore the total number of line-ups is $12 \times 6 = 72$.

Puzzler of the week

A water tank is $\frac{5}{6}$ full. When 30 litres of water are removed from the tank, the tank is $\frac{4}{5}$ full.

How much water does the tank hold when full?

- A 180 litres B 360 litres C 540 litres D 720 litres E 900 litres

Break-Time Teaser

$PQRS$ is a square. Point T lies on PQ so that $PT : TQ = 1 : 2$. Point U lies on SR so that $SU : UR = 1 : 2$. The perimeter of $PTUS$ is 40 cm.

What is the area of $PTUS$?

- A 40 cm^2 B 45 cm^2 C 48 cm^2 D 60 cm^2 E 75 cm^2

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

Menu and Competition – Harrison's Catering

<div>WEEKLY</div> <div>MENU</div> <div>St Joseph's Catholic High School - Week One</div>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Korean Fried Chicken Burger	Beef Bolognese with Pasta & Parmesan Cheese	Pork Sausages served with Mashed Potatoes	Chicken Enchilada	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips & Tartare Sauce
Sweet Potato & Chickpea Tagine served with Couscous	Quorn Enchilada	Vegetable & Edamame Bean Noodle Stir-Fry	Vegetable Tikka Masala served with Rice & a Poppadom	Bombay Potato Frittata
Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Baked Beans or Mushy Peas
Tomato & Basil Pasta Pot	Red Pesto Pasta Pot	Tuna Pasta Pot	Pasta with a Tomato & Chilli Sauce	-
Jacket Potato with a Selection of Toppings	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings	-
Chocolate Brownie	Fruit Crumble served with Custard	Iced Vanilla Sponge	Dorset Apple Cake	Salted Caramel Banana Bread

Available daily:

Sandwiches, Wraps & Baguettes, Panini, Jacket Potatoes, Cold Desserts & Fruit

Submissions must be submitted by **Friday 6th June 2025.**

DESIGN A BIRTHDAY CARD COMPETITION!

All Harrison Catering employees receive a birthday card, personally signed by our Chairman, Geoffrey Harrison.

We'd like you to design a birthday card which has a food theme, taking our values of healthy, home-cooked food, using fresh ingredients into consideration.

Applications are welcomed from children in the following age categories:

- 4-7 years old
- 8-11 years old
- 12-18 years old

****Prizes****

The winning pupil will receive an entry prize for a family of four to a UK theme park and copies of their winning design printed cards.

In addition, the winning school will receive a trophy, a smoothie bike for the day and nutrition education sessions for pupils, either in the classroom or during assembly.

**** Design Guidelines ****

The card can be created using digital media or on A4 size paper, with materials such as paint, crayons, pencils or collages.

**** How to Enter ****

Please write the child's name, age and school on the back of the design, which must be submitted by Friday 6th June 2025.

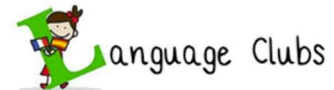
Designs can be given to your Harrison Catering Manager Client Services or emailed to communications@harrisonscatering.co.uk. Alternatively, you can send them to:

Birthday Card Competition
c/o Communications Department
Harrison Catering Services, Oxford House, Oxford Road, Thame, OX9 2AH

Good luck!

WWW.HARRISONSCATERING.CO.UK
INFO@HARRISONSCATERING.CO.UK
HARRISONSCATERINGSERVICES
FOODWITHTHOUGHT

SCHOOL CLUBS



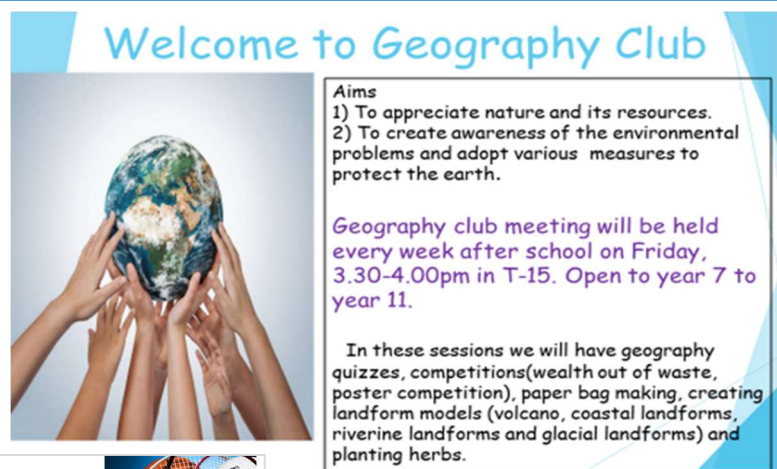
Languages Department

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Love music? Want to learn how to play in a string ensemble? Join Mr Orval on **Tuesdays at 3:15pm** in the **XA room**. Several instruments (violin, viola, cello) are available for new/aspiring members. Contact your music teacher for further details.

Thursday at 8am – **Singing Club** / Friday Afterschool – **Band Jam**



PE After School Clubs



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball (GCSE students only)	Badminton and Basketball
Lunch 2	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball	Badminton and Basketball
Afterschool	Flag football HMC Tennis JCO Dance HST	Rounders KBR MJO AAN Cricket THU	Athletics JCO THU MJO KBR	Fixtures	



Ham Radio Club

Most Fridays 15:15-16:15, at the top of the Tower Block,
An interesting club for everyone.
For any questions, please message Mr Allinson

Radio Society of Great Britain
Advancing amateur radio since 1913

St Joseph's Judo Club

Official British Judo Club provider – joined with Windsor Judo Club.

Open for Grading and Competition.

Only for St Joseph's students and staff.

Location: Main Hall

Every Wednesday at 3:15-4:15pm with Mr A Romero.