

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020



# ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



## From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We knew when it came it would be a challenging time. As with every other school in the locality this week we had our first student who tested positive. Consequently, we've had to self-isolate 86 students that have been in the proximity of the student this week – all of whom are fit, healthy and without symptoms – in the best interests of everyone's safety and in line with current government guidelines. However, it's never an easy discussion for those on the receiving end of such news. I just want to say a thank you to all parents and guardians for making what could have been a difficult situation a lot more straight forward to manage with the amazing support you've given us over the last few days. What's kept us all together has been the commitment of a collective mindset that together we'll ensure the right thing is done over simply doing things right. The reality of the next

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year will probably mean that there may be an ongoing rotation of this kind of disruption and its fair to project that this is the sort of thing we'll have to live with over the next year or so. With that in mind:

Here's what we're doing for those children who are in isolation.

- Currently this only involves Years 11-13. We've started streaming a number of live Microsoft lessons for Year 11-13 in a number of subjects. These occurred this week in Maths, Geography, RE, Sociology, Psychology, Music and Spanish. The tutors will email the students in advance. Students have been able to 'dial in' and participate through the chat option. In one Maths class 96 questions were raised and answered by those isolating from home.
- For those children who are undertaking PPE exams over this and next week, we're sending the work home. The children need to undertake these exams in exam conditions and then return the work either by hand to the school or by post so that we can mark it ready to be given back with the rest of the Year group (please clearly mark the packaging "PPE papers").
- All work that the teachers do in class (for example Power Points and other electronic resources) are being uploaded onto the specific class file so that all the children regardless of being in or not can access the work.

A number of the staff who also have had to isolate are running their classes from home directly into the classroom – for example, this happened today in English, Business Studies and Media Studies.

Please do remind the students to:

1. Remain in their Year groups – particularly coming and going from school (we're aware that poses impossible issues for those with siblings)
2. Encourage children to keep washing their hands when coming home and leaving for school
3. Wear masks on public transport
4. Practice social distancing where possible

Finally, apologies for any confusion over next Friday. Next Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October is now a normal school day. It had been previously scheduled as an Inset day, with all the schools in the Deanery, to focus on the spirituality of Catholic Schools in the locality. However, with the restrictions being as they are, this will not go ahead and it felt right to put that day to more teaching and learning rather than a further day for training. Half term commences from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October for 2 weeks and the children return on 2<sup>nd</sup> November (week 2 on the children's timetable).

Have a great weekend.

St Joseph, Pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

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## **Theme of the Week – Relying on God**

In this week's Gospel, we see Jesus continue speaking in parables about the kingdom of heaven. The wedding banquet is used as a symbol for heaven and the king represents God. The feast symbolises abundance provided by God for all who accept the invitation.

Since Jewish wedding celebrations often lasted as long as a week, the time commitment by the invited guests for such a lengthy participation makes their refusal a little easier to understand, and their response to kill the messengers echoes last week's Gospel.

The reaction of the king might seem rather extreme. However, the unprepared guest represents how **we could be unprepared for heaven**. Not wearing the correct attire is symbolic of not meeting the 'entry requirements' for heaven: repentance of our sins, faith in God and to live a life pleasing to God.

The fact that "many" are called implies that it's not intended to be a restricted number. The invite went out. However, some guests refused to come, and others wanted to come but didn't want to make the sacrifices required of being a Christian.

The second reading this week is from Philippians. It emphasises the need for complete reliance on God. It is worth remembering that St. Paul spent time in prison for his beliefs. He says how **throughout all life's trials, God has always provided for him** – no matter what condition he was living in, or what trials he was going through. God was always there to take care of his needs.

**We are all invited to trust and rely on God.** To live a life *for* Him and *with* Him; trusting Him with our futures.

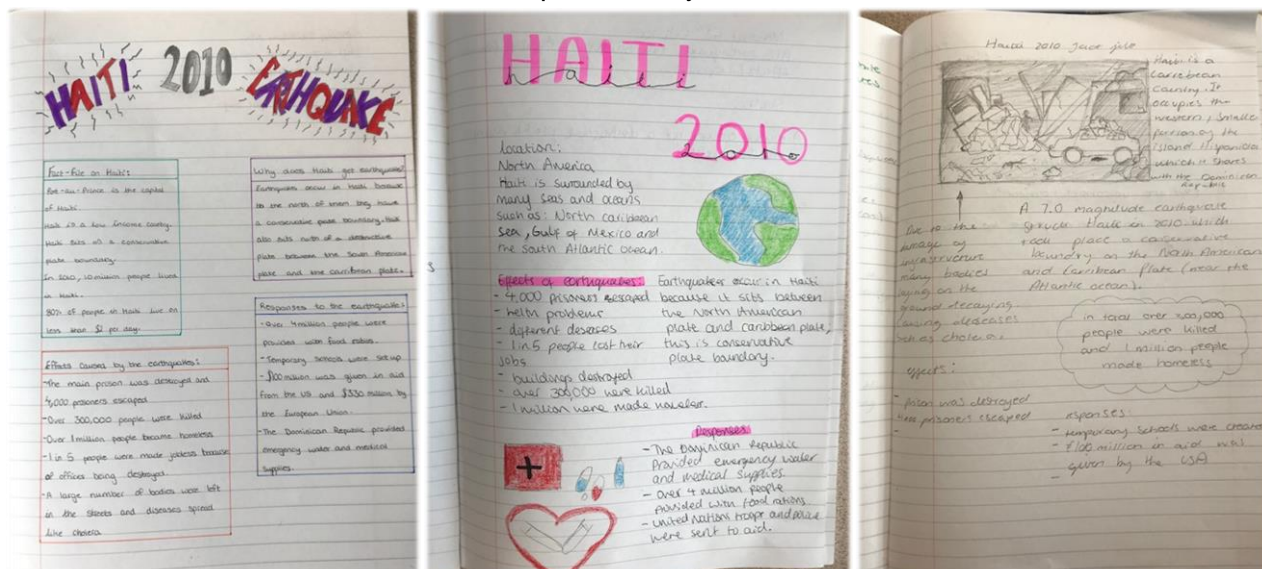
The question is: do we accept this invitation?

What are the things that prevent you from responding fully to this invitation?

This week, **be aware of how you respond to invitations.**

## Geography News

We've had some excellent homework in the Geography department this week that has prepared students well for their assessments. Year 9 in particular have produced some outstanding fact files on the Haiti 2010 earthquake! The Geography department has been very impressed with the levels of enthusiasm and commitment to this important subject.



This week has also seen the Netflix debut of David Attenborough's new documentary 'A Life on our Planet.' Over his 93 years, Attenborough has visited every continent on the globe, exploring the wild places of the planet and documenting the living world in all its variety and wonder. But during his lifetime, Attenborough has also seen first-hand the monumental scale of humanity's impact on nature. This documentary is a must see for geographical issues that our planet is faced with and I recommend watching this! Please also follow our geography Instagram @stjosephsgeography for more news stories and student work. #stayexcellent!

Miss Boland- Head of Geography

## R.E News

Wayne Dixon from Christian Connections teaching his annual lessons to Year 7s, but this year online.



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### **Solution to last Week's Puzzler**

#### **Working out the height after each time it hits the ground**

First time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of 125 cm =  $125 \div 5 \times 3 = 25 \times 3 = 75$  cm.

Second time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of 75 cm =  $75 \div 5 \times 3 = 15 \times 3 = 45$  cm.

Third time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of 45 cm =  $45 \div 5 \times 3 = 9 \times 3 = 27$  cm.

#### **Working out the height after each time it hits the ground using 3s and 5s**

$125 = 5 \times 5 \times 5$

First time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of 125 is  $3 \times 5 \times 5$

Second time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of  $3 \times 5 \times 5$  is  $3 \times 3 \times 5$

Third time:  $\frac{3}{5}$  of  $3 \times 3 \times 5$  is  $3 \times 3 \times 3 = 27$  cm.

### **Solution to the Break time Teaser:**

- B** In order from 00:00, the times when the digits 2, 0, 1, 9 appear in some order are 01:29, 02:19, 09:12, 09:21, 10:29, 12:09, 19:02, 19:20, 20:19 and 21:09. So, in total, there are ten such times.

Congratulations to: Piotr Basinski (8T), Annabel Lysiak(8C), Ana Passos(8M), Adrian Fernandes (11T) and Franciszek Hermanowski (7P). For correct answers.

### **Problem of the week**

There is a particular value of  $x$ , and a value of  $y$  to go with it, which make all five expressions equal in value.  
Can you find that  $x, y$  pair?

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x + 3y - 20 \\ 5x - 2y + 38 \\ 4x + 5y - 72 \\ x - 4y + 108 \\ 3x - y + 39 \end{array}$$

Did you have more information than you needed to solve the problem?

## **Break time Teaser:**

The adult human body has 206 bones. Each foot has 26 bones.

Approximately what fraction of the number of bones in the human body is found in one foot?

A  $\frac{1}{6}$

B  $\frac{1}{8}$

C  $\frac{1}{10}$

D  $\frac{1}{12}$

E  $\frac{1}{20}$

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

## **Sixth Form News**

### **Year 13**

PPE exams continue next week- please see the timetable below:

<b>Monday 12th October</b>	<b>Yr13 Maths</b>	<b>Yr13 Maths</b>	12C Business	12C Business	Yr12 Sports
	Yr13 Sports	Yr12 Eng Lit	Yr13 Maths	13E Business	13E Business
	Yr13 Law	Yr13 Law	Yr12 Media	Yr13 Eng Lit	
	Maths Resit		Yr12 Music		
	Yr12 Music				
<b>Tuesday 13th October</b>	<b>Yr 13 Media</b>	<b>Yr13 Media</b>	<b>Yr13 Eng Lang</b>	<b>Yr 13 Eng Lang</b>	13C Business
	PSHE	Yr13 Health	Yr 13 Sports		Yr12 Eng Lit
		Yr12 Maths			Maths Resit
<b>Wednesday 14th October</b>	13C Business	Yr13 VocBus	Yr13 VocBus	Yr13 Sports	
<b>Thursday 15th October</b>	Yr12 Health			Yr13 Health	
	Yr13 DCT	Yr13 DCT	Yr13 Spanish	Yr13 Spanish	
	Yr13 French	Yr13 French			

\*Highlighted in red means they will be taken in the Sports Hall

\*\*All others will be in class

PSHE next week will be Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October Period 1.

## **Year 7 Maths and English Sets**

In Year 7, Maths and English classes are set by ability with three sets. In the absence of Key Stage 2 tests as a school we have tested Year 7 using the well-established Cognitive Ability Tests run by NGRT. Following the results pupils have been re-set resulting in some potential movement of sets. As such Year 7s will be provided with updated timetables next week. We believe this will ensure pupils are being appropriately challenged and supported for this year.

## **MFL News**

Well done to all the Year 7 and 8 who took part in last week's house competition "Le Spelling Bee"!

### **MFL Stars of the Week**

Izan Iglesias (8M) for his hardwork in French and impressive IT skills!

Ricky Aman (9C) for his hardwork and independent learning in French.

Bobby Kadiri in (10M) and Natalia Malczewski (10C) for their participation and hardwork.

Alexander Aislabie (8V) for his sterling effort to do well in Spanish.

## **Year 10 News**

Year 10 have been really focused in lessons this week and have been revising hard for their end of term assessments. Reports will be out next week so hopefully all the hard work will have paid off.

On Wednesday the year group were treated to a beautiful rendition of Watermelon Sugar by Harry Styles played by our very own Olivier Lydzinski on the piano.

Miss Cheston



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## **Pupil Nominations of the Week**

### **Year 7**

Connie Oakes for excellent Drama work and Benedito Quadros for a friendly and helpful attitude.

### **Year 8**

Liam Recio for outstanding commitment and achievement in Geography and Bernard Ndhalala for excellence in Drama!

### **Year 9**

Jesse Wedji for being articulate about the Science curriculum plan and Charlene Daguplo for consistent and excellent work in Science.

### **Year 10**

Bobby Kadiri for his articulate and confident contribution to this week's assembly, Grace Fullam for her kindness towards another student and Olivier Lydzinski for his outstanding performance on the piano in Year 10 assembly.

### **Year 11**

Sinead Berry and Josie Nash for being excellent St Joseph's pupils both in and outside the school community.

### **Year 12**

**Charlie Morris** – for a strong start to the year and showing a mature attitude (**autonomous**).

**Emma Kingsman** – for always showing real strength of character and **resilience**.

### **Year 13**

Calum Brennan for outstanding work in his Art book and personal statement and Aaron Mulrooney for displaying an excellent ATL towards Psychology.