



# St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024



## Legally Blonde

Our talented students have outdone themselves in this year's school production of *Legally Blonde: The Musical!* From the vibrant performances to the stunning choreography, every detail showcased the dedication and hard work of our cast and crew. A heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in making this show such a success. We're so proud of you all!

## Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

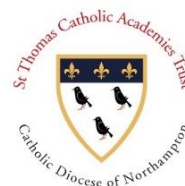
I hope you are all safe and well. Please click on the image to be directed to this week's Head Teacher Message.



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!"

## Joy

Weekly Reflections  
15<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent



### From the Gospel of Luke (21:25-28, 34-36)

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

### Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father,

Embrace our lives with Hope, Peace and Joy during this season of Advent, as we remember the coming of Jesus, as we anticipate his coming again, and as we strive to serve him better here and in the future.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen

#### Day 1

What does John say to those listening must do in order to be ready for Christ?  
How have you prepared yourself for Christ? What good deeds have you done recently?

#### Day 2

What do you think John's mission is? Why is this mission important?  
God wants us to have happiness. How can you have happiness in your life by following His teachings?

#### Day 3

How might you listen to God over the Christmas holidays in order to bring change of happiness in your life?

#### *Catholic Social Teaching - Option for the Poor*

A preferential option for the poor means that we think first about the needs of those who are the most vulnerable. Jesus taught that when we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, look after the sick and visit those imprisoned, we are looking after Him. We work wherever the need is greatest. We refuse to accept the suffering of our brothers and sisters. No one should be beyond reach of the love and support they need "The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty!"

The [Option for the Poor] affects the life of each Christian as he or she seeks to imitate the life of Christ." St Pope John Paul II, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, 42

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

## Theme of the Week – Joy

As we enter the third week of Advent, the theme being **‘Joy’**, we hear in the Gospel of the great anticipation of **Joy** that will come and what people must do to fully experience this. The crowds wanted to be ready to welcome the Messiah. John told them what to do ***“If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.”*** His words are just as important for us today as they were then so that we too can be ready for Jesus. Today’s candle in the Advent wreath is pink – a symbol of **joy** as we look forward to Christmas. We might think of ways that we can bring some **joy** to someone else who might be sick or lonely at this time. However, we should also celebrate the ways we have brought **joy** to people’s lives this half term. Donating to our Christmas hampers, the Pillowcase and Baby Bank Appeal. The letter or card we wrote for the Preferential Option for the poor. All of us have brought some **joy** to someone this Christmas.

The Gospel describes the word of God coming to John in a very specific place and time. It is this word that defines John’s mission. It is John’s voice which calls the people of his time to a change of heart; to a new understanding of who they are and who God is. It is so easy to become distracted by all the fuss that goes on around us. The readings from Sunday encourage us to try and not stray away from God in our lives because it is God who will bring us **Joy**. In the second reading to the Philippians it starts with this ***“I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness.”*** What a beautiful sentence but also something we need to remind ourselves of, God wants us to be happy, he wants us to have **joy** in our life; and we can by ensuring we have God in our lives! Advent is a time of yearning for transformation, and of preparing for its arrival. It is a time to open ourselves so that God can accomplish much through us, ordinary humans. The fruit can be seen in our relationships with people whom our society marginalises.

What are some of the things – relationships, past experiences, social pressures, present difficulties – that block the path of God in your own life? What voice is leading you to a change of heart? I hope you are all able to have a blessed, happy and Holy Christmas. Enjoy your holiday, have a rest but make sure some time is given over to Jesus so we don’t forget the meaning of what Christmas is really about. Merry Christmas!

## Prayer Intentions for our Website and School Community

As a Catholic school, we feel it's always important that Students, Staff and Parents/Families have the opportunity to share their prayer intentions so that as a school community we can come together in prayer to support one another. If you have any prayer intentions you wish for us to pray for, please feel free to send through to [chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:chaplain@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk). During the school year, students will come together as a collective group (as a class, year group and as a school) to pray for your intentions. These prayer intentions will also be put on our website (Prayer Corner) to share, so as a whole school community we can prayer for one another.

## Free School Meals – Am I eligible for Free School Meals?

You will be able to claim Free School Meals for your child if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have a net income from employment of no more than £7400 per year). For more information on how the government calculates your earnings from employment whilst claiming Universal Credit, please check the "Eligibility under Universal Credit" section below.
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to apply. If entitled, Slough Borough Council will inform you and the school of this.

## Pupil Premium at St Joseph's

If you have any enquiry about Pupil Premium (PP), whether it be how we can support your child or whether to know if your child is eligible for PP, please do email Mr Gibbons at [j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:j.gibbons@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk). Please see the attached letter regarding PP that will have some more information.

## Flame 2024

Flame is the largest Catholic youth gathering in the UK and it returns on **15<sup>th</sup> March 2025!** Over 8,000 young people are expected to attend the OVO Arena, Wembley, for a day of inspirational speakers, world-class Christian musicians and moments of prayer and Adoration. Bishop David will be also be giving one of the keynote talks.

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as the Jubilee year of 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Pilgrimages are journeys with a sacred purpose, often full of challenges. To embark on a pilgrimage is to be unstoppable in one's faith,

believing in God's guiding hand throughout the journey. Just as many saints and martyrs have shown, faith and hope make one unstoppable against adversities.

If any student from Year 10-13 would like to attend, please can they see Mr Gibbons, where he will arrange to buy some discounted tickets.



### SVP Christmas Hampers

We would greatly appreciate your help in creating Christmas hampers for those in need. Please ensure all hampers are completed and delivered to the school hall, under the Christmas tree, by December 17<sup>th</sup>. Your generous donations make a meaningful difference – thank you for your support!

### Christmas Jumper Day & Mufti Day – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

We are excited to celebrate Christmas Jumper Day alongside our Mufti Day on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**, which also happens to be Christmas Lunch Day! Pupils can wear their own clothes to school on this day. We kindly ask for a donation of £1.00 on ParentPay for this.

Thank you for your support and festive spirit!



### Pupil Nominations of the Week

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 7</b></p> <p><b>Jacob Fiadzoe</b> for his improvement in effort and focus across all lessons, and <b>Ella Sibanda</b> for continuously demonstrating our Pupil Profile values.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 8</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jenson Martin</b> and <b>Elena Rooney</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 9</b></p> <p><b>Bruno Valek</b> and <b>Mia Brennan</b> for achieving the most positive points this week.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 10</b></p> <p><b>Jayden Jonga</b> and <b>Mia Thornhill</b> for receiving the most positive points this week. A special mention to <b>Anna Wydrych-Kang</b> for her commitment to her studies in Business Studies.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 11</b></p> <p><b>Esinam Deynoo</b> and <b>Gabriel Sobala</b> for achieving the highest amount of positive points this week.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 12</b></p> <p><b>Adrian Konstantyn</b> and <b>Wiktoria Powazka</b> for the most positive points on ClassCharts.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 13</b></p> <p><b>Patrycja Artemska</b> for working hard in Geography and <b>Lena Bojarska</b> for working hard in Physics.</p>

### D&T Stars of the week



**Tesia Teji, Aine Kelly, Lillie Green**, for being **Active and Curious** in DT Club - looking forward to next week!

**Oliver Kroliczek** and **Maria Drewwnowska**, for being **Active and Curious** and completing the Christmas extension task.

### Year 7 News

One more week to go before Christmas! Lots of lovely things will be going on next week for those students and Forms that have had an exceptional term. Those who are due to be rewarded will be told in the coming days.

Student reports were given to students yesterday, so they should have been given to you all. Please check if they have the reports in their bag and let your child's Form Tutor know if you are yet to receive it.

A reminder that Academic Review Day is on **6<sup>th</sup> January**. All parents need to book a 15-minute slot with your child's Form Tutor. Please ensure the slip is returned as soon as possible. If you have any questions, then please do let me know.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7*

### **Year 7 Tournament**

On Thursday, the Year 7 Girls Football Team played in a 5-a-side Powerleague tournament. The girls played some amazing football; beating one team 7-0!

They made it to the final against St Bernard's and won 1-0 in extra time; coming 1st overall!

Well done to **Lisa, Niamh, Jessica, Violet, Ella and Maja!**



### **Reindeer Run**

Attention Year 7 Parents/Carers, Families and Friends! On **18<sup>th</sup> December**, your child will be taking part in the 'Reindeer Run' during their Elective. This is a charity initiative to raise money for those with terminal illnesses in their final months, who are staying at 'Thames Valley Hospice'. As a Catholic School promoting the '**Common Good**' in our actions, this is something that is close to our hearts – particularly because lots of our students have personal connections to the Hospice.



Please kindly donate as much as you are willing or able using the donation envelopes and returning them to the Office or Miss Crabtree. Thank you in advance for your compassion and generosity at this festive time of year.

### **Year 8 News**

It's great to be back and seeing all the smiling faces of our Year 8 students!

I am proud to share that Year 8 has achieved over **1,000 positives** this week. A special congratulations to **Peter House**, which not only earned the most positives with **248** but also had the fewest negatives, achieving an excellent ratio of **96%**. Well done, Peter House!

As we head into the final week before Christmas, let's give one last big push to end the term on a high note. Keep up the amazing work, Year 8!

*Mr Hunt – Head of Year 8*

### **Year 9 News**

An exciting week for Year 9 leading in to the End of Term, with the Legally Blonde School Show featuring many Year 9 pupils, both Male and Female, and directed by one of our excellent Form Tutors, Miss Stone. I mentioned last week that we have our Rewards Assembly next Thursday, followed by the Christmas Lunch, culminating in School Mass to finish the term. Have a great weekend.

*Ms McCormack – Head of Year 9*

### Year 10 News

Only 1 week left until we break up for Christmas holidays and what a jam-packed week it's going to be! This week, we had the Legally Blonde show on Wednesday-Friday; it was great to watch and loved seeing some Year 10s in the show too!

Next week, we have the last House Competition of this year within PE lessons. Please can I remind everyone to bring their Sports Day t-shirts. We also have Christmas Dinner Day, which is also great fun, and XH House Competition, where the House with the least amount of X's for homework will be allowed to watch 'Elf' in the hall and bring in their own snacks!

A gentle reminder that our first day back, **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** is Academic Review Day; students must make an appointment with their Form Tutor for that day.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10*

### Year 11 News

As we approach the final weeks of this term, I'd like to reflect on another busy week for our Year 11 students. This week, we've awarded **775 positive points**, showcasing the hard work and dedication many students are demonstrating. However, we've also recorded **86 negative points**, with increases in **lateness (22)** and **missed lunchtime detentions (10)** compared to last week. Punctuality and fulfilling commitments remain essential as we prepare for the important months ahead. Let's work together to improve in these areas.

#### PPE1 and January GCSE/BTEC Exams

By now, all students should have received their **individual PPE1 timetables** for the upcoming January exams. These mock exams are an invaluable opportunity to assess your progress and identify areas for improvement. It's crucial that students remain organized and focused in their preparation.

To support you further:

- **Walking Talking Mocks (WTM)** for core subjects (English Language, Maths, and Science) will take place on **Monday, 16th December**. This is an excellent opportunity to gain confidence and clarity for your exams. Make sure you attend and use this session to its fullest potential.
- **Science Intervention** will begin on **Tuesday, 17th December**, after school. Attendance is **compulsory**. These sessions are designed to provide tailored support, so I strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of this resource.

#### Academic Review Day – Monday, 6th January 2025

A reminder that **Academic Review Day** will take place on **Monday, 6th January**. Students must arrange appointments with their tutors as soon as possible. Attendance is **compulsory**, and this is a vital opportunity to discuss progress and set targets for the months ahead.

#### Congratulations – Legally Blonde

A special congratulations to all Year 11 students who participated in the **Legally Blonde** production. It was a fantastic show and a testament to the incredible talent within our year group. Well done for representing yourselves and our school so proudly!



As we near the end of term, I encourage all students to maintain their focus and commitment. The hard work you put in now will pave the way for your future success. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I wish you all a restful weekend.

*Mr Romero – Head of Year 11*

### Year 12 News

This week, Year 12 are reviewing their progress for the term in lessons and preparing for holiday celebrations next week. Students have begun to make generous contributions to our Christmas Hamper Appeal and we are all looking forward to our visit to Winter Wonderland next Wednesday. Year 12 Term 1 data will be collected from Staff early next week, and reports will be distributed to parents shortly afterwards in good time to review their achievement and set new targets on Academic Review Day on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**. Please do make sure that you attend this day; it is an invaluable opportunity to really talk through their current progress and any concerns that you may have.

*Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12*

### Year 13 News

As we enter this final week before the Christmas holidays, it is really important that Year 13 students maintain high standards and know their areas of development to enable them to prepare well for their PPE's. Please encourage your son or daughter to speak to their class teachers in the first instance if there is anything they are concerned about. On **6<sup>th</sup> January**, we will be holding an Academic Review Day and the students should be making appointments to see their Form Tutors during the school day. It is really important that they attend with a Parent or Carer. To thank the students for all their hard work, we will be taking them to Winter Wonderland on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. Any student who has opted to not attend the trip will be expected in school on that day.

Have a wonderful weekend.

*Miss Finn – Head of Year 13*

### Catholic Life Elective

Our Catholic Life Elective pupils continued their tour of our primary schools by performing to the children of St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School this week. This included music, drama, prayer and even learning actions to new songs about the gift of Jesus during this Advent season. The staff and students at St. Anthony's were overwhelming appreciative of this experience, and relished the opportunity to have us visit them again. Well done to all involved!



## Legally Blonde

A fantastic performance by our students – a big well done to everyone involved!



## Science Club

Students had fun making *chemistree* by using different coloured solutions and decorating it. They also enjoyed investigating many specimens using a microscope.



## Sustainability Elective

This week, the Sustainability Elective took time to clean up the natural environment at the back of the field. As a hotspot for where litter blows and gathers, we cleared up the space within the hedges. We then planted 30 tree saplings along the fence – so please do keep an eye out where the cones are, so that they are not trampled as they grow! Week by week, we are **making our community more sustainable** and we look forward to observing the growth.



## Chess Club

The St Joseph's Catholic High School played The Westgate School in a friendly chess match on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. After two rounds, **we were declared the winners** by 4.5 to 3.5 points.

Brianne Barrozo      John & Joseph Cartwright      Rodnie Coroza      Cameron Fyfe



Bartek Wojtala      Filip Kaczmarek      Igor Galka      Nicola Szuba



### Help us to RECYCLE: WE WANT YOUR... Plastic Bottle Lids

The D&T department would love to have your number 2 HDPE plastic:

HDPE plastic is often used to make:

- Plastic bottle lids. (Please remove them from bottles!)
- Colourful Shampoo bottles



Please put any you collect into the labelled container in A3.  
Thankyou!

## Design and Technology Department



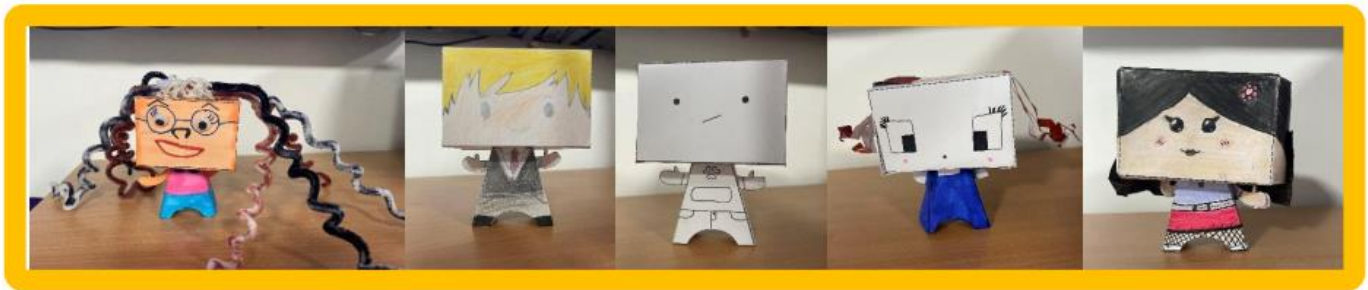
### Year 9 - D+T Textiles

Some great work on felt decorations as Year 9s demonstrate some of the knowledge they have learnt about textiles, and manufacturing methods.



### Year 7 mini-me's

Year 7s are beginning to hand-in their mini-me homework projects. Some great graphical products have already been brought in and we look forward to seeing the rest.



### Year 10



Year 10 have been working through a unit on papers and boards. After learning about the properties and specific types, they recreated, out of cardboard, a product of their choosing. The extension task was to make a corrugated card decoration; we thought that these two examples were particularly good. Well done **Maria** and **Oliver K!**

## Sixth Form

Year 12 and 13 Designers had a trip to IKEA for some primary market research and investigation into Sustainable design. We look forward to seeing your case studies and analysis!



## D+T Make-It Elective

A range of delightful decorations made by the talented Make-It crew. We hope you enjoy seeing them this Christmas time.



## D+T Club - KS3 Make-It



A highlight of the week is always a Monday afterschool. This week, we took a break from the innovate challenge to make some *tree-mendous* Christmas decorations.

Looking forward to seeing the group's 3D TinkerCard creations over the coming week.

## Absences and Medical Evidence

We would like to kindly remind you that as we approach the end of term, we will now require medical evidence for any absences that are for illness or medical reasons. Without this, the absence will be unauthorised. This is in line with our amended attendance procedures. This will also be in place for the first week back after the Christmas break, including Academic Review Day. If you are travelling, please put this request in writing to [office@st-Josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-Josephs.slough.sch.uk). This will ensure that the correct coding is put on the register. Thank you in advance for your support.

## Menu

**Celebrate 12 Days of Festivities**  
December 2024

Wednesday 4th December	Christmas Cupcake
Thursday 5th December	Stained Glass Window Biscuit
Friday 6th December	Turkey & Sausage Stuffing in a Baguette
Monday 9th December	Turkey & Bacon Panini
Tuesday 10th December	Vanilla Shortbread Christmas Trees
Wednesday 11th December	Pigs in Blankets Pizza
Thursday 12th December	Candy Cane Cupcake
Friday 13th December	Rocky Road Cupcake
Monday 16th December	Gingerbread Men
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Tree Cupcake
Wednesday 18th December	Popcorn Brownies
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Lunch

**HARRISON**  
food with thought

Look out for festive specials

Available daily:

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

### Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A By Pythagoras' Theorem, the length, in cm, of the third side of the triangle is  $\sqrt{5^2 - 4^2} = 3$ .  
So the area, in  $\text{cm}^2$ , of the triangle is  $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 \times 3 = 6$ .

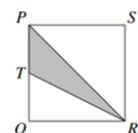
### Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- D The diagram shows that a triangle whose area is one quarter of that of the square may be divided into four congruent triangles, one of which is the shaded triangle.  
So the required fraction is  $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16}$ .



### Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows the square  $PQRS$  and  $T$ , the mid-point of the side  $PQ$ . What fraction of the area of the square  $PQRS$  is shaded?



- A  $\frac{1}{4}$       B  $\frac{1}{3}$       C  $\frac{1}{2}$       D  $\frac{2}{3}$       E  $\frac{3}{4}$

### Break-time Teaser

What is the value of  $\frac{20 + 24}{20 - 24}$ ?

- A 8      B -9      C 10      D -11      E 12

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

## Year 10 Harry Potter Studio Tour

Dear Parents/Carers, please note that all the spaces for the Harry Potter Studio Tour trip have been filled.

### 2025 – 2026 Term Dates

Please see the confirmed term dates for the next academic year.

Autumn Term	
Inset Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025
Inset Day	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
Year 7 + 12	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025
Whole school returns	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Inset Day	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Half Term	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025
Term Ends	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 (12:30pm finish)
Spring Term	
Term Begins	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Term Ends	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 (12:30pm finish)
Summer Term	
Inset Day	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Term Begins	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Term Ends	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 (12:30pm finish)

### GEMS Adolescence Workshop and Autism Course

<b>Adolescence</b>	<i>Hosted by The Autism Group:</i> Understanding and responding to the challenges and changes for parenting and caring for autistic teenagers.	AUTISM SUPPORT For parents and carers of secondary school aged children (age 11+).	<b>Online:</b> <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b> <b>(10am – 12pm)</b>	<a href="#">CLICK HERE TO REGISTER</a>
<b>Autism Course (a 3-week course)</b>	<i>Hosted by Parenting Special children:</i>  <u>Session 1:</u> Introduction to Autism, what is Autism, Myths and facts & Assessment overview.  <u>Session 2:</u> Autism and Behaviour, becoming a detective, Sensory differences, Anxiety, Sleep.  <u>Session 3:</u> Autism and Building a Support Toolkit, Communication, Visuals and routines, Identifying and supporting emotions, De-escalation and low arousal.	AUTISM SUPPORT For parents and carers of children up to the age of 18.	<b>Online:</b> <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b> <b>(7pm – 9pm)</b>	<a href="#">CLICK HERE TO REGISTER</a>

If you are looking for something different, you can view all workshop and course availability on [GEMS' website](#)



**SAFEGUARDING****The Digital Dilemma: Keeping Your Kids Safe Online**

Thames Valley Police Cyber Protect are running a **free** webinar to help parents and carers understand some of the risks young people face online, and how they can best protect themselves and their family from falling victim to cyber-criminal behaviours!

Covering social media, gaming and emails, this webinar will give you tips and tricks to help you protect them in today's online world. The webinar is running three times over the next few weeks, and tickets are available [HERE](#).

Reserve your space today!



**CYBER PROTECT** 

**The Digital Dilemma**

**Keeping Your Kids Safe Online**  
December 4th, 11th, 18th

**FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS**  
Thames Valley Police

Hints and tips to secure your family online, covering:

**Gaming**  **Social Media**  **Email** 

**BOOK YOUR SPACE:**  
[Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber](#)

**DON'T LET IT BE GAME OVER**  
**LEVEL UP** YOUR ONLINE SECURITY

**A Message from Kooth**

With the winter break fast approaching, at Kooth Digital Health we appreciate there will be some young people who may struggle during the holidays without the access to the daily pastoral support, trusted adults and friends that the school community provides. Equally, seasonal illness and the closure of many services at this time of year can lead to extended wait times across both adult and young people's NHS and community services.

For this reason, our services remain open for students to access at any time over the winter period.

Please visit this [referral form](#). You'll then be able to access the website once you have been referred (either by yourself or an adult). Please also see a parent/carer letter attached.





## EAL NEWS

### (English as an Additional Language)

#### Practical Tips for Effective Home Learning:

##### Set Realistic Goals:

Break down language learning into achievable goals. Celebrate milestones together, and involve your child in setting objectives for their language development.

##### Use Technology Wisely:

Explore language learning apps, websites, and educational games. Select age-appropriate options that align with your child's proficiency level. Monitor screen time to maintain a healthy balance.

##### Cultural Exploration:

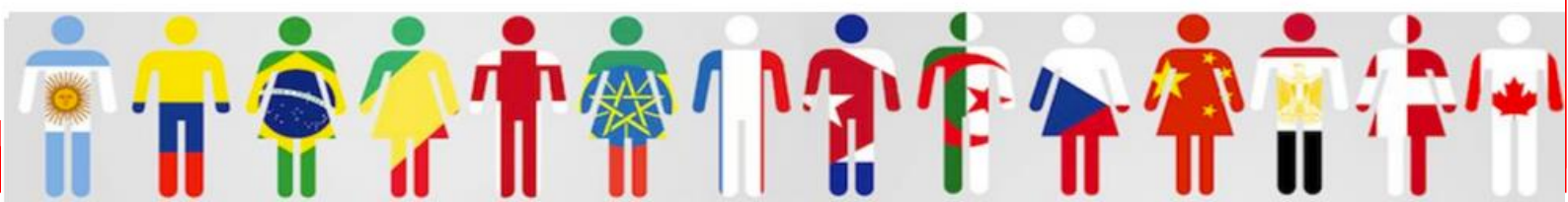
Introduce your child to the culture associated with the language. Watch movies, cook traditional recipes together, or celebrate cultural holidays to make the learning experience more immersive.

##### Language Games:

Incorporate language learning into games. Play word games like Scrabble or Bananagrams, or try language-learning board games designed for children. Make it a fun, family activity.

##### Daily Routines and Rituals:

Establish routines that include language learning. Whether it's a morning greeting, bedtime stories, or a weekly family language night, consistency is key.



## SCHOOL CLUBS



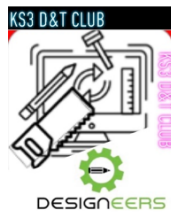
### Languages Department

Year 7, 8 & 9 students are busy having fun with language and friendship at our weekly Languages Club on Tuesdays after school (in T5 with Ms Shaw). Whichever Romance language you know, or whatever your bilingual background, you are welcome to come along and enjoy the adventure with us all.

**Interesting facts:** did you know that Creole Spanish is called *Chavacano* in the Philippines, and that Happy Christmas is *Crăciun Fericit* in Romanian (another Romance Language based on Latin)? As Advent is upon us, we are also looking forward this month to making a *un Calendrier de l'Avent* or *un Calendario de Adviento* - and singing a Christmas song or two in French and Spanish!

**CLUB ROTA: Week B Tuesdays; French 3.30-4.30pm / Week A: Tuesdays Spanish 3.30-4.30pm in T5.** All students need to have permission to attend and ensure they can get home safely after.

### D+T Club - KS3 DESIGNeers



If you love a challenge; enjoy solving problems and Designing and Making, consider joining our D&T team of DESIGNeers (designers and engineers).  
New projects launch in January!... we would LOVE for you to join us!  
Please see, or message **Mrs Stacey on Teams** and join us at **DESIGNeers Club** on a **Monday afterschool** in A3.

### Welcome to Geography Club



**Aims**  
1) To appreciate nature and its resources.  
2) To create awareness of the environmental problems and adopt various measures to protect the earth.

Geography club meeting will be held every week after school on Friday, 3.30-4.00pm in T-15. Open to year 7 to year 11.

In these sessions we will have geography quizzes, competitions (wealth out of waste, poster competition), paper bag making, creating landform models (volcano, coastal landforms, riverine landforms and glacial landforms) and planting herbs.

### 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



## YEAR 7 & YEAR 8 AFTERSCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:15PM TILL 4PM

Come along and see why Science is so cool!

Led by  
Mrs. Lionel & Ms. Jetwani

For more information please contact Mrs. Lionel

## 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	Year 7-9 Basketball JCO  Rugby Girls and Boys HMC/THU  Girls Football MJO  Year 7+8 boys Football FWA	Netball- all year groups AAN MJO KBR  Dance HST  Fitness JCO	Year 9-11 boys Football THU  Trampoline KBR		Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball CWH