



St Joseph's Catholic High School Newsletter

Friday 22nd November 2024



Leadership Day – 19th November

All Student Leaders took part in a Leadership Day where they had the opportunity to pitch an idea for positive change within the school; linking to our School Profile Values and our Mission Statement of 'Unlocking Belief in All'.

Our Trust's CEO, Joe Richardson, also delivered a speech to our Student Leaders. At the end of the day, the winners of the pitches and awards were shared.



Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

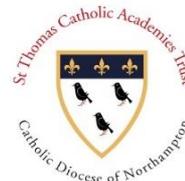
I hope you are all safe and well. Please click on the below image to be directed to this week's Head Teacher Message.



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!"

Christ the King

Weekly Reflections
24th November 2024
34th week of Ordinary time



From the Gospel of John (18:33-37)

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

Prayer for the Week

Almighty and merciful God, you break the power of evil and make all things new in your Son Jesus Christ, the King of the universe. May all in heaven and earth acclaim your glory and never cease to praise you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord

Amen

Day 1

What does the word 'Solemnity' mean within the Catholic Church? Why is the theme of Christ the King a Solemnity within the Catholic Church? If struggling to answer, what happens to Jesus after he is tried by Pilate? Then what happens three days after this? Why is this important to celebrate?

Day 2

Why is God's place reflected as the start and end of the Greek alphabet? How do you bear and be messengers of truth? What are some of the conflicts between the values of society we live in today and values of the kingdom of Jesus?

Day 3

How can Jesus as Christ the King give meaning to we and others should live our lives today? How have you been **Learned** and **Wise** in your own faith journey?

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 – Christ the King

Sunday marks the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Solemnity of Christ the King. And the word Solemnity in the Catholic Church means 'referring to the most important events in the life of Jesus and the Saints'. Sunday's Mass is a Solemnity because as the year draws to an end, we turn our thoughts to the time when Christ will return as king to judge the living and the dead. In the Gospel, Pilate, as prefect or governor of the Roman province of Judea, holds power. In the Gospel of John, Pilate tries to trap Jesus into an admission of guilt – **“Are you a king? ... What have you done? ... So you are a King?”** The crime Jesus was tried and executed for was treason – the claim that he was the 'King of the Jews' was a direct threat to the Emperor hence he was tried for this.

To really gain a full insight into the Gospel, it is useful to look at the first and second readings from Sunday. The first reading from the book of Daniel, Daniel sees a vision of a human figure that was led into the presence of God. If you look at the wall art on the first floor of the tower block (downstairs), it might help to imagine what Daniel sees. The Jews later interpret this figure as someone who will come to judge all the nations in the name of God. So for Christians, we see this human figure as Jesus Christ, risen to glory and at the right hand of God. If then we look at the second reading from the book of Apocalypse, it gives three aspects of Jesus' mission – giving witness to save sinners, the victory of the resurrection, and God as the master and shaper of history.

The second reading says **“I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”** Being the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet (Alpha and Omega) reflect God's place as the starting point, the end point and everything in between of history. So with this in mind, even though it appears that Pilate is sitting in judgement of Jesus, in truth it is Jesus who is Pilate's judge. **‘Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.’** The Church is Christ's people, yet ours is a kingship of service which has no concern for the things of the world. We are to bear witness to truth and be messengers of truth, standing for peace and justice for all who are oppressed.

In a world in which few 'kings' remain, how can Christ the King be given meaning today? In what ways has Jesus become 'king' of your life? Sunday's feast marks the end of the liturgical year. How have you been **learned** in the messages given to you this year from the gospels? What reading/message has been important to you this year? Have you noticed change and progress in your faith journey? How can you be **Wise** in your actions and words to truly live out Christ?

Pupil Nominations of the Week

Year 7 Manmeet Tomaczek and Jacob Surrador for excellent weeks.
Year 8 Sarah Pancerz and Noel Kavalakkat
Year 9 Marion Mwangi and Beryl Tiero for achieving the most positive points.
Year 10 Victor Buda and Altaire Ricalde for getting the most positive points. Nikodem Klak for his conscientious attitude in Food Technology this term.
Year 11 Sydelle Vaz and Alicia Kasongo for achieving the highest amount of positive points this week.
Year 12 Daniel Rossiter and Ninah Bangalan for the most positive points on ClassCharts. Well done!
Year 13 Leah Walls for her exceptional contribution to the effective running and leadership of our Career's Fair.

Homework Superstars

Year 7	Sena Okyere
Year 9	Brianne Barrozo
Year 10	Kamila Cebulska
Year 11	Daya Kumar



MFL TVLP Spelling Bee Competition

Our school participated in the Spelling Bee Competition organised by the TVLP. A huge well done to our French and Spanish representatives: **Annabel Lysiak, Brianne Barrozo, Marly Kostandy** and **Joanna Balasa!**



MFL Superstars

	<i>Week beginning 18/11</i>	
	French	Spanish
Year 7	Leon Sidyk (<i>most positive points this week</i>)	Avleen Singh (<i>most positive points this week</i>)
Year 8	Amelia Odindo (<i>most positive points this week</i>)	Sherina Da Costa (<i>great progress</i>)
Year 9	Bartosz Dera (<i>great collaboration</i>)	Kevin Paczek (<i>most positive points this week</i>)
Year 10	Phoebe Tomar (<i>great work and effort</i>)	Winners Nwachukwu (<i>great attitude to learning</i>)

D&T Stars of the Week



Kezia Antao, Arianna Lacson, Sophia D'Amaro, Tamara De Jesus, Nathan Nowak, Molly Bywater, Emilia Duczek for being **Learned and Wise** and being amongst the top performers in Year 8 DT.

Aine Kelly, Lillie Green, Maddie Robinson Nathan Daniels for being **Active and Curious** in DT Club.

Olwia Mroz – for being **Intentional and Prophetic** and helping out at the A-Level choices evening.

Year 7 News

The Year 7s had their first Basketball game in the JNR NBA competition. They played Oakwood School. Sadly, we lost 10-4, but they all massively enjoyed it and hopefully that has lit a fire within them to want to play Basketball moving forward.

Homework is starting to look much better also; Year 7s have now had the least number of XH's for the last two weeks, so let's keep this up!

Year 7's first set of reports will be released soon. Teachers will have these complete by Monday, so hopefully the reports will be sent out by the end of the following week. If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to get into contact with me.

Have a great weekend all.

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7



Making Sandwiches for the Homeless

In line with our *Catholic Social Teaching Principles*, in particular **fulfilling the preferential option for the poor**, Year 7 students made sandwiches for the homeless, in Food Technology lessons. We have given the sandwiches to the charity Slough Outreach.



Year 9 News

The temperature has dropped, but the Year 9's enthusiasm definitely hasn't. Sports fixtures this week have seen the Year 9 Boys Basketball team narrowly losing to St Bernard's, with another game on Thursday vs Langley Grammar, along with Girls' Netball. Thank YOU for your support with the Baby Bank Appeal and also the beginning of donations towards the School Christmas Hampers. Have a great weekend.

Ms McCormack – Head of Year 9

Year 10 News

This week, Year 10s have accumulated 467 positive points – well done. Next week, Year 10s will be completing assessments within their lessons. Please can you make sure that if you are unsure of the content you should be revising, that you ask your teacher for some clarification.

Now that the weather has drastically changed, please can you ensure that you wear a coat to school. Reminder that you are allowed to wear **black** tracksuit bottoms in your PE lessons.

Special mention to **Tymon Zygmuntowicz** for competing in a Slough School's Cross Country tournament on Wednesday and coming 1st place!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 10

Year 11 News

It's been another productive week at St. Joseph's, with Year 11 students continuing to show improvement and dedication. This week, we awarded an impressive 781 positive points—great work, everyone! We also saw a reduction in homework-related negative points, with only 9 recorded. Well done to those who are staying on top of their assignments!

However, punctuality remains an area for improvement, with 13 late marks recorded this week, along with 10 missed lunchtime detentions. Being on time and fulfilling commitments is crucial, especially as we move closer to your mock exams and GCSEs. Let's work together to address these issues and stay focused on success.

Sixth Form Taster Day – Tuesday 3rd December

On Tuesday, Year 11 students will have the opportunity to experience Sixth Form life during our **Sixth Form Taster Day**. Lessons will take place from Period 1 to Period 4, followed by an assembly during Period 5. This is an invaluable chance to explore subject options and gain insight into what Sixth Form at St. Joseph's has to offer. I encourage all students to make the most of this day, ask plenty of questions, and start thinking seriously about their next steps.

Support Our "Movember" Fundraising

As we wrap up November, we're proud to reflect on our efforts for **Movember**, raising awareness for men's mental health, prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and more. We're inviting students and parents to support this important cause by donating to our fundraiser.

This week, any **£20 donation** will be matched by Gillette, doubling your impact! A QR code to donate is included below—every contribution makes a difference. Let's come together as a community to support this vital cause.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing the fantastic efforts of our Year 11 students next week. Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mr Romero – Head of Year 11





A Christmas Carol Production

Last week, we had a blast at the Theatre Royal in Windsor with Year 11 to see a Radio Show Production of 'A Christmas Carol'. We were all in the festive spirit, whilst revising key quotes for the exam! Shout-out to those students that joined us for their exemplary behaviour and compassion towards those in the local community and audience. – *Miss Crabtree*

Year 12 News

After a successful Careers Fair last Friday, we have continued our focus on future destinations this week by looking at a number of exciting opportunities coming up with Wexham Park Hospital and KPMG – a global accountancy firm. A number of students have expressed an interest in attending these sessions and we trust that they will find the sessions helpful. This week, we also launched our new support group for SEN students on Wednesday lunchtimes, and coaches have now been booked for our trip to Winter Wonderland on Wednesday 18th December. The trip will cost £15.40, which includes student's transport and entry ticket. Please make payments on ParentPay as soon as possible! Many thanks.

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12

Science Club

Working independently and with their friends, students had a wonderful time making slime!



Design and Technology Department



Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition

Year 10 chefs selected, planned and created vegetarian dishes in their lessons this week..... They looked, smelt and tasted delicious..... What a cookbook they could make!



Food Elective

Swiss Rolls were on the menu this week.....
I know that they were very quickly disappeared and enjoyed!



REQUEST for RECYCLING help in D&T



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!



Baby Bank Pyjama Appeal

A massive **thank you** to everyone that has contributed to the Baby Bank pyjama appeal! It's bigger and better each year, and was met with so much gratitude. You are all amazing and changing lives.

Thank you. – *Miss Riddles*

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. 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 pray for one another.

Remembrance Service - Monday 25th November 2024

On Monday 25th November, there will be a service for all our loved ones who have passed away. If your child would like to attend, please ask them to go to the Chapel at 3.30pm on Monday 25th November. The service will last 30 minutes.

Holy Family Youth Mass – Sunday 24th November 2024



This Sunday, on the Feast of Christ the King, Father Kevin and representatives of the Holy Family staff would love anyone with a connection to Holy Family Catholic School to join us in the **celebration of Mass at 11.30am**, at Holy Family Church. Current school staff will welcome you and present you with a commemorative Holy Family Catholic School enamel badge; current and past pupils and staff will lead various parts of Mass and refreshments will be provided after Mass. Our aim is simple: to stay connected, so that you will always feel a sense of belonging to Holy Family Catholic School and Parish community. We especially hope to see our 2024 Leavers to hear how you are getting on in Year 7. We hope to see you there. – Mrs Benn and Holy Family Staff

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.

Free School Meals Half-term Vouchers

The vouchers for October half-term have been sent out on Wednesday 20th November 2024 to those eligible. We are sorry for the delay. The sum of money equates to £15 per person. The vouchers have to be redeemed by 4th December 2024.

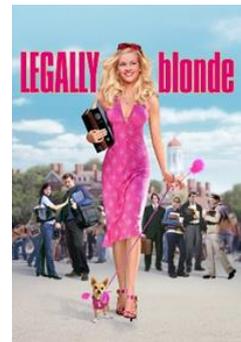
Progress and Reading Test Reports

Recently, KS3 students took part in progress tests for English, Maths and Science (Science was Year 7 only) and all students took part in their reading tests. We are currently processing the reports for these, which will be available shortly through the ClassCharts app (both parent and student). The reports will give an overview of Student Attainment and Progress Made in Reading, English, Maths or Science and implications for their learning.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Stack-Clark at g.stack-clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk.

Legally Blonde Production

St Joseph's Productions proudly presents *Legally Blonde*, performing on **December 11th, 12th, and 13th in the School Hall at 6:00pm**. Tickets are £5 for students and £10 for adults. To secure your seats and avoid disappointment, please **book your tickets via Parent Pay** as soon as possible.



Year 7 to Year 11 Flu Vaccinations

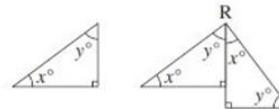
The Berkshire Immunisation Service will be visiting St Joseph's on **29th November 2024** for the Year 7 to Year 11 Flu vaccinations.

Parents/Carers are required to complete a consent form as soon as possible if you would like your child to receive their vaccination at school. If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated, please complete the form as a non-consent. Please read the attached letters for further details.

#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- A The diagrams show one of the twenty-five congruent right-angled triangles and the two such triangles at vertex R. Let the two acute angles in each of the triangles be x° and y° .



Note that $x + y + 90 = 180$, as the interior angles of a triangle sum to 180° .
 So $x + y = 90$. In the second diagram, the two angles which meet at R are x° and y° , so we can deduce that angle QRP is a right angle.
 Let the length of the hypotenuse of each small triangle be a cm.
 Note that angle QRP is a right angle, PR has length $4a$ cm and RQ has length $3a$ cm.
 So the lengths of the sides in triangle PQR are in the ratio $3 : 4 : 5$.
 Therefore the length of PQ , in cm, is $5 \times \frac{2.4}{4} = 3$.

Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

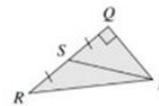
- D The sum of the interior angles of a quadrilateral is 360° . So the smallest angle in the quadrilateral is $3 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 60^\circ$ and the largest angle is $6 \times \frac{360^\circ}{3+4+5+6} = 120^\circ$. Hence the required difference is 60° .

Puzzler of the week

The diagram shows a right-angled triangle PQR . The point S is the midpoint of the side QR and $\tan \angle QPR = \frac{3}{2}$.

What is the value of $\sin \angle QPS$?

- A $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ B $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ C $\frac{1}{2}$ D $\frac{3}{5}$ E $\frac{4}{5}$



Break-time Teaser

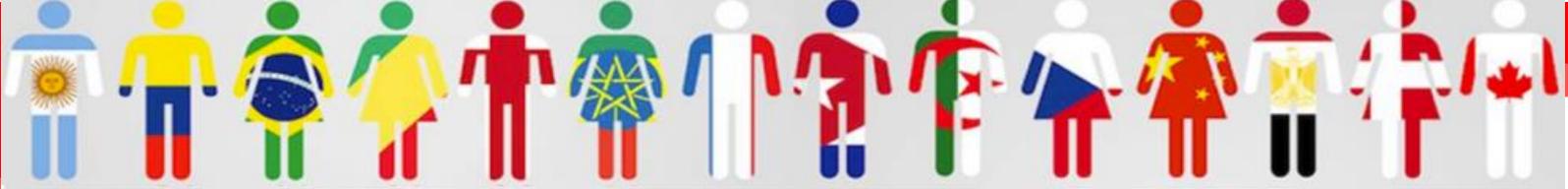
What is the value of $2021 - 2223 + 2425$?

- A 2122 B 2223 C 2324 D 2425 E 2526

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

WEEKLY MENU				
St Josephs Catholic High School - Week Two				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Keema with Peas & Rice	Chicken Tagine served with Couscous & Tzatziki	Student Choice	Minced Beef Enchilada	Oven Baked Fish served with Chips, Tartare Sauce & a Lemon Wedge
Cheese, Leek & Potato Pie with a Puff Pastry Lid	Spinach & Ricotta Lasagne	Quorn Tacos with Sour Cream & Cheese	Indonesian Style Vegetable Curry served with Rice	Curried Vegetable Pastty
Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad	Vegetables or Freshly Prepared House Salad
Pasta with a Cheese & Ham Sauce	Pasta with a Cheese Sauce	Chinese Style Noodles with Beansprouts	Pasta with a Tomato Sauce	-
Iced Vanilla Sponge	Sticky Toffee Pudding served with Custard	Chocolate Brownie	White Chocolate Chip Flapjack	Carrot Cake

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



EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Language)

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

How can I help my child learn English?

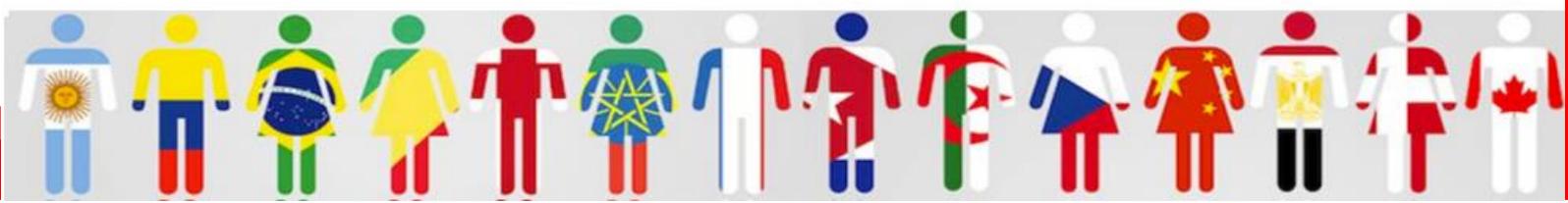
Children learn English more quickly and do better at school if they have a strong first or home language and feel that they are adding English to this rather than replacing their home language with English. Good first language skills act as a support for learning another language. The development of the first language teaches children how to speak and understand that language. It also teaches them how languages work.

EAL Weekly Interventions

- Focus on reading, writing, speaking and listening. This will last 35 minutes and will run from Monday to Friday.
- Curriculum-based reading and research projects once a fortnight. Presentations given to the class, so that all knowledge is shared and reinforced.
- Focus: SPaG, structure (i.e. PEAL), use of subject specific vocab, syntax, connectives, upgrading language choices.

Tips for Parents:

- **Encourage Reading:** Help your child build vocabulary by reading books, articles, or stories in both English and your home language.
- **Homework Help:** Please check ClassCharts for homework updates and remember to sign your child's journal. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need clarification
- **Encourage Dual-Language Learning:** Support your child in maintaining their home language while learning English. This strengthens overall language skills.



SCHOOL CLUBS



Languages Department

KS3 students have been enjoying attending our exciting new weekly club – besides their lessons in French or Spanish. If you study one or the other, you are still most welcome to attend as there are many interesting links between different Romance languages! We encourage learning new language and widening our knowledge of this linguistically diverse world. We have fun with language games with our friends and we have even been singing in the language! We are looking at cultures, flags, festivals, music, people & variations in different "words" of the francophone and hispanohablante countries.

CLUB ROTA: Week B Tuesdays; French 3.30-4.30pm / Week A: Tuesdays Spanish 3.30-4.30pm in T5 with Ms Shaw/MFL colleagues. Come along to escape the winter weather. *A bientôt - Hasta luego.*

DESIGNeers - KS3 DT Club - Monday afterschool



If you love a challenge; enjoy solving problems and Designing and Making; please consider joining our D&T team! We have started thinking about our competition entries and projects this week but would LOVE 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

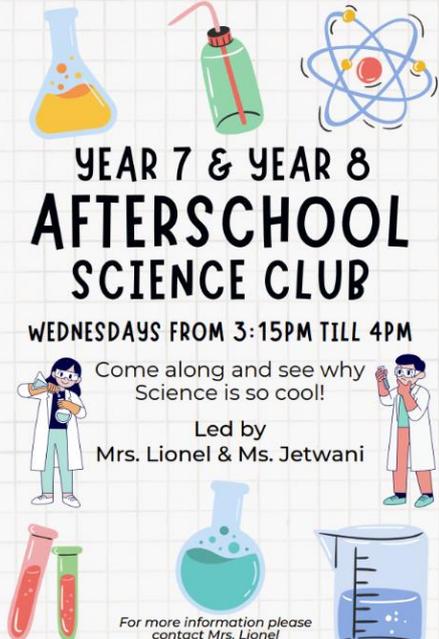









Radio Society of Great Britain
 Advancing amateur radio since 1913



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 Trampolining KBR		Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball CWH