

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020



# ST JOSEPH'S *NEWSLETTER*



AERIAL FILM AND PHOTO HAVE BEEN BACK IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK TO FINISH  
FILMING FOR THE VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING

## From The Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's been another good week in the school, thank you for all your support once again. We're pleased to announce (all things going smoothly this weekend) a new look website being launched on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. We'll have the virtual Open Evening videos placed on it later in the week as filming has finally completed this afternoon and editing is taking place as I type this now. Do let us know how you find it and how user friendly it is. The new website was the product of parent feedback through one of our surveys – I hope this helps you find what you need to know.

***'Unlocking Belief in All'***

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**Travel in and out of school:**

Whilst we're proactively supporting health and fitness – and consequently cycling to school - we've had several issues around safety with students bringing in e-Scooters including one accident on the road this academic year already so we're asking parents to be aware that:

- The usage of e-Scooters to and from our school **is not permitted**. It is currently illegal to ride them on public roads, cycle paths or footpaths.
- Pupils must wear face masks when travelling on all forms of public transport.
- Various bus services are currently being run that are specifically provided for school children only, please check with your local bus service for details. A letter from Slough BC is attached to this letter to help with planning school links.
- Please can those who cycle to and from school do this responsibly, sticking to cycle paths where available and being both, aware of and responsible for, fellow commuters.

In the meantime, have a cracking weekend.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Ciran Stapleton

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## **Buying Food in School**

Please note that ParentPay can't be used to buy food from school so please don't top up your child's ParentPay account with lunch money. We hope to have the system up and running in the near future, but for now pupils will need to continue to bring cash into school to buy any food at break and lunch time.

Thank you.

## **Theme of the Week – Obedience**

In this week's gospel, we learn about the two sons. They are both asked to work in the vineyard for the day. The first refuses, but later, thinks better of it and goes. The second agrees to work, but ended up not going. Jesus asks the chief priests and the elders of the people which son did the father's will. They agree that the first son did.

One of the underlying messages of this parable is that **our actions speak louder than our words**. It is not the conventionally religious who outwardly exhibit right talk and rituals who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but those who carry out God's will by their actions. Prostitutes and tax collectors are often bracketed together because they were considered 'sinners'. But these are the ones who accepted and believed in Jesus and experienced a change of heart and life.

**Jesus' parables are always designed to challenge us to examine our own responses to God.** The chief priests to whom this parable was directed were failing to recognise the reality of the situation.

Have there been times when you too have been in this position?

Times when you have said you were going to do something and not done it?

How did you feel in breaking your promise?

Have you failed to do something when you knew that you should act?

As you consider your response to the demands that being a follower of Jesus calls you to in your day to day experiences, can you identify what the 'no' moments of the last few days have been?

What were the 'yes' moments?

**This week, we could consider changing our negative responses;** remembering that Jesus is always ready to give us another chance to put things right.

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## **Free School Meals**

During these uncertain times we understand that many families have faced interruptions to employment and may be experiencing financial worries. There is help available for families and we run many initiatives in school to ensure all of our students are healthy, happy and ready to learn.

You can apply for free school meals through the following link, it is a quick and easy way to ensure you will get the support you need.

[https://slough-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free\\_school\\_meals](https://slough-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_school_meals)

Any further questions, please contact [a.stockings@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:a.stockings@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

## **English Information for Parents and Guardians of Year 7, 8 and 9 Students**

### Bedrock Vocabulary

You should have now received a letter explaining how to create a free parent account for Bedrock Vocabulary to enable you to track your child's activity and progress on. If you haven't yet received this information, please contact your child's English teacher.

## **Design and Technology News**

Year 8 Design and Technology students have shown huge levels of resilience during these tough times. As part of their homework this term, students have been tasked to prepare and evidence dishes at home.....sausage rolls this week proved popular I'm sure you'd agree!



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### Solution to last Week's Puzzler

**Answer: 32**

First round: ~~X~~ 2 ~~X~~ 4 ... only even numbers left

Second round: ~~X~~ 4 ~~X~~ 8 ... only multiples of 4 left

Third round: ~~X~~ 8 ~~X~~ 16 ... only multiples of 8 left

Fourth round: Only multiples of 16 will be left

Fifth round: Only multiples of 32 will be left.  
32 is the only multiple of 32 under 50, so 32 is the last number left.

Solution to the Break time Teaser:

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

Congratulations to: Niciola Szuba (8V), Piotr Basinski (8T), Annabel Lysiak (8C), Izan IT (8M), Ana Passos (8M) for correct answers.

### Problem of the week

Choose a number in the 3 times table. Take the numbers on either side of your chosen number and find the difference between their squares.

Try it a few times. What do you notice?  
Can you prove it will always happen?

Choose a number in the 5 times table.  
Take the numbers on either side of your chosen number and find the difference between their squares.  
Try it a few times. What do you notice?  
Can you prove it will always happen?

Is there a similar relationship for other times tables?

### **Extension**

Instead of taking the numbers on either side of your starting number, investigate what happens if you take the numbers two above and two below your starting number and then work out the difference between their squares...

## **Break time Teaser:**

What is half of  $1.6 \times 10^6$ ?

A  $8 \times 5^6$

B  $4 \times 10^6$

C  $8 \times 10^5$

D  $8 \times 10^2$

E  $1.6 \times 10^3$

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

## **Debating Society**

Debating society will continue on Wednesdays virtually!! It will be from **4:00pm** till **5:00pm**.

Do **send me an email** ([j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)) **of your school email addresses** (to be added to the Teams group).

Any issue kindly let me know 😊.

All the best,

Mrs Ossei-Brainoo



## **CV19 and Supporting those at Home**

To all parents with children off due to self-isolating,

In the newsletter last week you will have been informed that I will act as a contact for those students who are having to isolate and/or awaiting result of Covid-19 tests.

Please tell your child that teachers are putting work from the lessons they are timetabled in up on Teams in the class files. If you are encountering any issues or if the student is unable to access Microsoft teams or their work please do email myself at [a.euden@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:a.euden@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) and I will be pleased to help out.

Miss A Euden VI LSA

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## Year 8 News

Hello Year 8,

We've had a fantastic four weeks of term so far! Keep up the good work, behaviour and motivation - everything you try, fail and succeed in doesn't go unnoticed and is every step in your own personal journey here at St Joseph's.

The first week of the Everest League will be up in form time to see on Monday... one tutor group is heading the way towards the end of term reward! Who do we think??

Love, Miss WD

## MFL News

Congratulations to Jessica Sobala (Year 7) for the work completed over summer which will be displayed in the department.

Also, Pamela Lopez (Year 9) for her outstanding work ethic and commitment to her Spanish studies.

In French, Mieszko Wujek for his participation and Alex Kulczykowski for his effort in speaking French in class!

Lots of great work from our Year 11 this week, just to name a few:

Darryl Chaita – great participation and focus in Spanish.

Michal Waraksa and Olivia Quinn – for their commitment to improving their French.

## Sixth Form News

**Year 13 parents-** please can I ask that you encourage your son/daughter to maximise their revision over the next 10 or so days in preparation for the PPE's beginning on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October. All students should have PLC's, revision guides, exam questions and mark schemes to use to prepare for the exams and I highly recommend that retrieval practice (testing oneself) is central to the revision process.

Thanks in advance

Mr Matthews

**Year 12 Welcome Video:** a huge welcome to all of our Year 12 parents and students (some familiar faces and some new!). To support the students with their start to Sixth Form study, we usually hold a Welcome Evening – this covers the day to day of sixth form life, how to support students with their study and what resources are available to students and parents alike (and more!). However, this has had to go online this year and so you can access it here:

<https://www.loom.com/share/f477b184f40f4ace9ffa7997930be8b7>

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You will find the resources for parents to support students with sixth form study here:  
[https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/?page\\_id=157](https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/?page_id=157)

## Pupil Nominations of the Week

### **Year 7**

Maisie Hayman and Angelo Bonsu for brilliant presentations in Geography.

### **Year 9**

Ricky Aman and Adrian Chruscinski for outstanding effort in Science.

### **Year 11**

Bianca Long for excellent contribution in Drama and Robert Maina for his excellent attitude to all subjects.

### **Year 13**

Ines Siuda and Patryk Dulak for their outstanding essays in Law.

### **Year 8**

Wiktorja Trzos for being attentive and generous and Alessandra Pepaj for her effort and hard-work in languages.

### **Year 10**

Juljeta Shotaj for her amazing work in Science and Nicola Metra and Lahnee Galloway for outstanding effort and commitment in PE.

### **Year 12**

**Mariana Reis-Gomes** – for an outstanding start to sixth form, for being **autonomous** in her sixth form study.

**Alex Passos-Wiggs** – for a strong start to the year and showing a mature attitude (**autonomous**).