



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Newsletter

Friday 28th June 2024



Prom 2024

Last night was an amazing turnout as we said goodbye to our amazing Year 11s at Prom.

We wish them all the best for the future and look forward to seeing you on results day.

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well. Link to the latest video is:

[\(3\) Headteacher Message NEWSLETTER 28th June 2024 - YouTube](#)

Please like and subscribe to be made aware of all new and exciting St Josephs content.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mr Stapleton



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

Please Find attached a parent's guide to university

The Parents' Guide to
University
2023-2024

Theme of the Week – You are Peter

Sunday is the feast day of both St Peter and St Paul and apart from 1st November where we celebrate All Saints, this is the only other Holy Day of Obligation given over to any other Saint. In this case two Saints! This in itself just shows the significance of the two not just in terms of being Apostles of Jesus but in the role they have played in establishing the Catholic Church and evangelizing all through their participation.

Firstly, let us recognize St Peter. A fisherman who is called by Jesus to follow him, and with his brother, he did. Quite a thing to do, give up all you have to follow someone you have just met, but others did the same so why should he stand out? A disciple who was very close to Jesus and was there at some of the most significant points in his ministry, the transfiguration for example. Peter was not on his own however, John (the disciple) was also there, so why so special, why Peter? What we do see as being a little unique of Peter from the other disciples was he was rebuked by Jesus and was told he would deny Jesus on three occasions and he did. When you take all these things together you have a person who arguably is no greater than those around him but Jesus chooses him **'You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church'** (the Vatican is built upon the tomb of St Peter.) Here we may question why Peter? Maybe we need to look at God. Who is our God? A loving God. Who is our God? A forgiving God. Who is our God? A just God. And even though Peter made some mistakes, even though Peter showed signs of temperament, Peter is like us and we are all welcomed into the Catholic Church (Peter was the first Pope of the Church.) The significance of the Catholic Church being a Communal Church, for all, it shows that we are all part of this community even when we make mistakes because we are loved and forgiven by God.

St Paul was a scholar. After the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, his epistles (letters) that we so regularly hear at Mass on Sundays played and still play a huge role in how the Church is today. How we understand our relationship with God the Father, Jesus and our relationship with the divine. Someone who wasn't there when Christ was alive, but converted and went on to spread the word of Jesus. What does this give us? Hope is prevalent. Hope that even though we may not always feel or know that we have experienced Christ, Christ will make himself known to us. Hope that his published works gives us a better understanding of who God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are and why they are our redemption. Hope that in our lives, God will teach us right from wrong.

The 30th June is a day where we celebrate two wonderful Saints. Two Saints where one is the Rock who lay the foundations of the Church and one who then built upon this so others too could follow in Christ. The Church we have today is a listening Church. In October, the second session of the Synod will take place. Pope Francis officially launched the Synod in 2021 saying **"We recall that the purpose of the Synod is not to produce documents, but to plants dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands"**. We have been called by Pope Francis to be in Communion with one another and listen to the Word of God. Participate by coming together and serve one another and finally being called to Mission to better witness the Gospels in our surroundings. Saint Peter and Paul undertook this task and we are called today to do the same.

You are Peter

Weekly Reflections
30th June 2024



A reading from the Gospel of St Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord,

Who gave unto Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul the task of laying the foundation and evangelizing of the Church, grant that through our intercession to them we too can bring the message of Christ to others.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen



Catholic Social Teaching of Subsidiarity and Participation

We all have the right and duty to participate fully in society. We live in community with others, growing together. We are called to be active participants in all that we do. We have a responsibility to be inclusive so that we allow all people to participate. Pope Francis said "Each of us has a part to play, a gift to share, a service to offer, for the building up the Body of Christ in Love. Watch the video on Subsidiarity and Participation and state how you can be part of our Church. How can you be:

[Active and Curious](#)

Day 1

Why do you think that Saint Peter & Saint Paul's Feast Day is a Holy Day of Obligation?

What importance does this assign to the two Saints?

Day 2

Jesus says to Saint Peter "You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church". What do you think this literally and metaphorically means?

Day 3

How does the writings of Saint Paul give hope to us today?
How can the Synod in October give hope to the Church today?

Water Bottles



The warmer weather is making an appearance please ensure your child is bring a bottle to school every day.

Reading and Progress Tests

Last week, Key Stage 3 completed their Progress Tests for English, Maths and Science and Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 completed their reading tests. Each student will receive the reports for these, electronically on class charts, with a covering letter prior to Academic Review Day on the 15th of July.

The headline scores for the tests will appear on their paper school report, with an explanation on the reverse.

The reports will show the progress that they have made, against a national data set and provide guidance as to how students can improve in those areas.

Thanks to all students for taking part, they conducted themselves brilliantly throughout the assessment window.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via g.stack-clark@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Mr Stack-Clark

School Timings

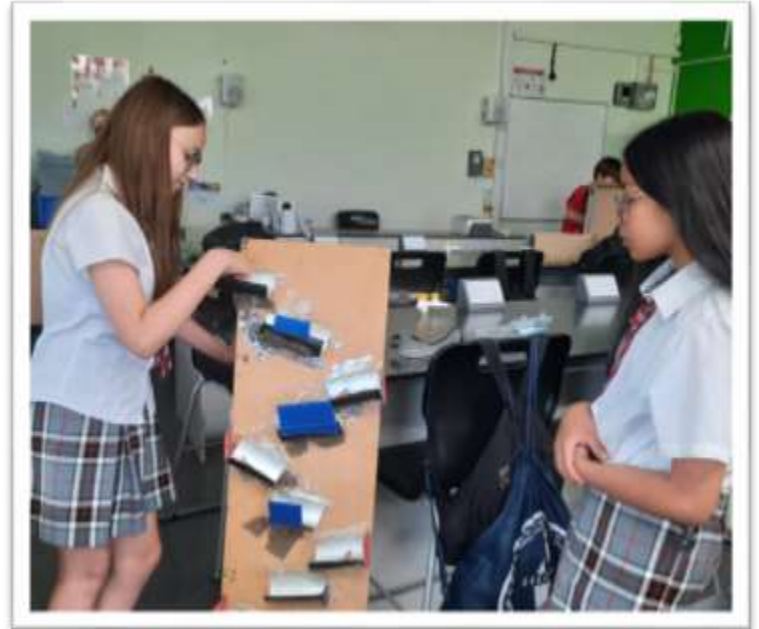
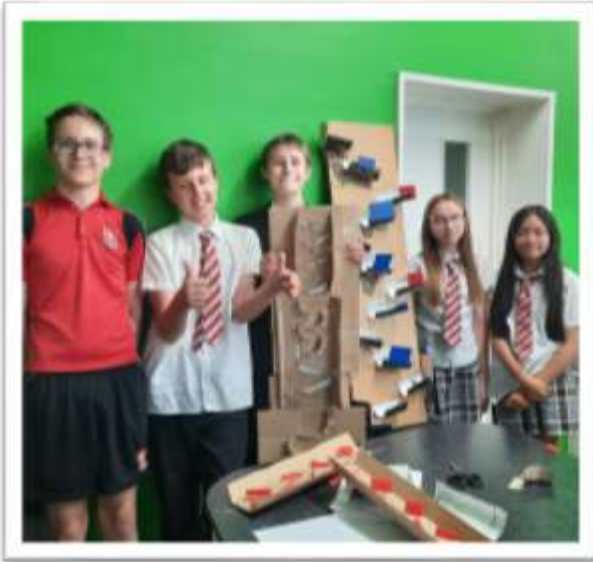
We have made some changes to the school day, mainly around lunch times, in order to accommodate the national and PPE exams. We will keep the current timings of the day for the rest of this summer term, returning to our traditional timings in September.

Homework Superstar

Sameer	Gupta	7 Cecilia
Lara	Buckley	8 Mark
Emma	Powell	9 Peter

Science Club

Using the concepts of physics our scientist design and built a Marble Run with recycled material.



'Crime Scene'

This week, Year 12 students joined their peers from across TVLP schools to examine a 'crime scene' and discover their own CSI and forensic skills. This was led at Beechwood with a guest facilitator, Hayley Scott, from 'The Forensic Experience.' Students had a chance to gather finger print evidence, test for blood traces and uncover the perpetrator. The experience was interesting and students were curious to discover more about the profession- to which Hayley was great at providing tips and areas to research to support with this. Well done to all



students that took part and represented our school proudly.



Year 7 News

A big congratulations to our 6 Year 7 students who represented Slough at the track and field championships, they did tremendously well and did us all really proud.

Please keep an eye out for Academic Review day letters, the expectation is that all parents must meet with their child's form tutor for a meeting on the day. Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Cooper-Santos – Head of Year 7

Year 8 News

What a week for Year 8 with those who went on the rowing trip at Dorney Lake to the 80 students who got the opportunity to attend the stunning Wroth School for their retreat, giving students the opportunity to be guided in prayer and also give thanks for their opportunities in life alongside their friends and family. Next week is awards evening on 3rd July starting at 6pm where students across the school will be given the credit they deserve for commitment to either studies or the school values. Hope you have a fantastic weekend.

Miss McCormack – Head of Year 8

Year 9 News

Year 9 had another fantastic week with 832 positive points! A reminder now the hot weather is here please ensure that you have a water bottle with you. We have a busy few weeks coming up with Sports Day, Awards Evening and the Rewards Trips these are really great events within the school calendar. Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Joseph – Head of Year 9

Year 11 News

Last night we celebrated the Year 11 Prom. It was held at Stoke Place and all the students had a fantastic time. We had arrival drinks at 7.00 and then a delicious buffet followed by dancing and celebrating. It was lovely to see them all suited and booted. For those that have been invited Awards evening is on Wednesday 3rd July, looking forward to seeing you there. The next time we will all see each other will be Results Day, good luck to you all.

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 11

Year 12 News

Next week is a busy one for year 12 as we turn our focus on careers. On Tuesday 2nd July we will have an interview day where every student will have a 30 minute mock interview with an Industry professional and receive feedback on their performance afterwards.

For the rest of the week, there will be a variety of Virtual Work Experience sessions run on Unifrog that students have chosen to attend. Have a great Weekend!

Miss Stevens – Head of Year 12

St Joseph's Jinted

Sixth form students are keen to lead St Joseph's Vinted- JINTED! Please donate clothes to Mrs Burby if you have any during some clean outs, and come and support the sixth form team in their upcycling efforts (and find yourself something new!).

St. Joseph's Jinted!

Step 1
Trade your old clothes (that are in good condition) for tokens!

IMPORTANT
You can either use a token to pay, or a minimum of £1!

Conditions
Clothes MUST be in good condition and washed!

Step 2
Trade in tokens (or £1) for clothes!

Where to donate
Donate your clothes to Mrs Burby, Leah Walls or Finlay Gibbons in T16 to receive your token!

Where?
Art room

When?
4th July, Lunch Time

Worth School Trip

Yesterday, 80 students in year 8 went to Worth School in West Sussex on a retreat. As part of the day, students got to know each other a little better, gained an insight from speakers on how Jesus can be seen in our lives as well as spending time in reflection and prayer. Students had a lovely day!

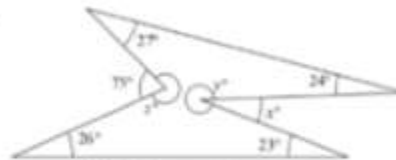




#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- C The angles at a point sum to 360° so
 $75 + z = 360$ and $y + x = 360$.
 Therefore $75 + z + y + x = 720$.
 The sum of the interior angles of a
 hexagon is $4 \times 180^\circ = 720^\circ$.
 Therefore
 $27 + 24 + y + 23 + 26 + z = 720$, so $75 + z + y + x = 27 + 24 + y + 23 + 26 + z$.
 Hence $75 + x = 27 + 24 + 23 + 26 = 100$. So $x = 100 - 75 = 25$.



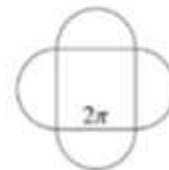
Solution to the Break-time Teaser:

- D Assume that $a > b$. Then $a + b = 7$ and $a - b = 2$. Adding these two equations together gives $2a = 9$. So $a = \frac{9}{2}$ and hence $b = 7 - \frac{9}{2} = \frac{14-9}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$.
 Therefore $a \times b = \frac{9}{2} \times \frac{5}{2} = \frac{45}{4} = 11\frac{1}{4}$.

Puzzler of the week

A semicircle is drawn on each side of a square, as shown.
 The square has sides of length 2π .
 What is the area of the resulting shape?

- A $2\pi^2(\pi + 1)$ B $\pi^2(\pi + 2)$ C $2\pi^2(2\pi + 1)$ D $\pi^2(\pi + 4)$
 E $2\pi^2(\pi + 2)$



Break-time Teaser

My recipe for apple crumble uses 100 g of flour, 50 g of butter and 50 g of sugar to make the crumble topping. When my family come for a meal, I have to use two and a half times each amount to provide enough crumble. In total, how much crumble topping do I then make?

- A 0.5 kg B 2 kg C 2.5 kg D 5 kg E 50 kg

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

Pupil Nominations of the Week

<p><u>Year 7</u></p> <p>Jerome Cupid and Nela Mocny for having exceptional weeks</p>
<p><u>Year 8</u></p> <p>Year 8 students of the week - Vanessa Buda and Tesia Teji for the highest positive points.</p>
<p><u>Year 9</u></p> <p>Filip Arkuszynski and Arina Pavlovskaja for having receiving the most positive points this week.</p>
<p><u>Year 10</u></p> <p>George Curtis for achieving most positive points.</p>
<p><u>Year 12</u></p> <p>Finlay Gibbons and Alex Pienczewski for the most positive points on Classcharts. Also, a special mention goes to all the students that went on the TVLP trip on Wednesday – your participation and behaviour was exemplary!</p>

Congratulations to this week's winners of the Year 10 Spanish Grammar Challenge: Maisie Hayman, Sara Piasecka, and Arabela Catilo. Well done!



Congratulations to this week's winner of the Year 10 French Grammar Challenge: Oliwia Foksinska





Congratulations to the Duolingo winners!!

1. **Michalina Pietrzak: 13065XP**
2. **Ria Basil: 12053XP**
3. **Vanessa Blicharz-Singh: 9409XP**
4. **Emilia Duzcek: 6166XP**
5. **Bianca Danek: 3785XP**

Positive points are already on the system, and prizes are on their way to you! Keep your eyes peeled for the next round, well done to everyone who took part – your language skills are so impressive!

MFL SUPERSTARS! FRENCH CLASS 8X1

Coco, Layla, Jessica, Zofia, Amelie, Zofia, Antoni, Abeni, Lucas, Patryck, Victoria, Erin, Sophia, Nicola, Nicole, Brooke and Darren.

Nominated for their super multicultural day posters last month. Here is a map of the French speaking world today with statistics to show how widespread the French language is around the world & what an incredible and diverse wealth of different cultures, people, languages & cuisine there are to appreciate.
Merci de Mme Shaw



FASHION UPCYCLE COMPETITION



**Deadline:
Sunday
25 August!**

**Do you work, live or study
within the borough of Slough?
Are you creative? Are you skilful?
This competition is for you!**

Create a new wearable garment from preloved clothes or used materials and present it on the Fashion Upcycle Catwalk. The theme is 'Reimagine, Repurpose, Rewear'

There are two categories (with amazing prizes!):

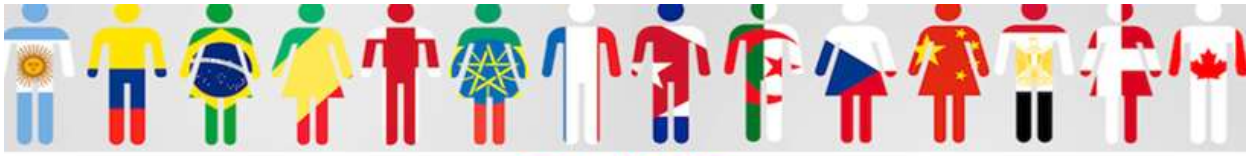
- Between 13 - 19 year old
- 20 years and over

For all information:
<http://sloughantilitter.org.uk/upcycle>
Email:
hello@sloughantilitter.org.uk
info@sloughbid.co.uk
or scan QR code



**Catwalk
show
Saturday
7 Sept!**





EAL NEWS

(English as an Additional Language)

Do You Know?

Research shows at the age of 11 a parent is as important as a teacher in a child's education. When parents are involved in their education, children do better on a wide range of measures. These positive effects include:

- Better behaviour
- More confidence and greater self-esteem
- More enthusiasm about learning
- Better results etc.

"It's what parents do rather than who they are that counts."

Professor Charles Desforges University of Exeter

Talk to your children about what they are doing in subjects in their first language. If they do not understand, encourage them to use:

- Dictionary
- Google Translate <http://translate.google.com>

In fact, John Hattie's seminal 2008 study, *Visible Learning: A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement* found that "the effect of parental engagement over a student's school career is equivalent to adding two or three years to that student's education".

Free Online resources

Useful Internet website for English exercises for all levels

<https://agendaweb.org/>

