

# STUDENT BRIEFING

## Week commencing 18 May 2020

### TRUTH

*Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective not the truth.” (Marcus Aurelius)*

### Important Dates

#### Forward Notice

As we learn of further useful/important dates for you whilst we are not working in school, we will put them here for you.

### Work for Drama and Music

We have made some changes on how you should send your work to us. From now you can send us your work by uploading them onto the Assignment Documents on Moodle. You will find instructions on how to do this on the Remote Learning pages for Drama and Music.

Each task has its own Assignment Document for you to use. You do not need to email us to let us know that you have completed the work – we can see that you have done the work if you have ticked the completion box next to the task set.

This will help us to reduce the number of emails going through the system.

Thank you  
Performing Arts Team

### The Great Realisation

Here's a really positive and insightful poetic reflection called 'The Great Realisation' on how we might look back retrospectively at this time in lockdown in the years and decades to come: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw5KQMXDiM4>

### Careers Opportunities Notes

Each week, we receive information about a number of opportunities for you to explore. These are open to students in all year groups.

Don't ignore this section. You have all got futures. Your futures are important. Your individual future is going to take up the rest of your life. You want this to be the best it can possibly be, so that will take planning.

Some of these opportunities will be about exploring particular careers. Some of these opportunities will be about examining particular skills, particular ideas, particular experiences. Take advantage of the time you have now to prepare yourselves for the bright

and sparkling futures you deserve. You never know, you could discover something that will change the course of your whole life.

1. **Young Enterprise: My Money Week Resource Hub** – Young Enterprise has produced a number of resources for you to use whilst you are working from home. They have activities for ages 11 – 14 and ages 14 – 16. Some of them are designed for you to complete with help from your parents, as they will be able to give lots of advice on these particular activities and, dare I say it, they may even be grateful that you are taking such an interest in being smart about money! Go to this website for more details: [My Money Week Resource Hub](#) .
2. **Explore** – Do you like to explore the “big questions” of our existence? Would you find yourself thinking about: is knowledge a dangerous thing? Or, are real life friends better than online ones? These are just a couple of brief examples of what you can do on this website. This is run by the University of Oxford and is designed for 11 – 18 year olds who are curious people and want to be creative thinkers. Whilst it is designed to give you a taste of what it is like to be at university (yes, 11 years of age is not too soon to have that ambition!), it is a fun way of investigating some of the wide-ranging topics that we often examine through our lessons. You can look at this on: [What is Explore?](#) . Judging from all the debates (arguments?) I’ve seen taking place in lessons, this is going to be very popular! And, I hate to say this, your parents might even like it, too!
3. **Careers Advice from Adviza** – We have received information from our careers interview provider, Adviza, of free offers they have for students during lockdown. This will be of particular use for year 11 students who may not have finalised their plans for next year. Remember: it is the law that you are in education, training or an apprenticeship in September. The Adviza offer is aimed at students, parents and carers and offers:
  - A webchat service to access information and advice, including supporting students who have had their examinations cancelled.
  - Support with offers from apprenticeship providers where any admissions procedures may have changed.
  - Access to useful careers guidance resources.The webchat service runs Monday to Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. It can be accessed on <http://www.adviza.org.uk/chat> .
4. **Swindon College Notices** – Years 10 and 11. Swindon College have sent through a number of documents that you may find useful when thinking about September 2020 or September 2021. These are on Moodle – Student Resources – Careers – Career Resources – Topic 11 Swindon College. Look at them and take the opportunity to attend the Virtual Open Event on 18 May 2020. All the details are there.

### **Year 11 Notices**

Year 11 students should have their offers from their college courses, training or apprenticeships for September. If any student has no placement offered for next year, it is very important that you contact Mrs Sanders to get help with this. In the first instance, contact her on: [ksanders@stjosephscollege.net](mailto:ksanders@stjosephscollege.net) . Remember: you have to be in training or education for at least the next two years. Let us work together to make sure that everything is in place for you for September.

Leavers’ hoodies are available to order from ‘Leavers Hoodies.com’ at the following link: <https://www.leavershoodies.com/shop/stjosephscatholiccollege-2020>. The online shop will close on Monday, 1 June 2020. Once the hoodies are produced, they will be delivered to home addresses.

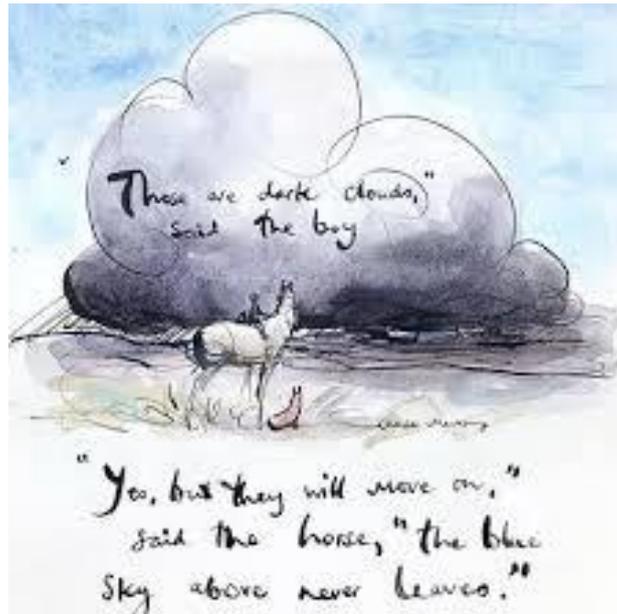
## A message from the Chaplaincy Team

Hello to our amazing Students!

We have attached some prayers that we hope brings you some comfort and peace. We are praying for our St Joseph's community as well as everyone affected by Covid-19. Please take care and Stay Safe.

St Joseph – Pray for Us.

Mrs Barkham and Mrs Mobey



## Prayers about the outbreak From the Chaplaincy Team May 2020

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **For those who are ill**

Merciful God,  
we entrust to your tender care  
those who are ill or in pain,  
knowing that whenever danger threatens  
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.  
Comfort and heal them,  
and restore them to health and strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



### **For hospital staff and medical researchers**



Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and  
resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those searching for a  
cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be  
restored to health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **From one who is ill or isolated**

O God,  
help me to trust you,  
help me to know that you are with me,  
help me to believe that nothing can separate me  
from your love  
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



**God of love and hope,  
you made the world and care for all creation,  
but the world feels strange right now.  
The news is full of stories about Coronavirus.  
Some people are worried that they might get ill.  
Others are anxious for their family and friends.  
Be with them and help them to find peace.  
We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists,  
and all who are working to discover the right medicines  
to help those who are ill.**

**Thank you that even in these anxious times,  
you are with us.  
Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.  
Amen.**

**The next briefing will be Friday, 22 May 2020.**

**Please look on the next page for a blog entry from one of our students.**

# Life in Lockdown

Or:

## Hiccups at Home



I focused on the quotation, “**Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can change until it’s faced.**” This quotation has helped because it shows us that nothing is going to change (people dying) if we don’t face it (by doing as we’re instructed).

During this time, lots has changed for me and for everyone - including the fact that we can’t see people. In the last couple of weeks, I have been reflecting on my time at St. Joseph’s and even though I have not been there for a year, I have had many amazing experiences. As scary as everything is that is going on now, it also has some positives. It has given me time to think about how lucky I am to have so many amazing people in my life. We all need to do a bit of reflection on everything that is good in our life.

I have tried to stick to a normal school routine so when we all go back to school not much would change. Then, there is the thought of what would it be like for kids who can’t go to school? I would like us to reflect on all of the people who cannot go to school and have to try to learn on their own. Many thoughts like these have passed my mind these eight weeks. In addition, this has made me think about how fortunate I am.

Whilst at home, I have tried to do entertaining activities. My knitting ended up as a ball of colourful wools for my nan’s cat, my mum’s sewing machine has a massive lump of fabric stuck in the needle (which I don’t know how I did), my cakes ended up looking like black Frisbees, and I have created a massive paint stain on the carpet. So, instead of trying new activities, I have spent most of my time trying to get paint out of the carpet!

I hope some of these stories have brought a smile to your faces ☺.

If we all stick together and think positively, we can all get through this.

Scarlett Bohane, Year 7

Thank you so much to Scarlett for writing this and sending it to us. We are encouraged to see someone from year 7 being courageous and revealing her thoughts about life in the moment. We do have some other submissions, but would welcome many more.

**Don’t forget: you, too, can write for this blog. To do so, please contact Mr Matyla on: [AMatyla@stjosephscollege.net](mailto:AMatyla@stjosephscollege.net) .**