

## STUDENT BRIEFING

Week commencing 1 June 2020

### SERVICE

*“You will serve a King of two million people (Albania), I shall serve the King of the whole world.” (Mother Teresa)*

#### Important Dates

**22 May 2020** - Last day of term  
**1 June 2020** - Term 6 begins

#### 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.

#### National Book Tokens and Big Dreamers Writing Competition

This is an exciting opportunity for anyone from ages 6 – 18 to win up to £200 of National Book Tokens. To do this, all you have to do is write a 300-word short story based on the theme of BIG DREAMS. Lots of you write more than 300 words when you write a story for English, so this should be something you can all easily have a go at trying during lockdown. The stories will be judged by a range of authors, including Robin Stevens, Yasmin Abdel-Magied and Carrie Hope Fletcher. To find out more, you can either click on this link:

[https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/big-](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/big-dreams?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=big-dreams&utm_campaign=20200515_writing-competition)

[dreams?utm\\_source=nbt&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=big-](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/big-dreams?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=big-dreams&utm_campaign=20200515_writing-competition)

[dreams&utm\\_campaign=20200515\\_writing-competition](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/big-dreams?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=big-dreams&utm_campaign=20200515_writing-competition) . Or, if your browser does not support this link, go to Moodle – English – Remote Learning Year 7 Term 5 – Topic 8 (scroll down the page to find it). We have just put this link in one place for all year groups to find it. This is something any student at St. Joseph’s can do. Take a risk and success could be yours.

#### Sharing the Love of Reading

Families may be interested in this free resource which could really help our students with their literacy on so many levels. Some of the tasks will support GCSE revision for older students whilst for KS3 students, the need to understand, play and work with language will improve confidence, knowledge and ability. If you have time over the forthcoming May holiday perhaps pick some of these tasks to work on with your children and to make their learning more engaging and memorable.

This organisation also has resources for younger children so please contact Mrs Fraser ([kfraser@stjosephscollege.net](mailto:kfraser@stjosephscollege.net)) if you would like a copy for younger family members.

Thank you and enjoy

Mrs Fraser

## Pastoral Notices

Please read the messages below, as they are of importance to you all.

### 1. Naming work

When you have been asked to send work into Pastoral or your student manager (this is very rare, so do not do this as a habit), please ensure you put your name on the work and the name of the teacher for whom it is intended. This might be a good idea for any work you submit.

### 2. Bereavement Support

It is a sad fact that many members of our College community have experienced the loss of loved ones during the Covid-19 pandemic. Such bereavements are hard to deal with at any time, but with the added pressure of the lockdown and all the restrictions that this places on accessing normal support networks, the challenges that families face can be immense. Please inform us of any bereavements experienced by your family so we can offer our help and support, both now and in the future. To do this please email Adrian Stoten, Director of Student Welfare, [astoten@stjosephscollege.net](mailto:astoten@stjosephscollege.net).

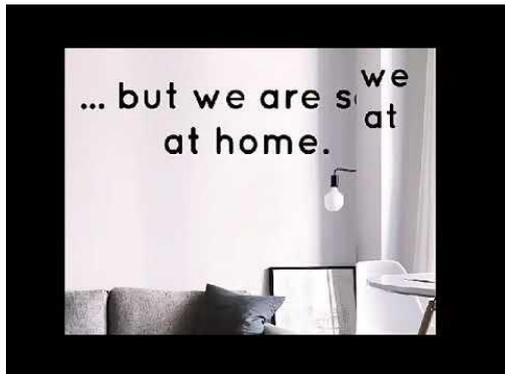
## Messages from your teachers

The staff have put together a presentation of messages to all our students. The presentation is called 'Staff Message to Students May 2020' and has been added to Moodle on Student Resources/Remote Learning: <https://moodle.stjosephscollege.net/course/view.php?id=1062>  
There will be a further version added to the School's Facebook page and website shortly.  
Enjoy!

## A message from Mrs Ash

Please look at this thoughtful reflection upon the current pandemic.

<https://youtu.be/Lp5r8tvQbAQ>



[The Story of 2020 - YouTube](#)

## Leavers' hoodies

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.

## Careers Notices

### 1. Year 10 – watch this space!

Go to your e-mail accounts for news about virtual work experience opportunities. Lots of employers are delivering work experiences online, as all other chances for “in person” work experience is not available for the foreseeable future. There is quite a range of career options to explore and you will be expected to complete one during the week beginning 8 June 2020. This work experience will not take all week and you will be expected to complete other school work. You will be sent a link via e-mail where you will choose online a virtual work experience. Make your choice by 1 June 2020 at 9.00 a.m. Take a chance and do something different.

### 2. Engineering Fun for Lockdown with Enginuity Skills Miner

This is a computer game that you can play for free. If you have an interest in a future career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), you will be interested in looking at this. When looking at this website to see if you are interested in the game, do it with the person who owns your computer and can decide if the package is compatible with your PC and if they want the game to be played on your home PC. Again, this is a free package, so there is no need for anyone to give credit card details. You can access this on: [https://enginuity.org/innovation-lab/skills-miner/?utm\\_source=get\\_my\\_first\\_job&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=skills\\_miner\\_launch](https://enginuity.org/innovation-lab/skills-miner/?utm_source=get_my_first_job&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=skills_miner_launch)

### 3. Attention Year 11 Students

The UK University Virtual Search Fair is taking place online on Wednesday, 17 June 2020, from 12 noon to 6.00 p.m. Now is not too soon for you to investigate possible university courses and even find out about different universities. Make informed, sensible decisions. It takes time to do that, so make a start now. Don't be like some people, who chose to attend a particular university because it overlooked the *Coronation Street* set. That was not a good reason! Start to think about you and your future – now! You can find the link on Moodle – Student Resources – Careers – Career Resources – Topic 13.

### 4. BBC Young Reporter

If you are interested in a career in the media, particularly journalism, go to the BBC Young Reporter YouTube Channel. There is a wealth of resources there that will give you case studies on what you need to do if you are interested in a career in the media. The videos are entertaining and informative, so whether you are in year 7, in year 11, or anywhere in between, give it a go. The link can be found at: Moodle – Student Resources – Careers – Career Resources – Topic 14 (scroll down the page).

### 5. For GCSE students (including year 11): Loughborough University HE at Home

This is a truly superb resource created by Loughborough University. This is a site that offers a very wide range of virtual career experiences/activities for different subject areas, such as: Business, Marketing, Politics, Communication, Money Management, Social Media Management, Publishing, Art History, Architecture, Chemistry. More subjects are being added, so please keep checking. This is a fabulous opportunity to do some personal research into future careers. Instructions for signing up for one of these courses can be found at: Moodle – Student Resources – Careers – Career Resources – Topic 15 (scroll down the page). Doing one of these courses could be one of the best decisions you will ever make.

### 6. Years 10 and 11 - A message from employers and colleges

At a meeting with Wiltshire careers leaders this past week, employers and college admissions who were present said that they had two questions that they would ask anyone who is interviewed from this point forward:

- How did you react to COVID-19?
- What did you do that made a difference to you during that time?

This is relevant for year 11 this year, as some of you may still have to attend interviews with colleges. It is definitely important for year 10 to think about this, as you will be having college and training interviews from October 2020 onwards for courses you will join in September 2021. You have been sent, via this student briefing, lots of details about different opportunities you can take. They are all good. Make sure that you make the best use of your time, so that you can give a good answer to those questions.

**The next briefing will be Friday, 5 June 2020.**

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

## Life in Lockdown



The news leads us on, each update, each release, and leading in turn to a realisation. The corona virus has had an impact upon my life by shutting doors, but has allowed me to open my mind instead. Sure, it is harder to get essentials. My family remains inside and the boredom invades my mind, after I complete my schoolwork; but it leads me to realise the beauty of life, each breeze and every day out I took for granted. I spend hours staring at a screen, with no need to do anything, even though the doors are open. Now, with the doors being closed, I look outside, after I have done/watched/tried anything I possibly could have done. This temporary change is leaving a permanent mark upon my life.

Now waiting, for the door to be unlocked, my friends (the majority whom are introverts) yearn to go outside. We make plans through text-messaging, we re-live and retell stories and moments in school on FaceTime. Our lessons are still with us. The people, our community, now replace thoughts of school. Sure, some days at school were not as bright as the ones we choose to remember, but each day had its own twist. Something that lockdown has been lacking. Through each lesson, we all make the best memories, ones we can share: messing around, having laughs and conversations with the teacher, the group activities, the class clowns joking about, the inside jokes - all the things that happen in school. I even miss the teachers in this point. Lessons online just do not seem the same. I miss the discussions, learning from each other, understanding people's viewpoints, making that mistake in turn also teaches someone else.

It's made me realise to not waste this time. Time goes past so fast and doesn't wait for anyone. You shouldn't "leave it until tomorrow", or use the excuse "for another day". I am trying to make the most of my spare time. I have found myself enjoying new hobbies, such as gardening, cooking and even writing. Ironically, despite me missing my friends and school, I am enjoying the free time, less stress with homework, assessments. I can learn at my own pace.

So, even though this time and this school year is slipping away fast, make the most of it. Start new hobbies, read a book or just relax. After all, when we get back to school we have a lot to catch up on.

Alia Cabral Year 10

**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) .**