



STUDENT AND PARENT/CARER BRIEFING

Week commencing 14 December 2020

JOY

“The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to heart. The commandments of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.” (Psalm 19:8)

Important Dates

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| 16 December 2020 | - | Remote Christmas Services |
| 17 December 2020 | - | Celebration Assemblies via PowerPoint |
| 4 January 2021 | - | Teacher Training Day |

Forward Notice

As we learn of further useful/important dates for you, we will put them here for you.

Notices for All Students

January 2021 Timetable Changes – All Year Groups

As you all know by now, your timetable will change when you arrive back at school in January. There has been one reason for making this change: for the benefit of you, the students. You have adjusted well to working in bubbles and have been sensible about the limitations that Covid has caused in general. We did realise that the classes split between different teachers that some of you have had are not ideal. We wanted to try to rectify this and we have done the very best we can for you. You will see your new timetable on your first day back. Not all your teachers will change (that would be too radical!); however, where there are changes, those teachers want you to know that they will be sorry that they are not working with you next term and they look forward to still seeing you around the school. Next term is going to be exciting for us all!

Withdrawal Room – the last week of term

For anyone sent to the withdrawal room this week, please do not go to the Gym. Go to your year's student manager's area immediately.

Request and Receive Library Service

A huge thank you and well done to all the students who have made use of the Request and Receive library system. We appreciate that it is really difficult even with the Mini Catalogue, but it is really encouraging that some people are trying. A special thanks particularly to the avid readers of G15, who are taking the lead with requests at the moment!





Year 11 - Duke of Edinburgh Awards completed

A huge congratulations to all year 11 students who have passed their Duke of Edinburgh award this year. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we are unable to hold an awards evening, but would like to share their successes with everyone. They received their badges and certificates last week and this displays their commitment, resilience, hard work and determination throughout their programme. Well done!

Year 10 – Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award ‘with a difference’!

If any current year 10 students would like to continue onto their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award in the New Year, please contact Mrs De Araujo or Miss McKenna.

Year 9 - Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award ‘with a difference’!

Year 9 students have a great opportunity in the New Year, to achieve their **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award!** You will gain three certificates of achievement by completing sections relating to skills, volunteering and physical activities. Letters will be going to parents soon and you will need to check your emails regularly with further information. You will find more information on the Duke of Edinburgh website:

<https://www.dofe.org/dofewithadifference/> . If you have any questions please email Mrs De Araujo or Miss McKenna.

Student Leadership Meetings – Years 7, 8 and 9

Student Leaders will meet this week at the following times:

- Year 7 – Tuesday lunchtime – Chapel
- Year 8 – Wednesday lunchtime - Chapel
- Year 9 – Wednesday 1415 – S07

Please make a note of the time and location. If you are still interested in being a part of Student Leadership, then please email Mr Matyla.

Art Competition - Years 7, 8 and 9

Next week, on Wednesday the 16 December 2020, is the deadline for the Art Competitions, for Year 9, Year 8, Year 7.

The projects are built on the learning that has taken place since September, with the goal to making new school displays.

This is hint!

WE WANT TO MAKE YOUR YEAR 7 WORK INTO AN AMAZING SCHOOL DISPLAY!

Year 7 Art Competition

Your task is to create a still life painting or Pencil Drawing in the style of Paul Cézanne. Remember a still life Art works are **objects** or "nonliving things". The best 30 pieces will be made into a school display


YOU HAVE UNTIL WEDNESDAY THE 16TH OF DECEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES

Any Questions please feel free to Email Othompson@stiosephcollege.net







WE WANT TO MAKE A
DISPLAY OF YOUR WORK
IN THE SCHOOL



Year 8 Art Competition



Using the learning you have acquired this term you are to draw a building in a Neo-Classical style. Famous Neo-Classical buildings include the white house in Washington or St Pauls Cathedral in London. Neo-Classical buildings are usually grand highly important buildings like courthouses or churches. Commonly these buildings have grand roofs and columns. Your drawing should be equally as grand and perfectly shaded. The best 30 drawings will be made into a school display.

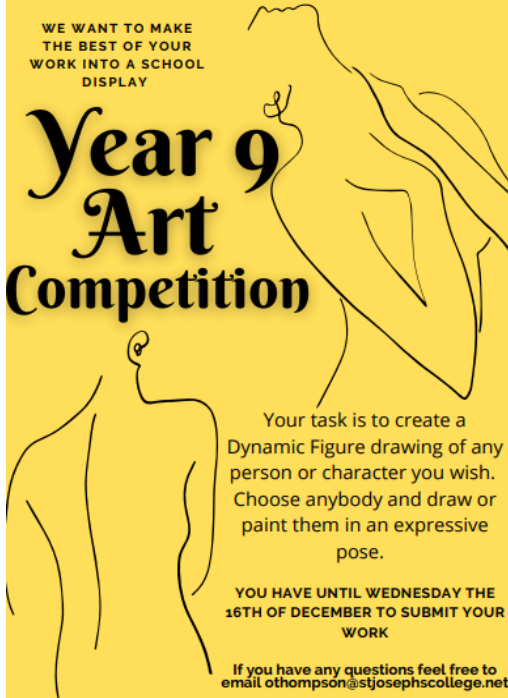


YOU HAVE UNTIL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER THE 16TH TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Email Othompson@stjosephcollege.net if you have any Questions

WE WANT TO MAKE
THE BEST OF YOUR
WORK INTO A SCHOOL
DISPLAY

Year 9 Art Competition



Your task is to create a Dynamic Figure drawing of any person or character you wish. Choose anybody and draw or paint them in an expressive pose.

YOU HAVE UNTIL WEDNESDAY THE 16TH OF DECEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

If you have any questions feel free to email othompson@stjosephcollege.net

Winter Mini Reading Challenge – Years 7 and 8

This week will be your last opportunity to borrow books before the holiday. Why not get a book and have a go at the Winter Mini Reading Challenge over the holiday? Follow this link: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk> to create yourself an account and find out more. Read as many books as you can before Friday 15 January 2021, and you could win a prize! All you have to do is make a profile and get reading. When you finish a book, add it to your profile and write a review. Then print, or screenshot and email your review to Miss Henry. All those who do will go into a prize draw for a mystery treat. You can also put your book reviews in the drop-off box outside the Library and the best ones will receive a reward!

Notices for All Parents

Amazing Apprenticeships – December Parents' and Carers' Pack

If your child is in year 11, you will know that they have recently participated in a number of workshops that have included information about apprenticeships. This is a serious option for all our students, whether they are considering one after their GCSEs, after their 16 – 19 education, or after degree level. There is a much wider range of apprenticeship qualifications than have ever been available previously. To give you all access to vital information about this, Amazing Apprenticeships have created a parent pack, which you can download by clicking [here](#). It should be noted that this is useful for parents and carers of all year groups. You never know when you will need this information!





Chaplaincy News

Christmas Collection

Thank you for all the donations from families and to the Student Chaplaincy group for their help with the collection. This is truly appreciated by us all at St. Joseph's.

Pastoral Notices

Behaviour at break and lunch times

Student behaviour is mostly very good at St. Joseph's. It is very noticeable when someone does not conform to our high standards. Recently, we have seen damage take place in some classrooms. Projectors have been affected and some equipment, such as glue sticks and scissors, has been thrown around. These actions are completed by just a few people. Please could everyone be vigilant about all these spaces and report any untoward action you see taking place.

Careers Notes

Opportunities from Amazing Apprenticeships

Amazing Apprenticeships is a one-stop shop for all students, their parents and their carers to find out more about what modern apprenticeships are like. They have notified me of a number of activities available to you online, which you may find useful for some Christmas research:

1. Apprenticeships with the Armed Forces – click [here](#) to find out more about what you can do in the British Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.
2. Wordskills Master Classes - WorldSkills UK have just launched a suite of Mindset Masterclasses to help students and apprentices become more confident, resilient and agile. The masterclasses, which are free to access, include ten bite-sized learning modules. Find out more [here](#).

College/Training Applications – Year 11

As we all get our applications filled out before Christmas, some of you may need some help with this. Please send an e-mail to ksanders@stjosephscollege.net so that we can arrange for you to have someone help you with this process. We look forward to hearing from you.

Messages from Cirencester College

1. The next Open Day will be on Saturday 6 February 2021, 10am till 4pm. This event replaces the open evening planned for Thursday 11 February 2021. As per the event held in October, visits are by appointment only and the booking system will be available from Thursday 10th December 2020. Simply click on the link http://www.cirencester.ac.uk/events_and_actions/open-day-feb-2021/ and follow the instructions. **This is not just for year 11 students!**





2. Cirencester College continues to receive applications from students and are currently carrying out interviews over the telephone. On occasion, they do have to leave a voicemail message on mobile phones. Please can you keep an ear open for these calls and to check voicemail and emails regularly for information. If anyone feels that they have not heard anything recently about their application (currently Cirencester have promised to contact you within 15 working days), please contact them directly – schools.liaison@cirencester.ac.uk. If you are not sure what to do, please see Mrs Sanders.
3. If you would like your own copy of the Cirencester Prospectus, please come to S14 to collect your copy.

Messages from New College

1. Physical tours of both the Queens Drive and North Star campuses resume from this week. This gives you the opportunity to join a small group to view the college facilities and gain an idea of what to expect as a student at New College Swindon. For more information and to book your place now at www.newcollege.ac.uk
2. On 15 December 2020 Art and Design are taking over the New College social media channel giving students the opportunity to live chat with staff about the courses on offer
3. Students should watch out for a special Christmas competition running across New College's social media platforms from next Wednesday 9 December 2020.
4. New College are now able to offer in person daytime interviews to students applying for September 2021. Students can select their own interview date and time via the new Application system. All social distancing measures are adhered to during the interviews.
5. New College course pathway guides are now available online and in paper format, which we have attached to this briefing. The A level guide gives students information on the pathways offered, where A level courses are clustered together to enhance and complement each other. They include wrap around support such as study skills, enrichment courses and tutorials. The Vocational Course guide gives you the opportunity to view all BTEC courses offered across both campuses. BTEC courses provide a practical, real life approach to learning alongside a theoretical background, giving learners the knowledge understanding and skills to prepare for employment or university.
6. If you would like your own copy of the New College Prospectus, please come to S14 to collect your copy.

The next briefing will be Friday, 18 December 2020

