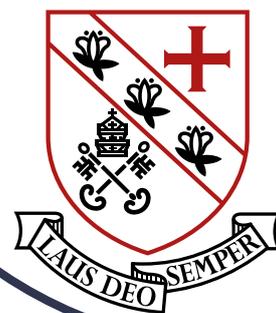


St Joseph's Newsletter

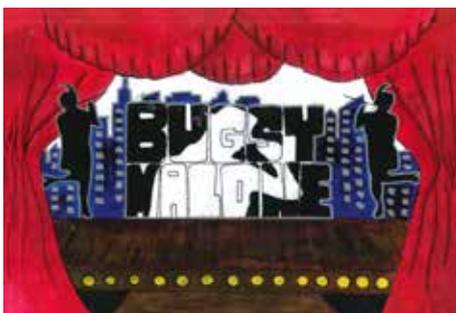


A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In this final newsletter of the academic year you will get a flavour of some of the exciting things happening in the College.

The breadth of activities academic, sporting, artistic, spiritual and musical is a great source of inspiration for everyone associated with St Joseph's.

As I write this piece, our Performing Arts department is busy putting the final rehearsals together for the summer production of Bugsy Malone.



I know it will be another fantastic showcase for the talents of a range of students. We have activities week, our end of year charity events and sports day to come, so the academic year will end as full as it began.

This term the Year 11 and Year 13 have had their 'Prom nights'. These evenings mark the end of their time with us at the 11 - 16



and 16 - 19 phases of education, so we feel a real mixture of emotions: sadness to see them leave, together with enormous pride in how the College has helped to develop these young people. We hope that we have helped to give them some firm foundations and values with which to look out with openness to the world.

It is part of the cycle of College life that as soon as we say goodbye to Year 11, Year 6 students join us for transition day. Mr Stoten and his team make a real effort to ensure these future members of our community feel fully welcomed by taking part

in a variety of lessons, meeting key members of staff, their form group and having any questions answered. I look forward to seeing them in September.

Sadly it is not only some of the students we say goodbye to as we prepare to say farewell to colleagues at the end of the term. I would like to wish the very best for the future to Miss Still, Mr Davies, Mrs Wiltshire, Miss Baker, Ms Jardine, Mr Roberts, Mrs Dooley, Mrs Parker, Mr Foster and Mr Timuri.

Although the College term finishes in July, there is a great deal going on during the summer in preparation for September. It promises to be another busy year, especially as we begin working more closely with Holy Cross primary school.

I do hope that everyone associated with the College has a good summer and I am grateful for all the hard work that has gone on this year.

Paul Hughes, Principal



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 17
JUL | Activity Week Commences |
| 21
JUL | College closes for all students |
| 17
AUG | AS / A Level Results Day |
| 24
AUG | GCSE Results Day |
| 1
SEP | Staff Training Day |
| 4
SEP | Staff Training Day |
| 5
SEP | College re-opens to all students |
| 14
SEP | Key Stage 4/5 Celebration Evening |
| 19
SEP | Years 7, 9, Sixth Form Photographs |
| 22
SEP | DofE Silver Final/Gold Practice Expedition |
| 26
SEP | Careers Event |
| 28
SEP | Safe Drive Stay Alive Trip |
| 4
OCT | Year 6 Open Evening |
| 6
OCT | CAFOD Harvest Fast Day |
| 10
OCT | Year 7 Tutor Information Evening |
| 13
OCT | Activity Day 1 |
| 18
OCT | DofE Gold Final Expedition |

Change of Address

If you move house or update your telephone number, please can you ensure you notify the College as soon as possible. Many thanks for your co-operation.

The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are students of St. Joseph's that look after and care for the Students. The 8 Students who have been trained as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are Sofia, Kayleigh, Tascilia, Dezaine, Ashley, Amelia, Nicholas and Paige. If you are ever being bullied you can come and talk to us, go to Pastoral or look for someone with a blue badge.

In September, we will start introducing other students into the organization so that we get

fresh ideas. We are also going to have an anti-bullying afternoon and some competitions.

We are also hoping to have a bake sale to raise money for the Diana Award. As well as the anti-bullying day, we will have many other activities such as a balloon launch or sticky notes on people's lockers. There will also be an Anti-Bullying room for students to use from September.

Further Information is available from any of the team.

Cashless System

The College will be moving to a cashless system for lunches (and breakfasts and breaks) next year, there will be a cash converter machine to move cash on to lunch cards. Cards will be the only method of payment with the new tills from September.

It will be far easier for all staff and students to put money on their lunch cards and use accordingly.

Only the vending machines will take cash.

Congratulations to Joseph

Congratulations to Joseph for being selected for the Year 11 Summer School at Selwyn College, Cambridge, a national event featuring a range of different Arts and Humanities subjects, themed around Italy.



GRENFELL TRAGEDY



Some of our St. Joseph's tutor groups recently created prayers and reflections to show our sadness for the victims of the Grenfell tragedy.

Mr Merabtene kindly took these to the site where people are showing their respect and solidarity for this community.

It was good to share our love and prayers with others.

RECENT MATHS SUCCESS!



Various St. Joseph's mathematicians have been having a great time recently in competitions.

Following a good haul of certificates in the Junior Maths Challenge, Linus achieved a Merit in the Olympiad, and Oliver and Aaron qualified for the European Kangaroo, with Oliver scoring enough for a Merit. They were then part of the team that finished off a great year for St. Joseph's

Key Stage 3 Maths teams, bringing home the trophy for the Swindon Maths League.

We are also participating in the Times Tables Rock Stars Wrangle, and may well put in some serious training for that next year, watch this space!

Manchester Events

After the tragic events that happened in Manchester, the chapel was monitored by Mrs Mobey and Mrs Barkham for students to come and reflect and pray for all those involved.

I felt that I had to come and this is the prayer that I wrote:

Dear Jesus,
Please take care of those in eternal rest.
Make sure they are happy.
Let them all enjoy the Paradise of Heaven.
They will never be forgotten, still alive in our hearts.
I hope their families will never be apart.
We can all pray for them, and hope they are not in pain.
Pray for Manchester.

Lucia (Year 7)



G&T PRIMARY CHALLENGE VISIT

On Wednesday 28th June Year 5 and 6 students from Holy Family, Holy Cross, St. Catherine's and St. Mary's spent the day at St. Joseph's doing challenging activities that they may not have encountered before.

They designed a new mode of transport, took part in a maths relay, performed some poetry and then had a formal debate. We finished with a tour of the College. Each of the activities was informally scored, and the St. Mary's teams emerged triumphant. Well done to them, and thank you very much to the St. Joseph's Year 8s who each spent the day looking after a team.

Italian Study Trip to Urbania



In April, 45 students went on a study trip to Urbania in the Marche region of Italy.

They spent the mornings in language lessons and in the afternoons they were involved in different cultural activities, as well as visiting the World Heritage Site of Urbino.

The Italian Trip to Urbania was an incredible experience. We left school in the early hours of the morning with our teachers Mrs Carbone, Miss Amadori and Mr Taylor, reaching Urbania at around noon.

There was a range of various activities that we did throughout the week including:

Italian language lessons, cooking, pottery decorating and meeting Italian students. We even visited the richly historic city of Urbino which was especially beautiful, with its many extremely steep hills that we had to climb to see the full extent of Urbino's grandness.



One of the stand-out aspects of the trip was the food as it was exquisite and there was lots of it!

The Italian family that we stayed with definitely gave us the full Italian cuisine experience and they were hospitable, kind and welcoming.

It was a brilliant trip which we greatly enjoyed and we are eternally grateful for the cultural experience and learning opportunities.

Sammy (Year 9)

RE AND CHAPLAINCY

In Term Six all Year 10 students have been fortunate to listen to a talk on vocation from FR. Dominic and a seminarian called Paul.

They were so inspiring and made everyone think differently about the role and vocation of a priest and also our vocation and purpose as lay people in our Catholic Community.

All of Year 10 prepared and planned their own class mass this term, which was very special for all of us. We also walked to Holy Rood for Mass on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. Many of the parishioners spoke to our teachers and commended our excellent behaviour.



Catholic Cluster Mission Day

We had a wonderful day joining our feeder primary schools. We came together as a Catholic community, writing prayers, making clay models and posters, celebrating God's message of peace and love.

In the afternoon we listened to speakers from Mission Together, on the theme 'Children helping Children'. We prepared and recited a bidding prayer, read the readings and sang hymns.

We were grateful to have had the opportunity to visit Holy Cross and to work with the younger students.



World Around Us Angel Cake Erosion



Year 7 have been learning about coastal erosion in World Around Us lessons this term and enquiring as to what communities are doing to help our coastlines. They have learnt the different types of erosion and types of coastal features made by using Angel Cake - yum!



"In our lesson today, we made a headland out of Angel cake. We cut coastal features into it. We started with a wave cut notch, then a cave and arch, then a stack and finally a stump. We made a beach out of the paper at the bottom and made coastal defences out of leftovers. We really enjoyed it because it was a fun way of learning about landforms and the coast. The most fun part was eating it at the end."

Matthew (7C) and Linus (7A)



Mass for Catholic Education

On Tuesday 27th June, Mrs Vincent, Mrs Almeida, Mr Hughes and students from the College went to represent the school at the Mass for Catholic Education at Clifton Cathedral.

Many other Catholic schools were present at the mass that was celebrated by Bishop Declan. The mass was about the importance of education in our lives. It gave us time to reflect how lucky we are to have the opportunity to learn, unlike other children in the world.

It was a great experience and we had a brilliant time.

PGL REVISION WEEKEND

On 30th March we took 75 Year 11 students to PGL at Liddington to revise GCSE Maths and Science for the weekend.

Mornings were filled with revision sessions, afternoons with activities and evenings with a mixture of both!



Students enjoyed four revision sessions after breakfast and in the afternoon took part in a variety of activities: raft building (with some experiencing getting very wet!) giant swing, zip wire and survivor (learning how to light fires and build shelters).

After the evening meal two further short revision sessions were attended and then a night activity: ambush and photo challenge.



After 48 hours students had been given revision tips, notes, past paper questions worked hard and created some brilliant memories!

THE RICHARD JEFFERIES



Duke of Edinburgh Awards evening

On June 21st, Bronze, Silver and Gold award participants were presented with their awards.

This is the culmination of many months of dedication and perseverance. To gain their award students need to participate in a physical activity, a skill and a volunteering activity within the community as well the popular expedition section. During this year Students have volunteered in charity shops, rugby clubs coaching younger children and primary schools to name a few.

Some Students have learned to bell ring, cook, improved photography skills, played the piano and learned to knit for their skills sections. For the physical section Students have been involved in martial arts, running, gymnastics, cycling and played team sports. They have also hiked, camped, cooked for themselves, got wet, sunburnt and thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the expeditions!

Well done to all our Students who have taken part in the award and to those who have completed their Bronze and Silver awards.



Photos taken on the Bronze expeditions on the Ridgeway in May and on the Marlborough downs in June.

DofE GOLD AWARD PRESENTATIONS



Of the three levels of the award, Gold is the most prestigious. It really is a big deal for young people to achieve this level of the award.



In order to get to Gold, each participant must dedicate time to meet a diverse range of challenges for a period of at least 18 months, working through the five sections of the Award programme: volunteering, physical activity, skills, expedition and residential.

Four of our Gold Award participants, who are currently at University, were invited to Buckingham Palace in June

to receive their awards from Prince Edward.

The celebrity for our region was Ed Byrne. An amazing time was had by each student and their invited family member.

Well done to Bernadette Barrett, Alex King, Kate Karpinski and Andrea Carnero-Charles.

MUSEUM PROJECT

As part of their ASDAN award, Year 10 students have been visiting the Richard Jefferies Museum at Coate Water each week volunteering.

They have learnt how to keep the museum tidy, how to weed and look after growing plants and vegetables in the garden area and learn about different species of plants. They have also cooked various recipes using natural ingredients – a highlight being the delicious Nettle Soup!

Through the partnership that St. Joseph's Catholic College and Richard Jefferies Museum have built over the last few years, ASDAN have given a grant to the museum to keep this project a long lasting

one. The grant has enabled the museum to build a new shed especially for St. Joseph's students to use for the future sustainability of projects. The students built a shed and Mike from the museum created an amazing sign for it!

'I really enjoy visiting the museum and I have learnt so many things even after a few visits, such as how a sun dial works, how to make soup from plants I see in the countryside and who Richard Jefferies was. I would like to come here every week.'

Ferrel (10E)



Athletic success

St. Joseph's athletes crowned County Champions!

Congratulations to Joseph in Year 9 and Teresa in Year 12 who were crowned Wiltshire champions on Saturday 10th June.

HOLLAND CUP

Congratulations to Katie in Year 8 and Shannon in Year 9 who played at the Ajax Stadium, Amsterdam.

Both girls represented STFC at the recent tournament. Shannon's team won the Girls' Under 15 Cup (a great achievement for an Under 14 team). Both girls were a credit to St. Joseph's.

Shannon was also selected for Wiltshire Schools against Hampshire at the end of last term.



Joseph won his event and went onto represent the county at the 300m. Teresa won one event and came second in her other and was selected for both the 100m and 200m.

Both students represented Wiltshire at the South West Championships, held in Exeter on Saturday 17th June.

Swindon Schools' Athletics Championships



Congratulations to all of our athletes who represented the College at the Swindon School Champs this year.

There were some stunning performances including Joseph and Camille winning the 200m in their respective races. We are very proud of all of you!