

St Joseph's Journal

Faith
Learning
Respect



Message from the Head

Spring is the season of new life, new hope and new possibilities. It gives us the chance to reflect on our choices so far in 2022 and give us the push we may need to make better choices in the new term. This is an exciting time for our students in year 10 and 12 who will have their first round of formal assessments in the sports hall since 2019. Formal assessments are the prime opportunity to showcase skills, knowledge and understanding in our subject area in addition to learning the etiquette for examinations. For our year 11 and year 13 the Easter holidays will not only provide them a well-earned rest – which we all deserve – but also the time to schedule specific wellbeing time in addition to revising. Revising in bite size chunks is the best way.

On the Feast Day of our Patron Saint we raised over £1,600 for those impacted by the war in Ukraine, which is a fantastic achievement. Pupils wore items of blue and yellow, played beat the goalie against Mr McDuff and sixth formers completed a staff car wash amongst other events. A real team Joseph's effort.

Have a restful and holy Easter,

Mr Mitchell.

Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord

Last month our students attended Mass to celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation.



When we look at Our Lady's response to the Angel Gabriel, "I am the Lord's servant," ... "May your word to me be fulfilled." In thinking about her response, it both humbles me and scares me. It humbles me because Our Lady, although unsure of what was to come of her response to the Angel, submits to the will of God freely. She does it because her will is perfectly linked to the will of the Father. She accepts without fully understanding the impact her words will have on the world and the pain these words will cause her. Regardless, Mary is brave and open to whatever will come her way.

Successful Ukrainian Fund raising Campaigns



Not only have we collected **over 50** boxes/bags of items for the people of the Ukraine but have also fundraised **over £1,600** (and are still collecting)! As a school community we have organized bake sales, students have led car washing campaigns, raffle campaigns by selling hampers and “guess the number of sweets” campaign. Staff have even run 150km campaigns to obtain Ukrainian relief fund sponsorship! Furthermore, students have also donated to wear items of clothing with the Ukrainian colors of the flag, yellow and blue. We as a school community have shown that although we live miles apart we are with them spiritually. This is truly what this season of Lent calls us to do. During this season of Lent we are to practice almsgiving during and we have done so successfully as a school community!

To the people of the Ukraine, we stand by you!



Diocesan John Paul II Award

This past month, nine Sixth Form Students (one student not in any images) received the Diocesan St. John Paul II Award for both their Parish and Social Action involvement. Student involvement ranged from maintaining local parks, helping Asylum seekers by clearing up unused public spaces and working alongside SVP members in the cleaning of local parishes. They have truly been a witness to the Gospels by echoing Jesus’, “Serve one another as I have served you”. This truly shows faith in action. Their awards evening was a day of guest speakers, testimonies by students themselves along with a virtual reflection from the Bishop. It was a day of celebration for our students and all their hard work. We are truly proud of them.



Celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph



On Friday 18th March we celebrated the awesome Feast of our school patron Saint, St. Joseph and raising money and physical goods to support the Disaster Emergency Committee for Ukraine.



In addition to wearing blue and yellow in solidarity for the victims of the Ukrainian war, students have engaged in the event whereby we danced, did 'Jesus keep fit', sang 'My Lighthouse', played faith-based games and even had 'Tik Tok priest' dances. Father Adrian Dixon led some beautiful reflections on the importance of our school patron Saint, Saint Joseph.



We then had a Mass for some Year 9s to give thanks for our patron Saint. Students across the school have been engaged in a whole range of fundraising too, from everything like 'Cross Bar challenges' and 'guess the name of the teddy' to selling mix ups for Ukraine.

Students then received their St. Joseph's day cookie to mark our amazing patron Saint. 10 students across the school won a St. Joseph's Ethos award and Easter egg and two students in Year 7 won an award for creating an amazing song/rap on the qualities of St. Joseph.



As a school community we have raised over £1700 for the Disaster Emergency Committee relief effort for Ukraine as well as an office full of food, clothes and baby supplies for those fleeing the war zone.

Thank you for all your fantastic support.

SPORTS SUCCESSES

We had an amazing day at the Durham County Schools girl's futsal finals in March. 5 squads representing all age groups, competing against teams playing a high quality of football.

All teams showed fantastic team work, super goals and important saves to gain success across the day! Our Y7 team played brilliantly, having a lot of possession and chances in every game. Not all results went our way though with their tournament ending in the group stages. The Y8 team again dominated most games, and although we had to settle for draws in a couple of games it didn't stop us making the final. We were proud runners up, but disappointed not to take the win! Y9 also showed the quality needed to take themselves into the final. The game was hard fought, ending in penalties. Again, we had to settle for the silver, so close!!! The Y10 team won their first 3 group games, however a loss in the final game left us tied on points with 2 other teams at the top. Goal difference meant we finished 3rd overall! A fantastic team effort to come through with injuries and player shortage. Finally our Y11 team had the most physical games to contend with. The competition was fierce, but they came through the group stage with maximum points. The final saw us take the lead twice only to have to settle for a draw on the final whistle. This took us to our second penalty shoot out of the day. Sophie P saved the first, with Ruby B netting to put us 1-0 up. Our opposition levelled it with their second, and ours narrowly bouncing off the post. Sophie made a second save in the third round leaving it to Rachel R to smash it in under the crossbar to take the title!

We are super proud of everyone who represented us in the first round and in the finals yesterday. We truly have a huge amount of talent in girls football and it's fantastic when we get the chance to showcase it! Well done to everyone and thank you for those who continue to support us.

Our County Cup success continues, seeing all girls squads making it to the semi final stages this year. Our U16's missed out on a spot in the final against a very strong Parkside squad. The U13 and U14 squads will both play St. Bede's, Peterlee for their chance to battle it out in the finals.

Our Y7 football squad qualified for the Tyne & Wear School Games 5-a-side finals which took place at the Beacon of Light on 29th March. We had a great day fighting our way through the group stages into the semi finals. The standard of football was high and games went to the final whistle, and even extra time to see us finish 4th overall! Once again our students did us proud. Well done everyone.



Year 8 Boys Football

Year 8 are nearing their of the 2021/22 football campaign. This season got off to a rocky start with early defeats to St Wilfrid's (3-4) and Whitburn (0-4). The boys also suffered defeat in the TUC county cup to competition when Monkwearmouth (2-4) came to Mill Lane before they picked up their first win away to Mortimer (1-4) in the Joicey cup competition. Year 8 then met Carmel college in the QF stage of the same competition but bowed out after a narrow defeat at home (4-5) to the team from Darlington. A change of team shape and personnel has given rise to some very dominate performance over our local rivals more recently

AWAY Vs Harton 0-8 (Win)

HOME Vs Boldon 5-0 (Win)

AWAY Vs Jarrow 0-12 (Win)

The boys complete their 2021/22 season with home games vs Mortimer (05/04) and Hebburn (07/04) in the last week before the Easter holidays.

Tyne & Wear final beckons for U16-Boys Basketball players



Our under-16 boys qualified for Tyne & Wear finals after successfully winning their qualifier event at Gateshead International stadium over 2 -nights in January. Our boys took the gold medal home after winning the event attended by secondary schools from both Gateshead and South Tyneside. The Tyne & Wear finals is scheduled to take place at the Newcastle Eagles Community Arena on Thursday March 31st.

Squad

Year 8: Perry Boston

Year 10: Jacob McLaren, Harley Robson

Year 11: James Chrisp, Sonny Galpin, Andrew Hogg, Matthew Mole, Daniel Stephenson, Roman Wynne.



Futsal Runners Up

8 boys from Year 8 were selected to represent out school in local South Tyneside futsal competition as a qualifier for the County finals events. They boys played extremely well and returned to St Joseph's with a gold medal. This saw them qualify for the DCSFA finals day at the Beacon of Light, Sunderland on Friday March 4th. Here our students took wins against Easington and Biddick schools in the pool stage of the competition before suffering their first loss in the final to the team from Hurworth. The boys returned with silver runners up medal with the belief they can go one step further next year and put their name on the DCSFA futsal trophy.



Bronze in the Basketball

The Under 14 boys finished 3rd and bronze medalists in the South Tyneside U14 central venue league (CVL) held at Mortimer school over January, February and March.

Squad

Year 8: Will Goodhall, Perry Boston, Robbie Briggs, Marley Livingston, Callum Carr

Year 9: Mark Brown, Harvey Ritson, Mikey Paine, Joshua Butterfield

School trips

Mandarin outing

Students from 8X1 was out on a trip to Chinatown yesterday, dined in Amaysia restaurant as part of their Mandarin Learning Experience. They had to order their food and drinks in Mandarin, greet all the Chinese people in the restaurant in target language as well! On top of that, the fantastic customized menu was designed in Mandarin by Finn and Alyssa.



Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Review

The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-Time is a detective story like no other. As part of a reading group we read this unusual and captivating book and went to the beautiful Theatre Royal in Newcastle to watch the award-winning stage production of this quirky novel. The play opened with a dead dog on stage (death by garden fork), which shocked and gripped us from the start, and ended with an adorable live puppy bounding on stage, to the sound of delighted gasps from the audience. Revolving around the character of the logical Christopher John Francis Boone, who loves prime numbers and hates metaphors, the story tracks Christopher's investigation of the murder of his neighbour's dog. As the mystery unravels, so does his Christopher's life as troubling family secrets are unearthed. An incredible inventive set and use of sound reflected Christopher Boone's logical mind and conveyed the order that Christopher needs and the chaos that he experiences. The most touching, shocking and funny aspects, however, were the interactions between Christopher and the people in his life. Tenderness, frustration and anger were shown as dark secrets emerged but all the characters were presented as being complex human beings who make mistakes and try to put things right. It was such an incredible experience to see this dazzling show on stage and such a pleasure to take our fabulous students.

World Book Day Special

This year, World Book Day celebrated its 25th birthday, and the students of St Joseph's stepped up their celebrations to show their love of reading too.

The Book Exchange

We celebrated this year with a free book give away, supported by the kind donations from the Jarrow Women's Institute, Morrisons supermarket and staff and students from the school. The donated books were offered out to students, with many choosing to exchange books they no longer had a need for.

It was an excellent opportunity to ensure students had a book in their bag available at any moment and the donations are continuing to come in, meaning we will be able to host another exchange after Easter.



Door Decorating

The annual door decoration competition was a huge success again this year. In recognition of Women's History Month, all tutor groups were tasked with decorating their classroom door in honour of different female authors across the centuries. The author choices sparked much discussion amongst the students, highlighting why there is a need for shining a spotlight on female authors. There was a great display of colour and creativity across the school and we were delighted to welcome back Mr Berry as our guest judge to make the difficult decision and award prizes in each year group. A huge congratulations to 7B1, 8A1, 9A1, 10A2, 11D2 and the overall winner 8C2 who received their certificates and treats.



Masked Reader

During the week of World Book Day students were also able to take part in a 'just for fun' competition to guess the identity of the masked reader. It was a particularly challenging event this year with over 40 members of staff participating, but congratulations to 10C1 and 10D1 who managed a clean sweep of correct responses.



Translate the Blurp

The languages department also celebrated World Book Day with a competition to identify the book from its French blurb. Students were using their French skills to identify familiar words and phrases to help them identify the famous books. Well done to 7B2 for taking the prize (or should I say toutes nos felicitations!)

Readathon

All students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have also embarked on a 4 week sponsored readathon this half term. The event encourages students to read as much as possible and has been supported by increased private reading time in English lessons across the month of March. Each house has been set a target of 200 books to read and students are hoping to beat our previous sponsorship totals, with all proceeds going to Read For Good that provides mobile libraries and trained storytellers for children's wards to support young people in their recovery from long term stays in hospital. With such a festival of reading taking place in school at the moment, we are hopeful we can reach our targets.



Students also experienced a reading assembly where they were asked to consider what books can do for them and think about how reading can help shape them into the person they want to be. We are continuing to support and encourage all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 to have a book in their bag at all times as part of their school equipment and are available to help direct them to suitable books through their English teacher if required. As you can see it has been a very busy half term of literacy and reading and your support in encouraging the students with their love of reading has been incredibly valuable.

St Joseph's Buddy Programme

At St Joseph's we have started a Buddy Programme. Students from Year 8 act as Buddies to a group of Year 7 students. We meet on a Friday morning for 'Breakfast Buddies' to eat our breakfast and do activities together.

Below we have some quotes from students who participate;

Emily, Year 8, "On Wear Red Day we managed to raise a lot of money for the charity by selling cakes at break time."

Leon, Year 7, "I like coming to buddies because we do lots of fun activities and it's nice to have a routine to come every Friday morning."

Oscar, Year 7, "I get to see my friends when I come and make new ones with other students. It's also always calm and quiet which is nice to start the day."

Max, Year 8, "I really enjoyed the first aid session we did. We learned how to do CPR with Mr Horncastle."

Travis and Roza, Year 7, "My buddy cheers me up... I really enjoy spending time with my buddy."

For the love of literature

Poem of the day

An Easter Carol by Christina Rossetti

Spring bursts to-day,
For Christ is risen and all the earth's at
play.

Flash forth, thou Sun,
The rain is over and gone, its work is
done.

Winter is past,
Sweet Spring is come at last, is come at
last.

Bud, Fig and Vine,
Bud, Olive, fat with fruit and oil and wine.

Break forth this morn
In roses, thou but yesterday a Thorn.

Uplift thy head,
O pure white Lily through the Winter
dead.

Beside your dams
Leap and rejoice, you merry-making
Lambs.

All Herds and Flocks
Rejoice, all Beasts of thickets and of
rocks.

Sing, Creatures, sing,
Angels and Men and Birds and every-
thing.

All notes of Doves
Fill all our world: this is the time of loves.



Christina Rossetti (1830 - 1894) was born in England to a family of great literary and artistic talent. A beauty who frequently modelled for her brother Dante and other respected artists of her day, Christina began writing as a child and published her first poem at eighteen. A kind-hearted woman who spent many years as a charity volunteer, Christina's devout faith was often a central theme in the three books of poetry and four books of devotions she wrote during her life. Though her poems show up consistently in contemporary films, television shows, and musical compositions, her most familiar work is "In the Bleak Midwinter," which, when set to music, became a beloved Christmas carol.

Book recommendation

Percy Jackson series



Percy Jackson has become a hero in league with Harry Potter. He's a 12-year-old boy who learns that he is the son of Poseidon. He's plunged into a world of demigods where he has to discover his own courage, power, and strength.

Puzzle Corner

An Easter Riddle

What Am I?

I'm colorful but I'm not a rainbow
 I'm hunted for but I'm not an animal
 I sometimes contain chocolate but I'm not an advent calendar
 I have a shell but I'm not a crab
 I'm sometimes painted but I'm not hung on a wall
 I'm left by a bunny but I'm not the remains of a carrot



Find the hidden Bee!

Easter Word Search

E A T R C H O C O L A T E G H
 G J G E G E A S T E R J E B N
 S G E S A T L H H O D A Y S U
 T F A L N G D E C O R A T E D
 R L E R L A D A B I P O Y S C
 G O G G R Y A C A R R O T E H
 D W E S G I B B U N A N Y S I
 U E P A R A D E J E L T S P C
 C R J L A I N S A H O L I Y K
 K S G E S J R S U N D A Y O A
 L C A R S T A S B A S K E T N
 I K S H J H B U N N Y E G S I
 N G S A U I B L A T I P G S N
 G I N J E N I J E L S O N G G
 S P R I N G T U L I P A G D S



BASKET	DUCKINGS	JELLYBEANS
BUNNY	EASTER	PARADE
CARROT	EGGS	RABBIT
CELEBRATION	FLOWERS	SPRING
CHICK	GRASS	SUNDAY
CHOCOLATE	HOP	TULIP
DECORATED	HUNT	



Across

- 13 across times two
- Two times 11 down
- 4 down minus one
- 4 across plus forty
- 6 across minus 187
- Seconds in eight minutes
- 48 plus 36
- 9 across minus one

Down

- 1 across minus fifty-five
- Months in seven years
- 5 down plus sixty-eight
- 10 down plus twenty-five
- Seconds in six minutes
- 7 across minus sixty-two
- 1 across minus 149
- Months in two years

