

Welcome Back!

It's been a really busy beginning to the term with lots of great events happening at our school – more of which you will see over the coming pages!

Year 7 have settled in brilliantly and are tackling their new academic challenges with real passion and pride. Year 8 have returned with a greater sense of responsibility and maturity ready to begin serious consideration of which options to choose for GCSE. Year 9 and 10 have embraced the beginning of their GCSEs with great seriousness. And finally, year 11 have embarked on their final year at school with a real sense of purpose to succeed in their GCSEs.

GCSE:

As you may have seen in the local press we were delighted with our GCSE results from last year as we recorded our best ever results, exceeding national and local averages. Nearly half of all GCSE grades awarded to the students were at A*-B (5-9 in new terms) – an absolutely phenomenal result recognising the hardwork and dedication of our pupils, parents and staff!

School Build:

If any of you have passed by the school recently, you'll have noticed that the new build is progressing well and is on course for being ready at Easter. The windows are now in and the building is almost water tight ready for the winter months ahead. Further updates will be forthcoming over the coming months!

I hope you enjoy this edition of the school newsletter.

Achievement Points Raffle Winners!

Each week, each form has its own weekly competition where the top point achieving girl and boy for the week each win a chocolate bar! These 2 winners from each form then qualify for the weekly raffle to win a £10 shopping voucher.

Last half term's lucky winners were:

George Hardy	7T
Shannon Imeson	7F
Emilia Niemczuk	7T
Nathaniel Richards	8M
Zak Floyd	8T
Adam Blyth	9M
Aidan Williams	9T

Well done to all winners and keep getting those achievement points!

Fundraising

September to October saw a phenomenal amount of fundraising happening at St Joseph's with a very impressive total of £1439 raised for charity.

Charity	Amount
Macmillan coffee morning	£210.00
RSPCA	£215.00
Help for Heroes	£390.00
British Red Cross	£492.00
Breast Cancer Now	£132.00
TOTAL	£1439.00

School Gateway

We're making communication easier, faster and more effective

We are pleased to advise that we've introduced a new service – 'School Gateway'. This means that we can share information with parents more quickly via email, text, online and smartphone app. It will also save parents – and the school – time and money.

You will be able to view the following for your child(ren):

- Achievements
- Behaviour
- Attendance
- Lesson timetable
- Your contact details
- School details
- Student details

What you need to do now

Activate your School Gateway account. It's quick and easy to do. All you need are your email address and mobile number that school holds on record for you.

- Download the app: If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone). The app shows the same information as the website PLUS you can message the school for FREE – this will also save the school money when we send you a text message.

OR

- Visit the website: www.schoolgateway.com and click on 'New User'. You'll receive a text message with a PIN number. Use this PIN to log into School Gateway.

News from our Departments

RE Trip to Kintbury



On a beautifully sunny November day, 30 year 7&8 pupils ventured to St Cassians centre in Kintbury for a day retreat accompanied by Miss Lowe and Mr Rooney. After the entertaining hour's drive in the minibus, the pupils caught their first glimpse of the centre – a grand old building in the quiet west Berkshire countryside – and were suitably impressed.

The day began as soon as we left the minibuses and entered through the welcoming front door. A few ice breaker games were enjoyed before the pupils were split into smaller groups to embrace the rest of the day's activities and workshops. The pupils looked at the theme of community for the day and explored what it meant for them and how community can help people's lives. There were games, input sessions from the youth team at the centre and there was even a treasure hunt! The pupils also got a chance to pray in the 'Quiet Room' in the roof of the building.

All the pupils had a great day and promised to return again. The magic of Kintbury never fails to capture the hearts and imaginations of our pupils!

* Year 10 pupils, there will be a chance in the spring for you to experience a 3 night residential retreat at Kintbury – you'll find out more in an assembly soon!

Salisbury Bake Off

Several of our pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 entered into the heats of the Salisbury bake off competition. The heats were held at school and pupils were given a set time to create a Victoria sponge. This meant that one night, after school, Mr Sibley did his best Paul Hollywood impression and had to test the bakes to decide on the best one. Fortunately he was not short of helpful volunteers who were more than willing to stay after school and help with the 'testing' of these spectacular creations. Mr Sibley would like to thank all those who helped with Judging including; Mr and Mrs Blake, Mr Blaho, Miss Goulding, Mr Brown and Mrs Prior, just to name a few! This comprehensive judging panel did mean that the best cake did win as testing was so thorough!



The winning two contestants were Angel Hanna and Reon Toms, there is also a special mention to William Hamilton and Beau Gilmore for their excellent cakes. As a result of this both winning students were entered into the Salisbury district final and were up against the best students from the other Salisbury Secondary schools. The competition was hot, but our student's rose to the challenge by creating their show-stopping spectaculars! To do this they were given 3 hours to use as many of Wiltshire colleges cups, plates, bowls and spoons as possible. Judging was fierce and after much deliberation our two valiant cooks missed out on the top prize. The judges were really impressed with both our contestants and have offered one a place when he leaves school on the course, if only his washing up improves!

PE

KS3 football

Well done to our year 9 team who beat Stonehenge 5-1 in round 1 of the national cup and lost in round 2, 4-3 in a really close game.

Restart a Heart Day

We were very proud to be able to take part in the European Restart a Heart Day on 16th October. All of year 9 received basic CPR training from Hannah West a Salisbury resuscitation officer. Over 100 year 9s learnt how to administer CPR and also how to use a defibrillator – very valuable skills but hopefully skills that they'll never need to use. Special thanks goes to Raqiyah Richards in year 10 who helped to train the year 9s with Hannah West.



International Week

This year, International Day became International Week with the languages department running a whole host of lunchtime activities throughout the week. Monday saw many pupils having a go at the salsa dancing workshop; Tuesday was International Cinema, Wednesday pupils had a chance to buy some French food from the international 'marche', on Thursday the school grounds became the site of an international treasure hunt and Friday hosted the eagerly awaited Spanish karaoke competition where pupils sang 'La Bamba'. On the Friday there were also a number of pupil hosted stalls celebrating the different nationalities and cultures that we have here at St Joseph's. Dotty & Zofia in year 7 won a prize for their Polish stall! In addition, during the week there were assemblies celebrating cultural diversity and the values of tolerance and respect.

The Friday was 'International Day' and pupils and staff fully embraced the themed day by wearing national dress or colours of their heritage. The school was looking incredibly colourful and vibrant with flags, costumes and face paints all being proudly displayed. In form time on Friday afternoon, the pupils made a lasting legacy of their diverse cultures and heritage by creating a poster map – they placed a pin on the world map of where their families come from. The kitchen staff fully embraced International Day too and prepared food from around the globe for breakfast, break time and lunch time!

It was a great day for St Joseph's and we were able to showcase the school on Salisbury TV with Antonio & Gabriela in year 11 speaking very eloquently in front of the cameras – if you haven't yet seen the clip you can find it on Salisbury TV's Youtube channel (That's Salisbury).

We're also very proud of the amount of money raised during the week's activities – a huge £492 was raised for the British Red Cross' aid efforts for those devastated by the recent hurricanes in the Caribbean.



STOP PRESS

Congratulations to Matthew Davies in Yr9 who has been selected to represent England swimming in the Cerebral Palsy World Championships to be held in 2018!

Confirmation

Year 9s and above – interested in taking the next step on your faith journey? Are you thinking about confirmation? Well, the confirmation programme in Salisbury has started. For more information, please contact the parish office office@salisburycatholics.org

SUPA TEACHER TRAINING

Are you, or someone you know, interested in training to become a secondary school teacher?

St Joseph's is working in partnership with several other local schools and Southampton University in a consortium called SUPA (Southampton University Partnership Alliance) Salisbury. Together we provide school-led teacher training in Salisbury, via a School Direct model. This training route retains the academic rigour of University led training, and successful completion will result in a PCGE with QTS. Our goal is to make Salisbury a centre of excellence in the delivery of teacher training. Further general details about teacher training routes can be found at www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching

SUPA Salisbury currently has vacancies to start training from September 2018 and we would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher, or know someone who is. We're looking for people who have (or will have) a degree, have a passion for teaching and want to inspire young people to fulfil their potential. More information about Teacher Training and becoming a 'SUPA' Teacher can be found on our website <http://www.sjcs.org.uk/our-school/vacancies/>

If you would like any further information, please contact Mr R Rooney at St Joseph's (rro@sjcs.org.uk). You can also contact us via Twitter @supateacherITT



Friends of St Joseph's Bingo	Friday 17th November 2017, 6pm
Year 11 Mock Exams	Monday 20th November - Friday 1st December 2017
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 23rd November 2017
KS3 Marine Engineering Pathway Workshop	Wednesday 29th November 2017
Year 8 - Solomon Theatre	Wednesday 6th December 2017
Christmas Lunch	Tuesday 5th December - Wednesday 6th December 2017

More from International Week

