



St Joseph's Key Stage 3 Newsletter

January 2017

A Note from the Head Teacher

I hope that your children have settled well after a full term, and are enjoying the challenges of new subjects, teachers and of course the new curriculum.

We have had a very busy start to the year with our Diocesan Inspection. We are delighted with the judgement of Outstanding across every area. Please do take time to read the full report on our website. As usual, our pupils proved to be our best ambassadors talking to the inspectors and determined to tell them how special our school is.

I am also thrilled to tell you that our New Design & Technology block will begin in earnest in January 2017. £1.76 million will certainly enable us to create a 21st century learning environment for all pupils to enjoy. We will update you in the summer term on the new subjects that we will be offering to all pupils from September 2017.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs RA Ridley

Head teacher

Welcome Back!

Firstly, I hope that you and your families had a restful and happy Christmas and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year!

Welcome to the second KS3 half termly newsletter. Wow, what a half term last half term was. It was packed full of trips, sporting events, competitions, the first progress reports and lots of student achievements. In this newsletter we'll celebrate lots of our pupils achievements (there are lots of students named and praised!). As always, the newsletter includes updates from across a variety of subject areas and important upcoming dates for the next half term.

In this edition we have two student contributions, one from Angela Boby in Yr8 on her retreat experience in Kintbury and also year 7's Belen Navarro's review of the Christmas pantomime trip. Well done girls for contributing!

Achievement Point Raffle Winners!

Each week in KS3, 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:

Madison Marsh 7M, Jakub Godlewski 9F, Ashlyn Rowland 7V, Niamh Stewart 8V, Lauren Morgan 9M, Cameron Chitnje 7T, Joshua Warne 8F.

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

Award Assemblies

The KS3 Awards Assembly at the end of every term is always one of my favourite assemblies. We recognise achievement across the whole key stage and give out awards, certificates and badges.

Many pupils have returned back from the Christmas break proudly wearing their gold/silver or bronze badges in recognition of achieving 100, 75 and 50 points respectively! Keep up the excellent achievements and you'll be able to trade your badge in for the next step up in the Easter assemblies!

In summary 148 students have bronze badges (50-74 achievement points), 42 students have silver badges (75-99 achievement points) and 10 have gold badges (100+ achievement points).

There were also certificates and awards given to the top points achieving boy and girl for each year group.

Congratulations to the following for topping their year group!

	Top Achieving Boy	Top Achieving Girl
Year 7	George Herbert	Becky Culverwell
Year 8	Levi Arnold	Martha Stephens
Year 9	Liam Cooper	Lauren Gilson

In addition, we recognised the achievements and contributions to the school community from a number of our students. Congratulations to the following award winners:

Most Helpful in the School Community

Will Alexander Yr7, Joshua Warne Yr8, Alice Covill Yr9

Most Charitable

Sebastian Aala Yr7, Abi Alvis Yr8, Joshua Stroud Yr9, Nikita King Yr9, Ella Swift Yr9

Visit the KS3 page of our website: www.sjcs.org.uk/?page_id=3133





Christmas Liturgy

A huge congratulations must go to 7A for their superb modern take on the nativity which they performed in the end of term assemblies. Taking the Jeremy Kyle format, they providing a modern, humorous and thought-provoking account of the well known story. It was a pleasure to watch and a triumph of a performance! It also took real courage to perform in front of the whole school – well done 7A!

Christmas Carol Service

The Carol Service on the 14th December was a real showcase of talent this year, with many key stage 3 pupils playing musical instruments, singing and also dancing! Well done to the choir who sang beautifully (and in particular to Becky Culverwell who sang a superb solo to start the evening off) also to Luke Passmore, Nina Dyson and Vincent Brain who delighted the audience with their instrumental solos. Finally, a big congratulations to the year 9 trio of Alice Covill, Georgina Lever and Amelia Scott for their incredibly impressive dance routine.



Pantomime Trip

Year 7 were given the opportunity to go to the splendid performance of 'Aladdin' on the last day of term at the Salisbury Playhouse. It was an experience that everyone enjoyed; the young and old spent a wonderful afternoon and everyone enjoyed it and I was pleased to be at a show which all members of a family could participate in. It was great with lots of laughter and we enjoyed the costumes, singing and dancing which was of a high standard. A special highlight was the magic carpet – it took our breath away! Thank you for the fabulous adventure of the Aladdin pantomime! It was also brilliant to see one of our own Yr10 pupils acting in the performance – well done Millie Blyth!

By Belen Navarro 7T



Year 7 & 8 Retreat to Kintbury

On Wednesday 16th of November I went to a retreat centre with most of my friends for a whole day. To be honest it was really fun on the way and at the centre. When we got there, we were introduced to the place and welcomed warmly by the retreat centre staff who were all young enthusiastic adults. The centre is a really old and massive house which has some beautiful grounds. It's a really great place to take time out and have a chance to get to know yourself and friends better.

The theme for the day was welcoming and teamwork. We played a lot of games that helped with team work and with those games we learned a lot about each other physically and mentally. Something we did there was a treasure hunt, and it was competitive and also really fun. Not to mention the food, it was tasty and lunch was great in their communal dining area.

At the end of the day we went to the 'quite room' and reflected on what we had done that day and how it tied into the theme of the day. We did have to go back home in the end, and on the minibus back, all of us were laughing our heads off I guess we had a really fun time judging by the amount of banter we had back to school.

By Angela Boby 8V



Poetry Competition

The English Departments' participation in National Poetry Day continues to go from strength to strength with our internal KS3 and KS4 Annual Poetry Competition. The theme this year was 'Message' and as Poetry Day coincided with the anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, it is perhaps unsurprising that many of the students wrote about messenger pigeons as well as the slightly more predictable messages in bottles, text messages that end up going to the wrong person and love messages hidden in school books - amongst others. There were a lot of deeply moving poems written to departed friends and family; hilarious poems on crossed wires; clever encrypted poems and brave exposure of the innermost fears and feelings the genre often encourages. It was particularly rewarding to see so many students adopt techniques recently learned and experiment with styles that have influenced them. It was a difficult task to narrow the list of winners down and there was some debate as to whom should win the coveted prizes.

Generous publishing houses enabled 24 students to be rewarded with lovely new editions of recent novels as well as a more immediate edible reward and a certificate for Record of Achievement Folders. I would like to thank the judges for generously giving up their time to wade through (literally) hundreds of potential winners and to all the students for their enthusiasm and efforts. Poetry is certainly alive and thriving at St. Joseph's!

Mrs. Cullis

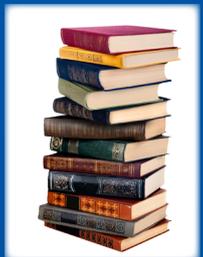
KS3 WINNERS

Yr 7: Belen Navarro and Madison Marsh.

Yr. 8: Adam Blyth, Jack Dobie, Jack Davis

Yr 9: Alice Allen, Michael Bale, Anjalina Joseph, Georgina Lever and Harry South

Special mention to Ross Law





Maths Club

The Maths Club, which runs on a Wednesday and other days by popular demand, has seen many pupils challenging each other at Chess, Connect 4, cards, puzzles and other strategic games. Lots of good fun and a useful way to think about strategies. We love to see you challenging each other and having fun at the same time!

PE News

County Cross Country

Over the past two terms students within Salisbury Schools have been completing in the Schools Cross Country League races. Runners who on average got into the top 10 of their age group were then selected to race for Salisbury in the School County Championships which is taking place Chippenham on Saturday 14th January 2017. Well done and good luck to all of the St Joseph's representatives.

KS3 Representatives: Junior Girls – Amy Webb, Junior Boys – Lewis Leftwich

New Age Kurling

Last term some of our Year 7/8 students took part in New Age Kurling, which is an indoor sport which has been adapted from the Olympic sport of Curling; this sport can be played by students of all abilities. The competition took place over at St Edmund's School against local schools. After a fantastic day of competition St Joseph's had a team finish in 3rd place along with winning the tournament! Both teams have qualified through to the County Championships which is taking place in Devizes in January.

Well done to all the students who took part in the Level 1 competition and good luck to the 2 teams who have qualified through to the County Championships!

Boccia

In December some of our Year 7/8 students took part in a Boccia Competition against local schools at Five Rivers Leisure Centre, this is a Paralympic sport which can be played by students of any ability. After a great day of competition one of our Teams successfully won the tournament and qualified through to the Country Championships which was held in Swindon. 17 teams took part in the competition from schools across the County, after another exciting day our team came second and along with their Silver Medals qualified through to the Regional Finals which is being held in Exeter in February.

More news on the Regional Finals to follow.

Congratulations to the St Joseph's Boccia Team:

Jessica Hayman, Martha Stephens, Maisy-Jane Hill

Salisbury Stingray Stars

I would like to say a massive congratulation, to both Josh Withers-Jones, and Rachel Fernandez for another successful year swimming for the Salisbury Stingrays. They both show a huge commitment to the club, training for 8 - 12 hours a week, including some very early mornings.

On top of the training commitments Josh and Rachel are also asked to attend galas and have had some fantastic results.

Josh has achieved in the last year; silver in 50m back stroke (County championships), bronze in the 100m individual medley (County championships), representation in the South West regional championships and the Regional Arena swimming league, and 10 golds, 10 silver, and 11 bronze in various UK based galas.

Rachel also had a great year with her main achievements being silver in; 200m freestyle, 100m freestyle, and bronze in the; 400m individual medley, 50m breaststroke, 100m backstroke, 200m breaststroke, and 800m freestyle, all at the Salisbury Club Championships. Rachel has also managed to beat many of her personal best times during UK based galas, and looks forward to competing at the top end of her age range next year.

Finally, Josh reached another Milestone at the end of last year when he was asked to join the development squad. Well done you two, it shows true dedication.

KS3 Basketball & Rugby

- Year 7s had their first Basketball tournament at Wyvern. With no training they narrowly lost both games. More to come this term as the season really kicks off.
- Year 7 Rugby continue to do well at Pitch Up & Play. They had a great evening playing under the floodlights. Aside from this, they also drew a game with Wyvern 10-10.
- Year 8 & 9 played Wyvern and lost 10-0. A huge improvement on their last game where they were heavily beaten by Trafalgar.

KS3 Netball

The netball season is now over. All teams had a very successful season with some great wins and narrow loses. The most pleasing aspect this season was that we improved our scoring rate!



Upcoming Dates

Monday 9th January: KS3 Mass – Baptism of the Lord, Period 1
Tuesday 10th January: 8F & 8M Parent's Evening
Thursday 12th January: New Age Kurling Competition
Thursday 12th January: Ski Trip Parent Information Evening
Monday 16th January: 8T & 8V Parent's Evening
Monday 30th January: 1pm Pupil Parliament Meeting
Friday 10th February: Ski Trip Departs
Friday 10th February: Break up at 3.35pm for half term
Thursday 16th – Sunday 19th February: Expressions Weekend in school

Please note that towards the end of term, teachers will be completing the second assessment point data collection. This data will be used to form the 2nd Progress Report to be sent out at the end of February.

March: Watch out for some exciting developments and activities in school to mark World Book Day! More details to follow!

Friends of St Joseph's BINGO Night

Dear Parents

We are organising a Family Bingo night on Friday 20th January. This is a fundraising event to support the school and we would very much like your support, so do please bring your friends and family.

We will be serving soft drinks, tea and coffee and holding a raffle. Ticket price includes a ploughman's supper.

Details are below, but if you have any queries, do please get in touch with any of the Friends committee members, our contact details are below.

Many Thanks
Kamla
Secretary for Friends of St Josephs



Friday 20th January 2017
6.30pm for 7.00pm
at St Joseph's School

Tickets on sale from Mrs Scott, School Finance Officer
from 3rd January 2017

Where possible please purchase by Wednesday 18th January 2017, in order to help us with catering.

£5 Adult, £2 Child or £12.50 a Family
(includes Ploughman's Supper)

Bingo cards 50p each – on sale on the night

RAFFLE

Please bring donations of prizes on the night