

WEEKLY BULLETIN

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"With God's love and inspiration, we aspire to achieve excellence."

From the Headmaster's Study

This week marks several important milestones that remind us how quickly our children grow and how significant each stage of their educational journey truly is.

Our Year 10 pupils have been spending valuable time at Salisbury Sixth Form, gaining insight into life beyond GCSEs. These experiences raise aspirations and help them picture the next stage of their education with growing confidence.

Meanwhile, Year 11 pupils have received their mock results – an essential moment to celebrate successes, identify improvements, and work with staff to prepare for their final examinations.

Across all year groups, we see themes of transition, growth, and responsibility. While pupils may see staff as symbols of authority and expectation, our role is to guide, support, and walk alongside pupils as they navigate their own journeys and meet expectations with effort, commitment and resilience.

As we reflect on this, a verse from the Bible offers a powerful reminder of balance between guidance and personal responsibility:

**"In all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."
— Proverbs 3:6**

This speaks to the reassurance that guidance is always there, but it also reminds us that progress depends on the choices we make and the effort we invest. Faith, trust, and hard work must walk hand in hand.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership. Our mission, rooted in the Gospel, affirms that every child is created in God's image, with gifts ready to be nurtured. Together, we will continue to guide our pupils with high expectations, care, and belief in their potential as they take each step forward.



Key Dates: Spring Term 1

JANUARY

22nd – RSE Parent Information Evening, 5:30pm

26th (week of) – Year 9 GCSE options booklet published

30th – Science Live Trip – Year 10 & 11

FEBRUARY

11th and 12th – Year 10 Synagogue Trip

12th – Options Evening Market Place (Year 9), 5:30pm

In School This Week

ASSEMBLIES

- Monday – Big Sleep Assembly with Year 10 & 11
- Tuesday–Thursday – Holocaust Memorial Day

MONDAY 26th JANUARY

- Year 8 HPV vaccinations, Room 1
- AM Reg: Salisbury Schools' Book Awards book club, Room 9
- Year 7 football vs Stonehenge (H) 2.30pm kick off
- Sociology WIN session

TUESDAY 27th JANUARY

- P5: Year 9 Options Booklet Launch
- HW Club, Room 28
- Year 9 Football vs Sarum Academy (A)

WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY

- School nurse drop-ins
- Year 8 Dodgeball tournament at Trafalgar

THURSDAY 29th JANUARY

- Chaplaincy Team to St Osmund's
- Year 11 Football vs Stonehenge (H) 2.30pm kick off

FRIDAY 30th JANUARY

- Dance NEA Filming in hall
- Lunchtime: House Comp
- Science Live Trip (Year 10 & 11 with some Year 9)



Funding for a Sports Hall

We continue to raise money, and we will have a new focus which our Heads and Deputy Head Pupils will be leading on with the ambitious goal of raising £10,000.



Every contribution, no matter the size, will go directly to supporting our Sports and Music departments. If each child could raise an average of £20 via our GoFundMe page, we would be well on our way.

Please share the link widely and encourage support:

<https://gofund.me/bc2f38ba>

Follow us on social media

Stay up to date with what's happening at St Joseph's! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and X.

   @sjcssalisbury



Co-Curricular at SJCS

MONDAY

AM Reg:

- Salisbury Schools' Book Awards book club (Rm11) (Week 2 only)

Lunch:

- GCSE PE WIN Sessions (Rm21)
- Cricket – all years (Hall)

TUESDAY

Lunch:

- KS3 History Club (Rm4)
- Year 9-11 Basketball (Hall)
- Year 7 & 8 Rugby (Field)
- SolidWorks Club (Rm30)

After School:

- Street & Break Dance (Hall) – *please note, this is a paid activity*
- All Years Girls' Rugby (Field)
- HW Club (Rm28)

WEDNESDAY

Lunch:

- Year 7 & 8 Racquet Sports (Hall)
- Environmental & Gardening Club (Rm8)

After School:

- Netball – all years (Courts)

THURSDAY

Lunch:

- Year 9-11 Rugby (Field)
- Year 9-11 Racquet Sports (Hall)
- Vocal Ensemble (Rm27)
- Inclusivity Alliance (Rm23)
- KS3 Maths Games (Rm14)

After School:

- Year 9-11 Trampolining (Hall)
- Warhammer, Painting & Modelling Club (Rm27)
- DSTL Lego Spike Club (Rm30)

FRIDAY

Lunch:

- House Competition
- Chaplaincy Team (Rm25)





Snapshots from St Joseph's: Science & Sports Shine!



It has been a busy week for both the Science and PE departments this week, with sports and STEM galore!

New periodic table displays have gone up in Science classrooms, Year 7 dissected flowers to learn about plant reproduction, and our DSTL Lego Spike club remains very popular, where pupils build and programme Lego robots!

In sports, there have been various fixtures this week including Girls' Rugby, Table Tennis, and Kurling. All the teams played well and did us proud with their effort and sportsmanship!

Chaplaincy Update

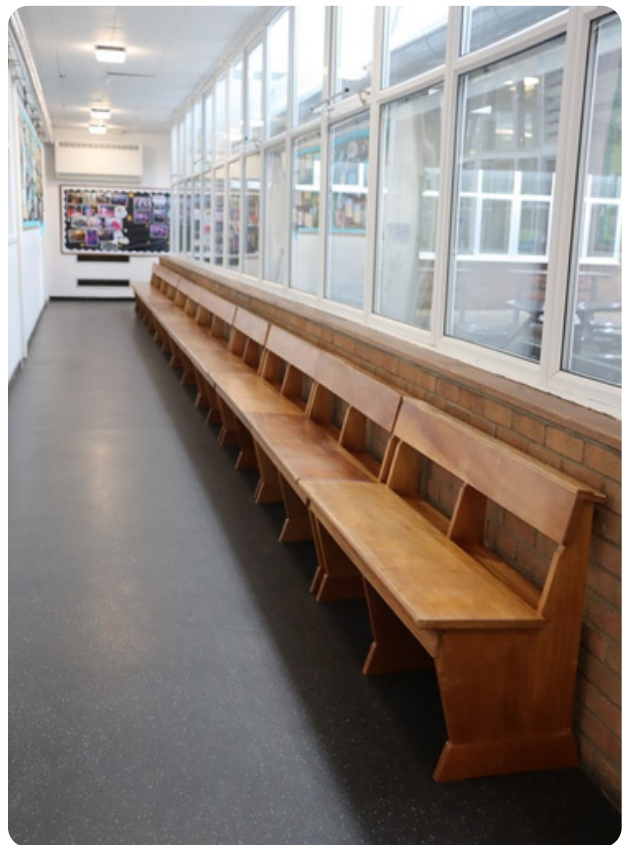
This week has been a rich and encouraging time for chaplaincy at St Joseph's. On Tuesday, I met with fellow chaplains to reflect on our shared work and plan the new chaplaincy groupings that will begin after Friday's final session with the pupils visiting Exeter House. We are pleased that the next phase will start with St Osmond's next Thursday, allowing us to continue building strong pastoral links and offering steady spiritual support.

This Friday also marks the end of the first Exeter House group I have been supporting – a truly life-giving experience marked by the pupils' growth and trust. We are also grateful that Father Anthony joined our Tuesday meeting before half term. He has confirmed he will celebrate a voluntary Mass on Thursday 12th February, followed by confessions – an important opportunity for reflection as Ash Wednesday falls during the holiday.

Looking ahead to Lent, we hope to welcome Father Anthony and our deacons as we reflect on prayer, service and charity. I will speak in assemblies before half term about supporting families in our community who are struggling, especially those facing food insecurity. Our Lenten collection will begin after the break, and we warmly encourage families to contribute so we can continue supporting Salisbury FoodBank and those in need locally.

Finally, we are delighted to have received benches, an altar, and a lectern from a decommissioned Catholic church in Gillingham, generously donated through the Catenians. The new seating has already made a positive impact, giving students comfortable places to gather during breaks. We hope some benches will soon be placed in the Chapel as we work toward making it a dedicated, peaceful space for prayer and reflection.

With my best wishes and every blessing for the weekend.





Academic Matters

Year 11 Mocks – What Next?

- Week Commencing 9th February – Mock Results Report home (pupils will receive their results as and when the papers are marked but we will collate this information and send it to you so that you as parents have the grades all on one page).
- WIN Sessions will be reviewed and a tiered approach will be implemented after February half term
- February half term and Easter break revision sessions will be offered and the programme shared shortly

Year 11 parents, please do not forget that there are 5 videos that you can watch on our website to help you throughout this year and in particular with your knowledge of revision strategies and how to help – these can be found on the following page of our website: sjcs.org.uk/resources

Year 9 Options Process

On Tuesday the Year 9 Options Process will begin in earnest! It's a very exciting time for Year 9 as they start to take ownership over their education journey. On Tuesday afternoon, during their enrichment period, the process and booklet will be launched with the year group. The booklet contains information about all the subjects on offer at Key Stage 4 at St Joseph's.

On the final Thursday of the half term (12th February) we will be hosting our Options Evening Marketplace where pupils and parents can find out more about each subject from our specialist teachers.

On the first Thursday after half term, we will also be hosting the Year 9 parents evening – this evening will be an excellent opportunity to have final discussions about subjects that your child is considering for GCSE before making their final decisions in March.

Governor Visits

This week, we welcomed two governors to school on Monday and Tuesday. They accompanied us on learning walks in lessons, led pupil panels and also were involved in pupil exercise book reviews. Both governors were very complimentary about the improvements we are making as a school and were very happy with the learning they saw (both in lessons and in books!) Having sat on the pupil panels, I must admit that it is a real source of pride to hear the pupils talk so positively about their experiences at school!

'Wiltshire's Children & Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey 2026

For parents/carers of pupils in YEAR 8 only

Our school will be taking part in Wiltshire Council's Children and Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey between 26th January and 6th February 2026. Children and young people aged 8-18 across Wiltshire will be completing the survey to help the Council and schools understand how pupils feel about school, health, friendship, safety, and wellbeing. We have been asked to ensure Year 8 complete the survey, which they will be doing in PSHE lessons either next week or February 9th.

The survey is anonymous, and no child can be identified. It takes around 30 -45 minutes and will be completed in school.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Careers Update

Appren-T-Fest

Year 10 pupils attended Appren-T-Fest at Salisbury 6th Form College, starting with an engaging apprenticeship talk from Jnr Saunders. They learned how apprenticeships can offer “a different journey to the same destination,” including routes to degree-level jobs. Students also met local employers to explore apprenticeship and job opportunities.

Careers Newsletter

In this week's edition...

- Apprenticeships and work experience opportunities from BAE Systems, IBM, British Airways, and the British Army
- Find out about upcoming virtual events and work experience from various tech, business and creative organisations, including Google
- Learn about medical and healthcare pathways, including GP work experience and insights into wide-ranging NHS roles
- ...and more!

[Click here to read the Careers Newsletter!](#)





Pastoral Update

Please see below updated information from HCRG School Nursing Service.

Drop In Clinic

Come and talk to your school nurse about...

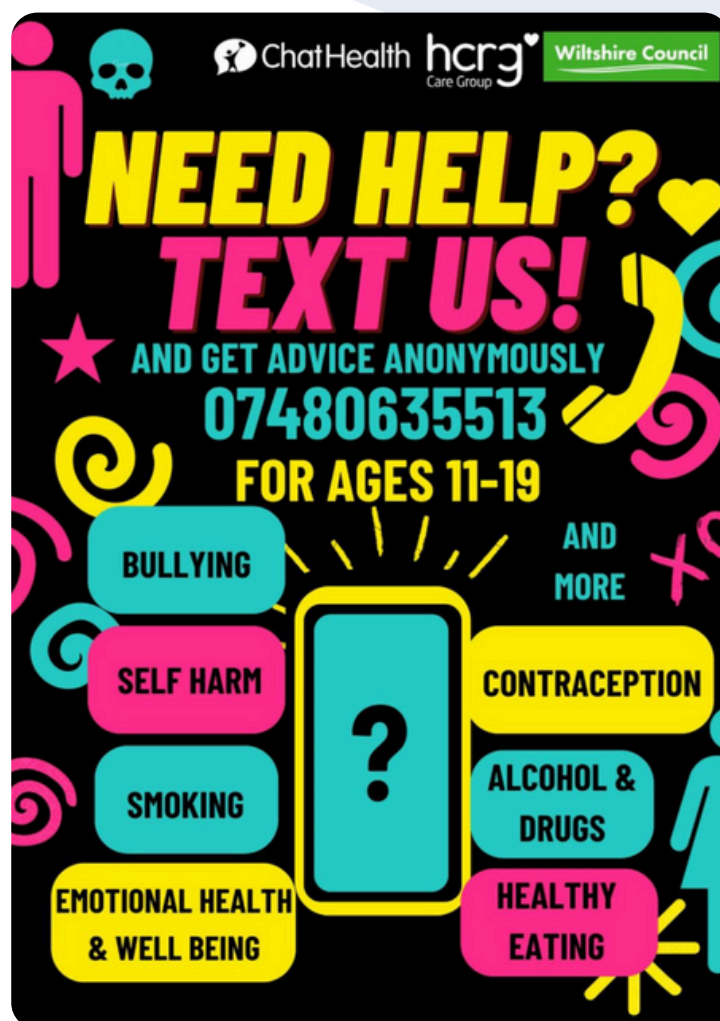
- Emotional Health
- Physical Health
- Sex and relationships
- Stress and Worries
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Drugs and Alcohol

Your school nurse is **Clara**.

Find me in **the Hub** every Wednesday lunchtime.

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If you need any other help or someone to talk to about something you're worried about, please see the poster to the right for information on getting advice anonymously.



Safeguarding Update: Phones & Social Media

We are asking for your support in helping pupils develop healthy and safe habits around mobile phone use and social media.

Reducing Phone Use

- Set phone-free times (meals, homework, bedtime)
- Keep phones out of bedrooms overnight
- Encourage offline activities and model healthy screen habits

Social Media Safety

- Talk regularly with your child about the apps they use
- Check age ratings (most platforms are 13+)
- Use privacy settings and turn off location sharing
- Remind children not to accept requests from people they don't know
- Encourage them to speak to you or school if something online worries them



Thank you for working with us to keep our pupils safe, focused, and supported.

UNIFORM



The school believes that a high standard of appearance and presentation enhances the dignity of the individual and raises self-esteem.

To that end, school uniform should be worn properly to and from school and throughout the school day.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS ON UNIFORM CAN RESULT IN SANCTION. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

TROUSERS - Black or dark grey. Tailored. No jeans, leggings, corduroys, or casual trousers. May be supported by a dark, narrow, unbranded belt.

SKIRTS - Black. Must be pleated. No tube skirts. Knee high.

SHORTS - Black. Smart, tailored (no cargo or sports shorts).

SHIRT - Plain white. Full button and collar.

BLAZER - Blue blazer with school logo.

TIE - House Tie - Red, Blue, Green or Yellow.

SOCKS/TIGHTS - Socks, short (ankle/trainer). Black, navy blue, or white. Or plain natural/black tights.

SHOES - Black. Shoes must be completely black (including the soles) with no logos, laces, or trims of a different colour. No sports trainers. No foam soles. No visible "air bubbles". Leather or canvas.

APPEARANCE EXPECTATIONS

HAIRSTYLE - Students whose hairstyle is reasonably deemed offensive, of a non-natural colour, or in any other way disruptive to learning, will be asked to modify that hairstyle, and could be asked to remain in inclusion until such time as the hair has grown back sufficiently, or the style has grown out.

MAKEUP - Tidy, natural look, minimal make up.

NAILS - Nails should be of a natural look, colour and length. We will ask for nail varnish or false nails to be removed.

JEWELLERY - A watch and, if desired one band (charity) that can be removed for PE. All other jewellery must be removed when in school uniform. All jewellery must be removed for PE. Incidents of theft are rare at SJCS but we do ask, to aid us in minimising this, that students do not bring items of value.

PIERCINGS - One earring per ear, which should be a stud for safety reasons, and be in the lower lobe. All piercings must be removed for PE. No facial or body piercings at all.

PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

TOP - School polo shirt - house colour.

SHORTS - Black sports shorts, plain with no distinctive branding (shorts must be loose fitting, mid-thigh, not tight fitting Lycra).

SKORT - This is an optional item and must be the SJCS branded item to ensure it is appropriate.

TROUSERS / LEGGINGS - Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, plain with no distinctive branding.

TRAINERS - Practical and suitable for sports performance.

