

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

## From the Headmaster's Study

It is a joy to welcome our pupils back as we begin preparations for the festive season. This term began with a poignant focus on Remembrance, and I **would like to thank Mr McGuinness** for his thought-provoking assemblies. The respect and attentiveness shown by our pupils was deeply moving and reflected their growing understanding of the importance of honouring those who have served.

We are delighted to share early notice of our **Carol Service**, which will take place on **Thursday 18th December**, from **17:30 to 19:00** at **St Osmond's Church**. Please mark this in your diaries and join us for an evening of Christmas joy, singing, and mince pies.

In other exciting news, we are preparing to launch the **School's new website** in the coming days. We hope the refreshed design will make it easier to navigate and access key information. However, please continue to use **ClassCharts** as your primary source for updates and communications.

We're also pleased to announce that new Interactive Whiteboards will be installed in every classroom, marking Stage Two of our IT upgrade. This reflects our commitment to digital literacy, a vital skill in today's AI-driven world. Pupils must learn to use AI ethically and critically, preparing for a future where businesses value tech fluency, creativity, and entrepreneurial thinking.

As we embrace these changes, let us be reminded of Isaiah 43:19: "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Higgins





## Snapshots from SJCS



Before half term, DSTL visited us with their incredible robot dogs! A great reward for all pupils who have been engaging well their Spark Science. [See this X post for videos!](#)



We've set up foodbank donation boxes to help Salisbury Foodbank distribute hundreds of food parcels this autumn. Thank you for your donations - please keep them coming!



This year's Year 7 history exhibition was a great success with so much incredible work on display! There was a staff vote and a pupil vote – well done to EP (7F) for winning the pupil vote with her viking ship, and DK (7M) for winning the staff vote with his incredible metal sword!





## Key Dates: Autumn Term 2

### NOVEMBER

- 10th** – Odd socks Day (start of Antibullying week)
- 11th** – Remembrance Day reflection (11am)
- 11th** – Nasal Flu Vaccinations
- 20th** – Year 8 Parents' Evening (4:30–7pm)
- 27th** – Year 11 Certificate Evening (6–7:30pm)



### DECEMBER

- 11th** – Year 11 Parents' Evening (4:30–7pm)
- 17th** – Christmas Carol Service (5:30–7pm)
- 19th** – End of Term (12:15pm) – Non-uniform day

## In School This Week

### THIS WEEK'S ASSEMBLIES

- Tuesday–Thursday** – Heads of Year: Anti-Bullying
- Friday** – Sparsholt College for Year 11

### MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER

- Anti-Bullying Day – Odd Socks Day!
- SWGS ROCstars – Year 11 revision skills session led by SWGS Year 13 pupils. (3:40–4:30pm, Rm22)

### TUESDAY 4th NOVEMBER

- Year 9 & 10 Assembly
- Year 7 Literacy Intervention (AM Reg, Rm30)
- Flu Vaccinations – all years
- History Club – Milford House Remembrance Service
- Chaplaincy commissioning to St Osmund's

### WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER

- Year 7 & 8 Assembly
- Year 9 Literacy Intervention (AM Reg, Rm30)
- School nurse drop-ins

### THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER

- Year 11 Assembly
- Year 10 Literacy Intervention (AM Reg, Rm30)
- Pupil Parliament Meeting (AM Reg & Period 1)
- Cross Country Competition at Wyvern St Edmunds

## Funding for the 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>

### FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER

- Children in Need day – non-uniform (payments via School Gateway)
- Year 11 Sparsholt College Assembly
- Year 8 Literacy Intervention (AM Reg, Rm30)

**See page 4 for a timetable of co-curricular clubs**



## Co-Curricular at SJCS

### 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:

- Year 7 & 8 Netball (Courts)
- Year 9-11 Racquet Sports (Hall)

### THURSDAY

#### Lunch:

- Year 9-11 Rugby (Field)
- All Years Cricket (Hall)
- Vocal Ensemble (Rm27)
- Inclusivity Alliance (Rm23)
- KS3 Maths Games (Rm14)

#### After School:

- Year 9-11 Netball (Courts)
- Year 9-11 Trampolining (Hall)
- Warhammer, Painting & Modelling Club (Rm27)

### FRIDAY

#### Lunch:

- House Competition
- Chaplaincy Team (Rm25)
- Anime Club (Rm9)



## Sustainability & Chaplaincy Update

We're delighted to share updates from two of our vibrant pupil-led groups: the Laudato Si Club and the Chaplaincy Team.

### Laudato Si Club: Our Sustainability Journey Begins

#### *Mrs O'Grady, Laudato Si Environmental Lead*

Inspired by Pope Francis' Laudato Si, St Joseph's has joined the Vatican-supported Laudato Si Action Platform to guide our school's sustainability journey. This week, the Laudato Si Club began drafting our Action Plan, focusing on pupil-led initiatives to promote sustainable lifestyles. Key areas discussed included:

- Improving recycling across the school
- Reducing food waste
- Suggesting eco-friendly meal options for the canteen

We'll continue developing the plan over the coming weeks and aim to present our proposals by the end of term. All pupils are warmly invited to join us in Room 8 on Wednesdays at lunchtime to contribute ideas and help shape our shared future.

### Chaplaincy Team: Living Out Our Mission

#### *Mr Blaho-Schlogl, School Chaplain*

It was wonderful to see around 30 chaplains gathered in the chapel this Wednesday lunchtime. Their enthusiasm and commitment to service created a strong sense of community as we planned for the term ahead.

A special thank you to the six pupils who visited St Osmund's Catholic School this week, working with Year 1 and Year 3 pupils. They represented St Joseph's beautifully and were praised for their



kindness, respect, and support in the classroom, as observed by Mrs Hayton who joined us for our community outreach work.

We're also excited to begin our new service at Exeter House next week. Chaplains will now visit both schools on a fortnightly rotation, building meaningful connections. To support this, our regular Chaplaincy meetings will now take place on Tuesday lunchtimes, allowing pupils to also participate in the Laudato Si group on Wednesdays.

### Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass

We're pleased to announce that our Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass will take place at St Osmund's Church on Tuesday next week, led by Father Joseph. During this special celebration, our chaplains will be formally commissioned and presented with their chaplaincy badges.

### Thank You for Food Bank Donations

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated to our Foodbank collection. Your generosity has been overwhelming, and we're proud to be delivering these donations to Salisbury Foodbank early next week.

### Shoebox Appeal Fundraiser

We encourage Year 11 parents to support our Shoebox Appeal fundraiser next week by donating baked goods. Chaplains will be selling cakes to raise funds for this wonderful cause. Thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils live out their mission with generosity, care, and faith.



## Academic Matters

### Young Enterprise Programme

A carefully selected group of Year 9 pupils will be embarking on our first ever Young Enterprise Programme beginning after half term. We're super excited about this initiative and are very much looking forward to guiding the pupils as they create their product, market it and, ultimately, make money!

If you would like to be involved in business advisory capacity, please [click this link](#) to find out more. We are hoping we can unearth the next Alan Sugar!

### Home Learning & Homework Club

Sparx is our main vehicle for core subject home learning. Each week, on a Wednesday, pupils in all year groups will be set Sparx Reader, Sparx Maths and Sparx Science tasks for their home learning – these will be due in on the following Tuesday. All other subjects will set home learning in accordance with the subjects' needs – that may be consolidation of learning, research for upcoming learning or applying information in exam style questions or even extended projects. All these tasks will be set via Class Charts.

**Tuesday after school will be Homework Club – this will be from 3:30-4:30 in a computer room and enable pupils to meet the weekly Sparx deadlines if they have technical issues at home.**

### Year 11 Updates

This week and the first week after half term, Year 11 have been and will be completing assessments. We will use the data gathered from these assessments to help inform on the progress that the children are making towards their target grades. At the beginning of November, we will share this information with Year 11 parents prior to the parents' evening in mid-December.

#### Important dates coming up:

- **Thursday 20th November** – Yr11 Mock Exam Launch Assembly (Mock Exam Timetable distributed)
- **Thursday 4th December** – Yr11 Parents' Evening 4:30-7pm, Progress Report Out
- **Monday 12th January** – Mock Exam Week in the hall
- **Week Commencing 9th February** – Mock Results Report

### WIN Sessions Continue!

My weekly reminder to revise 'little and often' - the key phrase for Year 11. Don't forget on our website we have lots of resources to help both pupils and parents. For pupils, particularly the subject specific guide which contains links through to exam boards and past papers and mark schemes: [sjcs.org.uk/revision](http://sjcs.org.uk/revision)

**See the next page for a timetable of WIN sessions.**



## WIN Sessions:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch	GCSE PE	Maths (Foundation)		History	
After - School	RE (OBL) French	English Lit & Lang Food tech Combined Science Separate Science	English Lit & Lang Sociology Music Combined Science Further Maths	BTEC Creative Media (+ GCSE Comp Sci) History Combined Science RE (DIN and RRO) Spanish Maths (Higher)	

## Enrichment Rotation

This week all Year groups enrichment have moved onto their next experience. This could be a change to an art, music, history, PE and games or cultural experience! Please do ask your children what sessions they are now attending!

## Year 7 & 8 Creative Carousel Rotation

In two week's time the Creative carousel for Year 7 & 8 will change. This carousel features 4 subjects; Food Technology, Business Studies, Textiles and Design. Your child will have completed a 9-week programme of study for one of the listed subjects and will now move onto another interesting and valuable 9-week programme of study for a different subject.





# Safeguarding Update: Cyber Slang

Do you know your GAS from your GOAT? Or what it means when a young person says something “slaps” or has “drip”?

Cyber slang is the language of the digital world - a mix of acronyms, phrases, and words that children and young people use every day online. For parents, carers, and professionals, it can sometimes feel like a secret code that's hard to keep up with.

That's why we're sharing this helpful Cyber Slang Factsheet, which explains common online terms and what they mean. It's designed to help adults decode digital conversations, open up discussions, and support safer online communication.

As always, please contact our Safeguarding team if you have any questions or need support: [safeguarding@sjcs.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sjcs.org.uk)

**LOL** laugh out loud   **WDYM** what do you mean?   **OMW** on my way  
**IDK** I don't know   **SMH** shaking my head   **THNX** thank you  
**IDC** I don't care   **LMK** let me know   **WYA** where you at?  
**TRF** to be fair   **CYA** see ya   **WYS** what you saying?  
**TBH** to be honest   **G2G** got to go   **NM** nothing much  
**SNM** say no more   **IMO** in my opinion   **NVM** never mind  
**SN** say nothing   **JK** just kidding   **ACC** actually  
**OFC** of course   **DM** direct message   **NP** no problem  
**NW** no worries   **PLS** please   **ATM** at the moment  
**HRD** happy birthday   **BRB** be right back   **ILL YK** I'll let you know

<b>GAMING</b>	<b>POSITIVE</b>	<b>COMMONLY USED</b>	<b>RELATIONSHIPS</b>
<b>NOOB</b> new to the game	<b>TEA</b> baby group or info	<b>GOAT</b> greatest of all time	<b>DAE</b> before anyone else
<b>GG</b> good game	<b>ATE</b> to succeed	<b>LIT</b> making someone suspicious	<b>DTB</b> didn't feel belonging
<b>RQ</b> rage quit	<b>GAS</b> cool, awesome	<b>CAP</b> taking a pic	<b>RIZZ</b> showing off
<b>DLC</b> downloadable content	<b>GUCCI</b> good, going, cool	<b>EMM</b> being in my mind	<b>BBG</b> baby girl
<b>FPS</b> first person shooter	<b>DRIP</b> very cool, trendy	<b>TRIM</b> really cool, awesome	<b>HEY</b> I like you
<b>BUSIN'</b> very cool	<b>SLAPS</b> really great	<b>GAFY</b> other-assisted cool	<b>BOO</b> romantic partner
<b>RED FLAGS</b>		<b>GRINDING</b> intentionally annoying	<b>GYRT</b> attractive, sexy bottom
<b>BODY</b> describing someone		<b>SESTY</b> hot, strong	<b>SNACK</b> take your snack to eat
<b>FWB</b> friends with benefits		<b>SLAY</b> awesome, very cool	<b>SMASH</b> a casual relationship
<b>JOUL</b> sexy			
<b>KYS</b> kill yourself			
<b>BDE</b> say fuck, strong			
<b>CURVE</b> reject someone			

**CYBER SLANG**  
SAFEGUARDING FACTSHEET

KIDSONLINEWORLD  
PARTNER OF KIDSLAWARDERS

[Click here to download](#)

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about BEREAL**

BEREAL is the latest trending social media app. The company that created it claims it's their authentic day-to-day lives, sharing candid photos with filters. Each day at a random time, users are simultaneously notified to take a picture of what they're doing at that exact moment. The two-minute window to submit an image means there's time to pose or participate in glamorous or exciting things. The app also allows users to view and comment on other users' surroundings. Users can only view and react to their friends' photos once they upload their own.

**CONTINUOUS NOTIFICATIONS**

Like many social media apps, BEREAL allows users to be on it regularly and including the continuous notifications feature, meaning a notification to post a picture with days before they upload. This can be a concern for parents, such as in situations, commercials, friend posts, or other things that may be inappropriate. This can cause young users to feel pressure to post things that they don't want to, embarrassing them from other activities.

**CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**

When someone signs up to BEREAL, it sends them a contact list who already has the app. This can be a concern for parents as they may not know who they are or if they are safe to invite others from their contacts. The 'Time to Refresh' feature allows users to post from strangers and gives users the option to accept or decline. This means that means your child could potentially connect with someone they don't know or trust, which is strange.

**PUBLIC SHARING**

Like many social media apps, BEREAL allows users to share their photos on the internet. This can be a concern for parents as they may not know who is viewing their child's photos. BEREAL allows users to post their own photo first, then allows others to view and react to it. This can be a lack of moderation on the content that is being shared. It is important to remember that your child could be exposed to posts which aren't suitable for their age.

**REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE**

What your child says and does online can affect their digital footprint - shaping their future. It is important for parents to ensure that young people understand the importance of what they post online. If they are giving the app the right to access their camera, they should be aware of other content, including screenshots of screenshots, being harvested in BEREAL's terms of use.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

**LIMIT NOTIFICATIONS**

BEREAL offers the option to turn off individual types of notifications. Doing this will significantly reduce the number of times your child is notified to post. If your child is posting a lot of notifications and it's causing them to constantly be on the app, it's best to turn off notifications. This will help them focus on their studies and other responsibilities.

**STOP AND THINK**

It's important for users to be authentic with friends, removing the pressure of that filters photo is perfectly worded post. It's also important for users to be aware of what they are posting. If something really just to meet the self-imposed deadline. Post out to them, it's important to remember that they are posting to a public space, street names or local landmarks, for example.

**CREATE A SAFE PROFILE**

Remind your child to use an alias on their profile pic (or request to a photo of themselves), and use a nickname or just their first name. It's important for parents to encourage their child to keep their profile private, and personal details should remain private. This includes the location, the notification feature either through the device's settings or in BEREAL itself.

**Meet Our Expert**

Or Clean is a household and online safety consultant, educator and influencer who has developed and implemented anti-bullying programs for schools and organisations across Australia. She has written numerous articles and contributed to many domestic papers and continues to research the Australian market for the best ways to keep children safe and encourage young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[Click here to download](#)



# ST. JOSEPH'S CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

ST OSMUND'S CHURCH, SALISBURY

Join us for a heartwarming evening of  
traditional carols and festive cheer!

**MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE**  
- SERVED FROM 5:30 PM



**THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER**  
- AT 6:00 PM

Come together with friends and family  
to celebrate the season in song.

All are welcome!

Free entry • Festive refreshments  
Warm atmosphere



Follow us on social media

X    @sjcssalisbury

[sjcs.org.uk](http://sjcs.org.uk)  
01722 335380  
[admin@sjcs.org.uk](mailto:admin@sjcs.org.uk)



# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

 [Listen to this newsletter](#)

## OPPORTUNITIES



Behind the Badge: The Modern Police Officer's Role - Free Online Policing Taster Session from University of Bangor. This event takes place 16<sup>th</sup> November 11:00 - 12:00, exploring the modern role of the British police officer and key frontline specialisms, including Community Policing and Roads Policing. Register [here](#).



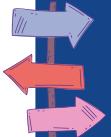
Politics and International Relations: UN Writing Competition! Choose one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and submit a 350-400 word piece on its significance. Explore the challenge it addresses and potential solutions at local, national, or global levels, demonstrating your critical thinking and understanding of key issues. [Join the challenge](#).



University of Law virtual Criminal Investigation Day: The Anna Delvey Case. On November 12th, 16:00-17:30 [join this webinar](#) to gain hands-on experience dissecting the psychology, criminology, and legal strategies behind the case, whilst sharpening your analytical and problem-solving skills.



At the LawCareersNetLIVE event on 29 November 2024, the panel of trainee solicitors provided insights into their experiences of the law firm application process, what being a trainee is really like and their advice for prospective candidates. [Watch here](#).



If you're interested in a potential future career as a Lawyer, but don't know where to start, The Beginner's Guide to a Career in Law is for you. [Read this guide](#) for information about working in the Law industry.



[On this page](#) are profiles of more than 40 solicitors at different law firms, designed to give you a sense of how they got there, what the working day looks like and the advice they have to offer. Read how they made the transition from student to qualified lawyer.

If you have any questions or need support, please email Miss Gale: [vgl@sjcs.org.uk](mailto:vgl@sjcs.org.uk)

## JOB OF THE WEEK



[Barrister](#)

Barristers are generally hired by solicitors to represent a case in court and only become involved once advocacy before a court is needed.

As a barrister, you'll plead the case on behalf of your client and their solicitor. Members of the public can also go directly to a barrister to ask for advice and representation in court.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

"According to the most recent figures from the Department for Education, 41% of care leavers aged between 19 and 21 are not in education, employment or training (NEET). This is considerably higher than among young people in general; 12% of those aged 18 to 24 are NEET."

[Source](#)



# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

## OPPORTUNITIES

 The theme for this year's National Care Leavers' Month is: Rising as Me: Overcoming challenges, transforming, and finding your identity. Check out events happening so far [here](#).

 Workshop for care-experienced young people aged 16+: Your Rights, Your Voice, Your Future. [Book now](#) for this free 1-hour online workshop on Wednesday 12th November.

 Explore 1,600+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the October 2025 edition of the Higher and Degree listing. [Discover](#) vacancy details from over 50 employers, including locations, salary information, close dates and direct application links.

 [Join EDF](#) on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 16:00 - 17:00 to hear from the Early Careers team at EDF to learn more about their amazing apprenticeship opportunities and the exciting range of vacancies available, which open for applications on Monday 26th January 2026.

 [Day of Wrk](#) was created to show what people actually do for their jobs through authentic day-in-the-life stories, all housed in one place which will aims to give you a more detailed understanding of what a job actually entails, and have the confidence to apply.

 Join us on Thursday 27th November at 10:00, for a one-hour interactive webinar where you'll hear directly from an expert at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), one of the world's leading technology companies. They'll share how cyber specialists defend against attacks, look at defence in depth and how TCS keeps its customers safe in a digital world.

 Many job adverts will request that you submit a CV as part of the application process. Having a CV ready that can be quickly updated is important for any new job seeker. [This guide](#) will get you started.

 Did you know that there are specialist job boards for lots of different industries? For example, [Hitmarker](#) is the largest gaming and esports jobs platform in the world. To find them search the name of the industry you're interested in followed by "job board".

If you have any questions or need support, please email Miss Gale: [vgl@sjcs.org.uk](mailto:vgl@sjcs.org.uk)

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

There are different pathways to qualification as a solicitor at Bird & Bird. Whether you're finishing school or college, commencing a university degree, or considering changing to a career in law, we have opportunities for you. From workshops, panel discussions and law fairs, to online work experience and open days, there's so much to discover at Bird & Bird.

Find out more [here](#).

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"More law students have chosen The University of Law than any other UK university in 2023. At the University, we go beyond academic excellence. Our guiding principle is that our students are taught in a realistic, professional and contemporary context, with plenty of practical interactive engagement and one-to-one teaching and support."

Read more about the University of Law [here](#).



# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

AS PART OF THE CAREERS & PROGRESSION FAIR, THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER, MR ENGLAND TOLD STUDENTS ABOUT HIS CAREER AS A RADIOPHGRAPHER.

FIND OUT ABOUT CAREERS IN THE NHS, VIA THE NHS CAREERS WEBSITE: [STEP INTO THE NHS.](https://www.stepintoth NHS.nhs.uk/)

[HTTPS://WWW.STEPINTOTH NHS.NHS.UK/](https://www.stepintoth NHS.nhs.uk/)



### YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY IN THE NHS

FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS WE HAVE HAD STUDENTS IN YEAR 10 COMPLETE THEIR WORK EXPERIENCE AT SALISBURY DISTRICT HOSPITAL. SOME STUDENTS HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITHIN THE IT DEPARTMENT FOR THE WEEK AND OTHERS HAVE HAD A "TASTER" WEEK, MOVING BETWEEN DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS TO EXPLORE THE VARIED ROLES WITHIN THE HOSPITAL.

ANY YEAR 10 STUDENTS INTERESTED FOR 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE-3<sup>RD</sup> JULY WEX WEEK, PLEASE SEE MISS GALE OR E-MAIL [VGL@SJCS.ORG.UK](mailto:VGL@SJCS.ORG.UK)



### EDUCATION PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT

**WILTSHIRE COLLEGE  
& UNIVERSITY  
CENTRE**



RELATED COURSES AT  
WILTSHIRE COLLEGE AND  
UNIVERSITY CENTRE:

T-LEVEL ADULT NURSING

T LEVEL IN HEALTH:  
SUPPORTING THE  
MIDWIFERY TEAM

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

ADULT CARE WORKER  
APPRENTICESHIP

SENIOR HEALTHCARE  
SUPPORT WORKER  
APPRENTICESHIP  
(LEVEL 3)