

3RD MARCH 2023



# ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

The Newsletter of St Joseph's College

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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Today the College celebrated World Book Day. Members of staff joined in the fun by dressing up as their favourite book character. World Book Day acts as a reminder to us all of the importance of reading and the benefits it can bring to young people, including increased vocabulary, heightened empathy, and improved concentration. Students in Years 7 to 9 are encouraged to take part in the Readathon event over coming weeks by reading as many books as possible. This is a sponsored activity to raise money for Read for Good, a charity which provides books to children in hospital.

Year 11 learners have sat their final Pre-Public Examination of the year in the exam hall today. They return to normal lesson routines from Monday and await their results.

On Wednesday all Year 12 students attended the National Apprenticeship Show. The event enlightened students' understanding of the growing range of apprenticeships on offer, and they thoroughly enjoyed the day.

The College Pantomime is fast approaching on March 10th- if you have not yet got your tickets, please do so. Further information on it is contained in the newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless,

Mrs C Kane

## Pope Francis' Lenten message 2023

*"Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. And how does he speak to us? First, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears". – Pope Francis, in his Lenten Message, 2023*

Pope Francis has released his annual message, which this year reflects on the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. The Holy Father encourages us to listen to what Jesus wants to tell us through the Scriptures and through others, reminding us our Lenten path is a synodal journey.

He writes: "Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is 'synodal', since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master."

In the message, the Holy Father highlights "Lenten penance" as "commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do".

In this sense, to "understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity", Francis stressed. You can read the full message [here](#).

### Caritas mass invitation

This is an open invitation to attend the Inaugural Caritas Mass to be held on Saturday 18th March at 12pm at St George's Cathedral. This invitation is for all those within the school community so please share with your families.

After the Mass there will be a short reception in Amigo Hall. There will be a number of displays and representatives from social action agencies, parishes and schools showcasing the wonderful work being in this area done across the diocese.

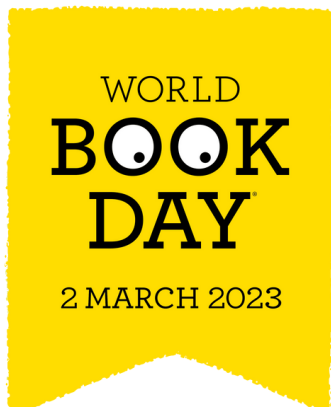
This promises to be a beautiful occasion and we are looking forward to seeing lots of our pupils and their families at the service.



### ***Together we are stronger***

Thank you for your generous donations to our Turkey and Syria appeal. Your contributions to CAFOD's efforts can make a real difference in helping those in need. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to helping those in need.

# WORLD BOOK DAY



**Thursday was World Book Day!** There were loads of fun activities happening around the English department this week including creative writing workshops, interviews with authors and a readathon!

We launched a sponsored readathon for KS3 to coincide with World Book Day. [Watch this video](#) for more information.

The Readathon went LIVE on Tuesday, so students can come and collect a sponsorship card from Ms Howard in N13, Mrs Owen in N22 or Mr Henry in N24.

The students will have 2 ½ weeks to read as many books as they can before the competition closes on Friday 17th March.



This is a sponsored event raising money for Read for Good providing books to children in hospital. Even the smallest amount of sponsor money makes a difference but there is no pressure. If students are unable to collect sponsorship, we would still love them to be involved in the reading.

**We have prizes for the students who read the most books during this time. We want as many students to get involved as possible!**

## Author visit

On Monday the school welcomed the successful author Alexandra Sheppard to the school who led a series of workshops with KS3 students.



**Writing stories**

The workshop was all about writing about Greek mythology and introducing it to a modern setting. All of the students completed fantastic short stories and had a hugely enjoyable experience!

Alexandra also answered questions and gave advice on how to be an author.

*Here is a link to a free one pound book voucher! You can use it to get a special World Book Day one pound book for free or to get money off a more expensive book.*

*They are valid from 16th February - 23rd March so use them quickly!*

**NATIONAL  
BOOK  
tokens**

# WORLD BOOK DAY



## Staff Fancy Dress

Today, we celebrated World Book Day with many staff dressing as book characters to generate conversations about their favourite books and the importance of reading. Students also started every lesson on Friday with an instalment of a short story with the ending finally being revealed during Period 5.



As well as a Readathon, Mr Henry has launched a competition to see who can take a picture of themselves reading in the most unusual place or position possible. There are prizes available for the best photos and all the information should be on Satchel One.

Here are some examples of the teachers in fancy dress! Can you guess any of their characters?

# SPANISH LIBRARY UPDATE



***New in the library!***

## Why not celebrate World book day by reading a new Spanish book in our ever growing library?

Let us present to you a new member of SJC: Geronimo Stilton, Milan, Italy, 1958.

Born in Ratonía (Mice Island), Geronimo Stilton has a degree in Ratology of Mouse Literature and in Rat Philosophy! For twenty years he has directed The Voice of the Rodent, the most widely distributed newspaper in Ratonía. In his spare time, Stilton collects Renaissance Parmesan rinds, plays golf, but most of all loves telling stories to his nephew Benjamin...

So, don't waste any more time! Read his latest book (which can be found in the Spanish library): The Mystery of the Elfs!

# DEBATEMATE

Calling on all students who love debating and public speaking! Debate mate is an exciting new club available for Years 7 – 10. This is a really good opportunity as we have an outside agency coming in to teach the boys the important life skill of debate. It will happen after school every Tuesday in S14 for the next 5 weeks. At the end there will be a big debate where we will debate other schools for the chance to win some big prizes!



Here is the website for further information:

<https://debatebate.org>

It's a really good opportunity for our boys to have higher aspirations. The final debate of this programme is against other schools of a similar background to us, so it will be a chance for the boys to show off how good they can be. We really encourage anyone who is interested to come along!

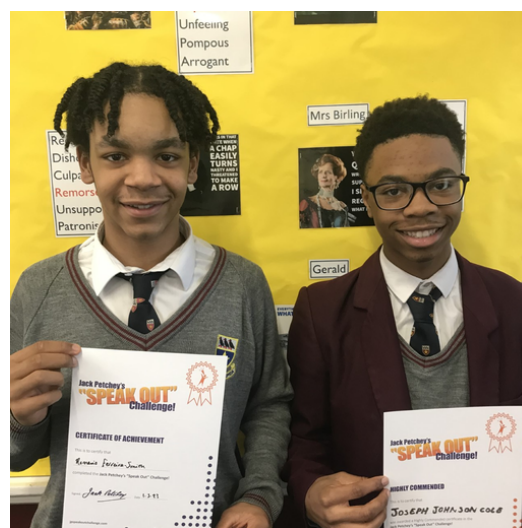
## SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

On Wednesday 30 of our Year 10 students competed in the 'Speakout' challenge! This was a public speaking workshop in which pupils learnt about the importance of positive body language, how to speak confidently and developed their own short speeches based on topics that were important to them.

There was a fantastic effort from everybody in the workshop and all of the students produced excellent speeches. There was an eclectic mix of topics including women's football, gang culture and the decline of Chelsea FC.

Five students will have the opportunity to perform their speeches in front of a Year 8 assembly before one winner will be chosen for the Croydon regionals! Well done to everyone who participated!

## Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!



**Well done to Romario and Joseph!**

# SPANISH AND HISTORY TRIP



***The guided tour***

On the Friday before half-term, Mrs Wilson and Miss McConnell took our top achievers in History and Spanish on a rewards trip to the Golden Hinde, a remodel of Sir Francis Drake's ship in London Bridge. The boys as always made us proud on our venture into the centre. This was a truly fascinating trip where the boys had a guided tour of the boat and got to see cannons and various other weapons.



***Yahya with spear***

Below is what Yahya Sharieff from 7 Beulah had to say about the trip:

"The looming Shard as we got off at London Bridge station excited us all for the day ahead. It of course was amazing, to see a real ship from the Armada and to hold the types of weapons they once used in battle."

# YEAR 9 CODING WORKSHOP

On Monday the 20th of February and Friday the 24th February, a group of Year 9 Students had a fantastic workshop at the London South Bank University (LSBU). They were invited along to complete several challenges by programming their own Lego robot and presented solutions to a problem about the transportation of their Lego Car robot.

The Computer Science Teacher, Mrs Carvalho Pais and Teaching Assistants, Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Chapouton said: "The children did themselves and the school proud with their great teamwork and sense of creativity and programming skills while solving challenging problems. It was great to see all the students learning whilst enjoying themselves. They even got their robots in a race to see which robot was the fastest!"

Professor Dr Safia Barikzai, was delighted with the winning team's achievement and said: "This team have shown all the skills needed to be future engineers and Computer scientists. We are immensely proud of their achievements and look forward to having more students from St Joseph's College take part in these workshops."



***A finished robot***



***Robot races***



***Busy coding***

**National Careers Week** is 6th – 11th March 2023 and the organisations below are holding special online events to help parents to support their children to feel confident about their futures and make good decisions. Here are some of the highlights we recommend you take a look at:

The Parents Guide to NCW 2023 provides parents and carers with the information they need to support their child to make decisions about what to do after GCSEs and sixth form. Sign up for fortnightly updates including games and activities to get your child thinking about their future.

### Unifrog

Your child has a login for Unifrog and can use the site to find out about careers, universities and apprenticeships. The platform is hosting a Next Steps Fair on Wednesday 8th March at 16.30, please encourage your child to register and attend to chat live to top universities and employers.



### NCWTV

National Careers Week TV: National career week has set up a TV channel with shows from their sponsor employers including Natwest and the NHS. Have a look here: [ncw.tv.co.uk](http://ncw.tv.co.uk) for more broadcasts.

### BBC Bitesize

BBC Bitesize also has a wealth of resources for researching finding out more about career options and is hosting live, interactive workshops all week.

We hope you find some of these resources informative and that they lead to some great discussions about your child's future. Please let us have any feedback on these or make some recommendations about resources.

## The Parents' Guide to... Educational routes

Level	Qualification / educational routes		
8	Doctorate (PhD)		NVQ 8
7	Masters degree (MA)		Degree apprenticeship / NVQ 5, 6, 7
6	Bachelors degree BA or BSc		
5	Foundation degree FdA or FdSc	Higher National Diploma (HND)	
4			Higher National Certificate (HNC) / Higher apprenticeship / NVQ 4
3	A levels Grades A-E	International Baccalaureate	T Levels
			BTEC (extended) diploma / BTEC certificate / Advanced apprenticeship / NVQ 3
2	GCSE Grades 4-9 (C, B, A or A*)		BTEC first diploma / Intermediate apprenticeship / NVQ 2
1	GCSE Grades 1-3 (D, E, F or G)		Foundation diploma / entry level qualifications / Traineeship / NVQ 1
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Academic route</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Vocational route</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Applied / work route</div> </div>			

***The Levels and types of qualifications are confusing! This chart is a useful reference to understand them.***

Unfortunately due to a number of factors we had 4 fixture cancellations this week! This was very frustrating but we look forward to a busy couple of weeks to get them replayed, along with our annual swimming gala taking place next week. Please see below for information:

## Swimming Gala

Next week, we hold our annual swimming gala. Please remind students to be aware of what day they are competing and to bring appropriate swimwear. If pupils have P.E at the same time as their year groups swimming gala, they will be able to watch from the seating area!



***Ready for the Swimming Gala***

Please see below a schedule for the week:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Year group</u>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Period 5	1.45-2.45pm	Year 8
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Period 4	11.45 – 12.45pm	Year 10
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Period 2	9.25-10.25am	Year 7
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Period 5	1.45-2.45pm	Year 9
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Period 3	10.45-11.45am	Year 11

Next week promises to be much more eventful with three exciting fixtures in place. Here are the fixtures for next week:

### Fixtures Next Week

<u>Date</u>	<u>Fixture</u>	<u>Expected Arrival back at SJC</u>
07/03/2023	U15 Football vs T'More (H) – Croydon League	(H)
08/03/2023	Chelsea Futsal XI vs USP (A)	5pm
09/03/2023	U14 Rugby vs Rutlish (A) – South London Rugby League	3.30pm – 4pm



# EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

Day	Morning	Break	Lunchtime 1	Lunchtime 2	After School
<b>Monday</b>	Y7-9 Basketball Sports Hall	Y7-13 Well-being Club LS04	Y7,10 and 11 Well-being Club LS04  Y11 Chelsea FC Futsal Sports Hall	Y8 and 9 Well-being Club Week 1 only LS04  Y8, 9 Band Practice Week 1 MU01  Y12 Sport Masterclass Programme (Week 2) LRC2/V002	Y7 STEM Club (October – Christmas and February – Easter) SC04  Y7-9 Creative Writing Club N25  Y12 Sport Masterclass Programme (Week 1) LRC2/V002  Y11 Chelsea FC Futsal Sports Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	Y10-11 Basketball Sports Hall	Y7-13 Well-being Club Week 2 only LS04	Y7,10 and 11 Well-being Club LS04  Y7,10 and 11 Band Practice Week 2 MU01  Y7,10 and 11 Beginners' German Club MFL (1.00-1.30pm) S16  Y7,10 and 11 Scrabble Club N14  Y7,10 and 11 Model United Nations (Week 1) LS02  Y7,10 and 11 SJC Christian Union (Week 1) S13  Y12-13 and elite Y11 Chelsea FC Futsal Sports Hall	Y8 and 9 Well-being Club LS04  Y8 and 9 Beginners' German Club MFL (1.00-1.30pm) S16	Y10-13 Art Catch-Up H12/13  Y7-9 Basketball (Week 1) Sports Hall  Y12-13 and elite Y11 Chelsea FC Futsal (Week 2) Sports Hall  Y7-10 Debate mate S14
<b>Wednesday</b>		Y7-13 Music Open House HD2  Y10 and 11 Mandarin Speaking Club S16  Y7-13 Well-being Club Week 1 only LS04	Y7,10,11 Well-being Club LS04  Y7-13 Pokémon club S14  Y7 Mandarin Speaking Club (1.00- 1.30pm) S16	Y8 and 9 Well-being Club LS04  Y8 and 9 Mandarin Speaking Club (1.00- 1.30pm) S16  Y8 and 9 SJC Christian Union (Week 1) S13	Y10-13 Art Catch-Up H12/13  Y7-11 Drama Club HD1  Y7-13 Philosophy and Film Club S13  Y7-9 Football training Fields  Y9-10 Football Training Meadows
<b>Thursday</b>	Y7-13 Handball Sports Hall	Y7-13 Well-being Club Week 2 only LS04	Y7,10 and 11 Well-being Club LS04  Year 11 Chelsea FC Futsal Sports Hall	Y8 and 9 Well-being Club Week 1 only LS04  Code Club S22	Y7-9 Fantasy Football League S13  Y7-9 MFL Quiz Time S04 and Virtual  Y7-13 Chess Club NO2  Y7-9 Rugby Squad Training Meadow  Y10-11 Gym Club Fitness Suite  Y11 Chelsea FC Futsal Sports Hall
<b>Friday</b>	Y7-10 Swimming Club Pool	Y7-13 Well-being Club LS04	Y7,10 and 11 Well-being Club LS04  Y7,10 and 11 Singing Club MU01  Y7,10 and 11 Model United Nations (Week 2) LS02	Y8 and 9 Well-being Club LS04  Y8,9,12 and 13 Scrabble Club N14	Y7 and 12 Peter Jones Club H21/22

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## School pantomime

The school pantomime will be on Friday the 10th of March at 6pm.

This year will be the intriguingly titled 'Sno Wite' and it promises to be a fantastic production. Students have been working incredibly hard for months and it will be a brilliant evening! Tickets are £5 for adults and £2 for children. Please pay in cash on the door.

## Quiz night

Our PTA have announced that there will be a quiz night open to all parents. Friday 28th April 2023, 5:30 – 7:30. Entry £3 per person. 7/8 people per team. Tickets will be available on Parent pay and from the school office.



## GCSE PODs

*Well done to the top achievers on GCSE POD this week!*

### Year 10

- 1 Abdurrahman Arief
- 2 Denis Furculita
- 3 Wesley Goma

### Year 11

- 1 Jacob Laurent-Cummins
- 2 Alvin Kodjo Baafi Okyere
- 3 Rhys Evans

# UPCOMING DATES

**Monday 6th March** - *Deadline for Year 9 GCSE Options choices.*

**Friday 10th March** - *School Pantomime*

*Year 13 will continue to have PPE exams throughout next week.*

