



ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

The Newsletter of St Joseph's College

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has been one of coming together as a community. Chapel assemblies have been taking place all week, with our Safer Community Officers coming in to talk to year groups about keeping themselves safe outside of school and when operating online.

On Monday, we began the celebrations for Founders' week and St. John Baptist de La Salle, Patron Saint of all Teachers. The Lasallian mission embodies the vision and innovative spirit of sharing the vast range of activities that students can take part in at St Joseph's College.

It was an absolute pleasure to interview some of our future 6th Form Leaders, alongside the Director of 6th Form and RSL for PSHE. 6th Formers put themselves forward for student leadership positions next year. Best of luck to all candidates.

The summer exam season is now well underway, with the first week completed – keep up the focus and determination Year 11!

Next week is the final week of term before the summer half-term break. When we return on Monday 29th May, students in Year 7-10 will begin sitting their end of year assessments. Students have been receiving revision information from their subject teachers.

Lord our God, we thank you that we have often felt you close to us. We thank you that you are near us and that you strengthen the weak. Remember us and give each one the help he needs to be true to his calling. Remember all humankind and grant that we may go forward in spirit and in truth.

God bless,

Mr G Mantillas

As we close Founder's Week, we remember the importance and influence of St John Baptiste de La Salle.

80 Countries

1,130 Schools

3,230 Brothers in 590 communities

103,500 Lasallian staff in education

1,039,250 Students 64 Colleges & Universities

A Prayer for Students taking Exams

Dear Lord,
As I prepare to take my exams,
I come before you with a humble heart.
Grant me clarity of mind and sharpness of memory.
Guide my thoughts and help me recall all that I have learned.

In moments of doubt, be my source of strength.
In moments of anxiety, be my calming presence.
In moments of weariness, renew my energy.

Help me to approach my exams with confidence,
knowing that I have done my best in my studies.
Remind me that my worth is not determined by my grades,
but by the love and grace you have bestowed upon me.

Amen

Lasallian Award Winner!

We had many students taking part in the Lasallian Award this year. I would like to say congratulations to Olu (Y13) who was the winner of the Lasallian Platinum Award!

He completed his activities looking at the history of the Lasallian Order and detailing the importance of the Lasallian ethos in his life.

Again, congratulations Olu, the Brothers were very impressed by your work.



Kintbury retreat

On Friday, 19th May, a group of boys went on a retreat at our Lasallian Retreat Centre, St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury. We hope it was an enjoyable and meaningful experience for all of the students who participated.

Exam Season

Exams can be a challenging and stressful time for students, as they are often faced with the pressure to perform well and achieve good grades.

As Catholics, there are several aspects of faith that can provide guidance and support during this period of academic testing. Overleaf is a reflection on exams from a Catholic perspective:

Here is a reflection on exams and guidance from a Catholic perspective. Exams can be hugely stressful, engaging with the messages and teachings of God can be massively helpful at this important time.

1. Trust in God's Plan: Remember that God has a plan for each individual's life, and academic exams are just one part of that journey. Place your trust in God and seek His guidance and strength as you prepare for and take your exams. Offer your efforts and intentions to God, recognising that ultimately, your worth is not solely determined by your academic performance.

2. Seek Wisdom: In the book of Proverbs, it is written, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10). As you study for your exams, approach your academic pursuits with a humble and reverent attitude. Pray for wisdom and understanding. Remember that true knowledge is not just about memorising facts but also about understanding and applying them in a meaningful way.

3. Practice Diligence: The Catholic faith encourages the virtue of diligence, which is the commitment to hard work and perseverance. By practicing diligence, you are honouring the gifts and talents God has given you and making the most of the opportunities presented to you.

4. Seek Support and Guidance: Just as we are part of a faith community, we are also part of a broader academic community. Don't hesitate to seek support and guidance from teachers, mentors, and friends. Additionally, don't forget to lean on your family and friends for emotional support.

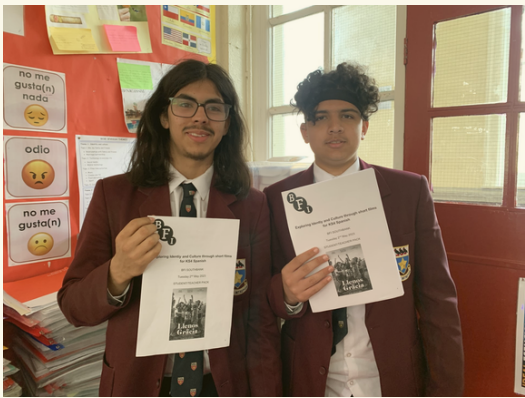
5. Maintain Balance: While exams are important, it is crucial to maintain a balanced approach to life. Take care of your physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Get enough sleep, eat nutritious meals, and engage in physical activity. Take breaks from studying to relax and recharge. Spend time in prayer, attend Mass, and nurture your relationship with God. Remember that your worth as a person is not solely defined by your academic achievements, but by your character, integrity, and love for others.

6. Embrace God's Grace: Remember that no matter the outcome of your exams, God's grace is always available to you. If you have done your best, trust in His mercy and love. If you feel disappointed or discouraged, offer your disappointments to God and seek His guidance on how to move forward. Remember that failure or setbacks in academics do not define your worth or potential. Allow God's grace to guide you, inspire you, and strengthen you in both success and challenges.

Ultimately, as a Christian student, it is important to approach exams with a perspective that goes beyond grades and achievements. Embrace the opportunity to grow intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally during this time. Trust in God's plan, seek wisdom, practice diligence, seek support, maintain balance, and embrace God's grace.

BFI Trip

Our Year 10 and Year 11 students visited the BFI to attend the "Exploring Identity and Culture through short films" course. They had the chance to watch the UK premier of the film "Llenos de Gracia" a fun and charming Spanish movie with a lot of amusement and entertainment dealing with a boarding school for boys threatened with closure. The story is loosely based on that of Valdo Lopes, a Real Madrid footballer.



Excited Year 10 students

The Duke of Edinburgh award

The Duke of Edinburgh expedition will be taking place in July. Mr Daly and Mr Henry are really proud of all the fantastic work that the participants have been completing as many of them near the end of their physical, skill and volunteering activities. A big shout-out to James Okunola in 9 Brooklands who has already submitted one assessor report for his physical. Well done, James!

If your son is interested in completing the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award, starting in September 2023, come and speak to Mr Daly (SC11) and Mr Henry (N24).

Mandarin:

Well done to our Year 10 Mandarin Excellence Programme students who sat their HSK 3 examination.

The HSK (Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi) is the globally recognized Mandarin Proficiency Test for non-native speakers such as foreign students and overseas Chinese.

The 90 minute exam consisted of 40 listening questions, 30 reading questions, and 10 writing questions.

Fingers crossed all their hard work will have paid off!

Year 11 Prefects

Last week saw the last prefect meetings and prefect duties as the Year 11 prefects start their GCSE exams. We thank you all for your service, you have all performed your roles with diligence and respect. Good luck with your exams.



Thank you for your service

Cartridge recycling

At St Joseph's we are committed to recycling. Over the last 3 years Mr Jacobs and Mr Mijewski have been recycling cartridges and raising money for Saint Christopher's. We have raised over £250 so far!

EXAMINATIONS

Exam season has come around again. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been sitting their GCSE and A level exams whilst KS3 have their end of year exams coming up very soon. This can be a stressful time of year for students and we have been doing all we can to make this easier for them. 'Examination' was our word of the week last week and this prompted lots of honest discussions in our Tutor sessions on our thoughts and feelings about exams and we were able to discuss ways of managing pressure and avoiding stress.



examination

Definition: a formal test of a person's knowledge or proficiency in a subject or skill.

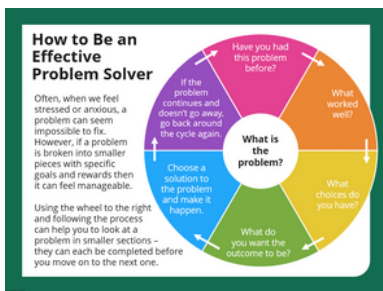
Word class: noun.

Context: first used in the late 14th century, found in France and born from the Latin term 'examinationem', meaning to weigh-up or ponder. As a means of 'testing knowledge' the word was first used in England during the early 1600s. Perhaps students were already being assessed on Shakespeare's plays then!

This week, exam seasons starts for all Year 11 and 13 students in the UK. This means that at SJC, lower site will be out-of-bounds so that those students can complete their exams. Please be respectful of this when walking around the college, particularly when near lower site and the sports hall!

Synonyms: test, assessment, paper, inspection, exercise, overview.

Our word of the week



A slide from a PSHE session

In our PSHE lessons we have been learning how to be resilient students and effective problem solvers.

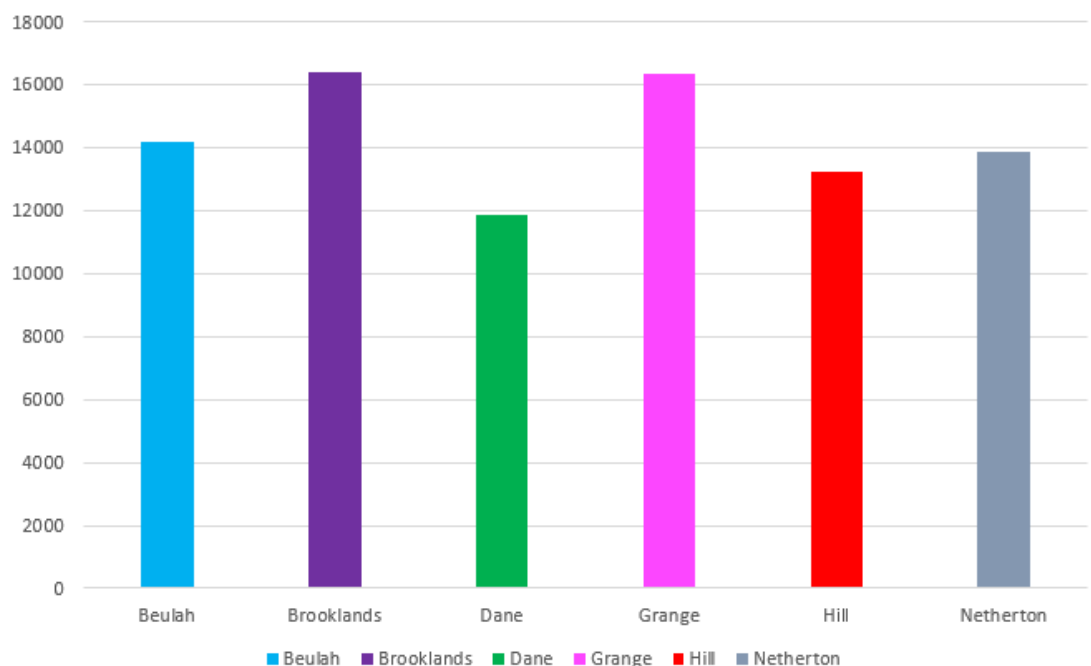
In addition to this we have also been learning about the importance of self care which includes getting a good night's sleep in order to consolidate your learning and your long-term memory.

HOUSE POINT UPDATE

Here is the house point update as we go into the final week of this half term.

As you can see Brooklands and Grange are neck and neck as we go into the home straight that is the last seven weeks. There is still time for anyone to win! Look out for some great House competitions in the coming weeks...

House points including competitions 19th May 2023



EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

Day	Morning	Break	Lunchtime 1	Lunchtime 2	After School
Monday	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
Tuesday	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
Wednesday		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
Thursday	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
Friday	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

THIS WEEK IN PE

Year 8 Croydon Athletics

On Monday 15th May, our Year 8 students headed down to Croydon Sports Arena to take part in the Croydon Schools Athletics Competition. It was a bright and windy day as the boys competed fiercely with the schools across Croydon, facing some tough competition. Not only did the boys compete superbly, but they were also a credit to the school in their behaviour and were fantastic representatives of St Joseph's College.

Congratulations to the following students who managed to earn themselves a medal:

- Emmanuel Sitso – Gold – 300m
- Jul Emanuel Izajar Balanta, Emmanuel Sitsi, Daniel Ekpenyong, Isaac Ekpenyong – Silver – 4 x 100m Relay
- Javarn Graham – White – Bronze - Discus
- Daniel Decker – Bronze – High Jump
- Daniel Ekpenyong – Bronze – 80m Hurdles



Worthy winners

Team: Jul Emanuel Izajar Balanta, Isaac Ekpenyong, Daniel Ekpenyong, Daniel Decker, Hugo Fagioli Marques, Ridwan Bowes, Tirae Campbell, Emmanuel Sitsi, Javarn Graham-White, Jayden Renner Dappa, Kevin Miguel, Jaiden Mosengo, Christopher Koah.

Well done to everyone who participated. You should all be immensely proud of your achievements.

House Football Tournament

This week saw the return of the annual 7 a side House Football tournament. This is always one of the most exciting House competitions in the calendar with everyone aiming to get bragging rights! Here are the winners for each year:

Year 7 - Brooklands

Year 8 - Netherton

Year 9 - Beulah/Dane

Year 10 - Brooklands/Hill/Netherton



Our Year 7 winners

HEWITTS DISCOUNT EVENT

Hewitts have a discount event coming up and it is going to be one of their biggest yet. It will be available in store and online, and there will be a 15% discount.

The sale will be from 22/05/23 - 28/05/23. It will be Hewitts only overall discount event before the school year starts again in September.

This could be a perfect time to buy all the uniform for next year at a cheaper price. Please note that the College does have some good quality second hand uniform for sale, this is to support parents in this difficult financial climate.



Hewitts of Croydon EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT EVENT
OUR BIGGEST EVER!

Shop Online or In-Store
That's right! This year our early bird discount is In-Store as well as Online...

15% OFF + Loyalty Stickers

Monday 22nd May 2023
until
Sunday 28th May 2023

Discount Automatically Applied
Discount is applied automatically at checkout online, and the cashier will apply it at the till in-store.

Terms & Conditions

- No other discounts can be used in conjunction with this offer. Sale items and certain items are excluded from any discount.
- **Direct-To-Parent schools are not eligible for discounts.**
- Our website is not linked to our stock levels, so out-of-stock items will be put on order. You will still get the discount if not cancelled (you can do this in-store as well).
- Orders may take several days to be dispatched due to high demand, we cannot inform you if something is out of stock until the order is processed.

This is Hewitts **ONLY** overall discount before back to school, so don't miss out!

GCSE PODs

Year 10

Year 11

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

1 Zidane Saqib
2 Brooklyn Boateng
3 Joseph Afranie

1 Jeremy Allotey-Babington
2 Darryl Asante - Yeboah
3 Reginald Nyarko

UPCOMING DATES

Examinations continue throughout next week.

Tuesday 23.05 - PSHE morning

Friday 26.05 - Students break up for half term.

