



ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

The Newsletter of St Joseph's College

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/ Carers

As we look back at another busy week at St Joseph's we are reminded of all the fantastic opportunities offered to our students. This week we had our first Life Skills day of the academic year. Students in Key Stage 4 and 5 had an opportunity to visit an on-site careers fair with many universities present as well as representatives from a wide range of careers. It was lovely to see students engaged in dialogue with external professionals. Other year groups undertook a wide range of activities focused on developing key skills.

Well done to all our Year 11 students who undertook Spanish and Mandarin speaking practice exams this week. We know this has provided invaluable experience ahead of the summer exams. We wish students good luck with their Pre-Public Examination revision, as they commence on November 7th.

We have reached the end of half term one. I wish you all a relaxing half term and hope all students have an opportunity to get plenty of rest and enjoy time with family and friends.

God Bless,

Mrs C Kane



When we look at the news, we may be worrying about the state of leadership in our country, we may be asking ourselves 'where have the leaders gone?' I want to assure you, there is honourable and strong leadership in our country, in our schools, our charities, our public services. These are the leaders that ensure our country continues to run and function, these are the leaders who support us from day-to-day. We thank God for these leaders.

Head teacher's Induction Mass

On Friday 14th October, we were delighted to welcome Canon Gerard Bradley who led the Induction Mass for the Headteacher. It was a historic day for the College, and it went very well!

This Mass would not have been possible without our student readers, altar servers and musicians. We thank all the Prayer Leaders and Student Leaders who attended the Mass also.



Beulah Tutee-led Assembly

For the first time since COVID, we have had our Tutee-led Chapel Assemblies. Thank you to the Beulah students who have led the Chapel assemblies, on St John Baptiste de La Salle. In particular to 9 Beulah and their particularly interactive Chapel assembly that included a video on a Lasallian school in India, and a Kahoot quiz!

Prayer for the Headteacher

[taken from the 'Mass of Induction of Mrs C Kane as Head Teacher']

God our Father, your Son told us to pray that we might receive the Holy Spirit. We now ask that this same Holy Spirit will strengthen, protect and guide Mrs Kane.

May she worthily fulfil the responsibilities given to her. Grant Mrs Kane ability in teaching, tolerance in relationships, patience in listening, skill in managing, wisdom and vision in all things. May she lead this College community each day in the ways of truth, love and justice. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

CAREERS DAY



On Thursday we had our Careers day which was a hugely enjoyable and educational experience for the whole school. Throughout the day each year participated in a number of interactive classes which helped them prepare and plan for their future careers.

A highlight for Year 7 was their bridge building team exercise! Using just spaghetti, sellotape and newspaper students had to construct bridges strong enough to support heavy weights. Well done to Beulah for their impressive winning structures!



The Year 9s enjoyed an exciting afternoon with the British Army! They completed different tactical challenges which tested their teamwork, intelligence and strategy skills.

Our KS4 and KS5 students enjoyed a fantastic careers fair on the day. This was a great opportunity to meet representatives from several top universities as well as many different employers.





Mandarin Award

It has been a week of celebration for our Year 11 Mandarin students.

Firstly, we have been celebrating 5 of our students passing their HSK3 examinations!

Huge congratulations to Nathan Hadgu, Abdul Sadiq, Muhammad Khalifa, Stanley Zheng and Aadam Effendi.

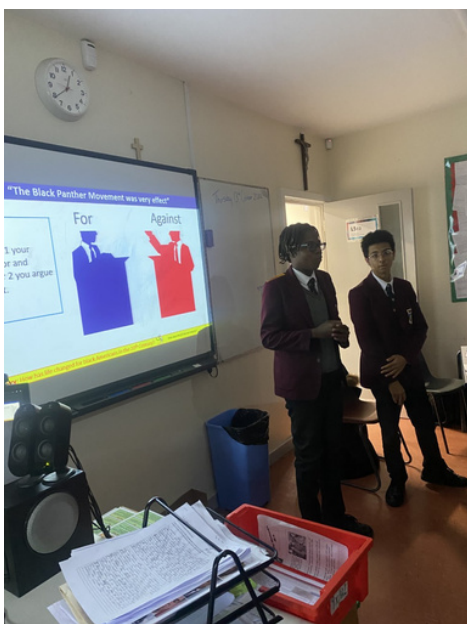
The HSK3 language examination is extremely challenging, and they should be incredibly proud of their achievements. Well done!



The winning year 11s

Additionally, it was with great excitement that we were able to unveil our Tourism Project Trophy.

In the summer term, our (then) Year 10s worked incredibly hard on a Tourism Project creating an advertising campaign to attract Chinese tourists to London. The SJC students worked with their usual vim and vigour and produced fantastic posters and videos. The winning trophy was well deserved and has pride of place in the Mandarin classroom.



This week in History, Abishek Srirooban of 7 Beulah was crowned King William the Conqueror by Archbishops of Canterbury George and Tomisin.

The privy council decided he was the best person to rule after Edward the Confessor.

GOD SAVE THE KING!



Book review of the week from Harman Singh Y11

Under Western Eyes by Joseph Conrad.

The novel follows the story of Mr Razumov, a university student in St Petersburg. When he was returning, home, from his lecture he find the door of his apartment open; he now, suspects that someone has snuck in.

Surprisingly he finds a companion, named: Haldin. Haldin is a respected student in the university and when Razumov finds that Haldin partook in the assassination of a minister, he is baffled and confounded by the news. But he does not have time to reflect upon it as Haldin has imposed a task upon him, he has to find a way to get him out of the city, Haldin suggests going to one of the slums where the needy would do anything for money. Without any lament or thoughts, Razumov follows Haldin's order. But on his way, he starts to reflect on the reason why he is doing all of this. Does he need to help Haldin? Does he share the same violent view? Will our protagonist Mr Razumov betray his fellow student or he will side with the revolutionist?

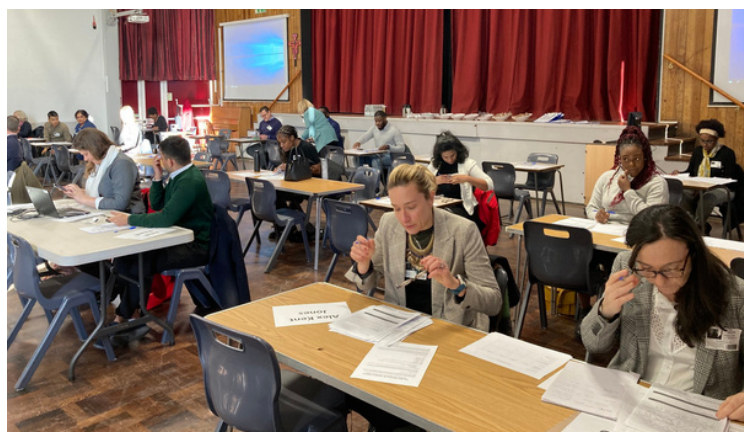
In this novel issues such as the Russian nationalist nature and the understanding of the very Russian soul are dealt with.

I believe that the writer stunningly depicts the life of a man who faces moral and physical conflict. Furthermore, in my opinion, the writer beautifully crafts a complex narrative where we see Mr Razumov interlocked between political trouble and dilemmas.

Thank you Harman for this thoughtful and impressive review.



Our year 7s enjoyed constructing models out of atoms this week in their science lessons with Ms Weatherhead-Featherston. It was a very hands on week in science with Year 9s building their very own rockets!



The Big Interview

Could you spare some time on Monday 21st November to offer our year 11 students a practice interview? We have held this event for several years and it is so valuable in preparing our students for their next steps. Please email rcashmore@sjc.ac for more information, we look forward to meeting you!

THIS WEEK IN PE

It has been a great first half term, 25 fixtures overall and seeing the most we have ever had at extracurricular clubs – especially rugby, gym and swimming which has been a real highlight for the whole PE department. Well done to all students who have been brilliant from the very beginning of the year.

Football

There were 3 football fixtures this week. The U14s kicked us off with a Croydon League fixture at home to Coombe Wood. It was a thrilling 9-5 win for us with some brilliant goals! Messie Kabamba kept up his top form scoring 5 on the day, which makes it 8 goals in 3 games from him. The U12s unfortunately lost in a tight affair in the Surrey cup. It was a 2-1 defeat with Alan Gniewek getting on the scoresheet again. Our final football fixture of the week saw the U15s travel to Coombe Wood in the league. 2-2 the final score, with the standout performance coming from Mishael Konan who bossed the game from start to finish.

Futsal

Our sixth formers had been very keen to play their first game of the season and it finally came against Newham college. Unfortunately, it resulted in a 12-4 defeat. We go again after half term!

Rugby

Our U14s took the long trip to Southborough High School in Kingston. We gave a real account of ourselves and showed a massive improvement from the last game. We played against arguably the strongest team in the league and managed to score 5 wonderful tries. Orion Lecky was our man of the match and scored 3 tries! Well done, despite narrowly losing 27-36 it was a fantastic performance by everybody on the team.

Thank you Mr Quinn for this update.



Basketball update

On Thursday, we hosted our Year 7 Basketball trial. The final squad will be announced after half term. 30 boys turned out for this. A fantastic effort from all involved, well done boys!



HOUSE UPDATE

Here are some of the highlights of house competitions this term!

Geography competition

Congratulations to Harmon in 11Hill for his excellent entry to the geography competition, securing 300 points for his house!

The Big debate

Our first whole school competition was a raging success. Students from across all year groups worked together to be titled the Ultimate Debate Champions. It was no shock to anyone when the ever-impressive Grange stole the show for the 2nd year in a row, bagging a coveted 600 points for their house.

Next half term we have art, maths, and DT competitions to look forward to, as well as our first ever Big Table quiz! Not to mention the winners of our spooky story writing contest will be announced.

As always,
May the best house win!

Thank you Ms Canavan for the update.

GCSE PODS

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

Year 10:

1 Dan Soji

2 Samuel Quintero

3 Caden Alexander Vinluan

Year 11:

1 Dylan Pintor

2 Michael Modzaku

3 Anugrah Joshy

Top Podders for the half term are:

Year 10: Dan Soji

Year 11: Hussain Malida

UPCOMING DATES

Monday 24.10 - Friday 28.10 - Half term break

Monday 31.10 - Staff inset day

Tuesday 01.11 - All students return to school,
everybody should be on site by 08:15

