

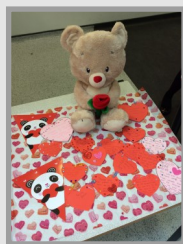
## Friendship Week 10th -14th Feb 2020

During friendship week, our pupils have been taking part in many different activities throughout school which have been highlighting the importance of friendship and being kind. From Monday 10th, our main doors have been adorned with this fabulous anatomical heart produced by pupils in their art lessons. The scientists amongst us have been extremely impressed with the accuracy!



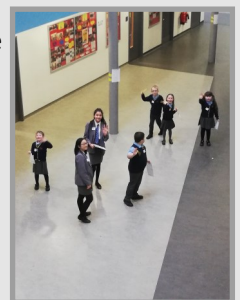
The theme for this week's assemblies was to celebrate our fabulous pupils with an Awards Assembly. During each assembly the pupils were awarded for having outstanding attendance. Two pupils per tutor group received an award from their tutor and as a special treat, one pupil per tutor group were given an Invite to 'Treats with the Head' in which they have a free lesson and buffet in the library.

For some of our Year 8 pupils they got to take part in a transition friendship activity. 31 pupils from one of St Aloysius' Year 2 classes came to school on Thursday 13th February. The Year 2 teacher informed us that it had been like Christmas in her class because the pupils were so excited to come to our school. What made the morning extra special was that the 12 Year 8 pupils had previously been the Year 2 children's buddies when they were in year 6. As they arrived at reception their eyes lit up as they recognised their Year 6 buddies even though they looked a little bit older and were in a different uniform. They were treated to friendship crafts in the library before being escorted around our school on a treasure hunt. It's a big building for little legs! To replenish their energy they returned to their base



in the Resource Centre to make biscuits, eat them (of course) and have a drink of juice. One little boy was heard to say 'This has been the best day ever!'.

Look out for more stories on our friendship activities in the next edition of St Joseph's



## Gymnastic Success

By Rosie Hepburn and Anna Ridge.

Olivia Parker, one of our Year 11 students, is an extremely talented gymnast. She is very dedicated and trains for three and a half hours a day. She has been doing this from a very young age and has developed a wide variety of skills throughout the 10 years she has been competing.

Last summer she competed in the European Championships in Israel. Hard work and dedication got her there. Olivia's advice: Be patient and stick at it.

## SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Lead in school is: Mrs Hammill, Deputy Headteacher Pastoral:  
0191 428 2700



Governor linked to Safeguarding: Mrs Kilgour, Chair of Governors: 0191 427 1717

You can find further information about safeguarding including our Safeguarding policy and our Safeguarding team on our school website.

# Creative Writing

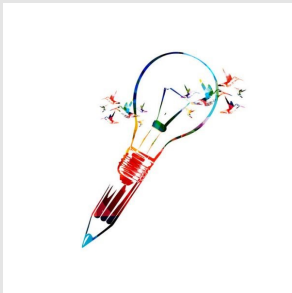
By Ruth Nwokobia

The Trinity High School writing project was started by past pupil of St Joseph's, Terri-Leigh Riley, who now works with Ali Smith, a famous author. Their vision was to begin a project that encourages young people to be creative!

This year the theme is "In common" and it made the students think about not only our differences but our similarities too. Sketches, poems, plays and stories are all accepted (anything creative).

This is an ongoing project to ultimately allow some students to visit Cambridge University for a day of celebration of creativity. There are various activities to inspire the students and encourage them to let their creativity run wild!

Terri-Leigh is the main inspiration for this project. She was quiet in school and never would have dreamed of something like this. This is why we want to encourage anyone who wants to be creative and to step out and make sure their talent isn't wasted. Speak to Mrs McEwen (English) for further details/information.



## Mandarin

By Rosie Hall and Kate Wold.

Since year 7, we have been learning Mandarin. Over the past two years we have learned a variety of different topics, such as greetings, family, food and pets. It has been very interesting to learn about the different cultures and get to learn about traditions and events that take place across the Chinese calendar.

Whilst studying this language we have had the opportunity to try traditional Chinese food. When we were at the restaurant we even tried using chop sticks! We also took part in decorating plates using Chinese symbols.

One year 8 student, Anna, said "It's a great opportunity but it can be challenging. It is very enjoyable though."

Another student, Jay, said "I like the fact that we can learn more characters and it's an interesting language."

We can't wait to learn more!

# Our girls solved the problem!

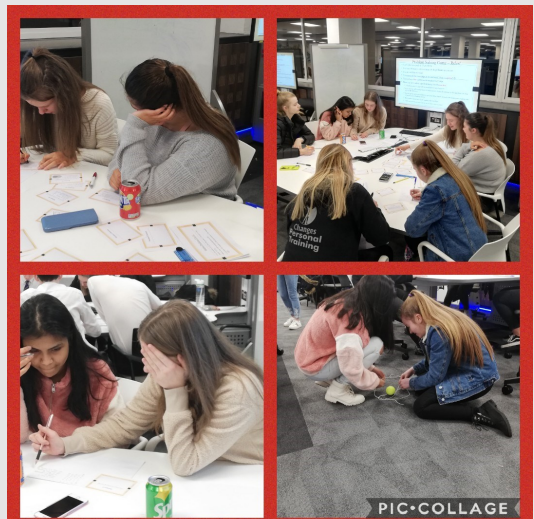
On 31st January a group of six Year 11 girls took part in a problem solving event at Newcastle University. The event, which took place after school, involved several rounds of problems to be solved. The first was to move 3 tennis balls into a box with only string allowed to touch the ball.

Following a discussion debating 'what a problem is?' the girls were then given a set of problems to solve. They needed to work as a team to earn as many points as possible. They earned points for their working out as well as the correct answer. At the end of the evening, each team counted up their points and our all girl team had earned 48 points which meant that they took the victory from Whitburn Comprehensive school by 1 point. Well done girls!

How would you do? Can you solve the problem?

**Three numbers have a mean of 23. Two of the numbers have a mean of 12. Two of the numbers have a mean of 30.**

**What are the 3 numbers?**



# MEET THE TEACHER

By Ruth Nwokobia

Name: Mr Willis

Why did you come to St Joseph's? I was looking for the next step in teaching and becoming Head of Biology, as I have been teaching for years. I found the staff at St Joseph's very friendly and heard that the students are well behaved so I came here.

What did you study at university? I studied natural sciences at Cambridge University.

Why did you decide to become a teacher? My mum was a Maths Teacher and taught in all sorts of places including a male prison. She was my role model and inspired me to go into teaching as well. I want to be a part of educating the people of the future.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to do well in science? My advice would be to work hard, look for science outside of the classroom, ask more questions to your teachers about anything you may not understand, take opportunities to go to science clubs or trips and read more about it.

What other things do you do outside of school? I attend Church every Sunday and spend lots of time with my two children.

Fun Facts about yourself?

- I've served in the army for 5 years.
- I've travelled to 30 countries.
- I enjoy adventurous activities e.g. skiing.



## 6TH FORM TASTER DAY

By Emily Martin

On Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, Year 11 were given the opportunity to experience a day in the life of Year 12. Most students had a thought-provoking time and enjoyed experiencing lessons which are not available at GCSE. I chose psychology, which turned out to be a very popular option. The overview of the subject was very interesting and appealing, and likely to be one of my subject choices for A-level.

Another popular A-level option was Art. This caused some crowded classrooms. All of the students who took part in the taster day are longing for September so we can properly experience a scenery change, and especially a uniform change as we've been in it for 5 years.

Students enjoyed the day which ended with an interesting talk from a local University. Overall, everyone had a great day and is looking forward to being a part of Year 12 in September!



# SUPPORTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

A key area the school council are focusing on this year is how we can help support the Environment. Our long term aim is to move towards becoming a plastic-free school. Plastic is composed of major toxic pollutants. Plastic pollution is when plastic has gathered in an area and began to negatively impact the natural environment and create problems for plants, wildlife, and even the human population. Plastic is an incredibly useful material, but because it is meant for durability, it is not biodegradable.

Some of the changes which have already occurred are:

- ◆ Cookies are no longer served in a plastic wrapping.
- ◆ Plastic straws are to be replaced by paper straws
- ◆ Plastic cups in the refectory for slushes and milkshakes are to be replaced by a recyclable 'take-away coffee- cup' style
- ◆ Plastic cups in first aid are to be replaced by a paper cone style cup
- ◆ 'Switch off the light switch' signs have been placed beside light switches in school. Thank you to Laura Innes and Nicholas Balls for your winning entries.
- ◆ Members of the school council – and 9D2 – have volunteered for weekly litter picks.
- ◆ The heating temperature has also been lowered and teachers have been asked to keep windows closed as much as possible to retain the heat in the building



Further to this, we encourage students to bring refillable water bottles to school rather than single use bottles, as well as avoiding using plastic carrier bags to continue to support our Environment.

But it doesn't stop there...

Miss Oliver is taking four year 9 students, Olivia Hall, Grace Ford, Connor Bray and Aaron Whyte, to South Shields Town Hall to be part of South Tyneside's Youth Parliament events which are focusing on Climate Change 2020. We cannot wait to see what further ideas our representatives wish to bring into our school.

Miss Bradbury has established an eco-council who are working towards achieving Eco-Schools Status for St. Joseph's. They are currently working towards the bronze award and have decided to focus on **litter, waste and school grounds**. Watch this space for further updates on their progress!



On a serious note, we are committed to supporting our Environment however the **greatest** change can happen by everyone doing the smallest of deeds. Together, we can achieve great and wonderful things for our school and the local area.

## A ROWING SUCCESS

Four of our pupils qualified for the Tyne & Wear indoor rowing finals. Even though the competition was fierce, Ellen Kirkup took the gold medal in the Year 7 girls event. Bethany Summerley came 4th and Sophie Perry 5th. A true reflection of potential in this up and coming sport.



### FIFTEEN APPS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

<b>MEETME</b>  MEETME IS A DATING SOCIAL MEDIA APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE BASED ON GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY AS THE APP'S NAME SUGGESTS. USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MEET EACH OTHER IN PERSON.	<b>GRINDR</b>  GRINDR IS A DATING APP DESIGNED TOWARDS GAY, BI AND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE. THE APP OWNS USERS' LOCATIONS TO CHAT, SHARE PHOTOS AND MEET UP BASED ON A PRESET GROUNDING LOCATION.	<b>SKOUT</b>  SKOUT IS A LOCATION-BASED SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITE. WHILE USERS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ARE NOT ABLE TO SHARE PRIVATE PHOTOS, KIDS CAN EASILY CREATE AN ACCOUNT USING A DIFFERENT AGE.
<b>WHATSAPP</b>  WHATSAPP IS A POPULAR MESSAGING APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO SEND TEXTS AND VOICE CHATS WITH INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS. WHATSAPP USES AN INTERNET CONNECTION ON SMART PHONES AND COMPUTERS.	<b>TIKTOK</b>  TIKTOK IS A NEW MOBILE ONLY APP POPULAR WITH KIDS USED FOR CREATING AND SHARING SHORT VIDEOS WITH OVER 100 MILLION USERS. IT IS VULNERABLE TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND EXPLICIT CONTENT.	<b>BADOO</b>  Badoo IS A DATING AND SOCIAL NETWORKING APP WHERE USERS CAN CHAT, SHARE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS. BASED ON LOCATION, WHILE THE APP IS INTENDED FOR ADULTS ONLY, TEENS ARE ABLE TO CREATE PROFILES.
<b>BUMBLE</b>  BUMBLE IS SIMILAR TO THE POPULAR DATING APP TINDER. HOWEVER, IT REQUIRES WOMEN TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE. ONLINE FRAUDS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO USE BUMBLE TO CONTACT VICTIMS AND FALSIFY THEIR AGE.	<b>SNAPCHAT</b>  SNAPCHAT IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR APPS IN RECENT YEARS. WHILE THE APP PROMISES USERS CAN TAKE A PHOTO/VIDEO AND IT WILL DISAPPEAR, NEW FEATURES INCLUDING STORIES ALLOW USERS TO VIEW CONTENT FOR UP TO 24 HOURS.	<b>KIK</b>  KIK ALLOWS ANYONE TO CONTACT AND DIRECT MESSAGE. IN RECENT YEARS, KIDS CAN BYPASS PROTECTIVE MEASURES. KIK COVERS USERS' REAL NAMES AND ACCESS TO ANYONE ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
<b>LIVE.ME</b>  LIVE.ME IS A LIVE STREAMING VIDEO APP THAT USES LOCATION TO SHARE VIDEO. LIVE.ME USERS CAN EASILY FIND EXACT LOCATION. USERS CAN EASILY COME AS A GUEST TO ANY MINORS FOR PHOTOS.	<b>HOLLA</b>  HOLLA IS A REAL TIME AIMED 'ADVERTISING' VIDEO CHAT APP THAT HELPS USERS TO MEET PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD. IN RECENT YEARS, REVIEWERS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN CONTACTED WITH RACIAL, SEXUAL, SCITIC COMMENTS.	<b>WHISPER</b>  WHISPER IS AN ANONYMOUS SOCIAL NETWORKING APP THAT PROMOTES SHARING SECRETS WITH FRIENDS. IT ALSO ALLOWS USERS TO CHECK OUT OTHER PEOPLE'S SECRETS. THE GOAL OF THIS APP IS TO 'POOR UP'.
<b>ASK.FM</b>  ASK.FM IS KNOWN FOR CYBER BULLYING. THE APP ALLOWS ANYONE TO ASK THEM QUESTIONS.	<b>CALCULATOR%</b>  CALCULATOR% IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL APPS USED TO HIDE PHOTOS, VIDEOS, FILES AND BROWSER HISTORY.	<b>HOT OR NOT</b>  HOT OR NOT ENCOURAGES USERS TO RATE YOUR PROFILE. CHECK OUT PEOPLE IN YOUR AREA AND THE GOAL OF THIS APP IS TO 'POOR UP'.