



Message from the Head

As we enter another week of lockdown welcome to the latest edition of our Journal. Today we celebrate VE day from our homes and virtually. As a community we have been involved in producing a VE day singalong to 'We'll Meet Again' which was a lovely tribute to the occasion. Checkout the links on Facebook/Twitter and other media outlets <https://vimeo.com/415996949> – we may even make the local news, fingers crossed! We continue to get used to using the Google Classroom for our online learning as we await the latest announcements from the government, let's wait and see what they have to say. Next week would have marked the onset of the GCSE and A-level exam series, instead this year it marks the biggest disruption to education since WW2 – a historic moment. Remember: if you have any issues accessing the online classroom materials then please refer to the instructions on the 'Home Study Portal' and send any enquiries to homestudyhelp@stjosephs.uk.net. Enjoy reading through the rest of the Journal and stay safe. *Mr Mitchell*

YOU are our home study heroes

Over the past few weeks we have been sent some fantastic work from you, our home study heroes. Here is a selection of the work - you are all amazing and your teachers are looking forward to receiving your work via Google classroom from now on.



Reflection

One of my favourite ever quotes is this: "going to Church doesn't make you any more of a Christian than standing in a garage makes you a car". Too many people think that being a Christian is a one hour a week Mass done on a Saturday or Sunday and that's it for the week. But during May, Pope Francis asks us all to reflect on how we can 'be more Christian' i.e. what can we actually do to be Christian? Jesus taught his disciples that he had come 'to serve, not to be served' i.e. to be a servant of mankind rather than someone who was to be worshipped. As Christians we too need to try to serve others in any way we can. For some inspiration this week on how you can serve others enjoy this Christian Style Gangnam Style parody! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dHWuRwG5SOo&t=26s>

Lord, help us to serve you and our communities in any way we can. Inspire us to live out your message in all that we do and help us to BE ministers of your love in all that we do this week. Amen. *Mr Young*

SAFEGUARDING

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Staff News

Let's see what the staff of St Joseph's have been doing during lockdown

Mrs Muir is enjoying growing plants from seed. Here are runner beans, courgettes, cucumbers and also some flowers. It's fun to see how quickly they grow. Why not try it for yourself?



Mr Horncastle has been growing a beard - do you think he will still have it when we get back to school?

In the McEwen household they held their own decorated egg competition. Mrs McEwen was not happy that her egg (Trump) did not win! Hannah's Egg Head Chris was crowned 'The Best McEwen Paste Egg'. Do you agree with their judges?



DT Challenge

Homemade vegetable soup

2 Potatoes, 2 Carrots, 2 Onions and 1 stock cube. You also add any other veg that can be grated eg turnip or finely cut leeks.



Peel and chop one potato, carrot and onion into small pieces. Add these to the pan with water. Next grate the other potato, carrot and onion and add these to the pan. Finally add the stock cube and heat on a medium

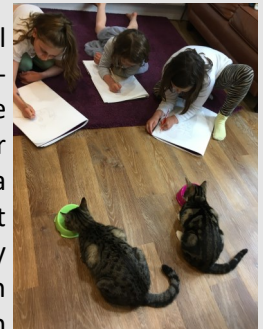
heat until the chopped veg is soft. Enjoy!

Remember to ask an adult to help you with the chopping and always wash your hand before and after.

Take a picture and send it to us at homestudyhelp@stjosephs.uk.net

The return of the Corona Cats

In the 'Renwick Homeschool for Independent and Strong-Willed Girls Under 8', we have learnt the power of peer learning and the power of a positive mind. My youngest pre-school daughter initially struggled with the changes in routine that lock-down brought, but through striving to read, "like her sisters," she has completed all the phonics needed to get stuck into Biff and Chip (a literature classic). I have made her older, ugly sisters in charge of a daily letters and number lessons, which they love and is providing me with a 20 minutes break to focus on my Dinner Nanny and Caretaker duties! Here are the corona cats (from an earlier edition) modelling for the real life art lesson. *Mrs Renwick*



VE Day art work

Miss Berry has been making her own bunting to decorate her house ready for VE Day celebrations. We're sure you will all agree that she should be very proud!



WHAT WAS VE DAY?



Victory in Europe: 8th May 1945!

After six years of devastating war, Germany signed an unconditional surrender on **7th May 1945**. Finally, the war in Europe was at an end.

Interrupting its usual programming, the BBC broadcasted to the nation that the war in Europe was over and that the next day (8th May) would be a public holiday known as **VE Day**.

Huge crowds gathered in public spaces. This is Trafalgar Square, in London. There were more celebrations around the world, from the USA to Australia.

THE WAR ENDED IN EUROPE, BUT NOT ELSEWHERE

VE Day marked the end of conflict in Europe, but not the end of hardship. People still had family members serving abroad or confined in prisoner of war camps.

Many servicemen were sent to the Pacific to continue to fight. The war in the Pacific would continue until August 1945. Rationing in Britain would continue until 1954.

However, VE Day marked the point that people across Europe could begin to rebuild their lives.



Wellbeing: Managing worry

We are currently in very uncertain times and worrying about potential problems that may happen in the future may be an issue.

Worries tend to be practical or hypothetical (see table below).

Setting aside a planned worry time can be a great tool to stay in the present and help to manage hypothetical worries. For example, set aside ten minutes once or twice a day to write down your worries and concerns. Maybe categorise them into the two groups above and think about brainstorming different solutions to the problems and actions to take control before you end the worry time



Practical worries	Hypothetical worries
Usually are about problems that are based in the now and normally require action	Usually are 'what if...' and are possible with no evidence that they will definitely happen. You usually have no control over the outcome.

Exciting Art Project

The art department at St. Joseph's is delighted to announce our forthcoming collaboration with artist Greg McGee. This exciting new venture will give us all an opportunity to work together, to be expressive and visionary at this uncertain time.



This is a time to be creative with how we engage with each other, especially as a school community. We are an innovative bunch, and now is the time to embrace our ability to create, draw, and use colour and texture.

The aim of the project is to create art pieces which celebrate the strength of our school community and the new academy trust. The series of montages will be made up in individual schools and an exhibition in our locality from all participating schools, with schools' mottos and values visually intertwined at a school level and a trust level.

Locations for the exhibition of the art work will include city centre art spaces in Durham, Sunderland, South Tyneside and York. Office space used by the Academy and Trust will be perfect to display these large scale, aspirational compositions.

We have been told that a slideshow of images will be included for projection purposes. We are aiming to project images in the windows of York city centre art galleries, and will discuss similar events with Durham, Sunderland, and South Tyneside locations. This is an excellent opportunity for our school community to unite and create innovative artwork together. An animation by artist Greg McGee, with the project brief will be launched on the art Google classroom pages next Friday 15th May. Good luck guys!

Chris Cameron's lockdown story

I have been doing online masterclasses hosted by Sunderland University's media department. So far, these classes have been about digital marketing and how to write all of your ideas down so you can turn them into the content you want to make. I've also got a masterclass next week looking at the distribution and development sides of media which isn't spoken about as much as production is. The lecturers are all part of the industry and have worked for places like the BBC and all3media. They have been amazing and I've learned a lot of new terminology I had previously never heard of, such as 'dynamic creative optimization'.

In other news, I have also been asked to create a vlog for UCAS as they have been wanting student content creators to make vlogs about their student life or any advice they have to share. I pitched the idea of making a vlog about tips for students writing a personal statement for a course they haven't studied academically before. I got a response with some guidelines and I'm in the process of creating that vlog. Once it is finished, it will likely be on their social media accounts. *Chris Cameron, Y13*

Your Journal needs you!

Have you learned a new skill?

Have you been doing something

special in lockdown?

Send your photos and a little description of what you have been doing during lockdown to:

homestudyhelp@stjosephs.uk.net

