

St. JOURNAL

Faith Friday

Learning

Respect



JOSEPH'S

29th

January

Message from the Head

I hope this week's newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and well. It does not come as a wholly unexpected surprise that schools will now be closed until March 8th for the majority of our students. Let us keep our fingers crossed that the vaccination program is on schedule to enable St. Joseph's to open to all as swiftly as possible. It can seem a little gloomy at the moment with March being quite a few weeks away yet, however it is with great pride that we have a personal letter from a past pupil inside this week's newsletter: award winning children's author David Almond. I hope you spend some time reading his message and his uplifting words. Next week is children's mental health week and I urge each and everyone of you to take steps to look after your mental well being at this time. Take some time for yourself doing what you enjoy most, take a break from the computer screen and try and get fresh air daily. Take care and stay safe,

Mr Mitchell

This week's book recommendation:

A Song For Ella Grey by David Almond

Claire is Ella Grey's best friend. She's there when the whirlwind arrives on the scene: catapulted into a North East landscape of gutted shipyards; of high arched bridges and ancient collapsed mines. She witnesses a love so dramatic it is as if her best friend has been captured and taken from her. But the loss of her friend to the arms of Orpheus is nothing compared to the loss she feels when Ella is taken from the world. This is her story - as she bears witness to a love so complete; so sure, that not even death can prove final.



A Poem by Robert Longley sky. It may at times be obscured

Stand up to the fury
Let the torrents rage
Keep things moving forward
Stand firm and turn the page

It's just part of the story

Remember the blue
by clouds,
but it is always there.

Remote Learning Support

A challenge to be won Remember to
check your emails by

A dragon for the slaying 8.45 each
day and to use [SupSo](#) as to meet the
morning sun

port@stjosephs.uk.net for any tech-
nical issues and the [homestudy-](#)

Tomorrow brings another
help@stjosephs.uk.net email for any

And more each passing day problems
with work itself

It's about how we get through it
It's how we find a way

This Week in History

27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day.

This year marks 76 years since
Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest of the
concentration camps, was liberated by
Soviet troops. We remember the 6
million Jewish victims of the Holocaust
and other victims of Nazi persecution.
This year's theme is to be the light in the
darkness. Students will study the

Holocaust as part of their year 9 History study.

25th January 1947 – Al Capone died. Al Capone and gang rivalry form part of the year 9 topic of Boom and Bust in America. This topic looks at the impact the Great Depression had on not only America but the rest of the twentieth century, helping students to understand what events shaped the modern world.

28th January 1547 – Henry VIII died. The Tudors are one of the topics studied in depth at A-Level at St Joseph's. Best known for his six marriages, and his disagreement with the Pope over his divorce with Catherine of Aragon.

St. Joe's Journal

Ethos Reflection

This strength reveals resilience
To deal with what lies in store
Facing each days challenge

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Leads in school are: Mr Mark Price Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Lewis-Dale Deputy Headteacher.



"Be the light in the darkness"

This week as a school community we have been reflecting upon one of the most poignant moments in our annual calendar; namely Holocaust Memorial Day. A day when we gather together to remember and bear witness to the atrocities carried out by mankind to mankind. A day where we remember genocides across the world and endeavour to ensure that we never let these happen again.

This week we are asking you all, our beloved school and parish community, to do all you can to 'be the light in the darkness'. When we think of the horrors of the Holocaust, the mass genocide began with a tiny seed; namely prejudice. A seed that grew into a bud of verbal discrimination, a shoot of physical discrimination which became a massive tree of racism, violence, ghettoization and finally mass-genocide.

We are called to extinguish the prejudice from this world, to challenge all forms of discrimination and stand up for what is right, just and holy. So brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray: **Lord,** Give us the confidence to stand up and challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination that we hear and see. Help us to bring a light of hope and love to the world and let us sow seeds of justice, equality, respect and pure Christian love in all those we meet, in the actions we do and the words we speak. **Amen.**

"We remember" - A Holocaust Memorial Trust video



Spiritual Art Challenge



This week I want to challenge you to design a piece of art work or a poem on the theme of

'Being the Light in the darkness' and why it is so important to remember the Holocaust and Genocides around the world.

By remembering and bearing witness to atrocities
like the Holocaust we work to ensure that it never

selection happens again. of the entries in next week's edition.
As part of our reflection this week, I ask you to

watch this Holocaust Memorial Day 2021 video

called 'We remember'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gT8ylgfVwYY>

If you would like to submit your entries by

Tuesday at 10am I will feature a

Please email any entries to

YoungA@stjosephs.uk.net

God bless and I greatly look forward to

seeing your entries next week.

A Letter from David Almond to St. Joseph's

David is a worldwide famous children's writer who has won the Carnegie Medal, Hans Christian Anderson Award and Eleanor Farjeon award.

He attended St. Joseph's as a teenager in the 1960's.

Hello, students of St Joseph's. How strange it is to be writing this to you, so long after I was a student at St Joseph's myself. I hope you're all OK, and managing to cope in these very weird times. I thought I'd let you know a bit about myself, how I was when I was your age, how I am now, how I managed to become an author.

I was born in Newcastle in a maternity hospital on the town moor – which has now been turned into some very fancy flats. I grew up in Felling, in a street called Thirlmere, in little council estate by Felling by pass. My first school was St John's Primary, on the banks of the Tyne. I went to St Joseph's after passing the 11+ - yes, they had such a thing in those days, an exam for 11 year olds which determined what kind of school you would go to. An exam that was a terrible, stressful, discriminatory thing that affected people for the rest of their lives. I was an ordinary kid from an ordinary family. My dad worked in the office of an engineering firm. My grandad was a bookie. My mam had been a typist but she suffered terribly with arthritis. I had four sisters and a brother. I was an altar boy at St Patrick's church until I was 13 or so.

I loved playing in the fields and streets and parks of Felling with my friends. I loved football and dreamed of playing for Newcastle (sorry, Sunderland fans!). I loved going to our little local library, which back then was just beside Felling Square. I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be a writer, and my other, stronger dream, was to see my own books on those library shelves one day. One of my uncles wrote stories and plays. None of them was ever published or performed, but he didn't really care. He wrote for the love of it, which is what I did, and still do. He was also a printer. He had a little printing shop on Felling High Street. When I was very young, I fell in love with printed pages in there and one of the things I still like most about being a writer is simply seeing the pages of my books – black print on white paper, so beautiful. I did OK at school, but I wasn't a brilliant student. My favourite lessons were biology and cookery – in fact, I believe I was the first boy at St Joseph's ever to do cookery. I loved reading and writing, and I wrote stories and poems for myself. None of my teachers knew that.

Young people often ask me what they should do if they want to become a writer, and the answer is simple, really. Just write. Write for yourself, write for the love of it. We all have amazing imaginations, and we have the roots of wonderful stories inside ourselves. Trust yourself and trust your own creativity. Read a lot. Don't become too fanciful. Yes, try to write something wonderful, but accept that you're just human - messy and imperfect. Be yourself and live your life. It's important to see that the most 'ordinary' lives are in fact extraordinary, and the most apparently 'insignificant' places can be the most important. My books are all set in the north east – on Tyneside, in Newcastle, in Northumberland. They are filled with the voices and accents of north eastern people like ourselves. And they're read all around the world, in over 40 languages.

I've written many books and plays and I've won many awards, including the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the world's most prestigious prize for children's authors. The best known book is Skellig, which has also become a film, a play and an opera. At the moment, I'm in the middle of writing a new novel. Some days I hate it and think it's terrible, some days I think, ah yes, it's OK. However I feel, I crack on with it. I'm hoping to finish at the end of February. We'll see. The next novel to be published is Bone Music, which comes out in April. It's set in Kielder in Northumberland. When it does come out, of course, I'll be very pleased. I'll be pleased for myself as I am now, as a grown man, but I'll also be pleased for that lad I was back then, scribbling away, playing football, running around Felling, sitting in classrooms in St Joseph's, a Tyneside lad filled with yearnings and dreams.

Anyway, it's great to write to you. Whoever you are, whatever you want to do with your life, try to believe in yourself. Try to be happy and optimistic. Work and play and dream. These weird days will pass.

Best wishes to you all.

David Almond



Children's Mental Health

Week 1st—7th

February 2021



Children's Mental Health

Week 2021 - Express Yourself

From 1-7 February 2021 schools, youth groups, organisations and individuals across the UK will take part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is **Express Yourself**.

Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.

It's important to remember that being able to **express yourself** is not about being the best at something or putting on a performance for others. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself.

For Children's Mental Health Week 2021 we will be encouraging children (and adults) to explore the different ways we can **express ourselves**, and the creative ways that we can share our feelings, our thoughts and our ideas.

Ideas and activities for ways in which to **express yourself** will be available on Google Classroom and St Joseph's school website from next week, so be sure to take a look.


Give Me 5!

1. January 29 -31 is the 'Big Garden Birdwatch'. Check out the RSPB for more information and take part in this nation wide event.
2. Make some stress relief dough.. Check out nestandglow.com for more information.
3. Ensure you use your 60 minutes a day of outdoor exercise—put on your warm coat and scarf!
4. Be still for 5 minutes outside and listen to what you can hear, make a list of all the different sounds
5. One hour before bedtime switch off your phone — and keep it off until morning! Read a book or listen to relaxing music.

- # Riddles to entertain!
- Last week's answers are: 1. one brother; 2. stamp; 3. the letter 'r'; 4. umbrella; 5. air
- This week's riddles to tease your brain:
1. How can a person go 8 days without sleep?
 2. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?
 3. A girl is sitting in a house at night with no lights, lamps or candles on. She is reading a book. How?
 4. What letter is next in the sequence JFMAMJJASON?
 5. If an electric train is traveling south, which way is the smoke going?

This week's riddles to tease your brain:

- Year 10 and 11**—look out for weekly numeracy and literacy form time activities on your year group google classroom!



Puzzle Corner

Each week you will find a new Numeracy puzzle.
The solutions will be provided in the next newsletter.

Crack the Code


Work out the correct 3-digit code from the hints
to open the padlock!


3 6 8 One number is correct and in the correct place

3 8 7 Nothing is correct

2 7 6 One number is correct but in the wrong place

4 7 1 Two numbers are correct but in the wrong place





Last week's answer

How many am I?
I am 215

Crack the Code

3 6 8 One number is correct and in the correct place

3 8 7 Nothing is correct

2 7 6 One number is correct but in the wrong place


4 7 1 Two numbers are correct but in the wrong place



How many am I?

Some super maths
work from Joe
McKenzie-

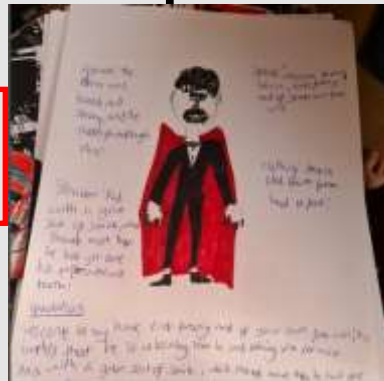


Charlie Carroll-
Leonard doing his
P.E. workout...in a
marvellous
onesie! 



St. Joseph's Shout Outs!

Excellent work on character
by Adam Hayes year 8



Some beautiful art work from Ruth Nwokobia (Y11)



Translation:

Translate the words in bold into French
Techno is better than rap

Ella Ward's response:

la techno est meilleure que le rap

A perfect translation
by Ella Ward



A nice independent task from Gabby
Jeynes Y11 summarising the components
of blood



Pledges

To be a light in the darkness this week, I am going to light a candle and put it on my windowsill tomorrow in memory of the Jews who were killed out of pure disrespect and hatred.

From Chloe Horncastle

To be a light in the darkness this week I am going to respect and love everyone. I am going to stick in at school work and be happy and spread positivity. Also I am going to help those in need by donating to charity.

From Millie Horncastle

I'll look after my granny when I can to make sure she is happy and safe.

From Jake Perry

Learning to code remotely is extremely challenging, but students
are producing amazing work. Example below Lewis Sinnott
(Yr10), 100% correct on his first attempt!



```
Task 1 - Enter your code below

1 | number=input("Enter a number ")
   print(number*10)

Enter a number:
22222222

Task 2 - Enter your code below

1 | number=int(input("Enter a number "))
   print(number*10)

Enter a number:
20

Task 3 - Please complete the task for your group, as a minimum. If you are feeling confident you can also attempt more challenging tasks.
Facebook - Ask the user to enter 2 numbers and then add them together and display the result.
Twitter - Ask the user to enter 2 numbers and then divide the first number by the second number, then display the result.
Snapchat - Write a program to calculate the area of a rectangle. Your program must: Ask the user for the width and the length of a rectangle.
Calculates and displays the area of a rectangle in a FULL sentence.

1 | number1=input("Enter a number ")
   number2=input("Enter a number ")
   print(number1*number2)

Enter a number:
4
Enter a number:
4

Stretch & Challenge - Write a program that asks the user to enter 3 temperatures. Calculate and display the average and total of the 3
temperatures.

1 | temp1=int(input("Enter the first temperature "))
   temp2=int(input("Enter the second temperature "))
   temp3=int(input("Enter the third temperature "))
   total=(temp1+temp2+temp3)
   print(total/3)

Enter the first temperature:
5
Enter the second temperature:
4
Enter the third temperature:
4.8
```

A range of pledges from students in 7D2



Well done to the following pupils have been working extremely
hard on Hegarty Maths in the last week.

Year 11- Lily Hilton, Megan Henderson
& Sophie Lumsley

Year 10 - Ali Connelly & Katie Curry

Year 9 - Mia Tatum & Emily Hagan

Year 8 - Grace Carmichael & Daniel Pinder

Year 7 - Maddie McManus & Gabrielle
Dix.

Will you be next week's Hegarty Heroes?