

St. JOSEPH'S

Faith
Learning
Respect



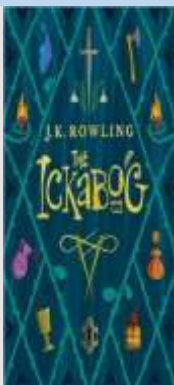
JOURNAL

Friday 30th
April

Message from the Head

A big welcome to our summer term for our staff and students. The Easter break gave us all time to renew our batteries in the sun (well, the second week anyway!) ready for module 3 learning and progress. Mr Berry in the English department will be leaving us at the end of the summer term to begin a well earned retirement. Many of our students, staff and parents have had the opportunity to be taught by Mr Berry over the past three decades and we wish him many congratulations. It has been wonderful for our year 7 students to have their first lessons in a practical science room this term, in a covid-secure manner, putting their learning into practice in the labs. I would like to close by wishing Hebburn FC the best of luck for their game on Monday. We are very proud of the team already for what they have achieved and fingers crossed we bring home the trophy. Take care and safe, Mr Mitchell.

This week's book recommendation:



The Ickabog by J.K. Rowling

I'm currently reading The Ickabog as a bedtime read with my children. We chose it because they adored the Harry Potter series (which we read during lockdown) and wanted to see what else J K Rowling could do. I find it a bit simpler in terms of the plot and the language, but there's that classic mix of humour and tension that Rowling is so good at. The story centres around a King with a fragile ego who is set on convincing the people of his kingdom that he is worthy of the throne. When a shepherd in distress claims his sheepdog was eaten by the Ickabog (a fabled creature who lives in the distant Marshland) King Fred decides to hunt out the beast and make his mark, but will he go down in the history books as a hero? - Mrs. Miller.

May: The Month of Mary

"Marathon of prayer"

During May, Pope Francis calls on us to join him in a 'marathon of prayer', saying the rosary daily to bring about the end of the COVID pandemic.



Quote for the Week:

"Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone".

- Pope Francis



SAFEGUARDING:

Safeguarding Leads in school are: Mr Price Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Lewis -Dale Deputy Headteacher. Also your child's Head of House as first point of contact.

This Week in



20/04/1862 – On this day, the famous scientist Louis Pasteur conducted an experiment to prove his germ theory. This proved that the idea of spontaneous generation as categorically untrue. It was a fundamental step towards understanding the origins of life and is studied as part of GCSE History.

25/04/1859 – Work began on the Suez Canal, site of the recent ship blockage. The Suez Canal joins the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean and led to a new era of globalisation. Its importance was seen through the impact the ship blocking the canal had – even today it remains vitally important!

27/04/1937 – A British journalist reported on the bombing of the Spanish town of Guernica by the Nazis on the behest of Franco. It symbolised the atrocities of war, particularly modern war and saw civilians deliberately targeted and murdered. The journalist, George Steer, was able to interview survivors and in an era of fake news, the importance of reporters at the scene cannot be underestimated.

St. Joe's Journal Ethos Reflection

Never give up - following the example of St. Joseph of Cupertino



This half-term is always a busy term of assessments, end of module exams and coursework and here at St. Joseph's, three of our core values are: Faith, Learning and Respect. In the Catholic Church, one saint who embodied all of these values and is a key inspiration for our community at times of assessment is the awesome St. Joseph of Cupertino. Growing up in Italy, Joseph always dreamt of becoming a priest. Sadly, Joseph was never a boy who got great grades in his academic studies and when he reached the age of eligibility to become a priest, the Bishop of Cupertino made him sit an exam. Sadly, Joseph never met the grade. However, desperate to serve God he never gave up and asked if he could instead serve in the church in a different way. To this, the Bishop agreed and made him cleaner and caretaker. Joseph was thrilled and spent his days cleaning, helping in any way he could and praying. Despite not initially achieving his dream, Joseph never gave up and worked as hard as he could to show the Bishop he could be a great priest one day.

Joseph sat the exam several times and never passed until one day, when he was working really hard he began to levitate breaking the very laws of nature. The Bishop realized this was a sign from God and allowed Joseph to study for the priesthood immediately. Joseph spent the rest of his life serving God, helping the sick, feeding the hungry and teaching the Gospel. So what does this story show us? Well, as Jesus says in the Gospels, if we truly have faith 'we can move mountains'. Joseph never gave up and didn't let anything stop him. He lived out the values of faith, learning and respect and followed his God-given calling.



Discerning what God is calling each of us to do

This week during our daily 2:58 prayer, students have been exploring the theme of Vocations. As a catholic community we believe that every student has a unique and important calling from God and this week we have been exploring a range of exciting and unique religious vocations.

Students have reflected upon the call to priesthood, the role of nuns, the role played by military chaplains in the armed forces, the role of religious orders like the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and Christians who are called to stand up for justice like Martin Luther King jr.



If you feel God is calling you to a religious vocation please contact Mr. Young or Chaplain Adam to find out more about religious life.



Competition time

What does it mean to be 'called by God'?

This week, your challenge is to create a piece of art work/a rap/poem/song/ model to show what it means to be 'called by God'.

Please send all entries to Mr. Young on YoungA@stjosephs.uk.net by Sunday 9th May and the winning entries will be displayed in the next edition.

Good luck, have fun and God bless.

What does your role involve?

My role varies greatly. It can change from day-to-day or from term to term. Overall, however, it involves preparing/ planning and leading Liturgical reflections for every term. Liturgies or services are prepared and take place for every year group in differing ways. It can be a Mass service, student led reflections, virtual reflections or recorded reflections. I prepare prayers for staff/students, organise Masses, lead in Christian formation, and celebrate the major feasts/seasons of the Church.

Throughout the year, I plan and lead many whole school assemblies based on different liturgical themes. The two biggest seasons of the church Advent (time before Christmas) and Lent (time before Easter), I ensure the school environment reflects the school's Catholic Christian identity. Also, during the school year especially in both Easter and Christmas different social action projects take place which is our local Hebburn Helps Food collection and our international Operation Christmas shoebox campaign. Coordinating the school's retreat programme to the Youth Village is also something that my role involves.

Outside of school, I maintain a strong relationship with our local parishes and help with the Diocesan faith night for children called The Event, with students in our school and across the Diocese. Programs such as these along with leading the Diocesan John Paul II award, with our Sixth Form students, help maintain that relationship with our local parishes.



What do you enjoy most about working at St. Joseph's?

Having those very "human" basic one-to-one conversations whether serious or not with students/staff is what I enjoy most about working in St Joseph's as I can see the "human" side to a person in their day-to-day circumstances. It makes me realise that, ultimately, we are all riding the waves of life and it's about how steadfast we are in the midst of all life's waves. Being part of a person's life in this simple way is a great privilege for me as I am a part of their journey.

What are your hobbies and interests?

At the moment, most of my days consist in spending time with my young children so in a sense "they are my hobby". However, I enjoy spending much time outdoors and in nature. Camping in the highlands of Scotland is among my favourite activities to do. I feel free when sleeping outdoors, cooking outdoors, and putting on a camp fire – even if it's for a weekend. As a member of National Trust and English Heritage foundations, I enjoy visiting all the historical sites the UK has to offer.

At home I have a passion for cooking. My cuisines vary from Spanish Caribbean dishes, Curry dishes and whatever magic I can come up with. Outdoor BBQ's are a must when the summer roles in. I have different marinades for my BBQ meats and am always keen to learning more ways in preparing meals. When it comes to pets I enjoy dogs. In the past I've had a German Shepard, chiwawa and a Yellow Labrador. Currently, I am enjoying my new pet Hen. She's a treat and fun to have in my garden!

Meet your staff

Over the past few editions we have been meeting some of the staff who work tirelessly hard to make St. Joseph's Catholic Academy the amazing place that it truly is.

This week we meet our school chaplain, Adam, to explore his unique vocation and the role he plays in developing the faith life and ethos of our school..



What is a school chaplain?

A chaplain is someone who cares for the spiritual, moral, and wholistic welfare of people within an organisation. Traditionally a chaplain was a priest or a person in a religious community but today there are lay chaplains which are not part of an organised religious community. A lay chaplain can have families and live "normal" regular lives. Regardless, at the heart of any chaplain they contribute to the spiritual and pastoral care of all members of the school community.

What advice do you have for someone considering a vocation as a chaplain?

For someone being a Chaplain or working with people in general, my advice is to be a good listener and to be open to the direction a situation is pulling you in. This is because more than likely, you are meant to go in that direction. Also, flexibility and versatility are keys to success with a strong faith in what you believe. This will help you when the typical storms of life beat away at you. You will be better equipped to hold up to those storms and will be strong for those in your pastoral care.



Book recommendation:

Rule of Wolves by Leigh Bardugo



The wolves are circling and a young king will face his greatest challenge in the explosive finale of the instant #1 New York Times -bestselling King of Scars Duology.

The Demon King. As Fjerda's massive army prepares to invade, Nikolai Lantsov will summon every bit of his ingenuity and charm - and even the monster within - to win this fight. But a dark threat looms that cannot be defeated by a young king's gift for the impossible.

The Stormwitch. Zoya Nazyalensky has lost too much to war. She saw her mentor die and her worst enemy resurrected, and she refuses to bury another friend. Now duty demands she embrace her powers to become the weapon her country needs. No matter the cost.

The Queen of Mourning. Deep undercover, Nina Zenik risks discovery and death as she wages war on Fjerda from inside its capital. But her desire for revenge may cost her country its chance at freedom and Nina the chance to heal her grieving heart.

King. General. Spy. Together they must find a way to forge a future in the darkness. Or watch a nation fall.



Puzzle Corner

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

Magic Error

Two numbers in the 4 x 4 grid can be swapped to create a Magic Square (in which all rows, all columns and both main diagonals add to the same total).

What is the sum of these two numbers?

9	6	3	16
4	13	10	5
14	1	8	11
7	12	15	2

Last week's answer

5p Coins

240g lighter



St Joseph's PE Extra Curricular Timetable: Summer Term

Week 1	Tuesday - Year 9	Wednesday - Year 8	Thursday - Year 7
After school 3:00 - 4:00	Handball MUGA/Sports Hall Mr Burns	Volleyball Sports Hall Miss Berry	Cricket MUGA/Field Mr Burns
		Table Tennis Main Hall Mr Leask	Basketball MUGA/Sports Hall Mr Rudd
			Rounders Field Mrs Lumb
			Girls football Field Miss Berry
			Trampolining Sports Hall Mrs Lumb
Week 2	Tuesday - Year 9	Wednesday - Year 8	Thursday - Year 7
After school 3:00 - 4:00	Cricket MUGA / Field Mr Burns	Volleyball Sports Hall Miss Berry	Basketball MUGA/Sports Hall Mr Rudd
		Basketball MUGA/Sports Hall Mr Rudd	Table Tennis Main Hall Mr Leask
		Rounders Field Mrs Lumb	Football Field Mr Burns
			Trampolining Sports Hall Mrs Lumb
			Basketball MUGA/Sports Hall Mr Rudd
			Girls football Field Miss Berry
Active Lunch			
12:20 - 12:50	Year 9 - Table Tennis Main Hall Mr Burns	Year 8 - Girls Futsal Sports Hall Miss Berry	Year 7 - Just Dance Ultimate Frisbee Main Hall Field Mrs Lumb Mr Rudd (WEEK 2 ONLY)

St. Joseph's Shout Outs!

The **ART** Department have been impressed again with year 10s GCSE artist this week.

Week of the 26th April 2021

Some examples of 10C/Art GCSE Biro Pen Portraits in progress



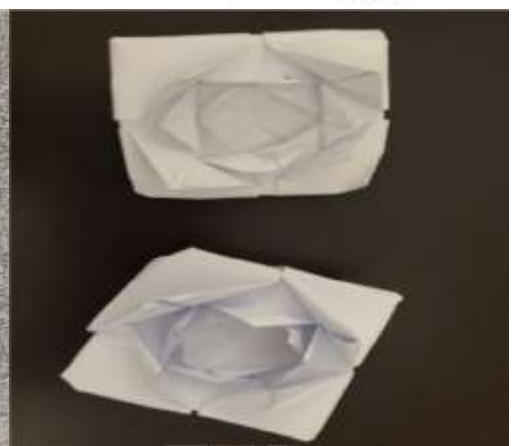
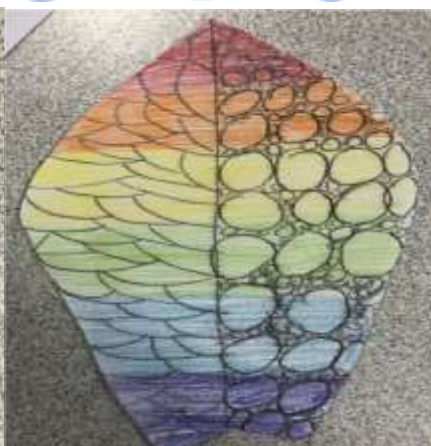
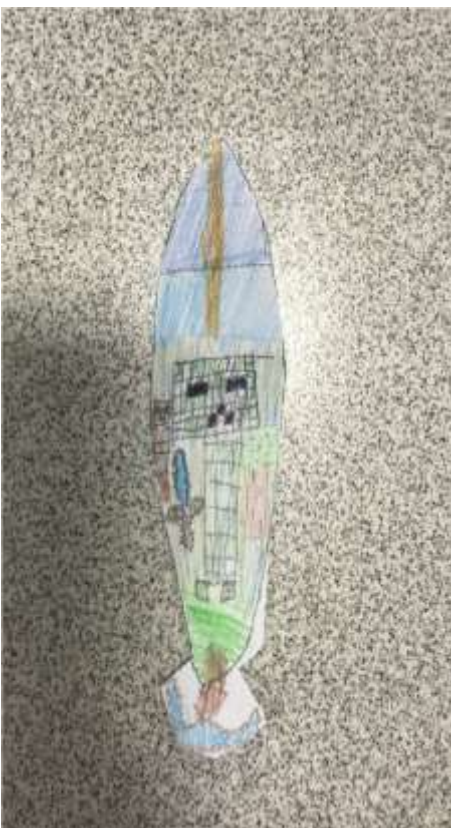
10B/Art GCSE PEN AND INK PORTRAITS



St. Joseph's Shout Outs!



KS3 Geography Club



This week in KS3 Geography club students have been exploring two more fascinating cultures by creating

Costa Rican surf boards and Japanese Origami flowers.

Students were outstanding in their creativity, passion and enthusiasm and had a brilliant time learning about all of the exciting customs and traditions of these fascinating places.

Welcome to our new regular feature called 'Subject Spotlight'.

In each edition teachers from different subjects will give you a snapshot of what it is like to study their subject at GCSE/A-Level in order to give you a flavour of what you pick for your options in Y9 and for Sixth Form. This week's spotlight is on A-Level Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics.



A-Level RE: Philosophy, Ethics and Theology

Do you love to debate and question everything? Do you want to have your mind blown? Do you love a good argument? If so, A-Level RE: Philosophy, Ethics and Theology is for you.

In this subject we study everything from whether we exist and whether it is possible to be possessed by demons and why would God allow evil through to the ethics of nuclear warfare, sex, abortion, euthanasia and even the ethics of solving the COVID pandemic.

Students who have studied our subject go onto great things because this subject offers a brilliant range of transferable skills valued by a massive range of universities and employers. In last years' cohort we have had students go onto study midwifery and medicine, law, business, education studies, the police force, theology and ministry, radio and media production and the armed forces.

Interested? Speak to any of the RE department for further details.

Where are they now?

This week our 'where are they now' spotlight follows an amazing past-student, Chris Cameron who graduated from St. Joseph's in August 2020.

What are you doing now?

I am studying Media Production at the University of Sunderland.

What do you love most about university?

What I love most about uni is the people you meet and what you learn about yourself. Your coursemates have similar goals and I've been blessed with a group of coursemates that get on like a house on fire. You also find your calling at uni, I never thought I was a talented radio DJ until I got involved with Spark.

How did you get into radio DJing?

Before the first lockdown, I decided that if I was going to Sunderland to study Media, it made sense to get involved with Spark FM so I thought about how I'd want to get involved. I'm a huge fan of hip hop so I decided to pitch a hip hop show and after developing the idea with management, "Homegrown Hip Hop" was born! My career not only involves presenting but also production as I have full control over what songs I play on my show and the overall sound/structure. I have to know my genre inside and out and be entertaining as well as make sure the show is going out as I want it to.

What advice do you have for our St. Joseph's students?

You only have one life so do what you love! Be yourself and don't let anyone stop you from becoming who you're meant to be. Take every opportunity you are offered because you never know where it can lead you.

Thank you Chris for your words of inspiration.

You can tune in to Chris's 'Homegrown Hip Hop' show on Sunderland's Spark FM every Monday night at 9pm.

Chris is also hosting his first live 'Drive Time' show this Friday between 4-6pm.



Riddles to Entertain

Last week's answers are: 1. a mushroom 2. a coffin 3. they weigh the same 4. paper 5. glass

This week's riddles to tease your brain:

1. What has hands but cannot clap?
2. Where do fish keep their money?
3. If a rooster laid 13 eggs and the farmer took eight of them and then another rooster laid 12 eggs and four of them were rotten, how many of the eggs were left?
4. I add five to nine, and get two. The answer is correct, but how?
5. Voiceless it cries, Wingless flutters, Toothless bites, Mouthless mutters.

Poem of the week: The Patriarchs—An Elegy



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

Chadwick Chats with Pupils

On Thursday April 22nd, Mr Brendan Tapping, CEO of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, held a zoom meeting with 2 students from each of the 5 secondary schools in the Trust. Representing St. Joseph's were the wonderful Benjamin Bikkau and Olivia Merrifield in year 8. Mr Tapping, gave some information on the aims of the Trust and was keen for more crosstrust projects to begin in the near future.

Olivia was very impressed with Mr Tapping's aspiration to "reduce the Trust's carbon footprint and reducing the amount of plastic used within schools."

Ben acknowledged that "this is a project that requires a team ethic and team effort". Ben also liked the idea of more Trust competitions or opportunities for the schools within the Trust to work together such as "spelling bees, a Trust orchestra and debate".

If any student has an idea for a Trust competition or an opportunity for the Trust to collaborate on a project please tell your form tutor or speak to Mrs Curry.

By Simon Armitage, Poet Laureate

The weather in the window this morning is
snow, unseasonal singular flakes, a slow
winter's final shiver. On such an occasion to
presume to eulogise one man is to pipe up
for a whole generation - that crew whose survival
was always the stuff of minor miracle,
who came ashore in orange-crate coracles,
fought ingenious wars, finagled triumphs at sea with
flaming decoy boats, and side-stepped torpedoes.

Husbands to duty, they unrolled their plans
across billiard tables and vehicle bonnets,
regrouped at breakfast. What their secrets were was
everyone's guess and nobody's business.
Great-grandfathers from birth, in time they became
both inner core and outer case
in a family heirloom of nesting dolls.
Like evidence of early man their boot-prints stand in
the hardened earth of rose-beds and borders.

They were sons of a zodiac out of sync
with the solar year, but turned their minds
to the day's big science and heavy questions.
To study their hands at rest was to picture maps
showing hachured valleys and indigo streams, schemes
of old campaigns and reconnaissance missions.
Last of the great avuncular magicians they
kept their best tricks for the grand finale:
Disproving Immortality and Disappearing Entirely.

The major oaks in the wood start tuning up and
skies to come will deliver their tributes.

But for now, a cold April's closing moments
parachute slowly home, so by mid-afternoon
snow is recast as seed heads and thistledown.

