

Message from the Head

As we have moved into the second week of this third national lockdown, it is remarkable how quickly both our students and staff have adapted to their new working routines. Staff have been keen to share excellent examples of pupil work and engagement and I am very grateful for the kind and supportive emails from parents. On Monday, Ks4 pupils were able to collect some revision materials from their teachers which will be a further aid to their revision. At the moment, the government are suggesting mini-exams will go ahead for GCSE and A Level students and have cancelled BTEC examinations which were scheduled for February and March. Hopefully we will have a confirmed educational strategy from the government very quickly. For now, I urge you all to continue engaging in your lessons as well as taking care of your physical and mental wellbeing, ensuring you do get fresh air on a daily basis. Take care—stay safe.

Mr Mitchell

This week's book recommendation:

We Were Liars by E. Lockhart

One for year 9 and above.

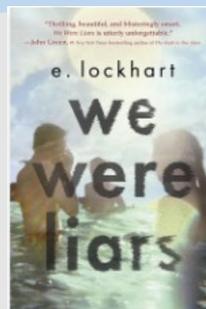
A beautiful and distinguished family. A private island.

A brilliant, damaged girl; a passionate, political boy.

A group of four friends—the Liars—whose friendship turns destructive. A revolution. An accident. A secret.

Lies upon lies. True love. The truth.

A modern, sophisticated suspense novel. from a bestselling author, National Book Award finalist, and Printz Award honoree



This Week in History

11/01/1895 – First donation of land to the organisation now known as the National Trust – many historical properties are now owned and conserved by the Trust, well worth a visit to broaden historical and local knowledge

15/01/1559 – Saw the coronation of Elizabeth I – the Tudors often fascinate people today and are studied in more depth at A-level

16/01/2014 – Hiroo Onoda died on this day, having spent 29 years believing that WW2 was still taking place. Fighting a guerrilla warfare campaign, Onoda finally surrendered to his commanding officer in 1974. GCSE students will study the guerrilla tactics employed in Vietnam as part of their Cold War studies.

Give Me 5!

1. Plan a meal for your family...only every dish must come from another culture!
2. How many star constellations can you find in the night sky? Why not draw them or take a photograph and send to HomeStudyHelps
3. Make a hedgehog home! In a quiet outdoor spot, make a pile of logs and branches and fill with leaves—the perfect home for hedgehogs, newts and bugs alike!
4. Write a letter (and post it!) to a relative, neighbour or friend with an encouraging, supportive message
5. Make a leaf print (see page 3 for more information).

MINDFUL MOMENTS

A day thinking about what could happen, should happen, or what might have been, is a day missed.

HEADSPACE

Remote Learning Support

Remember to check your emails by 8.45 each day and to use Support@stjosephs.uk.net for any technical issues and the homestudy-help@stjosephs.uk.net email for any problems with work itself

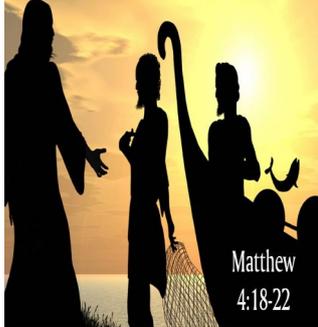
SAFEGUARDING

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

St. Joe's Journal

Ethos Reflection

"FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN"



Matthew
4:18-22

"Come and I will make you fishers of men".

What would you do if a random stranger you had never met came up to you and said 'right, I want you to drop everything, leave your life, your family and your friends behind and follow me'?! If someone did that to me, I would probably think they were crazy. But at the start of the Gospels that is exactly what Jesus asks of the first disciples, the fisherman on the shores of Lake Galilee. In one of our Gospel readings this week Jesus walks up to these fishermen, men he has never met before and says 'come and I will make you fishers of men'. The men immediately put down their nets and follow Jesus. But why? Why give up everything and everyone they ever knew? Why take such a massive leap of faith?

Well when Jesus said this to them they instantly knew that Jesus was someone worth following. He was someone charismatic, inspirational and life-changing. The first disciples in that moment knew what their life calling was. For years they had been trying to catch enough fish for them and their families to survive but here was Jesus promising them that if they had faith they can be 'fishers of men', apostles for God, founders of a new faith.

So why is this such an important Gospel reading for each of us? Well, as Catholics we believe that God has a calling for everyone of us. You might not know what it is yet but have faith. He has created each and everyone of you perfectly in His image, He has a purpose for you and will call you to the vocation and ministry that you are destined for. Believe in yourself. God bless.



Top of the Faith pops!



This week I want to share one of my favourite contemporary modern Christian hits from the world renowned 'Rend Collective' called *Build your Kingdom here*. This is the same band who sang the song you all know and love "My Lighthouse". Today's song is an awesome song all about opening your heart to encounters with God and following his call for our lives. I hope you enjoy.

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



Social Action Challenge

Can you think of anyone in your family or local community who is lonely, isolated or vulnerable at this time? Lockdown is a hard time for us all, but even more so when you are apart from those you love.

This week I would like to challenge you to spend some time thinking about that person, praying for them and sending them a card/a letter/a message to let them know that you care for them and that you are here for them during lockdown. Sometimes it can be the smallest actions that we do that can make the biggest differences. Good luck and God bless.

An extract from 'The Invitation' by Oriah Mountain Dreamer

It doesn't interest me
what you do for a living.
I want to know
what you ache for
and if you dare to dream
of meeting your heart's longing.

It doesn't interest me
how old you are.
I want to know
if you will risk
looking like a fool
for love
for your dream
for the adventure of being alive.

I want to know
if you can be with joy
mine or your own
if you can dance with wildness
and let the ecstasy fill you
to the tips of your fingers and toes
without cautioning us
to be careful
to be realistic
to remember the limitations
of being human.

I want to know if you can see Beauty
even when it is not pretty
every day.
And if you can source your own life
from its presence.

It doesn't interest me
who you know
or how you came to be here.
I want to know if you will stand
in the centre of the fire
with me
and not shrink back.

It doesn't interest me
where or what or with whom
you have studied.
I want to know
what sustains you
from the inside
when all else falls away.

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as 'Who? What? When? Where? Why?' Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018). *Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: eef.org.uk/literacy-early-years
Education Endowment Foundation (2019). *Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: eef.org.uk/literacy-ks3-ks4
Breadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwok, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019). *Literacy Development: Evidence Review*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Development_Evidence_Review.pdf



Leaf Printing Activity—You will need: real leaves, paper, paint, paintbrush.

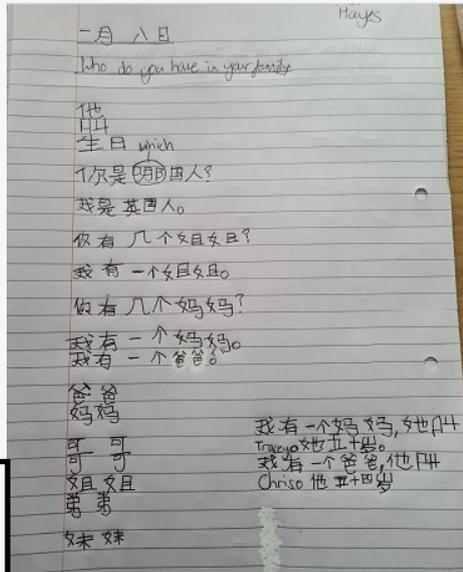
1. Collect leaves of various shapes and sizes. Both fresh and fallen leaves will work for this craft.
2. Cover your work area with a mat or with newspapers. Prepare different colors of paint on your palette. Add just enough water to make the paint spreadable but not runny. Cut your paper or fabric to the desired size.
3. Take one leaf. Flip it so that the underside is facing up. Paint the entire surface of the leaf.
4. Carefully place the leaf, painted side down, on your paper or fabric. Press firmly for several seconds to transfer the paint from the leaf to the paper or fabric.
5. Remove the leaf to reveal a leaf print. Repeat the process using different colors and other leaf shapes to fill your paper or fabric with leaf prints.



St. Joseph's Shout Outs!

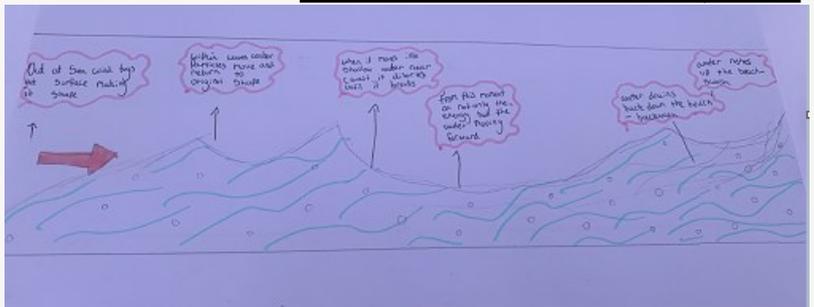


Adam Hayes of 8B1 has completed his recorded Mandarin lesson last week and produce an impressive piece of work.



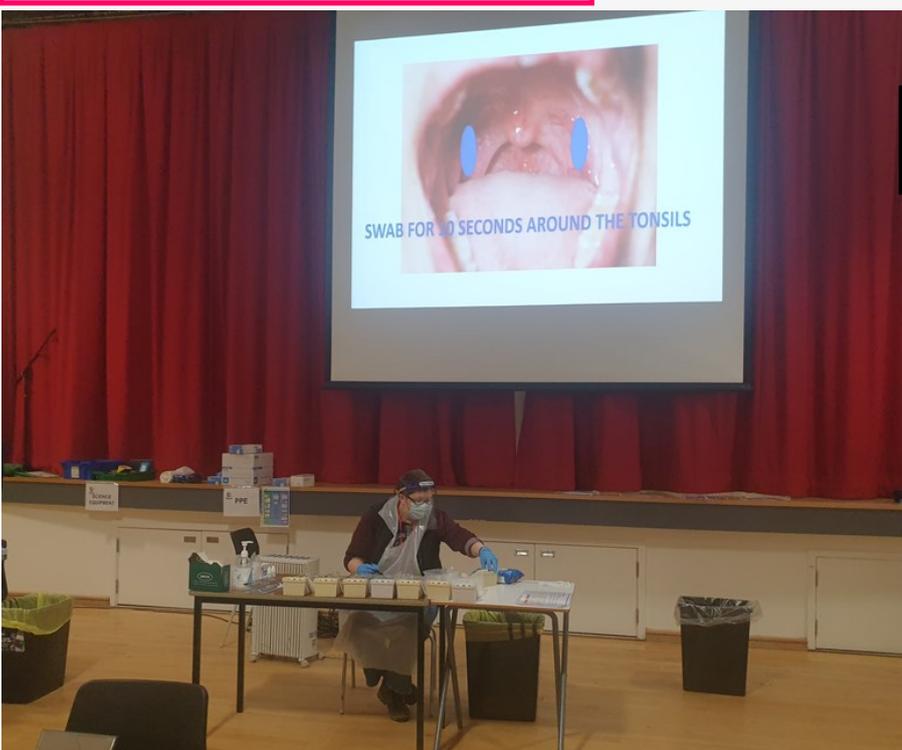
A wonderful wave diagram from Isabelle Downey—Miss Bushby is very impressed!

Firstly, in source A, the seaside town is described as full of life and delightful. This is shown in the phrase 'Margate was known as the golden mile, a gorgeous stretch of soft sand, neon lights and ice cream parlours' the writer is clearly very fond of the memories created at Margate. Whereas, in source B, the seaside town is described as quite remote, this is shown in the line 'a quiet sea-beach becomes indeed a blessed spot' this suggests that the beach isn't as entertaining nor full of life as the seaside town in source A.



A fantastically structured exam paragraph for English Language by Amelia Riley

Will your work be shown here next week?
 Keep impressing your teacher and you may get your moment of fame!



An excellent translation from French to English by Manya Garg in year 9

Translate the following into English

Mon école primaire était de taille moyenne. Le bâtiment était moderne, mais un peu laid. Il y avait trois cents élèves.

J'étudiais le français, l'anglais, les maths, l'histoire-géo, les sciences et la technologie. Ma matière préférée, c'était le français parce que j'adorais lire.

**Required*

✓ Translate the text below * 1 / 1

My primary school was medium sized. The building was modern, but it was a bit ugly. It used to have 300 pupils. I used to study french, English, maths, history, sciences and technology. My favourite subject was french because I loved to read.

In general, I used to be very happy in school, because I used to have lots of friends and I used to like my teacher a lot.

My teacher was called miss Zola. She had red hair and she wore glasses. Normally, she was very nice.

Miss Cairns busy at a testing desk in the main hall

