



Message from the Head

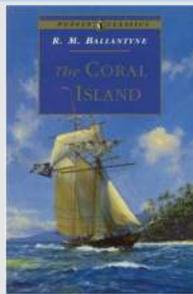
It is quite unbelievable to think what we have all achieved during this January 2021 lockdown: remote learning including live lessons for all students from years 7-13; over 85 laptops have been distributed to students; we have supported an average of 90 key workers in school within year group bubbles; our amazing testing team have conducted weekly tests for staff on top of those key workers who have consented; on Thursday 4th March 160 year 11 students and 72 year 12 students were tested; today we have 150 year 10 students with consent booked in and 53 year 13. What an astronomical amount of work, resilience and dedication from all our students at staff. We look forward to returning to school next week and, together as a whole school community, we will stay strong and relish each opportunity each new day will bring. Take care and stay safe,

Mr Mitchell

This week's book recommendation:

The Coral Island by R.M. Ballantyne

When the three sailor lads, Ralph, Jack and Peterkin are cast ashore after the storm, their first task is to find out whether the island is inhabited. Their next task is to find a way of staying alive. They go hunting and learn to fish, explore underwater caves and build boats - but then their island paradise is rudely disturbed by the arrival of pirates.



This Week in History

04/03/1519 – Hernán Cortés and his men arrived in Mexico starting the conquest of the Aztecs. One of the most famous of the conquistadors, his arrival in Mexico is studied by pupils in year 8 as part of their course looking at the impact of empires exploration on the world.

05/03/1936 – Captain Joseph Summers flew the first version of the Type 300 aircraft, better known by its later name of the Spitfire. It was a world changing aircraft, arriving just in time to fight the Luftwaffe at Dunkirk and later, in the Battle of Britain. Year 9 pupils are currently studying World War Two and will look at the impact of the Spitfire, which gave the RAF a decisive advantage.

In March, Women's History month is celebrated and so each week, a different woman will be focused on who has had a huge impact on History. This week, it is Anne Frank. Anne Frank was Jewish girl who was forced to go into hiding with her family in Holland. She recorded her feelings in her diary, detailing her experiences of hiding in an attic for over two years. After their hiding place was discovered, Anne and her family were sent to a concentration camp. Her father, Otto, was the only member to survive. He decided to publish her diary in 1947.

Give me five!

Get ready for school!

1. Have your uniform ironed and ready for your return
2. Make sure you know where your school shoes are (and they still fit).
3. Pack your school bag in advance. Remember the essentials: pencil case, planner, calculator, reading book, any exercise books (especially year 10).
4. Check your braid and year group badge are attached to your blazer.
5. Ensure you have your bed time routine sorted so that you don't sleep in on your first day back!

It is not enough to think about our potential. We need to actually live it, to make it a reality

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 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

God is everywhere - The Church of Chat!



Have you spent much time this lockdown playing on computer games, Xbox's or Playstations? Is it somewhere you would expect to find Christ?

Well, Rev. Simon Archer, a Church of England vicar decided to become the first 'Gaming Rev' and set out during lockdown to create an online Church on live streamed online video games! Playing 'shoot-em-up' games he found himself in conversation with many people who find themselves distant from the Church. Through these conversations, he built up relationships with others and found these people beginning to ask him deep questions of life, faith and spirituality. Rev. Archer has created 'The Church of Chat' where gamers can ask for prayers for loved ones, explore their faith and draw closer to God whilst playing computer games. It just goes to show, that even in a lockdown, if we look hard enough, God truly is everywhere!

As we journey together through Lent, how are your Lenten promises going so far? I know I have found it hard to keep to my 'no bread' promise! I hope yours are going well.

Heavenly Father, grant us the strength to stay true to our Lenten promises, grant us the time to deepen our relationship with you and grant us the kindness to help others in every way we can this Lent. **Amen.**



Happy St. David's Day!



On Monday 1st March this week, we reflected in school on the life of the patron Saint of Wales, St. David. Although famed for his role in helping the Welsh Army to become victorious in battle against the Saxons by wearing a leak flower on their tunics, St. David was actually also a great teacher and devoted his life to helping ordinary boys and girls to learn to read, write and learn about God through the Gospels. St. David believed that education was one of the greatest gifts anyone could receive and that his calling from God in life was to help children in Wales to learn and to learn about the life, teachings and example of Jesus.

"The Gift of Time" Challenge



Before we come back together as a school community next week I want to set you this challenge:

Spend some quality time with your family this weekend!

Even though we have been locked down together as families, maybe you have been in separate rooms for a lot of it, home-learning, working in different rooms. So before work starts again in school, enjoy a board game together, go for a (local) walk together, eat a meal together or just share the gift of time with one another. God bless you all.

Poem of the week: Footprints in the sand

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome
times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You
would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never
leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

Puzzle Corner

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

Missing Digits

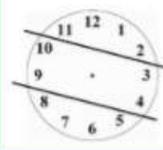
In the calculation below, K, L, M, N and P each denote a single digit.

Find K, L, M, N and P

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{K L M N P } 4 \\
 \times 4 \\
 \hline
 4 \text{ K L M N P}
 \end{array}$$

Last week's answer

Clock Face



Riddles to Entertain

Last week's answers are: 1. piano; 2. a dice; 3. gloves; 4. memories; 5. a river.

This week's riddles to tease your brain:

1. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
2. How many pairs of animals did Moses take on the ark?
3. What tastes better than it smells?
4. What loses its head in the morning, but gets it back at night?
5. Some months have 30 days, some have 31. How many have 28?

FIVE to THRIVE

During times of uncertainty or high stress, we sometimes become overwhelmed with fear and anxiety. Here are five things you can do to "reboot" your brain and reset your perspective.

- 1 Square Breathing:** Practice deep belly breaths while envisioning a square: Inhale for 4 seconds; Hold your breath for 4 seconds; Exhale for 4 seconds; Hold for 4 seconds. Continue for 10 cycles of this breathing exercise. TIP: Sometimes it helps to picture a balloon inflating and deflating.



- 2 Mindful Awareness:** Using your senses, notice 5 things you can see, 4 things you can hear, 3 things you can touch, 2 things you can smell, and 1 thing you can taste.



- 3 Express Gratitude:** Write down what you're thankful for (seriously, write it down – it will be more impactful than just thinking it, speaking it, or even typing it). Here are some prompts to get you thinking:

- Someone helped me this past week by....
- Something that used to be hard, that I've worked hard to improve at it....
- The personality trait I'm most proud of is....
- The things or people I can always count on to make me laugh are....
- Something I have, that I sometimes take for granted is....

- 4 Get Outside:** Even if just briefly, go for a walk or bike ride and enjoy the sunshine.



- 5 Take a Break from Social Media:** Do things that make you forget to check your phone.

unplug



Well done to the following pupils, who have spent the most amount of time learning using Hegarty Maths.

Year 11 – Megan Henderson & Harry Birrell

Year 10 – Katie Curry & Thomas Taylor

Year 9 – Adam Savage & Evie Clennan

Year 8 – Athina Reay & Leon Brown

Year 7 – Maisie Tinnion &

Kaitlyn Bell-Saunders



What were we reading?

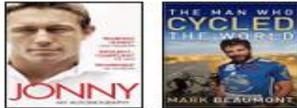
The English Department share their favourite teenage reads and recommendations for World Book Day 2021

Mrs Curry: *The Alien Trilogy* by Alan Dean Foster

I wanted to be Ellen Louise Ripley, the main character. Time and time again, Ripley was underestimated, ignored and believed incompetent simply because she was a woman...yet she was stronger than them all, a natural leader and ultimately outlived them all. She was a real inspirational character of strength.



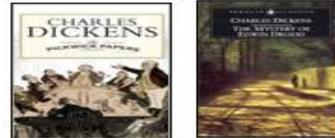
Mr Berry: spent a lot of time playing sport as a teenager but has these recommendations.



I would recommend these two books for anyone interested in reading about people who are driven to succeed.

Mrs Miller: *The Dickens Collection*

As a teenager, I subscribed to a series of magazines called 'The Dickens Collection.' Each week I received a novel written by Charles Dickens (in the order in which they were written I believe) and a magazine that went alongside it with lots of historical information about London at the time the text was written. I loved reading about crime and punishment in Victorian England, the class system and, most fascinating of all, the physical growth of the capital city, illustrated through maps that documented the places Dickens wrote about in his stories. Having these non-fiction elements running alongside the semi-autobiographical 'fictional' world that Dickens created inspired me to want to learn more about the past and the way our lives today have been shaped by it.



Mr Gardner: *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy* by J.R.R. Tolkien



The books were pure escapism and reading them transported me to a completely different reality. I also loved one of the books' key messages - that even the smallest, least significant person can become a hero and change the fate of the world...

Mrs McEwen: *The Murder on the Orient Express* and *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie

My older sister had collected all of the Agatha Christie novels as a teenager and one day when I was bored, I picked up a volume that had an interesting cover to give it a try. From that day onwards, I was hooked on crime fiction, especially stories where a large group of suspects is gradually whittled down to the perpetrator by the 'little grey cells' of a genius detective like Hercule Poirot.



Mrs Coyles: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis / *What Katy Did* by Susan Coolidge



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: I loved the idea that the back of the wardrobe took you into the amazing mystical world of Narnia. *What Katy Did*: It's adventurous and funny and I wanted to be her on her adventures

Mrs Kerr: *The Point Horror* series

When I was in year seven and eight, I used to love to read the Point Horror books. The ones I can remember the most clearly were 'The Cheerleader' by Caroline B Cooney, 'The Snowman' by B.L. Stone and 'Remember Me' by Christopher Pike because they were different from the usual horror stories and real page turners. Although they are not 'literary classics' they were great entertainment and cleverly structured leading to the unpredictable twist. I'm sure they would seem very dated now - much like many things from the 1990s. As I got older, I moved on to horror writers like Stephen King aimed at older readers, but I'll always remember those Point Horror books.



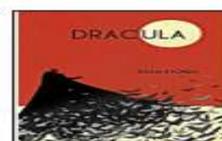
Mrs Sanderson: any book by Judy Blume



I loved any book by Judy Blume because her books always explored teenage life honestly - home-life, school, friendship, crushes, feeling different. Any book of hers I picked up was funny, sensitive and kind-hearted and I devoured all of them.

Mr Semley: *Dracula* by Bram Stoker

My favourite teenage book would be *Dracula*. I read it every Christmas for four years running, and it's an all time favourite as the characters are fantastic, the story is a blend of the themes of myths, folklore and science, and the settings are captivating.



St. Joseph's Shout Outs!



Pictured left are our first 3 students to get their Covid-19 home testing kits to take home. Lilly Capstick, Katie Capstick and Grace Jewitt have taken their 3 tests in school over the past two weeks and can now test themselves at home. Testing staff at St Joseph's would also like to thank all pupils who have been tested so far for their patience and willingness to help in preparing the registration cards for us in preparation for testing when year groups are tested.

A huge **thank you** shout out to all our parents and guardians who have emailed / messaged / posted online their gratitude and praise for our hard working staff. It certainly gives all staff a lift after a hard day's work to know their efforts and graft is appreciated.



On Thursday 4th March we celebrated World Book through remote challenges like creating Top Trumps cards for your favourite novel and competitions that tested your book knowledge through a 'say what see' quiz. Some of the students in school were also able to take part in book related activities, with Amber Robinson in Y7 taking away a prize for her completed 'lockdown' novel that she created. Well done to all our readers today and all those who took the time out to celebrate the importance of books in our lives



Isabelle Jefferson shares a scenic image from her extensive bike ride



MFL shout outs for amazing lockdown work and commitment

7A1: Bobyanne Allan, Lillah Birrell, Harry Compton, Amelia Davis, Isla Deavin, Harry Ferries, May Griffin, Rossi Kerr-Foley, Kya Stewart and Maisie Tinnion.

8X1: Jacob Ash, Mollie Bennett, Eve Brown, Luke Burdis, Samuel Charlton, Neve Conroy, Jessica Devlin, Alexis Foy, Adam Hayes, Isobel Jefferson, Tamsyn Kennedy, Oliver Kirby, Thomas Lockhart, James Locklan, Joseph Jack McCallum, Megan McCormack, John McManus, Oliver Ord, Neve Pagan, Ruby Rutherford.

9X1: Katelyn Best, Hannah Cain, Charlie Carter, Chloe Charlton, Aimie Fay, Kate Hackett, Sophie Justice, Eva Leng, Caoimhe Lewis, Jacob McClaren, Charlie Mole, Jay Moore, Grace Morrison, Miki Ng, Maisie Porter, Ashton Redhead, Mikah Sekhon, Mary Stobbs, Harry Swinney, Anna Tripcony, Sam Urwin, Lucy Walker.

9Y2: Joshua Balls, Ethan Charlton, Jude Fraser, Nikodem Kubaik, Finlay Lowey, Freya Maddick, Joseph McCrossan, Adam McDonald, Danny McLeod, Joshua Tuplin.

9X3: Harry Butters, Rosie Findley, Ben Furniss, Chahira Kennedy, Layla Khlanlarpour, Alfie Little, Harry McCall, Owen O'Brien, Luke O' Reilly, James Saunders.

Year 10 Spanish: Caitlin Auty, Lena Avalos, Freya Black, Owen Clark, Kate Liddell, Keavy McGuinness, Grace McManus, Anna Muir, Eve Naylor, Joy O' Mahoney, Leah Page, Abigail Richardson, Macey Rogers, Isabella Rogers, Grace Rumis.

Year 11 French: Layla Beard, Christopher Burdis, Megan Davies, Hannah Jobling, Ella Nugent, Ruth Nwokobia, Louana Pennick, Carly Pounder, Megan Rothery, Debby Showofora, Harry Tatters, Katie Whyte.

Year 13 French: Abi Kirsop, Molly Mclvor, Faye Shanley



LAW DEPARTMENT COMPETITION TIME!

1-5 MARCH IS JUSTICE WEEK ORGANISED BY LEADING LAW INSTITUTIONS AND MR. MATHER WANTS YOU TO TAKE PART!
LAW IS EVERYWHERE AND IT IS VITAL THAT YOU KNOW HOW THE LAW IMPACTS YOU AND YOUR DAY TO DAY LIVES.

COMPETITION DETAILS - PRIZES FOR THE BEST ENTRIES

KEY STAGE 3
EITHER CREATE A POSTER OR COMPLETE THE WORKSHEET ON HOW A LAW IS MADE USING THE INFORMATION OR DRAW A PICTURE OF HOW A CROWN COURT LOOKS DURING A TRIAL

KEY STAGE 4
EITHER CREATE A POSTER OR COMPLETE THE WORKSHEET ON HOW CORONAVIRUS HAS IMPACTED HUMAN RIGHTS USING THE INFORMATION OR DRAW A PICTURE OF HOW A CROWN COURT LOOKS DURING A TRIAL

ALL DETAILS ARE ON YOUR YEAR GROUP GOOGLE CLASSROOM PAGE
CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 12 MARCH
EMAIL/SHARE ON GOOGLE YOUR ENTRIES TO MATHERS@STJOSEPHS.UK.NET

Jake Scannel doing his press ups



J'attends la fête de la musique avec impatience. Le matin, j'écoute le groupe de folk dans la rue. Puis, je chante dans la chorale. Après, je vends des disques vinyles. Je finis à midi. Le soir, j'écoute le rappeur en ville. Je préfère la fanfare.

Kelsey Tinmouth's response:

I look forward to the music festival. In the morning, I listen to the folk group in the street. Then, I sing in the choir. Afterwards, I sell vinyl records. I finish at noon. In the evening, I listen to the rapper in town. I prefer the fanfare.

Kelsey Tinmouth's (8X4) perfect translation on the topic of music festivals in French



An image from Leila Hughes' wintry walk



Some beautiful evening images from Jack Gatens



Verity Gardener



Some very creative examples of year 12 Fine Art A level Students development work from their sketchbook.



Lucy Smith



Lucy Liddle

Rachel Smith



Gabrielle Walker