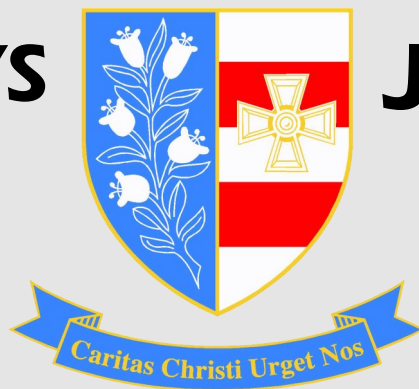


St. JOSEPH'S

Faith
Learning
Respect



JOURNAL



Friday 28th May—
Pentecost special

Message from the Head

What a busy half term we have all had and all looking forward to week's rest and relaxation. With lockdown restrictions continuing to ease we have been able to begin some inter-house competitions with year 7 Dunstan house performing particularly well. Of course this half term is bitter sweet and as we say farewell to our year 11 and 13 students. We are exceptionally proud of our exam year students who have shown resilience, determination and strength of character in their commitment to their learning with two lockdowns in their exam years. Of course, we will see the majority of our year 11 return for sixth form and look forward to be being a part of their continued progression in education.

Take care and stay safe, Mr Mitchell.

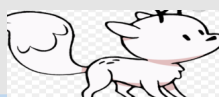
This week's book recommendation:



Hilda and the Midnight Giant—by Luke Pearson

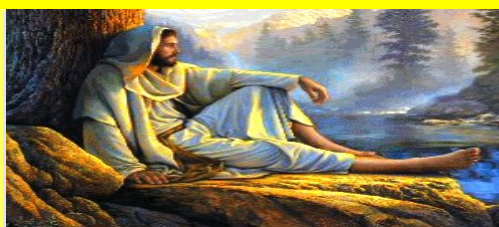
This week's book recommendation comes from Mrs. Sanderson in the English department.

My family are obsessed with this series of graphic novels and I have been sucked into this fantastical world. Hilda is a curious, clever and adventurous explorer who moves to the city of Trolberg and encounters trolls, giants and weird and wonderful spirits. The drawings are incredibly beautiful and there are the most adorable creatures ever created, including a deerfox!



Half-Term

Following in Christ's footsteps!



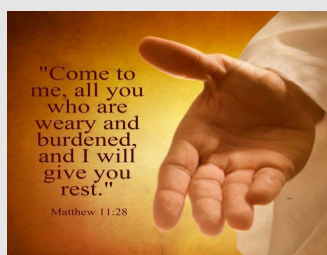
As we reach half-term after a very fun but busy term let us remember that Jesus was a great example of the importance of rest. In the Gospels, whenever Jesus had been working hard spreading the Good News, healing the sick, performing miracles and helping the marginalised he would regularly retreat into the wilderness and refresh himself, pray and enjoy some spiritual nourishment. This half-term we pray that you find time to relax, unwind and follow Jesus' example to rest. God bless you all.

Quote for the Week:

"Come to me and I will give you rest"

Jesus—

Matthew 11: 28



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



25/05/735 – St Bede died. St Bede had worked at a monastery at Monkwearmouth before moving to one in Jarrow. The greatest Anglo-Saxon scholar, he wrote over forty books and remains an integral part of St Joseph's life!

3/06/1750 – On this day, a marine who had fought in India and returned with legs disfigured by battle, wearing the redcoat of King George revealed that he, James Gray, was in fact a woman. She divulged to her shocked comrades her name was Hannah Snell! Her comrades were completely supportive in her fight for her military pension. She received her full pension and published a book called The Female Soldier!

06/06/1944 – D-Day. 7,000 vessels from eight navies ferried troops across to Europe to begin the fight back against Nazi Germany. Nothing was left to chance – even the custodians of the Bayeux Tapestry were tipped off so it could be moved out and stored away from the fighting!

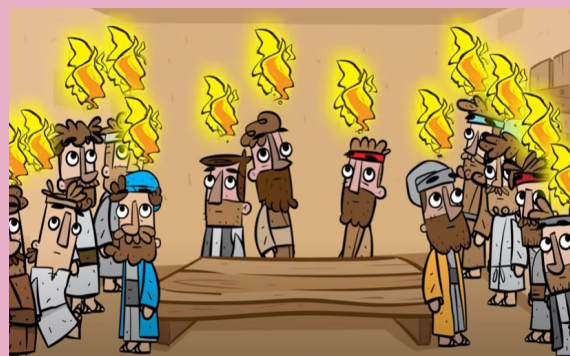
St. Joe's Journal Ethos Reflection

The power of Pentecost!



One of my favourite things about being a catholic is knowing that no matter what we are going through, God is always there for us as a Father, as Jesus the Son and as the Holy Spirit, guiding us, sustaining us and caring for us. We are never alone in this world. Because He is always there by our side journeying through this life with us. Last Sunday we had the pleasure of celebrating the amazing feast of Pentecost, often called the birthday of the Church. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended like tongues of fire upon the disciples and gave them the strength to go out and create the early Church. The Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak every language in the world, heal the sick, perform miracles, cast out demons and counsel those in need.

At Pentecost we are not just called to remember, but to act. Pentecost is a personal experience because we believe that God has made each and every one of you unique, He has blessed each of you with spiritual gifts and at Pentecost He ignites the spark in our hearts to go out and use these gifts as a phenomenal force for good in the world. So this week I ask each of you to open your hearts to God, reflect upon what God has called you to do and think of ways that you can go and live out Christ's call in the world today. To find out more about the power of Pentecost have a watch of this awesome clip that explains the story further. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMQKy1Mx49M&t=64s>



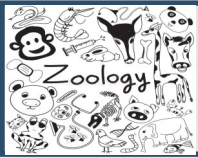
Laudato Si Week

From Monday 17th to Friday 21st as a school we celebrated the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis's publication of the encyclical '*Laudato Si*' meaning '*on care for our common home*'. All students and staff engaged in prayers, liturgies, reflections and competitions exploring how we can follow Pope Francis' call to end global warming, environmental pollution and start being better stewards of nature. Students in Y7 and Y8 spent a lesson in RE creating new schemes and inventions that could help save planet earth and the entries were absolutely phenomenal. Some of our winners are pictured below receiving their well-deserved certificates. We also explored the life of Saint Francis of Assisi, the very man who inspired our amazing Pope to choose the name Francis exploring the story of the wolf of Gubbio and his attitude of kindness, care and compassion towards those that we share this world with.

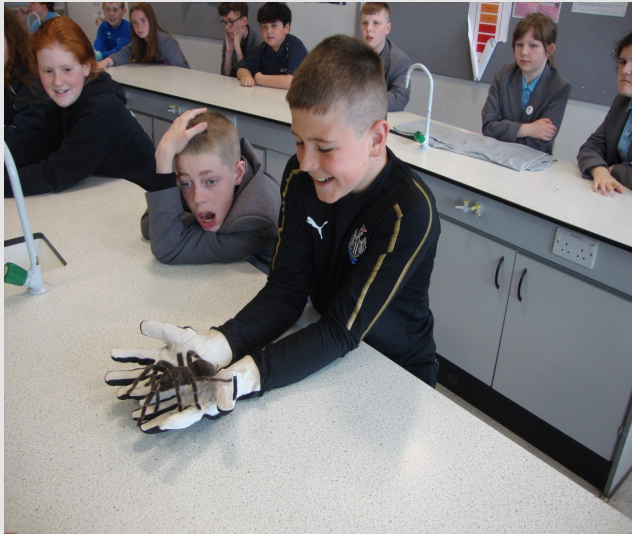


To explore Pope Francis's teachings in Laudato Si further, you can follow this link : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIVuISZGdug>





Zoology Club goes wild!



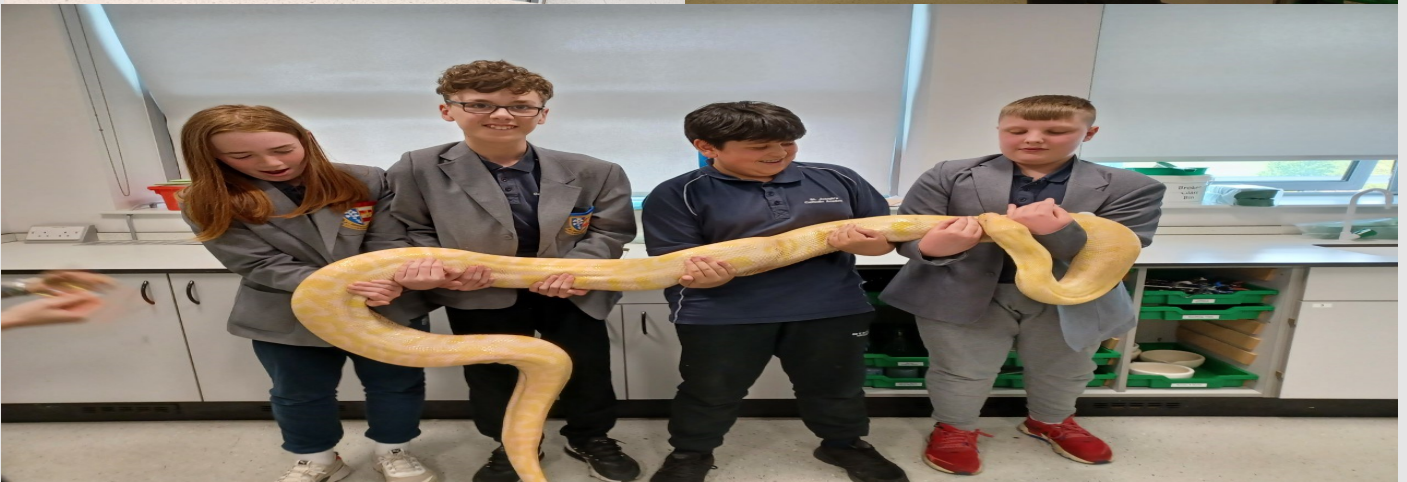
In the Gospel according to St. Mark, Jesus says 'if you have faith, pick up snakes' and today students in Mr. Salkilld's awesome Zoology club got to test their faith and nerve by picking up a whole host of amazing and magnificent animals including Pythons, Tarantulas, Lizards, mammals and insects brought in by a specialist nature company.

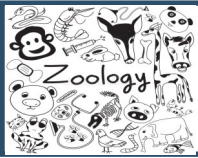
Students over the past few months have been exploring the fascinating nature in our world in Zoology club and today they got to meet first hand some of the most beautiful and diverse animals in our world. Before becoming a biology teacher, Mr. Salkilld worked in environmental conservation for many years so brings with him fascinating expertise that brings nature to life for our young people.

Staff and students alike tested their nerve and had brilliant fun meeting, holding and learning about these amazing animals and explored what we can do to make sure that their habitats and their environment is not destroyed by human interruption.

Zoology club have really been living out Pope Francis' call in Laudato Si to become passionate stewards of the environment and are all working hard to transform our world for the good of all nature and all of humanity.

Thank you to all of those involved in today's Zoology antics.





Zoology Club goes wild!



**SPOT
LIGHT**

Subject Spotlight

To all the amazing Law and Politics students leaving us this year,

It has been the strangest two years we've ever known in our careers with all the remote learning, working from home and not having exams at the end of the course, but you have risen to all the challenges you have been given throughout your time studying Law and Politics and you should be very proud of that!

We want to wish you all the very best for your futures, whatever they hold, and hope that they are filled with health and happiness

Mr. Mather and Mrs. Robson



Y11 Leavers

We would just like to wish our amazing class of 2021 all the very best for their futures. Although many will be returning to Sixth Form in September, they have been an incredible year group and showed great dedication, commitment, passion and enthusiasm despite the COVID pandemic and lockdowns. They are a brilliant year group and will be deeply missed. They will remain in all our prayers and we look forward to their return to Sixth Form in September. God bless you all.



Y13 Leavers Liturgy



Today, we held our annual Y13 leavers liturgy, Students managed to come together as a bubble to celebrate the end of their time here at St. Joseph's and the beginning of the next stage of their spiritual journey. The liturgy was student led with a range of gripping reflections, poetry, stunning musical performances and prayers as well as an inspiring reflection from Mr. Mitchell and SLT. We wish them all the very best for their futures.



An Irish blessing for our Y11/13 leavers:

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And until we meet again,
May the Lord hold you in the palm of His hand.
Amen and God bless you all.



Meet your staff

SPOTLIGHT

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 fabulous teacher and Assistant Curriculum Leader of RE, Mrs. McEwan, to explore her vocation and the role she plays here at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy.



Why did you go into teaching RE?

I have always loved RE and really like working with young people so the combination was perfect for teaching. I received inspirational RE teaching at high school and thoroughly enjoyed my RE and English Literature university courses at Newcastle University which cemented my passion for the subject.

What is your favourite thing about being a teacher?

I would have to pick three things; working with young people, the variety in the day and learning. I love learning and want to make young people life long learners too! I get to learn and read every-day in my job - what can be better? Also, it is never dull. The faces in front of me change every hour which keeps the day varied and fresh! Never boring!

What is your favourite thing about working at St. Joseph's?

That is a difficult question but I would have to say the students and the staff. I work in a great RE team, wider school team and the students are fantastic.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Lots of things! I like to read, watch boxsets on Netflix, socialise with friends, walk the coast and spend time with my family.

What advice would you give to anyone wanting to go into teaching?

Make sure you love your subject and love learning. Foster skills of flexibility and resilience as it can be tough but equally rewarding.



Alumni - where are they now?

'Where are they now' Passed Art Students



Rosalynd Byass at 6th form 2016/2017

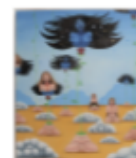
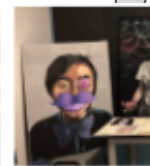
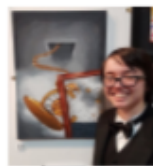
Am currently nearing the end of the second year of my Fine Art BA HONS degree at Newcastle College. I specialise in oil paint on canvas, but I also work with film. To quote from my own artist statement, I am currently investigating the border between the reality that we see, and the reality in our minds, created by our imagination and dreams. Some feelings especially cause these worlds to be blurred, at least from my perspective, such as desire, anxiety, and shame. Being a gay woman with an anxiety disorder and other mental health struggles is the fuel for my inspiration, as well as in-depth research into the art movement Surrealism. Common imagery in my paintings are surreal landscapes and the nude female form.

My painting 'The Valley of the Untouchable Fantasies' (2020) is currently being displayed at the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in the exhibition 'Baltic Open Submission'. It is being displayed alongside over 150 more artworks from artists in the North-East. It is my biggest achievement so far as a fine artist. The painting centres around the idea of the fantasy; fantasising causes reality and the imaginary become blurred, and there is a frustrating aspect associated with it because it is unknown whether the fantasy will ever come true.

My piece 'I Will Never Be Without You' (2021) is being displayed on the Vane gallery website as part of an online exhibition called 'Relations and Reflections' alongside the work of my peers. The theme is family, and so I created a piece conveying the unconditional love and the bond I have with my identical twin brother.

I have grown in confidence as a person and an artist over the past few years. I went into a Foundation Diploma in Art & Design after leaving St Joseph's and I was incredibly nervous going into something completely new. I have realised through my journey that I must make art for myself. If I do not make art for myself and my benefit, I do not see how anyone else can appreciate it. I am less afraid of what others may think of me for what I do and more focussed on discovering what exactly fulfils me when I create. This is becoming clearer with every piece I make.

I look forward to the third and final year of my degree as I will be making my own briefs for the practical projects, and so my direction for my fine art will continue to flourish. In addition, I hope to go on to complete an MA in Fine Art after this degree.



Poem of the week:

Smiling Is Infectious by Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious,
you catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner
and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled I realised
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile,
then I realised its worth.
A single smile, just like mine
could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin,
don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick,
and get the world infected!



Riddles to entertain

Last week's answers are: 1. fish 2. time 3. you're point-less 4. they are the same upside down 5. a doorbell.

This week's riddles to tease your brain:

1. What question can you never answer yes to?
2. What goes up but never goes down?
3. I shave every day but my beard stays the same.
What am I?
4. I have branches but no trunk, leaves or fruit. What
am I?
5. The more of this there is, the less you see. What is
it?



St Joseph's Summer school. 26th-30th July. 9:00-3:00

Following from the government announcements about summer school we have decided to offer this opportunity to our new year 7 intake.

New students joining us in September will be offered a week of exciting activities led by specialist staff in drama, sport, arts and crafts, music, ethos and faith, Ukelele, STEM, first aid, orienteering, robotics, local trips, geography and much more.

This will be a really exciting week where students can experience their new school, make new friends and have great fun ahead of joining us in September. More details to follow in coming editions.



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

Reverse Ages

On Brian's 14th birthday, his father was 41.
Brian noticed that his age was the reverse of his father's age.

How old will Brian be the next time his age
is the reverse of his father's age?

Last week's answer

Walk or Run?

56 minutes



Sixth Form Social Action

Social Action!



Our Sixth formers, as part of their Core RE programme in Y12/13 have been planning, organising and conducting their own social action projects as part of their Pope Francis Laudato Si Silver and Gold Awards. Students are challenged in groups to make a positive difference to other people in their community and have free reign over which cause they promote and support and how they carry it out. Students must not only conduct the social action but also present back to their peers about their impact which develop their life-long skills for their later careers as well as transforming their communities through selfless love.

On Friday 21st May, Jennifer Murray, Sophie Grimes and Grace O'Sullivan organised a 'cancer support' day for the amazing charity *Cancer Connect*. Students were asked to wear a colour related to a cancer charity of their choice and to donate towards the work of Cancer Connect. The girls raised a phenomenal £52 towards this amazing cause and we are so proud of their effort.



This Friday, 28th May, another amazing group are delivering blue lollipops to all of Y12/13 to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing. The girls are raising money in aid of the charity MIND which works to support those struggling with all forms of mental health. We are really grateful and in awe of the dedication, selflessness and passion that our sixth formers have for putting the needs of others before themselves and for living out the Gospel values in all that they do. Well done!

PE Extra-Curricular

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

Y11 Leavers Football Final

On Thursday 27th May the Year 11s held a final football match in honour of their time here at school.

Students were incredible in their sportsmanship and maturity and had a fantastic time marking the final days of their time here at St. Josephs. They will be massively missed. Here are some photo highlights from the match.

