



News

Issue 3

14th February 2019

Message from Miss Kennedy

This year we celebrate our 90th birthday. The school was founded in 1929 by the people of the parish and we have come a long way since then. This year we will be arranging some events to give thanks for the foundation of the school and to commemorate all those who have subsequently contributed to our development and success. Further details will be posted in the next Newsletter. We have begun to show some photographs from St Joseph's past on our website. If you have any you wish to send us, please email them or send us copies. Julie.Gaffney@sjchs.uk

Events from Half Term 3

The Brilliant Club

Well done to all our Year 9 and Year 10 students who will graduate from the Brilliant Club at Rheghed, Penrith on February 12th. All of the students submitted a 5,000-word assessment which was marked by Warwick University. The students received University Grades for their assignment, with Caysie Ray, Holly Scott, and Eve Graham graduating with a First – the highest mark. All of the students passed and received their diplomas at a ceremony in Penrith. The Brilliant Club is an award-winning charity which sends university graduates to work with talented students around the country, using in school tutorials. Well done to Kazandra Palmer, Jack Dolan, Olivia Hazel, Holly Scott, Eve Graham, Amelia Charters, Nuria Tunstall, Caysie Ray, Esme Ashbrooke, Bethany Cross and Miss Mason who has organised our students and the University sessions.



The Brilliant Club students with Vicky their tutor.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St. Joseph's

Nine St. Joseph's pupils are currently undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, organised by Mr. Burkinshaw. Cole Perkins, Jayden Taylor, Ronnie Annand, Jason Howard, Eathan Perryman-Dann, Barak Dabdab, Jack Dolan and Joshua Scott are all involved in the Award this year. The participants have begun improving their physical abilities, learning new skills and even volunteering in the local community!

A key component of the Award is to complete a two-day expedition, using camp-craft and navigation skills along the way. Last year, a number of pupils completed the Bronze Award. One of the pupils, Year 11 Alyssa Atkinson, recently presented her experience of the Expedition to the current participants, giving them a tantalising sneak preview as to what they can expect – a highlight being the group's close encounter with the Cockermouth Mountain Rescue Team! Judging by the number of questions asked, it's an exciting prospect and we wish them the best of luck completing their Bronze Award over the coming year.



Friends of St Joseph's 100 Club

The 100 Club is run by the Friends of St Joseph's to raise funds for the pupils. For example, the group paid for all of the blackout curtains in the hall for when it's used for shows and productions. The cost is £12 per year and there is a draw once per month for a prize of £30. If you would like further details, please contact office@sjchs.uk. The group is always looking for new members so if you would like to join the friends to help raise funds to support the school.

Easter Holidays: Unusual Arrangement this year

Please be aware that the Easter Holidays begin on March 29th. We have two weeks' holiday and return on Monday 15th April at normal time for just four days. The following weekend is Easter Weekend beginning with Good Friday on 19th April. After Easter weekend, we return to school on **Tuesday 22nd April** at normal time.

Top Achievement Points for Half Term 3 (Jan – Feb 13th)

Place	Name	Year	Pts	Place	Name	Year	Pts
1	Jocelyn M	8	56	7	Ethan C	10	50
2	Anezka F	8	55		Sophie B	8	50
3	Emilie H	8	54	8	Harry Nixon	8	49
4	Kieran S	8	52	-	Megan L	9	49
5	Kacper W	8	51	10	Luke E	8	48
	Chloe S	8	51	11	Annalise – Jo K	8	47

Attendance and punctuality

Our attendance has risen this year to over **95%**. This is good attendance but we wish to improve further. It is clear year after year that those students with the highest attendance have the best GCSE grades. Whilst absence may be unavoidable, due to sickness bugs etc., every effort must be made to attend school regularly.

We are working hard to ensure that attendance at St Joseph's is over 95% this year and support is given to those students and families who are failing to meet this target.

We also want our students to achieve good punctuality, as this is a very important life skill. I'd like to remind you that students **must be on school site by 8.47 am at the latest and in tutor by 8.50am when registers are taken promptly**. If they fail to do this, then they will be recorded as late and given a break time detention. If they are unable to attend this, then they must report to the Pastoral office at the beginning of lunchtime. Failure to do this will result in a 'whole school detention' for one hour on Friday after school. This will be recorded on class charts. (Please contact school if you are unable to access this). Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Photo Consent

More and more we are using our Facebook and Twitter to celebrate students' success, for example with our Learner of the Week feature every Monday. Photos capture the moments so well and are quick and easy to post. Sometimes we cannot use the photos because we do not have consent from parents. We will be contacting some families again to ask you if you will give permission for your child's photo to be used when special events have taken place.

Sporting Achievements: Hannah O'Donnell Year 11

At the start of year 11 Hannah was selected to play for North East U19 Netball squad - the only 15 year old in NE and Cumbria to be selected. The squad compete in the (NPL) National Netball Performance league and the teams represent the best netballers of each region in the UK. This is the age group level of the National Netball Super League (the professional league in the UK).

Hannah has been playing for Oaksway (in Hartlepool) for 3 years and this season she has represented them on a weekly basis in the following squads

- U16 National Clubs competition - they will play in the finals in May
- Open age Regional League
- Open age Northern League

Oaksway also compete in the National Clubs league - where the top 30 clubs in the country compete. This is the equivalent of the Premiership/Champions league in football.

Hannah made her debut for Oaksway Premiership squad on Sunday 10th Feb aged 16. She was told by the coach that she would probably not get any court time due to her age, but the experience of being part of the squad at an away fixture would get her ready for future matches. However, the start of the game did not go well and Hannah was brought on after 2 minutes as WD (not her normal playing position). In the next two quarters she was moved to GD and then finally to her favoured position GK and she actually played all of the match! Her coach said at the end of the match "I am so chuffed with her and so proud. Hannah's work ethic was second to none. Brilliant debut, Hannah was awarded player of the match."

We at St Joseph's are very proud of Hannah and her achievements.

St Joseph's Dance Club

There is a new dance club open to all students during Wednesday lunchtimes in the Sports Hall run by a trained dance teacher. Early lunch passes are available from Miss Bennett.

Future Events: KS4 Cross-curricular Trip to Paris (14th-17th Feb 2019)

A group of 43 Year 10 and 11 pupils and 5 staff will be visiting Paris. The trip includes a day at Disneyland Paris, a boat trip on the river Seine and a visit to the Musée d'Orsay.

Y8 Options Evening Thursday 7 March

Next Half Term, your child will be selecting their optional subjects for GCSE. This is an exciting time for students as they make important decisions about their studies. St Joseph's put a range of measures in place to support students, including dedicated sessions during the day and individual meetings with senior staff. One of the most important forms of support is the advice of family members. To help you to support your child, there is an Options Evening on Thursday 7th March.

Netball World Cup:

We have 40 tickets for the Netball World Cup in Liverpool in July. If anyone is interested in attending, please come to the PE office for a letter.

Important Events: Please refer to our website for regular updates.

Year 8 Option/Careers Evening	Thursday 7th March 2019
Junior Maths Challenge	Tuesday 30th April 2019
St. Joseph's Day	Tuesday 19 th March
Year 10 Work Experience week	Monday 10th June 2019
Induction Evening	Thursday 20th June 2019
Prize Evening Years 7 -10	Thursday 4th July 2019

Progress Evenings

Year 9	Thursday 9th May 2019
Year 7	Thursday 11th July 2019