

Welcome

Ausculata. Command.

Definition: *Listen or be attentive to*. This is the motto of our school; the slogan St Joseph's has had on its badge for 90 years and the name of the very newsletter you are reading. But why did we choose this word, which seems to demand your careful attention, the very thing we define ourselves by, the word that you will draw your first impressions of our newsletter from? Because we need your attention, we want you to sit up and take notice of what we say, and in return, we will take notice and pay attention to what **you** say.

This newsletter is brought to you by our school's newly elected student leaders. We had an election within each form and our fellow students decided who they wanted to represent them as the student voice. We are all looking forward to taking on this responsibility and developing as leaders; it is a fantastic opportunity to develop skills which we can use in our future careers.



A message from our Head Teacher

I am very pleased that we have our first School Leadership Council Newsletter which gives information about all the events that the Leadership Council has been involved in. After votes in every tutor group an amazing team has been formed and I have high hopes for this council in helping me shape the future of St Joseph's. I hope you all agree that having such a vibrant team is essential to our future success!

Jacky Kennedy



Charity events

St Joseph's has been doing many fundraising events for the Henderson Suite recently (which is a very good cause), including the teacher bake off, the lip sync battle and more! The bake off was very amusing and raised quite a bit of money. It involved the English, RE, Art and History departments making a cake allegedly blind. RE and English cheated; English cheated so much they were disqualified, which was funny but set a bad example (cough cough SHAME Miss Kim cough cough). Their cake was supposed to correlate with their subject. History did king Harold's head with an arrow in it. English did a banner about reading. Art did abstract art, and RE? Well, they did marshmallows... We don't understand how that correlates to RE, but they lost so it was fine. Art won even though we believe it was because they had an advantage. History obviously should have won. Art took the gold, History silver, RE the bronze, and, as was mentioned earlier, English got disqualified. We have also had staff v staff sporting events and a bush tucker eating trial. The talented Logan Murphy also entertained us during *Live Lunch*.



What's happening in the school?

A few things have been happening for the 'more able':

On Wednesday lunchtimes we pair Year 10 reading champions with Year 8 tutees. There are competitions and some of the winners can be seen below.



The Rotary **youth speaks** competition group (Year 10 students) meet every Monday to plan their topic of 'environmental change due to tourism.' The competition is in February and we wish them all luck.

Year 10 students Nathan McDowell and Will Christian are entering an energy industry young speaker competition with Sellafield. Questions include-

- How will we power the next generation of transport?
- What will the energy mix look like by 2050?
- Will society's attitude towards energy have to change if we are to meet our climate change targets?

They will receive invaluable work experience with Sellafield as part of the winning prize. Good luck boys!

St Joseph's held its annual Careers and Enterprise event this term. Students attended breakfast and lunchtime talks from a number of business covering a wide range of careers, including:

Police force, Engineering, Healthcare and Dentistry, Hairdressing and Beauty, Project management, Quantity Surveying and Cyber security. These sessions have been brilliant for all students to gain an insight into different careers. We want to thank Mrs Jackson for organising these for us.



St Joseph's says...

We asked staff and students "**what do you love about St Joseph's?**" Here are some of their responses;

William Light- *"The teachers encourage learning and we have lots of performance opportunities."*

Libby Cross- *"Teachers are approachable and we are given lots of opportunities to help others."*

Lyla Chandler- *"Nice teachers and lots of sporting opportunities."*

Callum Bell- *"Interactive lessons and enjoyable form times."*

Mrs Carter- *"The Catholic ethos, community feel and our small size making us have a family feel."*

Elliot Murray- *"The teachers and the food."*

Isabella Potter- *"The teachers get involved in things and we have lots of extra-curricular opportunities."*

Miss Kennedy- *"The students and the family feel we have."*

Miss Bennett- *"The students, the opportunities we provide and the supportive nature of staff and students."*

Mr Burkinshaw- *"The students are lovely."*

Mrs Spedding- *"We are a thoughtful, caring family and we all look after each other."*

Year 7 set 5- *"We get a good education. There is lots for us to do. Teachers help us when they are needed. The best food in the world. Our teachers are kind. It is a loving caring school. Our teachers are thoughtful. Everything gets dealt with in a good way. Best school and teachers in the whole world!"*

Here we have our Student Leaders with Mrs Moody, Miss Kennedy, Chair of Governors Mrs McCrea and Jade Emma Greaves of RGDA. This was our first conference day.



Movie review

I am honestly surprised with how good Netflix's *Klaus* is. It is a masterwork of 2D animation, it just makes me so happy. The story follows a spoiled man who is the son of the head of the post office. He is forced on to an island that gets rid of all postmen due to a feud and is forced to send 6000 letters. With the help of the woodsman Klaus, he starts to deliver toys to the children of the town. This is such a charming film. I absolutely adored every minute of this and rate it a good contender for best Christmas film. The characters are very good and go through arcs which make sense and give a sense of absolute joy. The tag line is "one good deed inspires another", and we see this play out through the movie. There is a war in the town between the gingers and the goths (they aren't actually) and they have funny back and forth interactions. I rate this film an 8/10 seen as it is really good, but you can only watch it at Christmas.



Book review

Life of Pi is an underappreciated book. It centres around a man called Pi recounting his life to a writer. The book covers a lot more than the film, with about a third of it set on land, describing his life before the accident. Being on the boat is also quite a chunk, but then the boat sinks and Pi, and a number of animals are the only survivors. What an interesting premise! You really feel sorry for Pi as he recounts his hardships and sorrows, with also the successes. This book really feels like it is a survivor recounting what he had to undergo to survive. It is interesting to read of the ingenious ways he catches fish and stays out of Richard Parker's (a tiger with whom he is trapped on the boat) stomach. The book gives a good sense of desperation in Pi's character; openly admitting that without having to tend to Richard Parker he would have died from depression or given up on life. Our emotions are with Pi which makes it such a good read. I give it a 7/10.

Sporting news

The Year 8 football team won a semi-final against Newman school and have a final to be played in March to win the county cup. Callum Bell and Owen Johnstone are the captains of the year 8 team. Owen said, "I am really pleased with how the team played. It felt good to win and we are feeling confident for our final". Callum said, "It was a great experience to travel to another school and to come away with a win. Coming back from being 3-1 down shows how hard we worked as a team". We wish the team lots of luck in their final.



Teacher feature



What our teachers are like outside the classroom? For our first Asculta newsletter we interviewed one of our History teachers, Mr. Thorp. He had some unique and interesting answers and ideas.

1)What hobbies do you have?

Cycling, climbing but not as much, reading, watching films and listening to music.

2)Favourite music genre?

Likes all music genres, loves American new wave also likes 1920's, funk, soul, but is an indie kid at heart.

3)Favourite band?

Velvet Underground

4)If you could go to any place at any time period, where, when and why?

A hard question for a historian.

Would love to be in America during the time period of the 1960's because would find it fascinating to be there during the space race and the cold war.

Would also want to be in Russia during the Russian revolution to be there at the time of excitement and optimism then just being able to watch it all go wrong.

5)What do you think is the greatest invention?

Gutenberg's printing press;the key to modern civilization,

6)Top 4 favourite films?

Stalker- slow moving. A Russian movie that is a confusing masterpiece.

Harold and Morag-always cheers me up. First watched aged 15.

Wings of Desire- wonderful.

Star Wars- the original (episode 4/A New Hope)

7) Top 2 favourite books?

The World According to Garp.

1984-heartbreaking and wonderful.

8)Did you ever think that you were ever going to be a History teacher?

No, never. There were a million things I was going to be, such as: police officer, Astronaut (but was ruined by eyesight), Lawyer, film director, lecturer, professional climber. Then I had a go at teaching and ending up loving it.

9)What got you into history?

Studying the Aztecs with Mr. David in Year 7. I got the highest score on a project.

10)Which Year 11 class was your favourite to teach?

Loved 2019's Year 11 class. I gave them all a music disc with lots of different songs on and the class bought a record player for an end of year gift for me.

Meet the council

Graydon Farrell- My name is Graydon Farrell. I am in Year 7 and the form rep for St Francis. I joined the Student Council to help others. My favourite subject is History. I really enjoy the book *First Man In* by Ant Middleton. My favourite movie is *Girls Trip*. When I leave school, I would like to move to America and live a life as an American footballer.

Liam Atkinson- Hello, I'm Liam Atkinson, Year 8 St Mother Teresa. I wanted to become a Student Leader so I could help change the school. My favourite lesson is Performing Arts. In my spare time I enjoy playing on my PS4. My favourite food is chicken. My favourite book is *13 Reasons Why*. When I leave school I would love to become an actor.

Tia Ramsay- My name is Tia Ramsay. I am in Year 9 St. Bernadette. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I want to help make the school a better place. My favourite subject is Art. At the weekend I like to talk to my friends and family, but usually I would be doing my homework. My favourite food is chicken fried rice and curry sauce but I like trying new things and experiencing different things. My favourite book is *Double Act* by Jacqueline Wilson. At present I am reading *No More Hurt* by Ellen Prescott and it is a true story. My favourite film is *Titanic* because it is based on a true event. When I leave school I want to be a vet to help save more animals.

Apphia Shepherd- Hi, I'm Apphia Shepherd, Year 10 St Mother Teresa. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I could speak for the students that want things to change. My favourite subject is English- Romeo & Juliet. At the weekend I would usually be walking dogs since I work at a kennel. My favourite food is burgers. My favourite book is David Attenborough's *Life on Earth*. My favourite movie is *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. My aspiration for after school is to help either animals or people, so nursing or vet.

Evie Dixon- I'm Evie Dixon, Year 9 St Padre Pio. I wanted to be Student Leader because I wanted to make a difference in the school. My favourite lesson is History. I would usually be found hanging around with my friends at the weekend. My favourite food is duck spring rolls and sushi. My favourite book is *The Heroin Diaries* by Nikki Sixx. My favourite movie is *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*. My aspiration for after school is to attend sixth form, maybe university and I want to become a criminal lawyer or a history teacher.



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My name is **Mitchell Ward** and I am in Year 11 St Patrick. I wanted to be a Student Leader to try and bring positive change to the school and learn good skills that can be used later in life. In school, I particularly enjoy Science and Maths. During the weekend, you can find me in my room playing *Roblox* and eating hard boiled eggs. I love reading *Twilight* and I adore the movies. After school, I want to go to sixth form and eventually university.

Melissa Pinnock- I'm Melissa Pinnock and I'm here in the Student Leadership council because I would like to make a change within school and allow people to feel appreciated in what they do. My aspiration for after school is to go to sixth form and university to then become an occupational therapist. My favourite food is cheese pizzini. My favourite books include *Harry Potter*, *Frankenstein* and any Stephen King book. My two favourite movies are *The Nightmare Before Christmas* and *Corpse Bride*. As part of the Leadership Council I am focussing on the mental health of the staff and students in school. I hope you will feel free to come to anyone within the SLC if you want to talk or ask any questions.

Callum Black- Year 8 St Mother Theresa. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I would like to be able to improve the school. My favourite lessons are Science and English. On a weekend I'd usually be found sitting with my family. My favourite food is anything Italian. My favourite book series is *Harry Potter* (7 is the best). My favourite films are *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly* and *The Blues Brothers*. After school I would love to be a physicist or marine biologist.

Cain Pears- Hi, I'm Cain Pears. I am Year 10 St Padre Pio. My favourite subject is PE. At the weekend I can usually be found playing football. My favourite food is chicken. My favourite movie is *The Wolf of Wall Street*. My aspiration is to be a footballer.

Oliver Walker- I'm Oliver Walker, Year 7 St Mother Teresa. I wanted to be a Student Leader to make the school a better place. My favourite subject is PE. At the weekend I like to hang out with my friends. My Favourite food is chicken fajitas. My favourite book is *Matilda* and my favourite film is *Kingsman: The Secret Service*. My aspiration is to become a teacher.

Blake Daniel- My name is Blake Daniel; I am the Student Leader for Year 7 St Patrick. My favourite lesson is ICT. My favourite food is pizza and favourite film is *Step Brothers*. The book I most enjoy is *Big Nate*. I became Student Leader because I wanted to be one and everyone voted me to be one. The reason I wanted to be one is because I really want to be a leader and share my thoughts along with the thoughts of my friends.

Lilly Murray- My name is Lily Murray; I am in Year 8 and in the form known as St Bernadette. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I want to help make the school a better place. My favourite subject is Art. My favourite food is popcorn chicken. My favourite book is *The Creakers* and my favourite movie is *Avengers: Endgame*.

Caysie Ray- I'm Caysie Ray, Year 10 St Patrick. I wanted to be a Student Leader to help others make the most of their school experience. My favourite subjects are English, Maths and Drama. I enjoy writing and acting and am often found filming for something. After school I'd like to go to The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and do a BA in Acting. My favourite actors are Timothee Chalamet and Bill Hader. My favourite band is *Milk*.

Ruby Quayle- Hi! My name is Ruby and I am in Year 9 St Mother Teresa. What persuaded me to remain a Student Leader was the urge to be a part of new ideas and help bring them into action. My preferred subjects are Photography and English. I think I enjoy the creative and analytical aspects that both these subjects share. I don't know what I want to do for my future, but will aim for a life outside of the nation.

Braelyn Smith- My name is Braelyn Smith and I am the Student Leader for Year 11 St Thomas More. I wanted to get in this position to listen to the students and help improve the school. My favourite subject is History with Mr Hughes, however I quite like making things in DT. At the weekend I go to my job and do homework alongside watching movies. My favourite food is homemade chicken pie and my favourite book is *Wild Pork and Watercress*, written by Barry Crump, which is quite unknown but received a movie adaptation called *Hunt for the Wilder People*. I like many films. *Up* was my favourite for a long time, however I love the styles of directors like Wes Anderson, Quentin Tarantino, Taika Waititi, and adore the works of Hayao Miyazaki alongside his company Studio Ghibli (the best animation company). My favourite show is *Over the Garden Wall* which is a phenomenal 10-part mini-series and is a modern retelling of Dante's *Inferno*. I often watch this show to enjoy its amazing story, the complex yet easily defined characters, beautiful animation, and thrilling conclusion. I implore you to see any of these works, but especially the works of Studio Ghibli and *Over the Garden Wall*.

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Luke Goldwater- I am Luke Goldwater, Year 9 St Patrick. My favourite lesson is ICT. My favourite food is Sunday dinner. My favourite film is *Nanny McPhee* and book is *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. I became a Student Leader because I really want to help the school out and make some changes. My routine after school is to come in from school and go on my Xbox while I wait for my dinner. I go to a boxing club on Wednesdays, then settle down either watching a film or watch *YouTube* on my tablet. My dream job is to become a Maths teacher or a Geography teacher.

Ellie English- My name Ellie English. I'm in Year 10 and I want to be a Student Leader because I want to make the school a better place and I want to get the students included more in school life. My favourite lesson in school is History. On a weekend I would usually be doing amateur dramatics or at home spending time with my family. My favourite food is pizza, and my favourite books are *Running Wild* and the book series called *The Immortals*. My favourite movie is *Fast and Furious*. My aspirations for after school are to become a teacher.

Caleb Todd- I'm Caleb Todd, Year 10 St Bernadette. I wanted to be a Student Leader to make a change to the school. My favourite subject is PE. At the weekend I can usually be found playing football. My favourite food is pizza. My favourite movie is *The Wolf of Wall Street*. After School I want to be a professional football player.

Lewis Sewell- I'm Lewis Sewell, Year 10 St Francis. My favourite subject is Sport Science. At the weekend I usually play One Bounce. My favourite food is mash and my favourite movie is *The Wolf of Wall Street*. My aspiration is to become a boxer.

Ava Johnston- Hello, my name is Ava Johnston. I am in Year 7 St Padre Pio. I wanted to be a Student Leader so I could make the school a better place and also help others. My favourite subject is Food Technology and my favourite food is pizza. My favourite movie is *Toy Story 4*. When I leave school I would like to be a midwife. My favourite books are *Tom Gates* books.

Charley Mandale- My name is Charley Mandale and I am the Student Leader for Year 11 St Mother Theresa. I wanted to be Student Leader so I could empower the "people". My favourite subject is History, and I play *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive* competitively on the weekends whilst eating black pudding. I have watched *Mr Popper's Penguins* over 47 times this year and my lifelong ambition is to play for England. I hope that I achieve great things for the Student Leadership Council this year.

Tyler Dobinson- Hi, my name is Tyler Dobinson, Year 7 St Bernadette. I wanted to become a Student Leader because I want to make the school a better place. My favourite subject is PE. At the weekend I am usually playing football with my friends. My favourite food is nachos. My favourite book is *Dairy of a Wimpy Kid* and my favourite movie is *Paranormal Activity*. After school I want to have a further understanding of sports.

Harvey Norman- My name is Harvey Norman and I am the Student Leader for Year 11 St Patrick. The reason that I put my name forward for Student Leader is because I wanted to be able to give my fellow peers a voice. My favourite subject is Science and at the weekend I enjoy playing electric guitar. My favourite movie is *The Passion of the Christ* by Mel Gibson and my favourite food is pfefferpotthast. My aspiration after school is to get an apprenticeship with Gen2.

Lexie McDonald- My name is Lexie McDonald. I am in Year 8 St Padre Pio. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I want to change the school to make students feel happier, safer and comfortable in school. My favourite subject is PE. I and my friends love playing rugby and netball. On the weekends I would usually be found walking my dog with my friends around Curwen Castle. My favourite food is sweet and sour chicken. My favourite book is the '*Bridge to Terabithia*' and my favourite movie is '*The impossible*'. When I finish school my ambition is to become a wildlife conservationist.

Josh Murphy- Hello my name is Josh Murphy. I am in Year 9 and I'm a member of St Francis. I wanted to be a Student Leader because I want to be able to have a voice and change what I believe needs to be changed to make the school a better place. My favourite subject is History. At the weekend I would usually be found playing games or watching movies. My favourite food is spaghetti. My favourite book is *Harry Potter* and my favourite movie is *The Nativity*. My aspiration for after school is to become a Doctor.

William Christian- Hello my name is Will Christian and I am in Year 10 Padre Pio. I wanted to be a Student Leader to make the school a more enjoyable and safe community. My favourite lesson is Computer Science. At the weekend I would usually be found at rugby training and sometimes in town. My favourite food is lasagne. My favourite book is *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. My favourite movie is *Star Wars*. My aspiration after I leave school is to move on to further education and get a job involving practical maths.



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Brought to you by the Student
Leadership Council.

The Student Leadership Council's first conference

Our first conference began with a talk by our guest speaker Jade Emma Greaves, who is the owner and principal of *Rumney Greaves Dance Academy*. Jade gave our Leaders an insight into the struggles she has faced to get to where she is today. She also provided us with some important advice which included; always be present and active in everything you do, be willing to speak up about things you are passionate about, show initiative in every task you attempt and most importantly, do not lose sight of your dreams.

We were also lucky enough to have our chair of governors, Josephine McCrea with us throughout the day to support and advise our Student Leaders. Josephine was really impressed with the maturity of our Leaders and advised them to always act with honesty, integrity and compassion.

We were then split into different task groups where we all looked at a different focus area. Here is a brief outline of what each group got up to during the day.

Within our antibullying task group we discussed what different types of bullying there are. We thought of strategies we could all use to stand up for ourselves and others, and we came up with the idea of having Student Leaders who were anti-bullying ambassadors who could be approached by any students who were nervous about speaking to a teacher. These ambassadors would then feed forward to members of staff on behalf of the students.

Another task group was given the opportunity to allocate each member to a subcommittee using their preference forms. Over 50% of our Student Leaders selected the Equality Group as their first choice. This shows how caring and loving our school is, and how making every student feel comfortable in St Joseph's is not only a priority of the staff, but also of the students. One of the Leaders in the Equality Group, Apphia, said "I want to make people comfortable in their own skin". We hope that all our fellow Leaders will develop in their roles within their committees and will serve the student body in making our school a happy and healthy environment to learn in.

Our Charity focuses

Each year group will have a charitable focus for the year. These are causes we are passionate about and we want to draw attention to them. The Charity Group decided the charity focuses as follows. Year 7 will focus on antibullying charities. This was chosen because we feel the leap from Year 6 to Year 7 is a big one and a new school can be daunting for many. Often Year 7 students feel vulnerable in their new surroundings and making them aware of the different aspects of bullying and providing antibullying ambassadors could make a huge difference to the transition process and ease fear and anxiety. Year 8 have decided to focus on local foodbanks and poverty in the area. We were shocked to discover how many people in Cumbria live in poverty and rely on foodbanks weekly to feed their families. Many of us live privileged lives and we want to raise awareness and support those who don't have the same luxuries as us. Year 9 will focus on mountain rescue and first responders. So many people are alive today because of these volunteers and they have a huge impact on families all over Cumbria, but they rely on charitable donations to be able to do the work they do. Year 10 decided to focus on environmental issues around the world and the impact these are having on future generations. They aim to make small changes within school and raise awareness of issues such as deforestation, the use of palm oil, plastic waste and our carbon footprint. Year 11 will focus on children's mental health. They believe this is important for all year groups, but particularly for Year 11 students facing GCSE exams and feeling stressed. We hope to have mental health ambassadors who can support the student body as we know being a teenager comes with many pressures and sometimes having someone to talk to can ease life's struggles. These charity focuses were also presented in assembly to each year group. Keep your eyes peeled in the next edition for what we have been getting up to when raising awareness of our charities.

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