



Year of St Joseph

As part of the Year of St Joseph, students have been given a prayer card this week which was donated by Fr Karol Porczak at St Peter and All Souls Church. We are very grateful for this kind donation for every student and it is a reminder of the links we have with our local parishes. Due to the COVID restrictions we have not been able to have our normal celebrations of Mass during the year but hope that in the autumn term we can resume our weekly voluntary Masses and House Masses.

Student Leaders

It is significant that the theme for the week has been Leadership. Our school student leaders have really shone this year and here is yet another example of this. The actor Juliet Stevenson has formed close links with our school due to the efforts of Ms James and a group of students working with her. On Wednesday we hosted another meeting with Juliet where students discussed projects they were involved in. Students talked about the wonderful work of the Eco Warriors, particularly the ins and outs of keeping water inside a pond, the crisp packet collections and community litter picking. Juliet was very impressed and was somewhat of an expert with the pond. Students also talked about their work with Peterborough Citizens, Young peoples' mental health and the group they have set up on female empowerment. The student leaders will be writing an article in next week's newsletter where they will go into more depth about their wonderful work. It is hoped that Juliet will be able to come into school in the autumn term. A number of students also went on the Tall Ships trip last week and were an absolute credit to themselves, their families and the school – very well done and many thanks to Mr Jones and Mrs J Austin for accompanying them.

Parents Evening

We had our Year 7 and 10 parents evening on Tuesday. Thank you to all parents/carers who attended virtually. Staff reported that attendance was relatively high despite the event being virtual. When COVID restrictions lift we are hoping to go back to face to face parents evenings.

COVID Restrictions

We still have COVID restrictions in place across school and are awaiting further announcements from the Government on these. Please remember to encourage your child to take two COVID tests per week and to report the result whatever it is.

Year 6 Induction

Next week students from Year 6 who are joining us in September will have their induction week. This is happening across the City to replace the normal face to face transition day. Mrs Reay is our transition leader and any questions about transition should be directed to her in the first instance. We are full in Year 7 in September and heavily oversubscribed for the third year running with a long waiting list.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

You will notice that there is an article about the D of E Award in this week's newsletter by Mrs Wilmore. We have decided to offer this award to students as it is such a worthwhile venture for students and so much fun. We are hoping that as many students as possible in Year 9 will take up this free offer which will start in September. Students in other higher year groups are also encouraged to take part if they want to. There is more information being sent out to students and our website will have extra information about this too. My thanks to Mrs Wilmore, Mr Jones and all members of staff who have volunteered to be part of the D of E Team. The D of E award has always been something we have offered to students but in recent years, due to changes in the way licencing worked we weren't able to. However, the pandemic has shown how much students need quality extra curricular activity and personal challenges and it is now a priority for our students to have access to this outstanding award regardless of their background or ability. This offer will be in addition to all other extra-curricular clubs we run, including the Cadets. Our aim is for the whole of Year 9 to take part as well as students in higher year groups if interested.

Applications for a school place for September 2022

If you have a child who is currently in Year 5 and you want to apply to St John Fisher for a school place please remember to get your application in by 31 October which is done online on the PCC website. Unfortunately, late applications or applications that are incomplete cannot be accepted and students are unlikely to get a place due to the large numbers of families now applying for a place here. It is absolutely crucial for you to fill in the application online and then complete the Supplementary information form (SIF) and supply any evidence being asked for before the deadline.

Kate Pereira

Year 6 Welcome Day

Next week we should have been welcoming our new Year 6 students for Welcome Day and our new Year 6 parents for a Parent Briefing. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions neither of these events are able to take place. Instead we will share a Year 6 Welcome Day video to our YouTube channel as well as a Year 6 Parent Briefing. Also on Wednesday 7 July, Year 6 students will complete transition work at their primary school in preparation for joining St John Fisher in September and on Thursday 8 July, Mrs Reay will hold a virtual assembly to welcome all of the new students from across the city. We look forward to welcoming all of these students, in person, on Friday 3 September.

Holocaust Online Session

Three students in year 12; Zahra Ravji, Elizabeth Lukenuk and Mustafa Javed attended a number of online sessions about the Holocaust. They attended 4 sessions called Lessons from Auschwitz Online which is organised through the Holocaust Educational Trust.



LESSONS FROM Auschwitz — ONLINE —

Part of the sessions was meeting a Holocaust survivor and a virtual guided tour of Auschwitz I and Auschwitz Birkenau. Students were also required to read a selection of literature written by survivors and also have to create a response such as a presentation, to the sessions, in their small group. It was a very rewarding experience.

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

We are so pleased to be able to offer the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award to students in Year 9 and above from September 2021. We would like all of Year 9s to take part but encourage students in higher years to also partake. Parents will receive communication via Schoolcomms regarding the Award and registration. The deadline to register your child's interest is 16 July. This is a wonderful opportunity for students at SJF and we encourage you all to get involved.



Mrs Wilmore

Word of the Week – Hesitation

- noun: hesitation; plural noun: hesitations

1. The action of pausing before saying or doing something.

"She answered without hesitation"

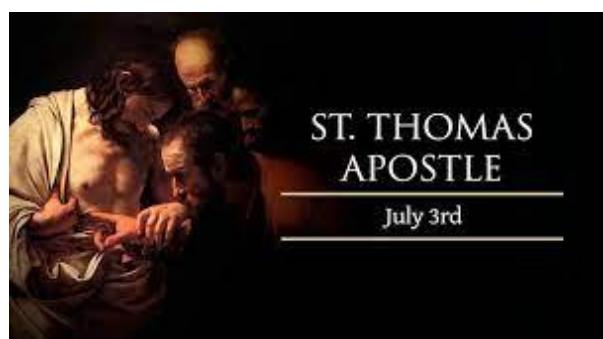
Similar: pausing, delay, hanging back, waiting, shilly-shallying, dithering

2. Doubt or reluctance.

"I have no hesitation in recommending him"

Similar: reluctance, misgivings, qualms, scruples, reservations

The word of the week is 'Hesitation' as we celebrate St Thomas one of the Apostles on Saturday 3 July. St. Thomas is famous for having doubted the Resurrection of Jesus and for demanding physical proof of the wounds of Christ's Crucifixion. Jesus had to remind St Thomas to not doubt his faith but instead to believe and trust in him – Jesus said, 'Do not doubt, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God! (adapted from John 20:27-28). Here we see that even an Apostle can question their faith or have hesitations. However we can tell by his response that he has gained a better understanding of his faith through his doubts. Having these hesitations and questioning our faith plays an important role in growing in faith.



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To mark the Year of St Joseph, all students were presented with prayer cards during form time with an accompanying Daily Thoughts and Prayer Reflection. Many thanks to Fr Karol at St Peter and All Souls for providing these to our School.

