# St. Joseph's Specialist School & College Newsletter



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#### **Letter from the Principal**





#### **Dear Families and Friends**

It was great to see a number of you attended our Family Learning Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Workshop. If you didn't make it but would like more information, do get in touch with Elizabeth Paoli our Behaviour Analyst who will be able to answer all your questions.

At St. Joseph's we want research to become integral to driving and informing school improvement; with our practices and policies rooted in well-informed, evidence-engaged and most importantly, selfgenerated ideas. This is a time of rapid change for education, which presents the opportunity to develop and embed a research culture,



improving outcomes for our learners. It is an QUESTIONS exciting time, and St. Joseph's are happy to be a part of it.



Jonathan Rodell, our Research and Development Lead, has put together an amazing professional learning programme, to be led by Dr. Jean Ware, during the week beginning 6th July. Jean, SEND Reader at Bangor University, has a particular interest in the link between research and professional

learning for teachers. We are also going to have our first TeachMeet meeting on the Monday evening of this week. Places have been offered to colleagues in schools across the



SE Region. If you would be interested in attending one or more sessions please contact the school office for a programme.



I wonder if any of you have got up to the Summer Exhibition to see Rod's painting, as shown in the last newsletter. I did, however it is rather hard to spot in this small photo – can you find it? (Next to the door frame in the middle row). Since I found out Rod, our Artist in Residence, had one of his paintings chosen to be hung at the RA Summer Exhibition I have taken rather more interest in what he has been up to at school. I can report that learners working with him have become more enthusiastic and definitely developed further creatively.

Next week should have been our Autism Accreditation Review, however it has been postponed (possibly until the Autumn Term), due to the illness of one of the review team members. If you still need to send in your questionnaires they are not now so urgent, but good to get them in as soon as you can anyway.

Have a great weekend – I hope the sun shines.

With our love and prayers,

































Julie Beedle is a TA in St. John's Class. Julie has been at St. Joseph's for some while, on supply.

# Fundraising - Update

Rebecca Carter, successfully completed the Swansea Half Marathon last Sunday. Rebecca has already raised over £860 but hopes to reach £1,000. The money will go towards our Scrabble Garden.

To find out how you can support our Scrabble Garden by sponsoring a square, please see the separate flyer.

Well done Rebecca and thank you!





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# STAFF PROFII

## What type of person are you?

Kirstie Logan Office Administrator

Describe yourself in five words:

Smiley, friendly, clever, silly, clumsy!

friendly

Practice my ukulele

What's your favourite biscuit?

What's top of your to-do list?

Shortbread

New Zealand. I spent my gap year there

and I loved it!

Anything involving heights. I have enough trouble not injuring my-

self on the ground!

What wouldn't you do for £1 million?

What's your top holiday destination?

Who would play you in the film of your

life?









# Complete the following sentences

The celebrity I'd most like to have as a teacher at my school is:

As a child I wanted to grow up to be:

A writer

Misha Collins, he's hilarious and he loves to help others.





My most embarrassing moment in school:

Is falling down the altar steps as a choir girl and landing at the Headmaster's feet. Mortifying!

If I've learned one thing, it is:

Be as kind as you can, you never know what another person is going through.

I shouldn't be telling you this, but .....

I'm a huge geek. I love sci-fi, fantasy, superheroes, Dungeons and Dragons, LARP, computer games...



The past, the present and the future walk into a bar.

It was tense



The past, the present and the future walked into a bar. It was tense.

Tell us your best joke





# Sports & Fun Day - 3rd July

We still need items for our Fun Day stalls next Friday, please help by sending in any of the following items.

Thank you

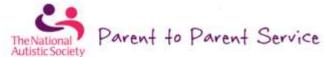
jigsaw puzzles

games dvd

Bric-a-brac

jewellery

Parent to Parent (P2P) is the National Autistic Society's' UK-wide confidential telephone support service providing emotional support to parents and carers of a child or adult with autism. The service is provided by trained parent volunteers, who all have



at least one son or daughter with autism. The Parent to Parent volunteers are based across the whole of the UK, this means that there is increased anonymity for parents who may not want to share information with someone in their local area.

The volunteers have a wealth of experience, knowledge and insight and can talk through any issues, problems or feelings that parents are experiencing. They all know what life can be like for families affected by autism and want to do something to support others in similar situations. They can also direct callers to other sources of information and support.



Parents and carers can contact the service via phone or online. You can either call 0808 800 4106 at any time day and night and leave a message. It is not a manned line, but if you leave a message, a volunteer will call you back as soon as possible, at a time which suits you. Alternatively you can fill in their online enquiry form by visiting the Parent to Parent pages of the NAS http://www.autism.org.uk/our-services/advice-and-informationservices/parent-to-parent-service/parent-to-parent-enquiry.aspx

You can find more information about the service on the web page http://www.autism.org.uk/Our-services/Advice-and-informationservices/Parent-to-Parent-Service.aspx and download a copy of the leaflet.

# Reminder from the Surgery Team



Please can you send in bottles of sun cream (clearly labelled) and a sun hat for your child to wear when going outside. Even on cloudy days the sun's rays can be very harmful.



Thank you.



App of the Week - Splingo's Language Universe - £2.29

Catherine Eyres & Claire d'Urban Jackson - Speech & Language Therapists



This app was designed by Speech and Language Therapists in order to help develop a child's understanding of language. It follows an alien character called Splingo and your child can complete activities by listening to and following instructions in order to help Splingo build a space rocket to get home!

Your child will be learning a variety of different aspects of language including; naming words (nouns), action words (verbs), location words (prepositions), description words (adjectives) and much more









## **Scarecrow competition**

Last weekend we entered Cranleigh Show's scarecrow competition - all of our entries were *highly commended*. Learners made the scarecrows in their classes and residential groups from a range of recycled materials. As you can see from the photos below they were highly innovative!

A group of residential learners and staff went along to the Show and had a fantastic day.







Last Friday evening, Jan, Magda, Lloyd and Shirley went to the TES Awards

Dinner at Grosvenor House Hotel in Park Lane, London. As previously reported we were short-listed in two categories - the Healthy Schools

Award and the Community Collaboration Award.

Unfortunately we did not win but we can be proud that we were short-listed for these prestigious national awards.



Last weekend Jasmine from St Cuthbert's class took home the school rabbits, Bilbo and Bambam. Jasmine loves looking after the rabbits at school so was thrilled to be able to take them home.

Here is a photo of Jasmine with her sister Poppy and mother Petra.



#### Jake's Insect Poem

Eddie, Eddie help me please
A dragonfly is trapped in me
It's long and wide with shimmery wings
I'm frightened it's going to sting

Eddie said "don't be scared

It flutters around and will not sting

So open the doors of your Eddie Stobart truck please

And let him fly free"





Write a number from 1-6 in each square, so that every row, column and mini grid contains the numbers from 1-6.

#### Easy

ı

ı

		1	5		
	5		4	6	
5	3	4	6		2
1		6	3	5	4
	1	3		4	
		5	1		

#### Medium

	4		3	5	
3	5			2	1
6					
					2
2	3			1	5
	6	1		3	

# Summer Screen Saturday 4th July 2015

On Saturday 4th July there will be an outdoor screening of Paddington, the Movie and Grease, the Singalong in the beautiful grounds of The Children's Trust, Tadworth, Surrey.



All the money raised will go towards helping children with brain injury at their rehabilitation centre in Tadworth.

For further details please visit www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/summerscreen

# **Let's Play Taster Session**

A **Let's Play** taster session took place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June. It was run by Karen Bratchell and Sarah Belmore and was attended by 20 professionals from different schools from Surrey and West Sussex.



The evening included short workshops showing the set up and running of the Nurture Room, Sensory room, Magic Carpet and how to make sensory toys on a budget. The evening was hands on and the attendees made their own sensory toys to take back with them. Alison and team from the kitchen provided a delicious buffet that was enjoyed by all.



The feedback was excellent with 98% giving a score of very good/excellent and 100% saying that they would recommend the taster session to others. Nearly all of the participants said that they would like to return to attend more in depth sessions on the specific areas that they were interested in. Positive comments were also made about the therapies building and about St. Joseph's.

The evening was a resounding success and one we hope to repeat.

# **Budding Artist - Joel**

Joel has just completed his GCSE in Art and Design. His final composition was on the theme of 'Food'. Joel explored a range of materials in order to sew and paint larger than life bourbons, split doughnuts, teacakes and custard creams. His coursework included a project on Fish and Angels.

He has worked very hard, including working in his own time at home collecting photos and sketches, and has really enjoyed the course. I would like to give a big thanks to Joel for all his hard work and to his family for their support.





Kathryn Hitchings - Art Teacher

Please take a moment to follow this link and vote for Joel's *Doughnut* drawing. He has been shortlisted to the final six in his category in the Create! Art for Autism competition. A panel will be judging shortly but there is also a *People's Choice* award where we can impact on the outcome. **Thank you.** 

http://www.createartforautism.com/peoples-choice-award-2015/entry-1622/

Go therefore

and make

disciples of all the

nations

#### Good Shepherd Liturgy at Worth Abbey - John Wright, Chaplain

On Wednesday we travelled to Worth Abbey in Sussex for their annual 'Good Shepherd Liturgy'. This is a beautiful opportunity for all the primary schools in the diocese to be together and worship, led by our new Bishop, Richard.

The service began with a beautiful piece of dance and drama and then all the schools brought in their school banners. Ours was expertly carried by Angus. The service continued to be led by different schools, with music, prayers and reflections.

"Go, make disciples of all nations" was the phrase from scripture that we spent some time thinking about, and Bishop Richard asked us all to go and share the Good News that God loves all of us, with our family, friends and neighbours.

We finished our trip with a picnic lunch in the beautiful grounds at Worth and a few photos with our new Bishop. We all really enjoyed the day.







Suzi Prior who works as a STA-E and in the Nurture Room will be walking the **Nijmegen Four Day Marches** again this year. She will be raising money for a picnic table bench for the orchard. She will need to raise £600 for the table that will form part of the outside learning zone. The table will have two games on its top for the learners to enjoy.

If you would like to sponsor Suzi please get in touch with the school office.

Here is a photo of Suzi (back row, third from right) and friends preparing for the marches that take place at the end of July.

The International Four Day Marches Nijmegen is the largest marching event in the world. It is organised every year in Nijmegen, Netherlands as a means of promoting sport and exercise. Participants walk 30, 40 or 50 km daily depending on their age and gender, and, on completion, receive a royally approved medal.



# Goodwood Winners - Fairley Allan

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June our motor racing team, *Flaming St. Joe's*, raced our Greenpower electric car, at the Goodwood motor circuit. We were competing in the IET Formula 24 Southern England Regional Heat.

Our drivers were Hannah, Holly, Luke, Jaden and Jamie B. Jaden's brother Brooke also drove for us.

This was the first outing for our new car, built by Dorek and Jaden. It is

faster than the old car, having been fitted with improved gearing and we knocked a minute off our previous fastest Goodwood lap time!

There were over eighty schools and colleges competing, and although we weren't placed we were thrilled to receive an award for being the Best Presented Team.

A huge thank you to the families and staff who supported us, and the learners who took part.









# KS 4/5 - Activity Week





We were split into 3 groups and during the week we all completed the same activities which included Quad Biking, Climbing, Abseiling and using the Zip Wire. Other activities included the Trapeze, High Swing, Aeroball, Jacobs Ladder and the Vertical Challenge as well as the water based activities of Canoeing and Rafting. In the evenings we enjoyed some fun activities such as Wacky Races, Football Rounders and other team games which were organised by our PGL Group Leader Dan. She was always on hand to help us and if we needed anything we only had to ask her or her trusty 'assistant' for the week, Jamie B.

Although throughout the week the learners had fun and enjoyed themselves they also had to use problem solving skills, had to learn to work as a team as well as many of them having to overcome their personal fears and challenges involved in many of the activities.

The return journey to school was a very quiet one due to either everyone feeling very tired or to the fact that the coach had a TV screen and we were all engrossed in the Garfield dvd!!





Report by Jo Cox - Deputy Head of Care







# KS 4/5 - Activity Week

This year for Activity Week we took a group of 8 girls from College to the **QE2 Activity Centre at Southampton**.



We travelled to the QE2 by minibus towing our luggage and food supplies behind us in the kit car trailer (but without the car!) We had two chalet-type timber buildings in a forest glade where the centre is situated.

We cooked all our own meals except for on our last night when we went out to a local restaurant for dinner, a high spot of the trip.

Speaking of heights, we spent quite some time either high up – climbing walls and zipping on zip wires – or coming down – abseiling or down rivers. Other activities included archery, canoeing and a motorboat trip up the Hamble river.

We came back safe and sound, if a touch grubby and <u>very</u> tired. A huge thank you to the staff who came with us and were brilliant, and the learners who were all a credit to St. Joseph's.

Report by Fairley Allan - KS 4 Leader











# Dates for the Diary Summer Term

27th June	Cranleigh Carnival
3rd July	Sports & Fun Day
5th July	Diocesan Golden Jubilee Celebrations @ Amex Stadium Brighton
6th July	Dr Jean Ware - Researcher in Residence - here all week 6.00 - 8.00pm - TeachMeet
7th & 8th July	9.30am - 3.30pm - Life Without Levels Workshops
8th July	3.45 - 5.30pm - Research Lesson Model Workshop
9th July	7.30pm - Full Governing Body Meeting
12th July	10.30am - Red Bull Soapbox Challenge @ Alexandra Palace - sold out view on the Dave channel at 6.00pm
14th July	Bastille Day - in school French focused event
14th July	6.00 - 7.30pm KS 1/2/3 Presentation Evening
16th July	12.00 - 1.30 pm - Family Coffee Morning - Keeping Your Child Safe - hosted by Sarah Kennedy and Alan Day (sandwich lunch provided)
16th July	2.00pm - Leavers' Mass followed by tea
20th July	6.30 - 9.00pm - Leavers' Presentation Evening
21st July	Last Day of Term - Learners finish at 1.00pm

On **Saturday 26th September** we are holding a Pool Party for Learners and their siblings. The event will be held from 11.00am - 2.00pm.

More details will be sent out soon but in the meantime, please **SAVE THE DATE!** 





The next issue will be published on 10th July 2015