



St. Joseph's Journal

Free! Friday, 10th February 2023

11th Edition

St Joseph's Question Time Featuring Mims Davies MP



We were all very excited to have hosted our very own St Joseph's Question Time this morning. One of our pupils Adam in Year 5 bumped into Mims Davies when he visited the Houses of Parliament last summer. He was quick to ask Mims to

visit his school in Haywards Heath and an idea soon began to grow with our own School Council. What if we hosted our very own Question Time in the same style as the BBC Question Time? What if we invited a range of people onto the St Joseph's panel to answer questions that the children wanted to ask? From this acorn of an idea, the questions and research began to grow. The School Council consulted their own classes about issues that really mattered to them. All the questions were authentic. All the questions were put to the panel and our own pupil audience were given the opportunity to share their opinions on the things that really matter to them right now. Our question time panel included; Fia (Head Girl), Isaac (Head Boy), Mims Davies (local Conservative MP), Tim Feast (Chair of the Bosco Trust Board), Dave Carter, (CEO of Bosco), Helen Bilton (Vice Chair of St Joseph's governors). The entire event was hosted and recorded by BBC Radio Sussex and we hope to feature on their 'Drive Time' show sometime this afternoon. We will send out a YouTube link after half term to view the event. Please also check out our twitter feed @saintjoeshh for further coverage of the event. This was a great experience for all the children but it also provided a valuable learning opportunity - and not just for the pupils! Pupil Voice is so powerful and you will often hear me tell prospective parents or see me talking in assemblies about St Joseph's being the pupils' school. They have a voice and we encourage them at every opportunity to share their views and offer ideas on how we can improve our school. Learning about democracy and how debates happen is a very important life skill. Encouraging public speaking in an environment that is recognised and feels safe will build confidence for future university lecture halls, GCSE lessons and help build understanding and at times, challenge injustice. All the children represented their fellow pupils eloquently and with conviction. I was not only impressed but immensely proud of what excellent ambassadors they all are

for our school. Well done everyone - we may have a future politician within our midst?

Thank you, parents, for your continued support of the school. Great progress can be made when parents work in partnership with the staff. I hope you all have a relaxed and fun-filled half term.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday, 20th February.

God bless, Mrs Walker



Children's Mental Health Week 2023

This week it has been Children's Mental Health Week and this year's theme is 'Let's Connect'. Data from [NHS Digital](https://www.nhs.uk) suggests that one in six children and young people has a probable mental health condition. We know that many more children and young people also struggle with lower-level issues with their wellbeing and mental health, but this is not yet consistently measured across the country. We also know that half of mental health issues in adults first develop by the age of 14. So as a society, we need to focus on providing support at an early stage before issues become more serious. At St Joseph's we have been following tasks led by Taskmaster Education, based on channel 4's award winning TV series. We have been set daily activities which the children have carried out! These have included creating a rainbow, devising an outdoor game, a self portrait created with the gifts of nature, choreographed a dance routine and made a hat out of recycled products. Completing the various tasks helps to develop important life skills such as teamwork, problem solving, communication, lateral thinking and resilience, while pupil wellbeing is supported and developed by making school more fun! We hope these Taskmaster tasks have inspired and engaged the children throughout the week.



Believe · Achieve · Succeed

After School Clubs

Please make sure your child has suitable clothing for the after school club that they are taking part in, particularly clubs held outdoors. These take place whatever the weather, so water proof jackets, layers etc. are highly recommended!



Thrive Course

Positive relationships are at the heart of Thrive. We use these relationships, together with play and creative activities, to give children key experiences at each different stage of their development. Thrive is a specific way of working with all children that helps to develop their social and emotional well-being, enabling them to engage with life and learning. It supports them in becoming more self-assured, capable and adaptable. It can also address any troubled, or troubling behaviours providing a firm foundation for academic attainment. After Easter on a Friday afternoon we will be holding a 6 week Family Thrive course at St Joseph's. More information will follow after half term. Places are limited so if you are interested please email Mrs Monnery: lmonnery@stjosephshh.org.uk



MALAYALAM

Since September we have been running a Wednesday morning club for our Malayalam speakers. Children from Years 1-6 gather to share their news, develop skills and play games. The older children are excellent role models for our younger members. We have a thriving Malayalam community and it would be great if we could extend the invitation, on some of those Wednesday mornings, to our parents. Perhaps you would like to come and share a skill or read a story. Maybe just to participate and see what we do! You would be most welcome and the children would love to see you there. If you think this is something that you would like to get involved in, please let Mrs Noone know via the school office.

Winter Water Safety

Please find a link from the Royal Life Saving Society around winter water safety:

[Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)



Fortnightly Attendance

St A	97%	St B	92%
St C	96%	St D	92%
St E	93%	St F	95%
St Gen	96%	St Geo	94%
St H	99%	St J	96%
St M	93%	St P	92%
St T	95%	St X	94%



Second Hand Uniform

Friends of School (FOS), will have their next second-hand uniform sale on Friday, 3rd March. If you have any outgrown uniform, that is in good condition and clean, it would be very gratefully received and there are purple bins to drop off in the top garden - thank you.

Reporting Absences

Please can we remind parents that **all absence, whether for illness or medical appointments or any other reason**, should be reported to the school via Studybugs. Studybugs is a free app and all reported absence goes directly into the register and keeps class teachers informed of the reason for your child's absence. We have a legal duty to ascertain the whereabouts of all children. By reporting all absences, it prevents office staff from having to ring and email parents to find out the reason for them not being at school and avoids unnecessary home visits. Please remember to report absences daily, your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Studybugs +

History
•• MATHS ••
English

A better, safer way to report when your child is sick and off school.

Spring Term Diary Dates



February

13th-17th Feb - Half Term

20th Feb - Back to School

22nd Feb - Ash Wednesday

22nd Feb - St Helen Class Assembly, 9am

March

1st Mar - St Xavier Class Assembly, 9am

1st-3rd Mar - Hindleap Warren Residential, Year 5

2nd Mar - World Book Day

3rd Mar - Second Hand Uniform Sale

8th Mar - St Theresa Class Assembly, 9am

9th Mar - Year 6 NCT Parent Meeting, 6pm

15th Mar - St Francis Class Assembly, 9am

20th Mar - St Joseph's Day Mass, 1.30pm

22nd Mar - St Elizabeth Class Assembly, 9am

24th Mar - FOS Disco

27th-31st Mar - Spirituality Week

28th Mar - Reports Out Years 1– Year 6

31st Mar - Cake Sale, St A, St H, St M & St T to contribute please

31st Mar - End of Term, normal finish time

Summer Term Diary Dates

April

17th Apr - Return to school

May

1st May - Bank Holiday

3rd May - Class Photos

3rd May - SEN Parents Evening, 3.30-5.30pm

8th May - Bank Holiday

9-11th - May - National Curriculum Tests, Yr 6

Please note all dates and events are subject to change.

Dates are also available to view on the St Joseph's website calendar.