

# Mount St Joseph Catholic School



*A Community of Learners, Believers and Friends*

Autumn Term Newsletter | 2020-2021

## Mr Counce —Head of Year 7

As this calendar year comes to a close and the first four months of secondary school life is complete, I am very proud to say a huge WELL DONE to all in Year 7. Since joining our community here at MSJ you have been a credit to both school and home. The diligence in work ethic and your undoubted passion for learning has been amazing to see from every single member of the year group. Your form teachers, Mrs Adamson and I are all super proud of you all!

A busy term has seen charity work, recording for carol concerts, a live mass, live assemblies and form presentations of work all backed up by the form of the week prize and of course our star students of the week awards showing how well you have all settled into life here at MSJ. I could not pick specific students out of the year because this newsletter would not have enough space to praise you all! As your head of year I am blown away by your attitude to learning and the way you have made the transition from primary school to secondary school look so easy.

Have a fantastic Christmas and take care.

## Achievements

Top Y7 class: **70** for their continued hard work and attitude to learning across the whole curriculum.

The year 7 student with the most Premium Banking Points is:

**Aimee G 70**

### Year 7 Christmas Writing Competition:

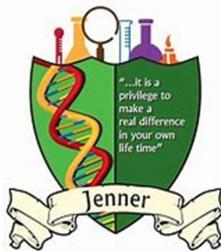
Well done, first of all, to all our runners up: Eshaan P; Khadija K; Felicia D; Aman A; Niall F; Aaron I; Cameron D; Luke W

However, after much deliberation, Mrs Gow and the English department would like to congratulate the overall winner:

**Kaashif A of 7E!**

## Free school meals

Over Christmas the government has agreed to facilitate all free school meals. If you are entitled to free school meals, this week you will receive an email from Bolton MBC through a company called WONDE who will arrange a £40 voucher to cover meals over Christmas.



## Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening

We have so far carried out two virtual parents' evenings for years 8 and 9 using meeting and video calling software. In the new term it will be the turn of year 7. Look out for an email invitation asking you to book appointments.

## Year Remote Learning

**Show my Homework** and 'live' lessons delivered through **Office 365 Teams** have been used to great effect this term. Students have been asked to follow their normal school timetable on SMH and attend 'live' lessons when specified. Our **updated website** includes a 'remote learning' tab, for more information. Should you have any difficulty, please see the **frequently asked questions** tabs to the left of the remote learning page.

If you are unsure about remote learning and require further information, or your child does not have a computer, laptop or iPad to take part in live lessons please email [homestudy@msj.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:homestudy@msj.bolton.sch.uk) and we will be more than happy to support you with this.



## Year 7 Mass and Retreats

This year, in spite of the restrictions, we were able to celebrate mass as a year group. The students behaved in an exemplary fashion. We also held our very own in-house retreats, where each form was able to bond and reflect as a group. Students got a great deal from these.



## Spring Term—Year 7 Key Dates

- Monday 12th-14th January 2021 — World Religion Day
- Friday 22nd January 2021—Year 7 Photographs
- Wednesday 10th February—Reports emailed to parents
- Thursday 11th February 2021—Careers Day
- Monday 15th —Friday 19th February 2021—Half Term
- Monday 22nd February 2021 All students return to school

## Whole School Events

There have been many events that have involved the whole school, not just year 7. Some of the highlights have been our Odd Socks Day in support of Anti-Bullying Week, our Hello Yellow Day in support of mental wellbeing, and our fundraising efforts for MacMillan Cancer Care and the Destitution Project. Well done, year 7, for your part in all of these events!



## SIMS Parent App

If you haven't already, please download our new **MSJ SIMS Parent App**. This is an excellent way for us to keep you informed of your child's progress on a daily basis. Please Open the invitation email that was sent from [noreply@sims.co.uk](mailto:noreply@sims.co.uk), which has been sent to the email address you have provided us. Check your junk mail if it has not arrived in your Inbox. If there is no sign of this email, please contact the school so that we can update our records.



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