



### **Headteacher's Letter Week 16**

Dear Parents,

I would like to start my first newsletter of the New Year by wishing all parents and pupils a very Happy New Year. Collectively, we have already achieved so much since September and I am really looking forward to celebrating all the achievements of our pupils during the remainder of this academic year.

On Monday our teaching and support staff were involved in a number of different aspects of professional development, which focused on our curriculum plans, teaching, learning, assessment, recording, reporting and looking at the implementation of the statutory Relationships and Sex Education from 2020. We were also provided with a presentation led by Year 12 students on pupils' mental health. This work will be rolled out throughout the school during this year, with different groups of pupils.

It was a pleasure to welcome pupils back to school on Tuesday when we celebrated the start of term Mass which focused on the theme of Epiphany. Mass for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 was celebrated by Father Kevin and the Mass for Year 10, 11 and 12 with Father Liam, from the Maidenhead parish. I would like to express my thanks to Miss Denny who has been so proactive in increasing the number of priests visiting our school to celebrate Mass and meeting with pupils.

I would like to wish our Year 13 pupils every success with their forthcoming PPE examinations. These will be an important indicators of A Level success in the summer and I know that they are currently very focused on achieving the very highest grade possible.

At the end of last term members of the SLT were involved in a Pastoral Review of Year 10. Year 10 are an exceptional year group who have very high aspirations for their GCSEs. We have provided pupils with a copy of the letter, outlining the areas of strengths and areas of focus for improvement in the next two terms.

On Friday, we provided Year 11 with their PPE results. The PPEs are a good indicator of likely GCSE grades in the summer and I know that pupils will be very focused on ensuring they access any intervention on offer, which will enable them to achieve their target grades and beyond.

Next week, Year 11 pupils will be involved in 2 days of experiencing life as a Sixth Form at St Bernard's. Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in A Level lessons, study in the

supervised study room and enjoy some of the privileges of our Year 12 , including wearing the Sixth Form style uniform, experiencing study privileges and being allowed off site at lunchtime with permission.

As ever, we expect all our Year 11 to apply for a place in our Sixth Form to begin their A Level studies in September 2020, subject to meeting our admissions requirements.

I am very pleased to inform parents that Miss Jaafar has been appointed as our SENCO and that Mr Dunford has been appointed with responsibility in the English department. I know they will continue to make a significant contribution to our school community.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Kassapian**  
**Headteacher**



School website: [www.st-bernards.slough.sch.uk](http://www.st-bernards.slough.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @StBernardsCGS

# Chaplain's Message



Happy New Year! Happy Christmas! Happy Epiphany!

Matthew 2:1-12 Revised Standard Version (RSV)

## The Visit of the Wise Men

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:

'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will govern my people Israel.'"

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



On the last day of term, Mrs Davies and I delivered eight crates of food to the Slough Food Bank. This food was donated by staff, as well as items left from the Senior Citizens' Day. Thank you to all those who contributed.



On Wednesday it was announced by Pope Francis that a new Bishop for our Diocese of Northampton has been appointed.

Bishop Elect Canon David Oakley will be taking over from Bishop Peter. There will be a mass on 19th March 2020 in Northampton Cathedral where Cardinal Vincent will ordain him as a Bishop.

To read more about Bishop Elect Canon David Oakley follow this link.

<https://northamptondiocese.org/bishop-elect-david/>

Please pray for our new Bishop.

O God the ruler and pastor of your Church, as Peter responded to the call of Christ to feed his sheep, raise up for this Diocese a Bishop who by your grace will nurture and care for all the people entrusted to them; through Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd. Amen.

On Tuesday, our first day back, we welcomed Fr Kevin and Fr Liam to celebrate Mass for the feast of the Epiphany. I would like to thank all those that contributed towards the Masses, especially the choir, the tech team and the liturgy leaders. During the homily we learnt that we can be like the wise men if we are willing to take the risk, to step out of conformity and follow what is right for us. Fr Liam explained that we need to look for our own star that we can follow down the path to Jesus.

**Siobhan Denny**  
School Chaplain



Year 7, 8 & 9 - Fr Kevin



Year 10. 11 & 12 - Fr Liam



# Thank you from Slough Refugee Support



Slough  
Refugee  
Support 

Mr Paul Kassapian  
St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School  
1 Langley Road,  
Slough,  
Berkshire,  
SL3 7AJ

30th December 2019

Dear Mr Kassapian,

**Re: Acknowledgement letter**

On behalf of Slough Refugee Support, I would like to thank you, your staff and pupils for your very kind donation of toys, sweets and colouring books for our Children's Christmas Party.

We are pleased to know that we have your support in the services we provide to our clients and the greater Slough Community. This contribution helps us to continue in our mission to assist some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

Thank you once again.  
We really appreciate all your support

Yours Sincerely

Kerriann Belcher  
Family Support Worker

Slough Refugee Support, 28 Beth Road, Slough SL1 3SR  
Tel: 01753 537142, 0845 2410372 Fax: 01753 575234  
Email: [srinfo@sloughrefugeesupport.org.uk](mailto:srinfo@sloughrefugeesupport.org.uk) [www.sloughrefugeesupport.org.uk](http://www.sloughrefugeesupport.org.uk)  
Registered Charity Number: 1079776



AB CHARITABLE TRUST



Slough  
Refugee  
Support  
2019-2017



# Science Exam Preparation



Year 11 Physics development sessions continue next term. An email has been sent to every Year 11 student offering them the opportunity to attend a session during Week A at either lunchtime on Monday or Wednesday, or After School on Thursdays. All sessions will be in Lab 70.

Lunchtime Sessions: 13:30-14:00 (slightly faster pace)	
A/School Sessions: 15:45 - 16:25	
<b><u>Week Beginning</u></b>	<b><u>Topics</u></b>
13th January	P12, P13 & P14 (Pt 1)
27th January	P12, P13 & P14 (Pt 2)
10th February	P8, P9, P10
2nd March	Examination Technique
16th March	P4 & P5
30th March	P7
20th April (WEEK B)	REQUIRED PRACTICAL CIRCUS
27th April	P15



## HOUSE TOTALS

**Annay 442**

**La Plaine 430**

**Citeaux 360**

**Clairvaux 343**

## STAR FORM



**KS3 : 8A 180 points**

**KS4 : 9S 144 points**

**KS5 : 12Mi 40 points**



## STAR PUPILS



**Edward 7A 19 points**



**Maria 9R 18 points**





Every Monday Lunch  
1.50 - 2.20pm  
Room 72

---

# MATHS WORKSHOP

---

Helping students solve their  
Mathematical Problems

No sign up required, just turn up!