

2ND OCTOBER 2020

St. James' School



THE IMPORTANCE OF FAILURE

How getting things wrong is all part of getting things right

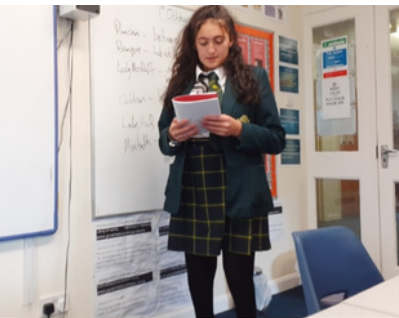
NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Enjoying poetry throughout the Whole School

UPCOMING EVENTS

What is happening round the corner?

THIS WEEK IN PHOTOS





THE IMPORTANCE OF FAILURE

**BY RICHARD MURRAY,
HEADMASTER**

'You never know what lies beyond failure; you just need the courage to try one more time'

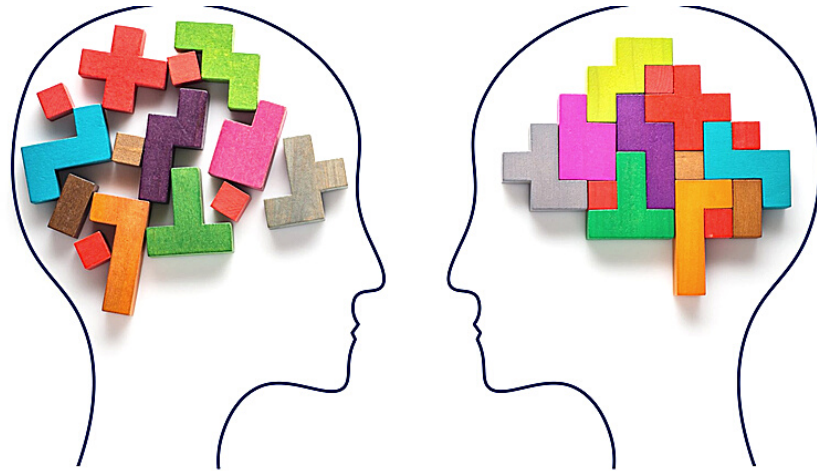
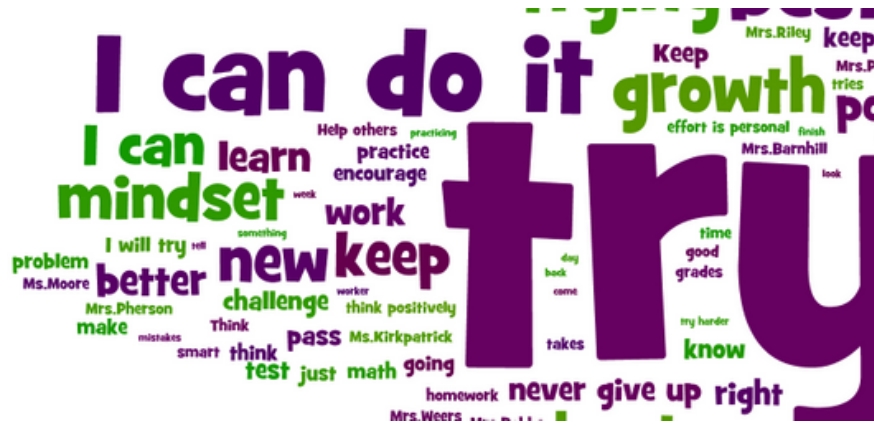
The pursuit of success is what drives many people, and yet, it is failure which helps guide us towards those goals that really matter. Clichés aside; true innovation, unique achievement or overcoming a significant challenge, is rarely successful on a first attempt or without enduring some form of rejection. Success and failure are symbiotic; one is impossible without the other. To experience the elation of success, we may first have to endure and overcome the disappointment of failure.

If we have the resilience and self-awareness to accept its teaching, failure can be a wonderful educator. Our ability to benefit from failure, however, begins with accountability to ourselves and others, for what did not go to plan.

This is not the assignment of 'blame', for failure is rarely a deliberate, reprehensible act, rather it is acknowledging the role we played and how our actions impacted upon the outcome.

Guilt is another important factor associated with failure, and those who are too eager to focus upon negativity, increase their susceptibility to cynicism and the onset of apathy. To be able to embrace failure positively, we must absolve ourselves of both guilt and blame, dispassionately analyse the situation; only then, may we learn from these events and be able to affect positive changes. This is much easier said than done, as these emotions form part of our internal 'quality control'. Having high expectations of ourselves and accepting failure are not incompatible, as viewed correctly, failure is often evidence that you are stretching yourself.

This is not to say we ought to 'chase after' failure so we can learn its lessons sooner, but if we adopt the position that failure is negative and to be avoided at all costs, the effects can be disastrous for our well-being and akin to a form of paralysis. Success is often measured externally, and yet to achieve it, it is the internal struggle which must be won.



Once we accept and understand the necessity of failure in overcoming obstacles, we can begin to take more, and greater, risks in our lives. With risk comes the prospect of innovation, of development, and of growth. Eventually, with determination, revolution is possible.

'You never know what lies beyond failure; you just need the courage to try one more time'



KEY WORKERS?

by the Headmaster

In this week's Headmaster's lessons we have been considering the concept of 'key workers'. Which professions are essential to the successful operation of a town, city or country?

Working in small groups classes have compiled their lists and assigned a fictional salary, payable in apples. A sign of the times perhaps is the prevalence of jobs less familiar to me: Youtuber and Gamer for instance, although happily roles with a focus on climate change featured strongly.

What then happens in a recession, or through a lockdown?

What if the apples run out?

Which jobs are no longer as essential?

Does everybody take a pay cut?

I have heard many interesting perspectives this week, and hope all our children have a greater appreciation for the pressures in society at present.



NHS



Police force



Education



Fire service



Ministry of
Defence



Environmental
health service



Highways
England Traffic
Officer service



Prison
service



Probation
service



Local
authority



This year pupils throughout the School have enjoyed celebrating National Poetry Day.

They each studied different genres of poem and took part in reading them aloud to their peers.

Prep 1 & 2 studied the book by Dr Suess 'Green Eggs and Ham' and wrote a poem based on the story.

The Prep Department have been studying the poem 'Sleepy Giant' by Charles E Carryl which they memorised and performed.

Each class in the Senior Department created, wrote and performed their own poetry based around the topics they are learning. Year 10 focused on Macbeth and wrote their poems based on their favourite characters.

There was some excellent expressive, emotive and fun poems written by all year groups.

Poem by Edith Olivent Year 7

This Dragon with humongous nails,
one day she thought to herself,
What if I paint my nails today,
So she went to the Dragon superstore and
found the make up aisle,
She picked out purple and pink,
She turned around and saw a shelf full of
sparkling rings,
She grabbed a few and went to the checkout,
When she got home she sat down at her dining
table
and started to paint her nails,
After they had dried she put on her new rings
and said "Oh look at me", I am the most
beautiful Dragon of them all,
So with a flap of her wings,
She flew to meet her Dragon Friends.



UPCOMING EVENTS

5TH OCTOBER TO
9TH OCTOBER
2020



MONDAY 5TH
PREP 5 BIKEABILITY
CYCLE CHECKS



PRE PREP
TODDLE WADDLE
FRIDAY 9TH



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