



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Headmistress: Mrs D Titus

Newsletter 26

Friday 04 May 2018

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **John 15:12**

Catholic Life of the School

In the reading from John's Gospel on Sunday, we hear Jesus asking his disciples not only to love another but to love as Jesus loved them.

Earlier on the same day, Jesus had said "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." So not only are we being reminded how important it is to love each other but that this will be seen by people around us; they will notice the signs of our special love for each other and for Jesus.

When we think about 'love' the first thought might be that love is a feeling or emotion. Jesus is talking about an active love where we accept, help and support each other with a gracious and generous heart.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to reflect on how you may be able to model the way Jesus loves us. Is there someone you need to forgive? Is there someone at school who would like to be your friend?



Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand

St Teresa of Calcutta

What does love look like? It has the hands to help others

St Augustine of Hippo

Absence Reporting

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on **020 8965 5651** or email the school at **admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk** Please do this before 9.00am on every day of absence.

Parents are reminded that in addition to making a telephone call by 9.00am on every day of absence, this must be followed up in writing. Parents may complete a Reason For Absence form (available from school office or school website) or you may write a letter to confirm the reason for the absence.

When you know in advance that your child will be absent, please inform the school in advance and provide the appropriate documentation such as the medical appointment letter.

Please remember that all school policies are in place for a reason with the main purpose being to ensure the safety, well-being and secure development of your child.

Attendance

In week beginning 23 April 2018, Classes EYFS S had 100% attendance.

All children may arrive from 8.30am at their designated gates. Please take full advantage of this early arrival as it not only helps your child to prepare for their learning day but also eases congestion.

Parents who choose to take their child out of school during term time will each be referred to Brent Education Welfare and may be issued with a £120 Education Penalty Notice Fine per child (reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of issue date).

Please remember that if your child is absent from school, and we have not already been informed in advance, parents must telephone the school by 9.00am on every day of absence. This is a very important safeguarding measure to ensure we know the whereabouts of every child.

If a child's whereabouts are unknown or unclear, the school will contact Brent's Children Missing In Education team so they can carry out an investigation.

School will be closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 7 May

Tennis Competition

St Joseph's brought two Year 3 and Year 4 teams to the mini red tennis competition at Kingsbury High School on Tuesday 1 May.

Team A were participating in the 'Cup' event with another eight local schools. Team B were competing in the 'Shield' event with 5 different schools.

Both teams were hugely successful! Team A finished in 3rd place in the Cup event and Team B won the Shield event by winning every match in the competition!

Well done to all children who took part in this event; you brought home St Joseph's first gold medal of the year and continued to show excellent sportsmanship and commitment to 'fair play' - congratulations!



Ascension Day Mass

Parents and family members are invited to join us for the 10.00am Ascension Day Mass being celebrated at The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden on Thursday 10 May.

We look forward to seeing you at the church for this very special gathering of our Catholic community.

Sports Day Dates

We will be holding a number of sports events during the Summer Term - weather permitting!

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|--------------------------|--|
| Friday 25 May | EYFS G and EYFS M from 9.30am to 10.15am |
| Friday 8 June | EYFS K and EYFS S from 9.30am to 10.15am |
| Friday 15 June | Year 1 from 9.30am to 10.20am |
| Wednesday 20 June | Year 3 from 9.30am to 10.30am |
| Friday 22 June | Year 2 from 9.30am to 10.30am |
| Wednesday 27 June | Year 4 from 9.30am to 10.30am |
| Wednesday 4 July | Year 5 from 9.30am to 10.30am |
| Wednesday 11 July | Year 6 from 9.30am to 10.30am |

St Joseph's Mission Statement

At St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School we strive to create a stimulating environment so that by learning, playing and working together, we openly follow Christ's teachings. We seek to offer every person the opportunity to be a unique and valued individual, sharing and developing our belief in the teachings of Jesus through everyday relationships and mutual respect in our dealings with one another.

Our School Mission is as follows:

- We stand on holy ground
- We will always open our doors in welcome
- We will always love and care for each other as Jesus taught us
- We will always place the Word of God at the heart of our school
- We will always be witnesses to our faith by following in the footsteps of Christ

Easter Art

Before the Easter break, all the children were involved in a wonderful art project relating to the Easter story; the death and resurrection of Christ.

Many of our families will have seen the work exhibited at The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden during the Easter holidays.



School Closure

Parents will have received a letter from Mrs Titus regarding the school closure date of Friday 13 July 2018.

In order to have everything ready for a September start, we have to start our move back to the school building during July. This early closure has been agreed by the local authority in consultation with the Chair of Governors.

After the school closes on 13 July, the school staff will be busy moving everything over to their new classrooms and the existing temporary classrooms will have to be removed as they are needed for a different site. Health & Safety regulations state that the school cannot be open to pupils in this situation as there will be cranes and large machinery on site.

We are very aware of the inconvenience this may cause for our parents/guardians but in order for our school to be fully operational in September this change to the holiday dates is essential. We hope that this gives everyone sufficient notice to make alternative arrangements and does not cause too much disruption.

The children will return to their new school on **Thursday 6 September** and we are all so excited about returning to our fantastic new building; it looks absolutely amazing!

On a personal note, Mrs Titus would like to thank our parents, children and staff for their continued support during what has been a challenging time since the fire.



Toxic Caterpillars

Parents may have seen media articles regarding a potential health risk with a type of caterpillar recently spotted in parts of the UK.

Over the long bank holiday weekend, many families will be visiting parks and other nature areas. Therefore, you may wish to remain vigilant and remind your children that they should not touch caterpillars or anything else they are unsure of.

Please [click here](#) for the BBC News article on this topic.

Safeguarding

St Joseph's treats seriously its responsibility to ensure children are safe and well.

Where there is information causing a level of concern, the matter is discussed between the Headmistress and Education Support Manager to determine if other agencies, such as Social Services, should be informed of the matter.

Where appropriate, parents are informed if the school decides to make a referral to Social Services. In line with their own procedures, Social Services may instruct the school that parents should not be informed in particular cases.

The school follows Social Services guidance with regards to referrals and information sharing to ensure our approach is child-centred.

The school frequently reviews processes to ensure we are doing all we can to minimise risk and keep children safe.

Please be reminded of the following expectations to support safeguarding at St Joseph's:

- When you bring your child to school in the morning and when you collect your child in the afternoon, please move off the premises promptly to ease congestion and to support the staff in dismissing the children to other parents.
- While term time leave is banned, we know there will be emergencies when children need to travel with their parents. In these situations, regardless of whether the leave will be authorised, please provide the school with a copy of the outgoing and return travel documents. This is a very important safeguarding measure.

Early Help

The school works with a number of agencies including health and Social Services to ensure that our children and families receive all the help they need at the earliest opportunity.

We therefore encourage parents to approach the school if they are unsure where to access help and support with any issues relating to family life. Please make an appointment to see Mrs Studd, Education Support Manager, to discuss any worries and we will help directly or signpost you to the most appropriate service.

Positive Parenting

The NSPCC has published a document to support parents with the challenges and demands of family life.

The document includes useful information and guidance about setting boundaries, rewards, sanctions and building relationships.

Please [click here](#) to view the NSPCC Positive Parenting document which is available to download from the Safeguarding page on the school website.



Online Safety

Schools, police, social services and other agencies are concerned at the ever-increasing volume of offences being committed against children through online devices.

Children are also being exposed to activities which are completely inappropriate for their age.

From class discussions, phase assemblies and e-safety learning, it seems that a significant number of children access the internet from their bedrooms without parental controls or monitoring.

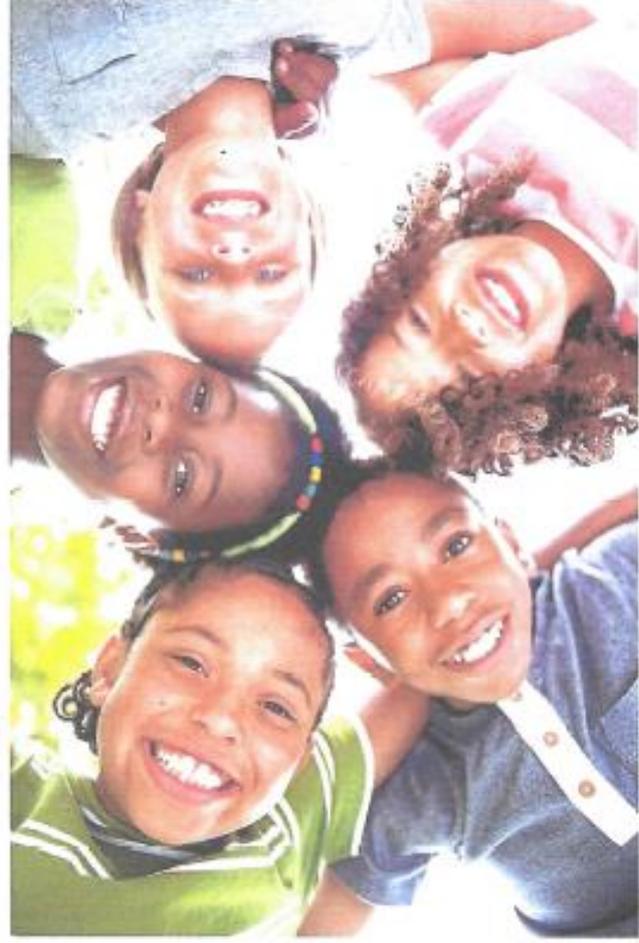
Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their children are involved in age appropriate online activities and to keep their children safe when they are using mobile phones, tablets, laptops, games consoles etc.

Please visit St Joseph's [E-Safety webpage](#) for further information.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Thank you for raising £1,431.52 to help disadvantaged children and families



Head Office: 73 St Charles Square, London W10 6EJ. Tel: 020 8939 5305

President: Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Vice President: Archbishop Peter Smith. Chief Executive and Company Secretary: Dr Rosemary Keenan. Registered Charity No. 210920

From Easter to Pentecost - Year B

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea: From Easter to Pentecost

This resource is intended for the Summer Term of 2018 and its focus on Easter and Pentecost. In previous years pupils have focussed on Pentecost as a Jewish celebration recorded in Acts of the Apostles and as a Liturgical feast, 50 days after Easter. This resource picks up the actions of the disciples as models for our behaviour now by listening to people we might call Pentecost People today, for whom faith is important, including Cardinal Nichols.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes: *It is hoped that pupils will develop:*

- An appreciation of the many people who live in response to their faith
- An awareness of the importance of faith in life
- An openness to the impact that faith can have on their own decisions and actions
- A willingness to respond to the personal call to faith which is theirs

Activities to try at home

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs.

- How you live matters to your Pupils. You model what is important in life and what you consider success is. Faith may be part of your life. If it is talk to your Pupils about how you express your faith and why it makes a difference to the way you live.

An idea for prayer at home



Prayer Activity

Pray:
Loving God. In the people around us we see your love and care. In the people around us we see your forgiveness and gentles. In the people around us we see your justice. Help us to be Pentecost People in our day to all those around us.
We ask this through Jesus who lived to show us how to live.
Amen.