



# St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School  
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Newsletter 1

Friday 15 September 2017

Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you? **Matthew 18:33**

## Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading on Sunday, Peter asks Jesus "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me?"

Jesus responds with a story about a servant who was shown mercy by the king when the servant could not repay a large debt. However, that servant did not show the same kindness to someone who owed him a very small amount of money; he put this person in prison as a punishment. When the king found out what had happened, he said to the servant "I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?"

This message is as important for us today as it was for those who first heard this story. Through this story, Jesus is also telling us about the sacrifice of his crucifixion. Jesus died to clear our debt of sin and he asks us to forgive others not once, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Jesus is telling us there should be no limits to our forgiving nature; Jesus' love is unlimited and we are called to be like him.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to reflect on a time when someone forgave you for a mistake or an unkind act. Take this time to think about someone who would benefit from forgiveness. Ask Jesus to help them know they too can receive his merciful kindness.

***Forgiveness does not come naturally. Forgiving from the heart can sometimes be actually heroic.***

(Pope St John Paul II)

***It is by forgiving that one is forgiven***

(St Teresa of Calcutta)



## Attendance

- ★ In the week beginning 11 September 2017, Class 5S 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 Attendance and Punctuality

At St Joseph's, we have the highest expectations for school attendance. Just one day missed at school means **six hours** of missed learning opportunities so this is a continuous focus to ensure that your child accesses the full curriculum and maintains learning progress.

All children with 100% attendance during 2017-18, and the class with the best attendance for the year, will be invited to attend a special reward trip. Last week, over 100 children attended the fantastic trip to Chessington based on 100% attendance during 2016-17 and we hope to take more children next year!

We have also introduced termly attendance rewards. At the end of this Autumn term, all children with 100% attendance between 7 September and 21 December will be placed in a draw for the opportunity to win a wonderful prize.

Punctuality is also vital to children's learning and well-being. So please ensure your child arrives on time and is collected on time every day.

### Merit of the Week Award

The following children have received Merit Certificates in our whole school assembly for demonstrating excellent standards in their learning and behaviour:

Richelia 2F, Kamila 2H, Dylan 2S, Ciel 3G, Joshua 3K, Lukasz 3M,  
Dylan 4C, Benjamin 4M, Kaison 5K, Nia 5S, Xavier 6D, Medine 6W and James 6M

### Student of the Week Award

<b>2S Alan</b>	For always trying his best in all subjects
<b>4M Kwesi</b>	For an enthusiastic approach and engaging with all curriculum areas
<b>6M Kajetan</b>	For being prepared, punctual and displaying wonderful manners

### 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 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.***

### Behaviour

At St Joseph's, we have the highest expectations for standards of behaviour. Therefore, if any child is placed on 'Restart', parents will be informed.

Children will be held to account if their behaviour disrupts the learning experience for themselves or others. Parents are expected to fully support this policy in line with their agreement to follow all school procedures when they accepted a place for their child to attend St Joseph's.

### 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