



Newsletter

05 October 2018

Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading this Sunday, Jesus has been teaching about marriage, then the people start to bring children to him for his touch to be upon them.

The disciples try to stop the children coming but Jesus tells them to come, saying that the kingdom of God belongs to them.

“Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”

There are a number of reasons why Jesus may have chosen children as an example.

One reason is that children and young people were not always valued in some cultures of that time. Jesus is saying that even those who may have little or no status in their own community can enter the kingdom of God.

Another reason is that we may need to rediscover our childlike sense of wonder in order to be more open to God's surprises and his amazing plans for our lives.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to spend some time listening to God and being open to his direction in your life.

Prayer is first listening to god. It's openness.

Henri Nouwen

Love, by its nature, is communication; it leads to openness and sharing.

Pope Francis

Community Dates

09 Oct: Sikhs celebrate the birthday of Guru Ram Das

09 Oct: Navaratri begins for Hindu community

10 Oct World Mental Health Day

12 Oct World Sight Day

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns for the safety and well-being of any child, please make an appointment to see Mrs Studd who is our Designated Safeguarding Lead.

In an emergency, please call the police without delay. To contact Brent Social Services, please call 020 8937 4300.

We can also help parents through Brent's Early Help Assessment process. If you are having difficulties with housing, finances or health, please speak with Mrs Studd who can signpost you to appropriate support and services.

[Click here](#) for information from the NSPCC on **Positive Parenting**.

[Click here](#) for information on **keeping your child safe online**.

[Click here](#) for the NSPCC **Share Aware** information

[Click here](#) for Brent **Citizens Advice**

Useful Contacts:

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Brent Social Services:
020 8937 4300

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School

Goodson Road, London, NW10 9LS

Telephone: 020 8965 5651

Email: admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk

www.stjosephsrc.co.uk

Class 6L Assembly

On Tuesday of this week, Class 6L presented an assembly on the theme of teamwork.

Two children volunteered to try a task with a hula hoop where they had to get snack bars at opposite sides of the hall. They pulled against each other and neither of them got the snacks because they didn't work together.

At the end of the assembly, another two children who worked together in the same direction were able to get the snacks.



The class also read out work they had completed about what teamwork means to them. The assembly ended with the children beautifully singing 'The World's Greatest'.

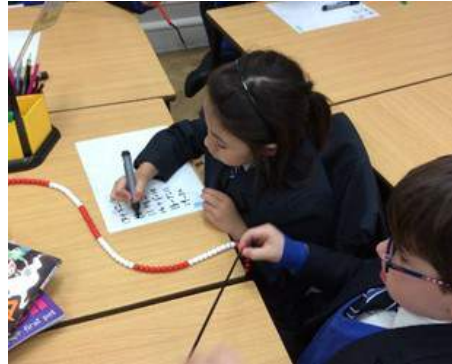


It was wonderful to have so many parents join us for a celebration of the children's learning.



Year 2 Learning

In **Mathematics** we have been adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers, using the 'If I know, then I know...' strategy, applying known facts to help us derive new facts. For example, if I know $3 + 4 = 7$, then I know $30 + 40 = 70$.



In **English**, we have been learning about 'Stories with a familiar setting'. We have been planning and writing our own stories - thinking carefully about all the characters and setting so the reader will enjoy the story.

In **Religious Education**, we listened to the story of 'Moses and the Burning Bush'. We used actions to retell the story so we could remember the important parts and words. Father Vincent visited us to talk to the children and led us in prayer.



As it is October, which is 'Black History Month', we based this week's **Big Writing** task on Rosa Parks. We made a fact file based on all our research about her life and achievements.

Class 4G Assembly

In their assembly this week, Class 4G performed two scenes from the play 'The Hare and the Tortoise' and discussed the moral lesson of the story; you can be more successful by doing things slowly and steadily than by acting quickly and carelessly.



The children also promoted 'Growth Mindset' principles; exploring statements of having a fixed mindset and changing them into having a growth mindset.



The assembly was brought to a reflective close with a prayer - asking God to help us change our ways of thinking.



Thank you to all the parents that were able to join us in this celebration of Year 4 learning.

School Council

The whole school has listened to wonderful speeches from the nominees for School Council. We heard some fantastic ideas about how the children would like to contribute to school life.

We followed a democratic process to ensure that every child had the opportunity to consider standing for election and we also ensured that the voices of all the nominees were heard by their peers.

With all the votes now counted, we are pleased to announce the School Council representatives for 2018-19:

Class 3C	Richelia	Alan
Class 3G	Tiago	Ella
Class 3W	Caitlin	Simon
Class 4G	Osaretin	Chetachi
Class 4H	Kamryn	Scott
Class 4M	Tiago	Aleksandra
Class 5H	Shaniah	Robert
Class 5M	Colin	Amiah
Class 6L	Shanique	Rayner
Class 6M	Kyle	Zuzanna

Red Hat Peer Mentors

We have appointed a number of Red Hat Peer Mentors from Year 4 and Year 5. These children will support the school community by ensuring children are playing games that they enjoy and that they have a friend to talk to.

Congratulations to the following children who have earned the privilege of being a Red Hat Peer Mentor in 2018-19:

Year 4: Alfie, Stella, Kamryn, Marni, Chase, Niyat, Clodagh, Christian, Ciel, Aoki-Ling, Ivie, Melanie, Amelia and Emmanuella

Year 5: Cherry, Scarlett, Dasha, Kelly, Lauren, Marcela, Michelle, Nela, Chloe, Klaudiusz, Jay and Shaniah



Attendance

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 before 9.00am on every day of absence.

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 / email 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 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.

If we have any concerns about a child's absence, we may carry out a home visit. We may also contact Brent Education Welfare and Social Services.

The classes with the best attendance so far this year are: Class 1F, Class 3C, Class 3W and Class 6L. There are currently 381 children with 100% attendance for this term!!

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:

Shamira-Rose 2H, Sophia 2S, Sean 3C, Ella 3G, 3W Caitlin, Jerusha 4G, Gerald 4H, Majka 4M, Michelle 5H, Colin 5M, Lesley 6L and Sindy 6M

Student of the Week Award

Sarah 3C For having a positive attitude and helping others every day
Lola 4M For working hard with an excellent attitude
Marcus 6M For being a great role model to his peers

Brent Educational Psychology Service

Parent Drop-In Sessions with an Educational Psychologist (EP)

Venue: Fawood Children's Centre, 35 Fawood Avenue NW10 8DX

Date: Wednesday 10th October, 2018

Book a 45 minute session* between 9.00am and 12pm

*sessions must be booked in advance



The EP parent drop-in sessions are offered to any parent or carer who has a child in a Brent school and who would like to have some time to discuss any concerns with an educational psychologist (examples may include: your child's emotional well-being, challenging behaviours, learning progress, your relationship with your child or some of your own worries). The sessions aim to be supportive, confidential and informal. Each session is up to 45 minutes.

To book a session contact the Brent EPS on 0208 937 3200/07867 189440 or email: eps@brent.gov.uk

Academic Review Meetings

Parents are encouraged to attend the termly Academic Review meetings. You will receive information about your child's progress, agree learning targets, and discuss strategies for any areas of improvement.

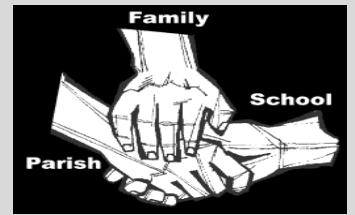
Due to the information discussed, these meetings can only be conducted with the child's parent or legal guardian. We cannot meet with any other relatives, friends or other representatives.

If you cannot make the appointment offered, please contact the school office to reschedule for another date.

We do hope that you find these meetings useful in supporting your child's education and that you also enjoy looking at your child's books and their learning environment.

Beginning with God

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea:

This framework of learning is intended as the last in the liturgical year, Year B; the first in the academic year 2018/2019. As the title suggests the content of this resource is the nature of God. Both belief in the singular nature of God (Monotheism) and God as a Trinity are taught. Pupils will explore a variety of Biblical metaphors for God and learn about the Nicene Creed as a time in history when the nature of Jesus was considered and clarified.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes: It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- An appreciation of the nature of God as greater than what we can imagine or know
- A sense of the presence of God in their lives
- An openness to wondering about God as 'three in one'.
- A sense of curiosity about God.

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. This resource asks pupils to think about what God is like. Be open to the many metaphors they learn about and incorporate some into your family prayer.

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity

Pray with your children:

God who is bigger than all we can imagine or say. Help us to see you in our world; in the beauty of the natural world, in the traditions of our Church, in the stories of Scripture and in the people around us. May we remember that, created in your image, we are like you and we show others what you are like. We ask this through Jesus who took on human to show us your great love, Amen.

