



# Newsletter

25 January 2019

## Catholic Life of the School

On Wednesday, St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School enjoyed a very special Mass in which Bishop John Sherrington officially reopened the school.

During the Mass, Bishop John also blessed the new altar and the new stained glass window.

The window depicts the presentation of baby Jesus at the temple, and that event was the focus of the Gospel passage read by Fr Stephen.

Bishop John spoke to us about the scene in the window representing two important things.

The first is that it reminds us of our Baptism when our parents presented us to the Church.

The second thing is that the light comes streaming

through the window and the school goes out carrying the light of Jesus into the wider community.

Many dignitaries were present at this special occasion including former colleagues and our partners from the local authority.

We were also honoured to have the Mayor of Brent present and we thank him for his generous words about the school community.

We have published more information on the next page and we hope that you enjoy the photographs too!



## Celebrations

We are always very happy to share news about the children's achievements outside of school.

Please email details and photos to:

[info@stjo.brent.sch.uk](mailto:info@stjo.brent.sch.uk)

## 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 Brent Citizens Advice

## Useful Contacts:

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Brent Social Services:  
020 8937 4300

## Community Dates

27 Jan Holocaust Memorial Day

28 Jan St Thomas Aquinas

31 Jan Birthday of Guru Har Rai (Sikh)

St Joseph's Roman Catholic

Primary School

020 8965 5651

[admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk)

[www.stjosephsrc.co.uk](http://www.stjosephsrc.co.uk)

## St Joseph's School Mass

We were delighted that Bishop John celebrated Mass at St Joseph's on Wednesday 23 January in recognition of the full restoration of the school building following the devastating fire in September 2015.

During the Mass, Bishop John blessed the new altar and the stained glass window that had been purchased through the generous fundraising of parents.

We were joined by very special guests including Ms Tolley (Brent Strategic Director for Children and Young People) and the Mayor of Brent, Cllr Arshad Mahmood. It was wonderful to welcome Mr Coyle (Headteacher of Newman Catholic College) and Mrs Quinlan who have been very supportive friends of St Joseph's for many years and particularly during the period of the fire.



It was also a pleasure to welcome our friends from Cath Child who provided a significant donation of £10,000 just days after the fire. We were also joined by three former pupils - Leesha, Ciara and Gromoslaw.

A special recognition is given to our Governing Board who were also at this special celebration. Our Governors tirelessly support the school community by volunteering their time and their wide range of skills to support the children and staff.



## Attendance

The classes with the best attendance last week were:

**Mr Hutton (2H) and Mr Lynch (6L)**

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](mailto: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.

Please remember term time leave for family holiday and celebrations are not permitted in line with our Attendance Policy. Unauthorised absences are referred to Brent Education Welfare who have the authority to issue Education Penalty Notices of £120 per child, per parent. This reduces by 50% if paid within 21 days.

## Safer Internet Day

This year, Safer Internet Day takes place on Tuesday 5 February. This has been organised to help increase awareness about the safest ways in which to engage with and enjoy all types of online activity.

At St Joseph's, we frequently communicate with our children and parents about online safety to help reduce the risk of children accessing inappropriate websites or becoming engaged in unsuitable communications online.

The school computers and digital equipment have been protected to prevent children and any other persons on site from accessing any inappropriate materials.

Therefore, we encourage parents to ensure that their own home equipment has the same protections. Please also check regularly what your child is doing online.

Our website contains a number of links to resources for parents.

Please [click here](#) for direct access to the information.

## Parent Communication

Parents are reminded that it is very helpful for school to be kept informed of any factors that may impact on your child's learning or well-being.

This is to ensure that we are all doing everything we can to support your child and family.

Please make an appointment to see our Education Support Manager, Mrs Studd, to discuss any matters that school should be aware of so we can make informed decisions together.

## School Uniform

Please ensure that children wear full school uniform at all times.

In this colder weather, please ensure that your child comes to school every day with their school coat, school hat, school scarf and gloves.

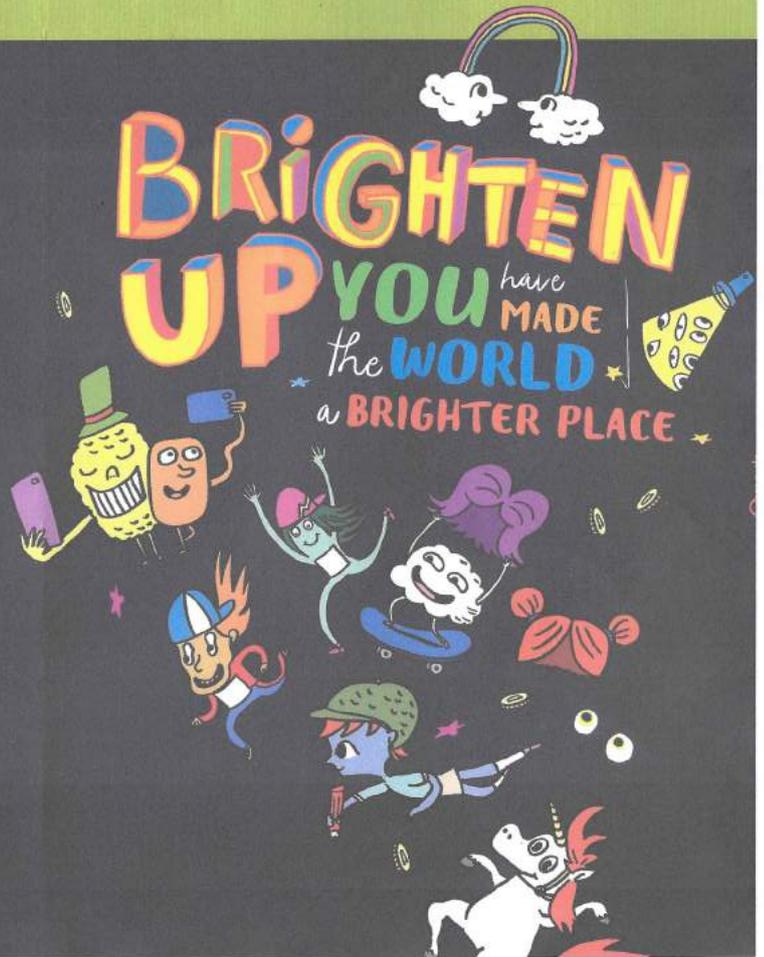
All items should be clearly labelled.

St Joseph's RC School

has raised the sum of

**£980.14**

to help people build a brighter  
future through CAFOD's projects  
around the world



*Thank You!*

CAFOD is the Catholic agency for overseas development,  
working in communities across the world to end poverty and injustice.

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

The Headteacher,  
St Joseph's RC School,  
Goodson Road, Willesden  
London  
NW10 9LS  
United Kingdom

14 January 2019

Dear Friend,

- Thank you to everyone at St Joseph's RC School. We were delighted to receive the £980.14 that you sent to us on 3 January 2019. Thank you so much.

Your donation can support people like Cynthia Ntala, who is the chair of a CAFOD-funded vegetable garden in Zimbabwe.

Cynthia explains: 'A lot has changed since the garden was planted. Our nutrition is better, we have more diverse food to eat, we're better at preparing food and even our health is better. I can't imagine life without the garden now.'

'I am very grateful to you for sharing our problems. I hope you will share our story with others who are helping and show them that their money has not been wasted. I am very, very grateful. May God bless you.'

Once again, on behalf of the communities CAFOD works with worldwide, thank you so much for your continued support.

With prayers and good wishes,

Chris Funnell  
Head of Supporter Donations

PS. For more information please visit our webpage – [cafod.org.uk/education](http://cafod.org.uk/education)

# Sacramental People - Year C

Linking School, Parish and Home



## Religious Education

### Key Idea:

Having learned something of the nature of God we now ask where God is - and find out that God is with us in our world, bidden or not! Being sacramental means that we can know God in our everyday lives - the highs and lows, the joys and fears. There is nowhere that God is not! In this resource we look for God in the world and come to understand that knowing God in our everyday helps us to see how the Sacraments celebrate and express this. In this resource our need for healing, physical and social, in the Sacraments of Healing, is studied.

### Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes: It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- a. An appreciation of God's presence in the world
- b. A respect for relationships which bring God's presence to us
- c. An attitude of openness to the Sacraments: words, actions and symbols
- d. A willingness to seek God in their own lives
- e. A recognition of the need for healing in the world.

### 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.

- Healing is for the both body, mind and soul. It settles our fears, it takes away the sadness or our wrong-doing and it clears the way of obstacles which bind us. The best way to teach your children about healing is to be open and generous in your healing; your gift of it and your reception of it from those who love you.

### An idea for prayer at home



### Prayer Activity

Loving God, At every moment of our lives you are present to us, God, in gentle compassion, in strengthening guidance and in and loving forgiveness. Help us to recognize you around us, especially in our actions and words so that our being in the world helps heal it of fear and hurt and doubt. We ask this through Jesus who taught us to love. Amen.