



# St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School  
Goodson Road, Willesden, London, NW10 9LS  
Tel: 020 8965 5651 E-mail: admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk  
www.stjosephsrc.co.uk

Newsletter 38

Monday 22 July 2013

*The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! **Number 6:24-26***

## Message From the Headmistress

On Friday 19 July, we held a whole school assembly to celebrate achievements, to say farewell to our leavers and to enjoy some time together as the children have worked very hard all year.

We said goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 pupils who leave us to enter the next stage of their educational journey. Special awards were given to the following Year 6 pupils in recognition of their talents and their contribution to the St Joseph's school community:

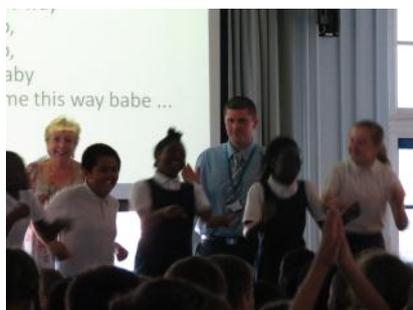
**Matthew** (Head Boy); **Sophie** (Head Girl); **Anna Paula** (Deputy Head Girl); **Kai** (Deputy Head Boy);  
**Zanika** (Monitor); **Jerrel** (Monitor); **Natalia** (Monitor); **Wiktor** (Monitor);  
**Dominika** (Librarian); **Emily** (Librarian);

**Ellis** (Musician); **Chastity** (Writer); **Aiko** (Mathematician); **Shardonnae** (Sports Person); **Femi** (Art);  
**Elijah**, **Jahreem** and **Marianna** (Contribution To School Life); **Latani** (Headmistress Special Award);  
**Ernest** (Headmistress Special Award) and **Aoife** (Spirit Of St Joseph's)

We also said goodbye to Mrs Gillen and Mrs Wojewodski who are leaving St Joseph's to enjoy a well-earned retirement. We also said farewell to the following members of staff; Mr Doyle, Mr O'Hare, Miss Harte, Mr Devine, Miss Khurana, Mr Mackey, Mrs Pomponi and Miss Olivia.

I hope that all our families enjoy the summer holidays and that you all stay safe and healthy. I look forward to seeing all our children returning to school in their new uniforms on **Thursday 5 September**.

## God Bless Mrs Titus



## Attendance

Congratulations to the 92 children who have been invited to attend the Chessington reward trip for achieving excellent attendance this academic year. This trip includes all the children of Class 3A who achieved an attendance rate of **98.8%** over the whole year.

The Chessington trip takes place on Friday 6 September so parents must complete the permission form and return to school by Thursday 5 September.

## Attendance & Punctuality

On the front page of every St Joseph's Newsletter, we celebrate the classes who have made an effort to come to school every day so they can access all areas of the curriculum and reach their full potential.

Unfortunately, there are a small number of children who do not have excellent attendance or punctuality. In some cases, this is clearly in connection with a recognised ongoing medical condition which the school is aware of. However, there are other children whose attendance and punctuality is below expectations owing to the parents approach to this matter.

Parents who choose to take their children to routine appointments during the school day are having an adverse effect on their learning progress. Most medical appointments can be rescheduled for out of school hours or during half term breaks so please do this to support your child. There has also been a significant rise in the number of children who need to attend appointments in connection with passport or visa applications. Again, there is no reason why this cannot be dealt with during the 14 weeks of school holidays. ***The only absences which are considered for being recorded as 'authorised' are personal illness and family bereavement (up to 3 days).***

Family holidays are also being taken during school time. This is unacceptable and is a clear disregard for school rules as there have been numerous reminders that holidays are banned in term time. Please note that from September 2013, **any** unauthorised absence will be discussed with Education Welfare with a view to issue Penalty Notice Fines where there is a breach of the school rules.

Please also ensure that your child arrives at school by 8.55am at the latest. With our invitation for children to arrive from 8.30am, there is no reason for a child to habitually arrive late for school. Persistent late arrival will be recorded as unauthorised absence which could also lead to a Penalty Fine Notice.

### Year 5 Trip To O2 Arena

On Tuesday 9 July, Year 5 went to the British Music experience at the O2 Arena as part of their learning on '1960's London'. They also had the opportunity to take a ride over the Thames in an Emirates Cable Car!

Please speak with your children about their fantastic learning experience.



### Family Fun Day - 'Bike It'

At the recent Family Fun Day, Ruth from 'Bike It' organised a competition to find our fastest cyclist! The children who took part had 1 minute to travel as far as they could on the bicycle.

Alton (10), Courtney (40), and Mihajlo (5D) and Paula (5D) achieved some of the best distances on the day but the winners were Jaquim (6K) who travelled 0.31 miles in 1 minute and Aoife (6H) who travelled 0.28 miles in 1 minute.

All the children named above received a prize donated by 'Bike It' in recognition of their achievement.

We thank Ruth from 'Bike It' for organising the trials and also for the work she has carried out throughout the year in promoting cycling amongst the children and the staff!

Please encourage your children to cycle safely during the summer holidays to build their skills and confidence. If you would like your child to ride to school, you must inform the school office and you should provide your child with a padlock.

### New School Uniform

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who have placed their orders for the new school uniform. If you still need to order some items, please read the message below from Ace Clothing.

*'To beat the queues Ace Clothing strongly recommends that parents order before the middle of August. The easiest way for parents to order is online at [www.aceclothing.co.uk](http://www.aceclothing.co.uk). Alternatively, parents can order by phone or by visiting the store. A new initiative for 2013 is a separate Collections point for pre-paid orders ONLY. The normal free school delivery service will resume from the start of term in September. Ace Clothing thanks schools and parents for their support and wishes everybody a very enjoyable summer.'*