



St Joseph's News

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Newsletter 22

Friday 27 March 2015

*When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.'
Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. John 19:30*

Holy Week

As we enter Holy Week, we will have the opportunity to attend mass and special services devoted to reflections on the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

During the Stations Of The Cross presentation by Year 4 on Thursday, we heard the hymn 'Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?' This is a beautiful yet sombre hymn which originates from slaves working in plantations in 19th century America. The captives were able to identify with Jesus, not only as a man who was persecuted by those who thought they were superior, but they also saw in Christ their hope and salvation.

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus has brought hope and salvation for every one of us. We just have to accept his grace, mercy and forgiveness to enjoy the eternal relationship.

I pray that all our children and their families will take the time this Easter to think about the sacrifice Jesus made for us and to reflect on how the resurrection has given us the joyful hope of eternal life.



God bless

Mrs Titus

Best Attendance In Brent!

The Department for Education has published figures showing our whole school attendance was 97.8% in the academic year 2013-14. This is a great achievement for the school but is even more important for all the children who have had excellent attendance.

For this academic year, we are currently above 98% attendance but the final figure for the year could be even better. After the Easter holiday, please make every effort to ensure your child attends school every day. It is also beneficial for your child's learning if routine appointments are made outside of school hours or as late in the day as possible.

It is clear that excellent attendance leads to excellent achievement so we look forward to our parents continuing to work in partnership with the school to secure the best possible outcomes for their children.

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Attendance
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★ This week Classes RG, 2O, and 4D achieved 100% attendance.

★ **CHILDREN MUST BE IN SCHOOL BY 8.55am.** Year 1 and Year 2 children can arrive from 8.40am and children in Years 3 to 6 can arrive from 8.30am so there is no excuse for persistent lateness. Please support your child's educational progress by ensuring they arrive in plenty of time.

★ While we enjoy celebrating excellent attendance, we must remember the long term benefits of your child being in school every day - they will access all aspects of the curriculum and reach their full potential. Please arrange routine appointments out of school hours and remember that holidays are banned.

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

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Happy Easter - children return to school on Monday 13 April
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Stations Of The Cross

On Thursday, the Year 4 classes presented a very moving re-enactment of the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The children spoke clearly and sang beautifully to ensure that the story was retold with reverence and passion.

Thank you to all the Year 4 parents who were able to join us for this very moving assembly.



Music Showcase

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, Mr McCourt presented a music showcase so the children had an opportunity to show their parents their excellent progress and standards in group and individual performances.

We had so many genres of music; from Beethoven to Elvis, from rock to calypso! A number of musical instruments were also used as part of the performance including classical guitar, piano, violin, drums and steel pans.

It was very exciting to see all the musical talent at St Joseph's and we look forward to the next showcase!



Big Pedal 2015

We are delighted to announce that St Joseph's finished top of the Brent Big Pedal table for 2015! This is a fantastic achievement by all the children who made such a great effort. We finished 18th overall in the national standings so this is something to be extremely proud of.

In our Easter assembly, we also had the draw for the raffle prizes. Children earned an entry to the draw every time they used their bicycle or scooter to get to school during the Big Pedal. The winners drawn by Mrs Titus, Ms Kirby and Andrew from Sustran were:

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| 1st Prize | Jack 20 |
| 2nd Prize | Gerald RS |
| 3rd Prize | Karol 1F |

