



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 21

Friday 28 February 2014

... whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:43-45

Cardinal Vincent

Last weekend, Bishop Vincent Nichols was elected to the College Of Cardinals by Pope Francis and will now be known as Cardinal Vincent. Here are some of the thoughts Cardinal Vincent shared recently on BBC Radio 4's **Thought For The Day** programme:

"The collective for cardinals is, of course, a College. So I'm about to become a member of the College of Cardinals, called to assist Pope Francis in his ministry to the world-wide Catholic Church.

When I first heard the news of this appointment, I was filled with trepidation. But since then I have been so heartened by the encouragement and support I have been offered. The Chief Rabbi told me that it was good for the voice of faith in our society, an encouragement for all who sought to live their lives before God. I hope I will not disappoint him.



So today, for the first time, I wear the scarlet robes of a Cardinal. It's the colour also seen in the bright plumage of the male cardinal bird, noted for his extraordinary range of songs and melodies. But the bright red stands for something else. Those who wear these robes are proclaiming their readiness to be faithful to Jesus Christ, even to the shedding of their blood. Today, then, has its more sombre side. Yet it remains a moment of great joy. And enjoy it to the full, I will!"

Please pray for Cardinal Vincent as he continues his ministry not only in our Diocese but also as he supports Pope Francis with national and international mission.

We Are Taking Part In The Big Pedal 2014!

The Big Pedal is a giant inter-school cycling competition happening in schools all across the UK from 03 to 14 March 2014. It's powered by UK charity Sustrans (www.sustrans.org.uk) and funded by the Bike Hub (www.bikehub.co.uk). It's totally FREE to enter and we would love parents, pupils and staff to all get involved!

Let's all get involved: The more of us that take part, the better we will do in the competition and the higher our chances of winning some brilliant prizes, not to mention the health benefits for everyone. Another bonus will be less congestion around the school gates during rush hour!

What to do: The best thing you can do is encourage your child(ren) to cycle or scoot to school every day during the race, and to join them in doing so.

Why we are taking part: We think it's a fantastic way to promote healthy travel in our school and to get more pupils riding their bikes. What's more it's a fun, sociable way to start the day and we'll be competing to become one of the UK's top cycling schools!

Attendance

Classes 2M, 3F, 3M, 5M and 5R all achieved 100% attendance this week.

Classes RM, RG, 1P, 3A, 3F, 3M, 4O, 5D, 5R and 6N received NO late marks this week.

As Year 3 to Year 6 children may arrive from 8.30am and Year 1 to Year 2 can arrive from 8.45am, there is no excuse for regular lateness. Please respect your children's right to learn by getting them to school on time.

Parents who choose to take their child out of school during term time will be issued with a £60 Education Penalty Notice Fine

Year 1 Cycle Training

On Monday 10 March, Year 1 parents should collect a letter from the main school office regarding the cycle training taking place on Tuesday 25 March at 2.00pm.

Parents are also invited to come to the training to support their children.

As spaces are limited, please collect the letter on 10 March and return the reply slip immediately.

School Uniform Orders - Kilts

Parents are advised to collect a special order from the main school office if they will require a new kilt for their child in September.

The order form will be available from Tuesday 4 March. Our suppliers would appreciate order forms being returned to the office promptly so they can ensure they have sufficient numbers of kilts in the sizes required.

Sports Coaching

This week, we were fortunate to have visits from external sports coaches who are specifically trained in their field.

Year 4 and Year 5 pupils attended gymnastics sessions provided by a coach from Premier Sports Club while Class 4A took part in football training with a coach from Queens Park Rangers Football Club.



Upcoming Dates & Events

Wednesday 5 March

Ash Wednesday mass for Year 3 to Year 6 children at Our Lady Of Willesden. Parents are welcome to join us at the church at 10.00am

Wednesday 12 March

Bike It breakfast for pupils and parents

Wednesday 19 March

St Joseph's Day mass for Year 3 to Year 6 children at Our Lady Of Willesden. Parents are welcome to join us at the church at 10.00am

Friday 11 April

Last day of Spring Term

Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April

EASTER HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday 28 April

Children return to school

Term Time Leave

Please remember that it has been school policy for a number of years that holidays, family celebrations, reunions etc are banned during term time.

Parents choosing to ignore this school rule will be issued with an automatic Education Penalty Fine Notice which is £60 per child, per parent. The fine is doubled if not paid within 21 days and legal prosecution proceedings commence if the fine remains unpaid after 28 days.

If parents choose to take their child away from school without notification, this will be reported to Brent's 'Children Missing In Education' team so they can liaise with officials, including the police, to determine the whereabouts of children who are not in school as expected.

The school will support any action which preserves a child's access to education as every child attending St Joseph's has high aspirations and rightly expects to reach their full potential.