



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 20

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My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. **John 10:27-28a**

Catholic Life of the School

Year of Mercy Candle

This week, the Year of Mercy candle was brought to St Joseph's from The Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College.

We hosted a very special assembly, with prayers from Fr Gabriel, in which Mrs Freer presented the Candle to St Joseph's.

We are very pleased to be able to honour and celebrate the Year of Mercy in this way.



Gospel Reading

At Mass on Sunday, we will hear from John's Gospel, with the story about Jesus' reassurance that he knows every one of us and that through him we can be sure of eternal life.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to thank God for this wonderful gift; He sacrificed His Son so we will all experience forgiveness and eternity with our Father.

You may wish to pray for someone who does not know Jesus yet so they too can enjoy a relationship where they are known and loved.



Catholic Children's Society News

We were delighted to find out that the Catholic Children's Society published a very special story about St Joseph's in a recent newsletter.

Making a Difference to over 500 children and their families at St Joseph's School



In September 2015, St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School in the London Borough of Brent experienced a devastating fire. Here Dawn Titus, Head Teacher, writes about the support given by the Catholic Children's Society.

We remain eternally grateful that the children were safely evacuated from the building in 2 minutes. However, in trying to ensure that lessons resumed as soon as possible, one of the biggest worries for parents was the replacement of school uniform, especially their PE kits and coats which had been destroyed in the fire.

One of the first calls we received the day after the fire was from the Catholic Children's Society. Their message was simply "We are here for you, what can we do?" When the cost of replacing the uniform was calculated, the Catholic Children's Society issued a cheque immediately for the value of £10,000. At a time when the school leaders had so much to think



"Our vision for our school and our pupils is limitless"

about, this donation alleviated one of our concerns. This also relieved our parents from the burden of meeting the replacement costs when they had just bought new uniform for the start of the new school year. As many of our children are from low income families, this support was greatly appreciated. The Catholic Children's Society have remained in contact with us to ask if we need any further support. This continuation of care as we rebuild our school is such a blessing for all of the St Joseph's community. Our children have especially chosen the Catholic Children's Society as their Lenten Charity for all they did to support us.

The generous donation to St Joseph's made a difference to over 500 children and their families so we will always be thankful for their assistance.

They published two significant photographs alongside the article.

The first photograph is an aerial view of the damage caused to the school roof as a result of the devastating fire in September 2015. This serves as a reminder of the considerable work yet to be done to restore the school to its former glory. We are working hard with the contractors to ensure that the whole building is available to use as soon as is safely possible. Some of our Governors had a tour of the internal building before Easter and were able to see the tremendous task which lies ahead.

The second photograph shows some of the Year 6 children who were involved in supporting fundraising during the Lenten period. We are very proud of their resilience and their generous approach in wanting to ensure that we were able to give back to Catholic Children's Society after all they had done to look after our families. This is a testament to our faith and our Catholic community.

St Joseph's Mission Statement

At St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School we strive to create a stimulating environment so that by learning, playing and working together, we openly follow Christ's teachings. We seek to offer every person the opportunity to be a unique and valued individual, sharing and developing belief in the teachings of Jesus through everyday relationships and mutual respect in our dealings with one another.

In order to achieve our mission:

- We stand on holy ground
- We will always open our doors in welcome
- We will always love and care for each other as Jesus taught us
- We will always place the Word of God at the heart of our school
- We will always be witnesses to our faith by following in the footsteps of Christ

Attendance

During week beginning 21 March, Class 6R achieved 100% attendance. Classes 6M and 4G were very close behind them with 99% attendance. Children must aim for 100% every week to ensure they have the opportunity to enjoy the attendance reward trip.

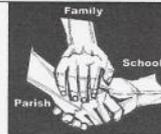
The attendance for this week will be published in the next newsletter but we are very pleased to share the news that attendance across the whole school was over 99%. This is a fantastic effort which will help children's learning and progress.

Children must also arrive on time every day to ensure they access the full curriculum. Poor punctuality affects your child's learning, the learning of others and is very inconsiderate.

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)

From Easter to Pentecost *Year C*

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea:

This resource continues learning about Easter by exploring the Season of Easter, the period from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. Belief in the resurrection is presented as one of the founding beliefs of Christians and, together with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost as the rationale for 'caritas'; love of God that leads to acts of charity. This unit teaches from the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles, also written by Luke.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes: *It is hoped that pupils will develop:*

- A strengthened sense of belief in the resurrection of Jesus
- A willingness to accept the obligation to care for those less fortunate than ourselves

- A sense of how the resurrection provides a way of living

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.

- Easter is a time of reflection, thanksgiving and celebration. Make a point of undertaking some charitable works: give time, money or your support to someone who needs it.

An idea for prayer at home



Prayer Activity

Loving God, In loving you we are called to love others in practical and real ways. May we have eyes to see the needs of those around us and the hearts and minds to do something about meeting them. Amen