



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Executive Headmistress: Mrs D Titus

Newsletter 32

Friday 15 July 2016

There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.
Luke 10:42

Catholic Life of the School

At Mass this weekend, we will hear about Mary and Martha. The sisters invited Jesus into their home and while Martha was busy preparing a meal for them, Mary listened to Jesus while she sat at his feet.

Martha said to Jesus "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." Jesus replied "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Jesus knew that it was important to do household jobs and to be hospitable to guests. However, he reminds us that it is more important to take time to listen to God. We can be so busy rushing around doing things or feel that we have to say lots of things to God. Sometimes, he wants us to be still and to listen to his voice!

In your family prayer time, you may wish to sit quietly and listen for God to speak to you. He may say just one word or he may show you a picture. Share with each other what you think God may be saying to you.

First Holy Communion

Fr Stephen reminds Year 2 parents that the deadline for submitting forms for the next cohort of First Holy Communion classes is this weekend.

If you have not already done so, please collect a form at any of the weekend masses from The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden and ensure it is completed and returned by the evening of **Sunday 17 July**.



For families attending The Five Precious Wounds, there will be a Registration Meeting for parents with Fr Antonio after the midday Mass on **Sunday 17 July**. This meeting is an important stage in the process so you must inform Fr Antonio in advance if you cannot attend but still wish for yourself and your child to be included in the preparation sessions which commence in September.

Diocesan Inspection

Earlier this week, Mrs Titus, Executive Headmistress, shared the wonderful news that St Joseph's achieved 'Outstanding' in all categories during the school's recent Diocesan Inspection.

While this is a truly remarkable accolade given the circumstances in which we started the academic year, it is an accurate reflection of the Catholic life of the school.

As Mrs Titus stated in her letter, it is the children, in particular, that make St Joseph's such a successful Catholic learning community. Their thirst for knowledge and their desire to help those less fortunate than themselves is a living testament to their faith.

Attendance

During week beginning 04 July, Class 1O had the best attendance. The best class attendance for the year has a number of contenders so children must attend every day to ensure their class can go on the reward trip to Chessington World of Adventures!

Children must 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 referred to Brent Education Welfare and may be issued with a £120 Education Penalty Notice Fine per child

Upcoming Dates and Events

We have some special events planned for next week. Detailed information has been sent in separate letters, but here are some key dates to note:

Monday 18 July	Nursery Sports Day
Wednesday 20 July	Year 6 Leavers Mass
Thursday 21 July	Last day of school for pupils

PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 1.00PM ON THURSDAY 21 JULY AND ALL CHILDREN WILL BE DISMISSED AT THIS TIME.

THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB PROVISION ON THIS LAST DAY.

Year 6 Residential Visit

This week, the Year 6 children have enjoyed a wonderful residential trip to Normandy in northern France.

There have been lots of exciting excursions in which the children had the opportunity to practice the French language skill which they have been learning in their **eight** years at St Joseph's.

The children enjoyed new experiences on trips to a chocolate factory, an adventure park and a French castle. They group also had a wonderful day at the seaside town of St Malo.

We know that this trip will remain in the memories of the children and staff for many years to come and it is a wonderful way to end Year 6.



Prayer for France

As you will be aware, on the last evening of the Year 6 trip, the French nation were devastated by the tragic events which took place in Nice, in the south of France. At St Joseph's, we feel a strong connection with France as their language and culture is an important part of our curriculum from Nursery to Year 6. Please remember the French people in your prayers this weekend.

St Joseph's Support Appeal Close to Their Heart

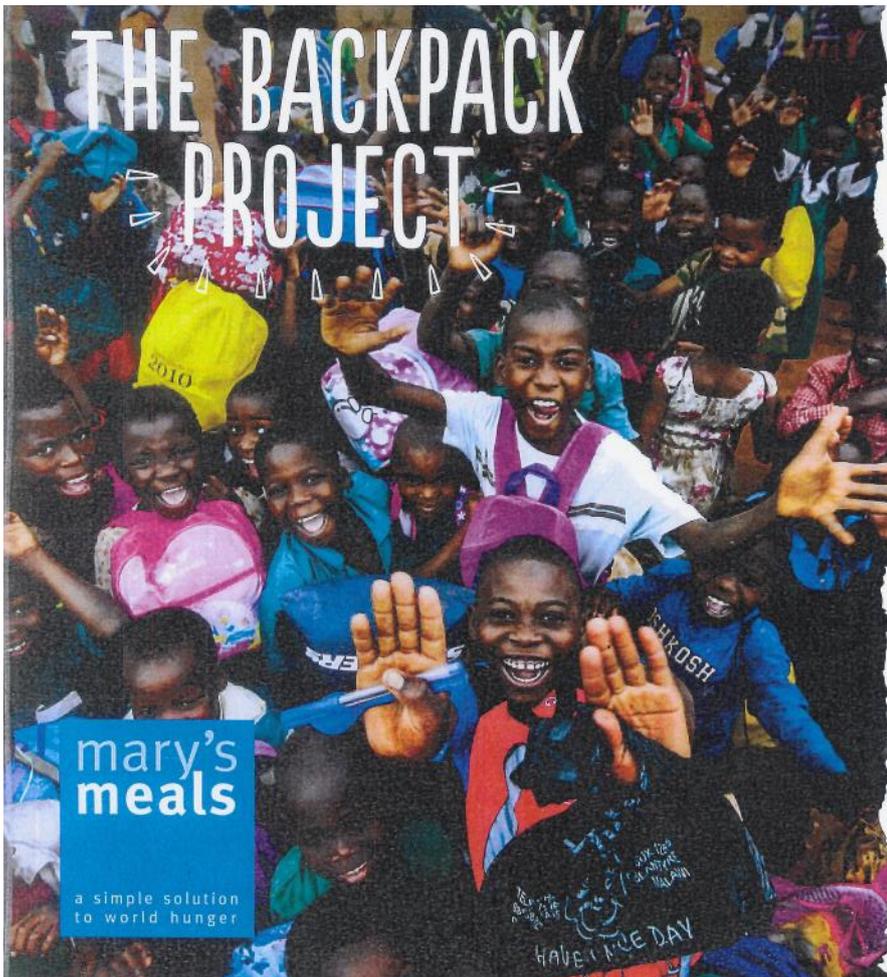
The pupils of St Joseph's Primary School in Harlesden have fully supported the current Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal and collected 267 backpacks equipped with the essentials required to enjoy a day at school.

This is an extraordinary achievement in itself but is even more remarkable given the difficult situation St Joseph's has faced since September 2015, when a devastating fire destroyed their school building. The impact on families was recognised by charitable organisations who supported our parents by ensuring that the St Joseph's children had all the uniform and equipment needed to resume their education within eight days of the fire.

In recognition of this wonderful support, the pupils were keen to help others who are in difficult situations. The Mary's

Meals Backpack Appeal was chosen by St Joseph's as our pupils understood how it feels to want to go to school and to be fully equipped to access learning. In supporting others, this has helped pupils and staff to be even more determined about the restoration of their school building.

Executive Head Teacher Dawn Titus, said, 'I am so proud of the whole school community and particularly the children as they have demonstrated compassion for others at a time when we could have focused on our own situation. Belonging to a Catholic community means we are always aware that others across the world are living in very difficult circumstances. If we can do anything to help children in other countries to receive and engage with education then we will respond.'



This is to certify that:

**St Joseph's
Primary School**

Collected:

267 Backpacks

Date:

June 2016

THANK YOU!

Your gift will enable a child who receives Mary's Meals to make the most of their time in school.

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Founder and Chief Executive

/marysmeals

@marysmeals

find us on:

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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

A Virtuous Life - Year C

Linking School, Parish and Home

Religious Education

Key Idea:

This resource completes study of the Gospel of Luke by examining one of his most favoured texts, the Good Samaritan, and by relating the actions of the Samaritan to the cardinal virtues. The resource concludes with an investigation of St John Southworth and by asking the eternal question, who is my neighbour?

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

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

- A sense of a virtuous person
- An openness to the virtues that are presented
- A willingness to try and live these virtues

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.

- The virtues of prudence, justice, courage and restraint sound as if they have come from another era! However, the notion that we should think before we act, and consider before we speak is one that has real relevance in today's world. Talk to your children about the kind of people you want them to be: and the need to practice being thoughtful about, and perhaps even containing, our behaviours.

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



Lord Jesus, you challenged the lawyer to consider the Samaritan as someone who loved his neighbour, in a time when they were outcast and condemned. Help us to see those who we find hard to like as among those we are invited to love and care for. Help us to learn to think before we act or speak and to act with courage in living your words. We ask this in your name, Amen.