



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 19

Friday 18 March 2016

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven! **Luke 19:38**

Catholic Life of the School

Praise God always, no matter the time of day, no matter the season in life (St Benedict)

This Sunday is Palm Sunday which marks the beginning of Holy Week.

At Mass on Sunday, we will hear the Gospel from Luke 19:28-40 which tells us about Jesus' entry to Jerusalem upon a donkey. Although Jesus was using a very humble method of transport, everyone recognised him as the 'king who comes in the name of the Lord'.

The people praised 'joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen'. St Benedict said that we should praise God always and we can do this through song, through prayer and just simply by remembering to thank God when good things happen.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to think about the ways we can praise each other too. How does it feel when you praise someone? How does it feel to receive praise?



Reconciliation

This week, Fr Gabriel had lunch with the children at St Joseph's then spent the afternoon with some of the Year 4 children as part of the current Reconciliation visits.

St Patrick's and St Joseph's Mass

On Thursday 17 March, Fr Stephen celebrated the 10.00am Mass at The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden and children from Years 3 to 6 were in attendance.

Fr Stephen reminded us that St Patrick was a humble and gentle man who feared nothing, not even death, as he completely trusted God. We also heard about St Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary, who was so devoted in the care of his family that he became patron of the universal church.

During the Mass, we had the first reading from Genesis 17:3-9 in which makes a covenant with Abraham. The Gospel reading from John 8:51-59 is one of many examples from the Bible where Jesus explains that he has come from the Father.

As Fr Stephen prayed at Mass, we too should pray that we look to St Patrick and St Joseph as examples; so we can do the work God has asked of us and enjoy the rewards which have been promised.



**Please remember that the last school day of this term is Thursday 24 March
Children return to school on Tuesday 12 April**

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

Science Week

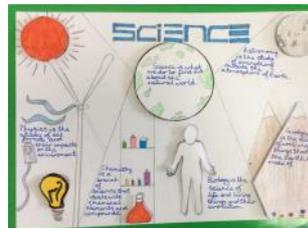
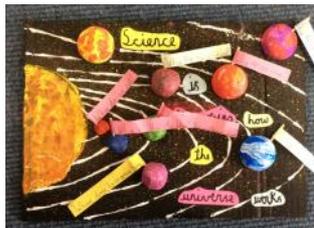
National Science Week took place from 14 to 18 March 2016. This was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils at St Joseph's to showcase their talents in Science.

The pupils covered various areas of the Science Curriculum which included:

Apprentice Gardeners, Light and Dark, States of Matter and Materials

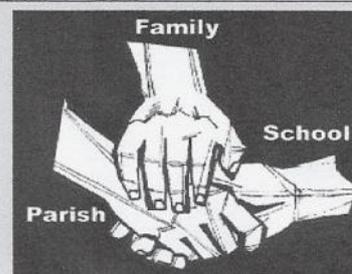
The pupils carried out practical experiments where they investigated and explored their topics in great detail. The pupils also took part in a poster competition where they depicted what Science means to them.

Please talk to your children about their learning this week and ask them to share with you some of the interesting facts they have learned. Your child will also be able to tell you why it is important to test scientific theories and why it is important to carry out experiments in safe conditions.



From Lent to Easter - Year C

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea:

This framework is intended as the second in the Spring Term 2016– leading from the beginning of Lent to Good Friday. It continues to focus on the Gospel of Luke in inviting pupils to read and study Luke's account of the Passion of Jesus. During this unit, pupils will also learn about the Stations of the Cross.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

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

- A sense of reflection and prayer
- An openness to the presence of God in the Eucharist

- A willingness to be part of Lent and Easter celebrations

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.

- Adopt some Lenten practices at home this Lent: Pray; given alms (give to charity) and give ups something. As a family decide to give up a negative attitude or behaviour this Lent such as being critical, thoughtless, nagging or avoiding responsibilities.

An idea for prayer at home



Prayer Activity

Lord,

As we begin (continue) this journey with you to Easter, help us to remember to stay close to you in what we do, and what we think, and what we say.

Make us mindful of those around us, particularly those who suffer, and help us to give generously of our time, our thoughtfulness and our gifts this Lent.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord,

Amen

Attendance

During week beginning 7 March, Class 6M achieved 100% attendance. Classes 6R and 4W 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.

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)