



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 36

Friday 07 July 2017

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. **Matthew 11:30**

Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading this Sunday, Jesus calls out to all who are weary and burdened to seek him for rest and refreshment.

This passage is an encouragement to anyone who is tired, lonely, worried or feeling lost. Jesus calls us to him so we can experience acceptance and unconditional love.

Christ accepts us as we are and where we are. If we turn to him, Jesus will offer us his everlasting companionship. He longs to be with us always; to comfort us and guide us.

In your family prayer time, think about the qualities we look for in our friends or companions. We long for kindness, honesty, trust and loyalty in all our friendships and we can be sure that Jesus has all of these virtues too. Reflect on the qualities that you bring to friendships too.



Do you want your companions to respect you? Always think well of everyone, and be ready to help others. Do this and you will be happy.

(St John Bosco)

When Jesus is your friend, you have joy, serenity and happiness.

(Pope Francis)

Friendship... is the instrument by which God reveals to each of us the beauties of others.

(CS Lewis)

Year 5 - Residential Trip

Year 5 have had a wonderful week at the Gordon Brown Outdoor Education Centre.

We will be sharing news about this successful educational experience next week.

Attendance

In the week beginning 19 June 2017, Classes 1M, 1O, 2S and 4O had 100% attendance. The classes leading with the best attendance for the year so far are 2S, 6L and 6R.

Children from Reception to Year 6 may arrive from 8.30am at their designated gates. Please take full advantage of this early arrival as it not only helps your child to prepare for their learning day but also eases congestion.

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 (reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of issue date)

Please remember that if your child is absent from school, and we have not already been informed in advance, parents must telephone the school by 9.00am on every day of absence. This is a very important safeguarding measure to ensure we know the whereabouts of every child.

If a child's whereabouts are unknown or unclear, the school will contact Brent's Children Missing In Education team so they can carry out an investigation.

Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Mornings

Year 3 had a wonderful morning of sports and games activities on Tuesday and Year 4 enjoyed their activities on Thursday.

Thank you to all the parents who joined us to watch the children celebrate their sporting talents. We hope that you enjoy the photos below.



The Good Shepherd Mass

This week, Year 6 attended The Good Shepherd Mass at Westminster Cathedral.

The theme of the Mass, Growing Together, allowed the children to join with other schools from across the Diocese. After the Mass, the children joined the Year 6 children from St Mary's for a picnic in the glorious grounds of St James's Park.



Brent Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge 2017

Brent Libraries are running the Summer Reading Challenge for the seventeenth year. The theme is 'Animal Agents' and we want your children to solve some mysteries that have been happening in our libraries!

From the case of the graffiti writing to the strange case of a missing lunch, children will join in the fun with the Animal Agents by reading along. As children read library books on the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a host of stickers, some with mysterious smells. By collecting these clues in their detective folder, young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes!

This fantastic programme includes Animal Agent story-telling, art and craft workshops and fun learning activities. It's all about stimulating the imagination, children gaining confidence, and discovering new talents and skills.

The challenge begins on Saturday 1 July and runs until Monday 4 September. The challenge is aimed at children aged 4 – 12 years. Brent are also providing a whole series of events at all of their libraries to which the children are invited. All events are free but you may have to book in advance and **all children will need to borrow 2 books to join in with the events.**

All activities are listed here:

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/libraries/events-in-brent-libraries/>

International Food Festival

We are holding an International Food Summer Festival at St Joseph's on Friday 14 July from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. This will be a fun-filled afternoon for our families!

Stalls include International Food, BBQ, Tombola, Nail Painting, Penalty Shootout, Basketball, Skittles, Tennis Ball Bounce, Table Tennis and Face Painting.

This will be a fundraising event to raise money for our fabulous Stained Glass Window Appeal. Only the parents and children of St Joseph's may attend. The entrance fees are £1 per adult and 50p for all children under 12.

We will be closing school early to set up for this school community event and there will be no After School Clubs on this day. Please ensure you collect your children at the following times on Friday 14 July:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Nursery | 11.30am |
| Reception | 11.40am |
| Years 1 and 2 | 11.50am |
| Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 | 12.00pm |

Parental Expectations

Parents are reminded that in accepting a place for their child at St Joseph's, they agreed to support all policies and procedures.

We do understand that parents may, from time to time, wish to discuss a matter which is causing them or their child a concern. We have always asked parents to arrange meetings appropriately to discuss matters about their children.

If the matter relates to your child's day to day learning or routines at school, you are invited to make an appointment to see the class teacher in the first instance. If you wish to discuss another matter, you will need to give brief details at the school office so an appointment can be made for you with the most appropriate person.

The school will not enter into individual email correspondence or respond to letters from representatives of parents. We do expect that parents with concerns will raise them individually and respectfully using the appointment system.

Last day of school is Friday 21 July

All children return to school on Thursday 7 September

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 our belief in the teachings of Jesus through everyday relationships and mutual respect in our dealings with one another.

Our School Mission is as follows:

- 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

Uniform Reminder

With a small number of children presenting at school with incorrect items of uniform, please be reminded about these key points:

- One single or one pair of small, discrete plain gold or silver round studs in pierced ears are permissible. Do not allow your child to wear any other type of earring.
- Long hair must be tied back as a health and safety measure. Please also ensure that your child's hairstyle does not obscure their vision.
- Please ensure that uniform fits your child well and is in good repair. Skirts should be knee length.
- Children do not need to wear their jumper during the summer term but must continue to wear their blazers. During warmer days, the Executive Headmistress will let the children know if they may remove their blazers.

Behaviour

At St Joseph's, we have the highest expectations for standards of behaviour. Therefore, if any child is placed on 'Restart', parents will be informed.

Children will be held to account if their behaviour disrupts the learning experience for themselves or others. Parents are expected to fully support this policy in line with their agreement to follow all school procedures when they accepted a place for their child to attend St Joseph's.

Online Safety

Schools, police, social services and other agencies are concerned at the ever-increasing volume of offences being committed against children through online devices.

Children are also being exposed to activities which are completely inappropriate for their age.

From class discussions and e-safety learning, it seems that a significant number of children access the internet from their bedrooms without parental controls or monitoring.

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their children are involved in age appropriate online activities and to keep their children safe when they are using mobile phones, tablets, laptops, games consoles etc.

Safeguarding

St Joseph's treats seriously its responsibility to ensure children are safe and well.

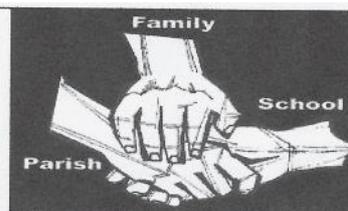
Where there is information causing a level of concern, the matter is discussed between the Executive Headmistress and Education Support Manager to determine if other agencies, such as Social Services, should be informed of the matter.

Where appropriate, parents are informed if the school decides to make a referral to Social Services. In line with their own procedures, Social Services may instruct the school that parents should not be informed in particular cases.

The school follows Social Services guidance with regards to referrals and information sharing to ensure our approach is child-centred.

The Kingdom of God

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea: The Kingdom of God

This framework of learning is intended as the second in the Summer Term and the final in the academic year 2016/2017. Concluding study of Matthew's gospel, this work focuses on the parables of the Kingdom as found in Chapter 13.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

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- A sense of the relationship between learning about faith and living faith-filled lives
- Respect for those who actively seek the kingdom of God

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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. Help your child by trying this activity while this topic is being taught:

- Working to build the kingdom of God is the obligation of all Christians. Talk to your children about their learning and plan to do something extra in God's kingdom!

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



God our King,

In the morning when we rise give us your eyes to see the world as you dreamed it.

In the day as we learn give us your mind to think of the potential of life as you imagined it.

In the evening when we rest give us your heart to love the kingdom as you wanted it.

May we be builders for your kingdom, now and forever. Amen.