



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 22

Friday 10 March 2017

While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" **Matthew 17:5**

Catholic Life of the School

At Mass on Sunday, we will hear the Gospel from Matthew 17:1-9, in which we learn more about the Transfiguration of Christ.

This is a key event in Jesus' life. We will hear that Jesus himself was transformed - 'his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white' - and we find out that Moses and Elijah were alongside Jesus on the mountain. The voice of God says "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

The Transfiguration was an encouragement for Jesus and the disciples. They saw the inner glory of Jesus; they saw Moses and Elijah, and they heard the voice of God confirming Jesus was his son and that he was 'well pleased' with him. We too can be encouraged by the Transfiguration and the ways in which God reveals himself to us today through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. We can also be an encouragement to each other in our day to day lives by supporting those who are struggling and by recognising those who are doing something well.

In your family prayer time, you may wish to think about someone who would be comforted by an act of kindness. Do you know a friend or neighbour who needs encouragement? If you need encouragement, ask God to renew you with the Holy Spirit who is our comforter and our advocate (*John 14:25-27*).

With God we can do great things (*Pope Francis*)

Merit of the Week Award

The following children have received Merit Certificates in our whole school assembly for demonstrating excellent standards in their learning and behaviour:

Lashana 2F, Amani 2O, Marcus 2S, Karolina 3K, Maja 3M, Ryan 4G, Shadrach 4O,
Kyle 5K, Julia 5M, Maciej 5S, Rui 6L and Aleksandra 6R

Student of the Week Award

- 4G Devon** For displaying great enthusiasm for learning at all times
- 5S Emily** For being a wonderful role model for excellent behaviour
- 6L Norrie** For showing a positive attitude to learning

Attendance

Class 6L has won the Attendance Cup this week for achieving best class attendance.

Punctuality still needs improvement. Please remember that all 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.

Red Hat Star of the Week Award

We have recently introduced a new weekly award in order to recognise our Peer Mentors who have progressed in their role by being more proactive and are now leading activities to support other children.

The winners of the first awards were Selome in Class 4O and Nana in Class 5K. We are very proud of all the children who help others and support the life of the school.



Lenten Boxes

The children have been sharing stories about how they are encouraging others to make financial donations to the Catholic Children's Society during the period of Lent.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful charity who do so much to help vulnerable children and families. Please [click here](#) for information about some of the work you are supporting.

Please ensure the children return the Lenten Boxes by **Friday 24 March** so we can organise for these to be with the charity before Easter.

Easter Raffle

Please remember to send back your raffle tickets and money to the school office.

Each strip of 5 tickets costs £1 - please let the school office if you wish to buy more tickets.

The photo on the right shows some of the wonderful prizes on offer.



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.

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.

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

Calendar for Lent 2017

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Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1st Sunday of Lent (A)
5 Don't be tempted to miss Mass in favour of TV or a lie-in

6 Look at yesterday's Gospel; for how many days and nights did Jesus fast? (Mt 4:1-11)

7 Pray for the children of Syria and Palestine

8 Don't complain - bring some positive ideas instead

9 Pay attention in lessons - save the day dreams for later!

10 Play a board game with friends - no electronic devices!

11 Could you give good used clothes or games to charity?

12 The angels and saints rejoice when you pray

13 What were Jesus' final words in yesterday's Gospel: 'Do not be a ... d' (Mt 17:7)

14 Honesty is the best policy - don't tell lies

15 Pray for the mentally and physically challenged

16 Don't be grumpy if you don't get your own way

17 Wear something green to acknowledge St Patrick

18 Go to Confession and know forgiveness

19 Light a candle of thanksgiving in Church today

20 What did St Joseph do for a living?

21 Don't judge someone just because they're different

22 Ease up - no one is perfect!

23 Don't be bossy - be considerate!

24 Don't push and shove - be polite!

25 Annunciation of the Lord
Say the Angelus prayer as a family

26 What makes mum special? Let her know she's loved

27 Pray for healing for those you know who are sick

28 Have you been hurtful today? Say sorry

29 Pray for our world

30 Notice when someone does something kind. Praise them for it

31 Don't sit around all day - do some extra walking, running or skipping

1 April I am Old but also New, I may seem strange but all is true. I am 66 but really only 1. I can be pocket-sized or weigh a ton! **What am I?**

2 Share a meal with family and loved ones

3 Jesus' friend died. Jesus wept. Jesus raised him up. Who was it? (Jn 11:35-45)

4 Bullying is just wrong!

6 Newbies need friends!

7 Drink water with your meal. Pray for those who don't have clean water

8 Plant a flower in a clear plastic cup/ bottle and watch the roots grow too

15 Holy Saturday
Pray for those receiving the Sacraments on this night

9 Take your palm branch home and place it somewhere to remind you of Jesus

10 Yesterday's Gospel reading is very long and is called: The P..... of Our Lord Jesus Christ

11 Be thoughtful and prayerful this week. It is H... W...

12 Be silent for 5 mins and pray for the poor, the homeless, the displaced

13 'Do this in memory of me'

14 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?'

15 Good Friday

16 Easter Sunday
You can't sing too many Alleluias today!

Open the door of your heart to others because each person is a gift (Pope Francis)

From Lent to Easter



Religious Education

Key Idea: From Lent to Easter

This unit is intended as the second for the Spring Term in the academic year 2016/2017. The season of Easter celebrates the most basic belief of our Christian faith: the resurrection of Jesus. Although Easter Sunday is not taught in this framework, the season and events that lead to it are presented to pupils.

Unit Content

This framework explores the **Season of Lent** and the **events of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Good Friday**, as we find them in both the Gospel of Matthew and the liturgy of the Church.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

It is hoped that this framework helps pupils develop:

- An openness to the story of the Passion of Jesus
- An appreciation of the liturgy (especially of the major actions of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday) in deepening a relationship with God
- Reflectiveness in prayer

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 higher if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs. Help your child by trying one or more of these activities while this unit is being taught:

- Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Talk with your children about the ways in which your family lives the Lenten practises of giving alms (giving to charity especially), prayer and fasting.
 - Give alms: collect for a charity - food, clothing or money.
 - Pray: In the last framework pupils learned the Our Father. Pray prayers of thanks recognising that we have what we need: food, safety, people who love us.
 - Fast: Make an area of 'fasting' your goal: 'fast' on criticism, intolerance, greed and gossip this Lent. Remember the Bishops requirement for fasting and abstinence for those between 18 and 60

An idea for prayer at home



Prayer Activity

Loving God,

As we begin the season of Lent, help us to be thoughtful about how we are living. Make our actions more reflective of you and your love for us so that we might come closer to you and ready to celebrate your resurrection at Easter.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our friend and companion. Amen.