



St Joseph's News

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

Newsletter 29

Friday 12 May 2017

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' **John 14:6-7**

Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading on Sunday, we will reflect on some of the conversation Jesus had with his disciples on the night before he died.

Jesus tells his friends to not be troubled and to trust in him. Jesus says that he is going to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house and will come back for them. Jesus goes on to speak some of the most memorable words we associate with him - *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also."*

Jesus speaks to all of us through the ages. Even today, he is telling us that we must not worry but should trust in him for our safety, comfort, security and hope.

In your prayers this week, think about something that is causing you to worry and ask Jesus to help you. God has placed good people alongside us who we can also trust to support us when we are worried. This includes our parents, our teachers and our friends.



Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to God's care
(St Augustine of Hippo)

Holy Communion

Many of our Year 3 and Year 4 children will soon be making their First Holy Communion.

We would love to share your photographs of this special time on the school website. Please email your photographs to Mrs Studd at info@stjo.brent.sch.uk with the subject 'Communion'.

It is helpful for photographs to be in the landscape style if you would like them to be considered for the school website.



Attendance

The Classes with the best attendance for the year so far are 2S, 4O, 6L and 6R.

Punctuality is improving. 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.

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.

Parish Church Notices

The Annual May Procession will take place from 3.30pm on Sunday 14 May. Volunteers to carry the image of Our Lady and to steward the processions are asked to gather by the pulpit at 3.15pm. Please remember to put a statue, holy picture or crucifix in a prominent place if you live on the procession route; if it is seen, your home will be blessed as the procession passes by. The procession route takes in Nicoll Road, St Mary's Road, St John's Avenue, Park Parade, the Convent of Jesus and Mary, the High Street, Jubilee Clock and the Shrine.

Brian McLoone, a former teacher and Deputy Head at St Joseph's, died on Easter Monday. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm on Friday 19 May at St Agnes in Cricklewood.

Online Safety

Schools are reporting an increased number of incidents they are having to deal with which relate to arguments and abuse which has occurred outside school on digital devices.

It is apparent that a number of primary age children have access to '18 rated' games such as GTA and Call of Duty. These games have an adult rating as they contain a level of violent and sexually explicit themes which are not suitable for children.

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.

Year 6 SATs

This week, our Year 6 children have undertaken their SATs examinations.

The children have shown a great level of maturity and approached their SATs with the knowledge that they are excellent learners.

We are very proud of the children and know that they will be leaving us in July ready for the next phase of their formal education.

Parents have played a key role in supporting the school's ethos of high expectations so we also thank you for all you have done to ensure your children have high aspirations for their future.



Year 6 SATs Breakfast

School Lunches

The children are enjoying the varied menu at St Joseph's. In addition to the 3 main courses available every day, the children have a choice of desserts and can help themselves to items from our Salad Bar.

This week, the lunch options included gammon, pasta bake, chicken bake, fish fingers, jacket potatoes, Quorn sausage frittata, apple crumble, fruit pots and jelly.

The children also enjoyed fruit lollies on Wednesday after their delicious roast dinner!



Dates for the Diary

- *Year 2 formal assessments will take place during **week beginning 22 May***
- *School will be closed to pupils **week beginning 29 May** for the half-term break*
- *School will be closed to pupils on **Thursday 8 June** as the school will be used as a Polling Station*
- *Year 1 formal Phonics assessments will take place during **week beginning 12 June***

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 coloured round studs in pierced ears are permissible. Do not allow your child to wear any other type of earring.
- 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.

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.

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.

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:

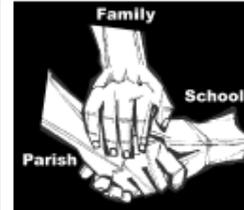
- We stand on holy ground
- We will always open our doors in welcome
- We will always love and care for each other as Jesus taught us
- We will always place the Word of God at the heart of our school
- We will always be witnesses to our faith by following in the footsteps of Christ

***Please remember that school will be closed week beginning
29 May 2017 for the half-term break***

Children will return to school on Monday 5 June 2017

From Easter to Pentecost

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea: From Easter to Pentecost

This framework of learning is intended as the first for the Summer Term in the academic year 2016/2017. This framework explores the period from Easter Sunday to Pentecost.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes:

It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- A sense of openness and wonder about the resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit
- An appreciation of the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives
- An ability to wonder about questions that are difficult to answer
- 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:

- We celebrate the gift of life in this world and in death in the resurrection. Life is full of resurrection moments, when we are so glad to be alive! Write down some of these and use them in pray at mealtimes or bedtimes.
- Pentecost is on June 4 this year. This framework teaches Pope Francis as a person led and guided by the Spirit. Talk to your children about people you think are led by the Spirit. What do they do?

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



Pray for those who have died.

We remember (say name, light candle) who has gone to their eternal rest.

Tell them, God, how much we love them, how much we miss them. Tell them we carry their stories in our lives.

Today we rejoice that Jesus lived and died and is risen. Today we trust you, Jesus, that there is life after death and that you will always be with us, loving us and leading us home.

Glory be to God; Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.

Amen