



St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School
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Newsletter 15

Friday 13 January 2017

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared,
'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!' **John 1:29**

Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading on Sunday, we will hear about the start of Jesus' mission and the humble witness of John the Baptist who told others that Jesus was the Messiah and God's Chosen One.

There are many people throughout history who have been great witnesses for God's truth and salvation through Jesus Christ. Saints such as St Patrick, St Peter and St Teresa of Calcutta are known for their ministry in sharing the love of Jesus. There are people in our lives (Pope Francis, priests and teachers) who are also witnesses about Jesus today.

Through our words and actions, we too can be great witnesses for Jesus. By being kind, fair, generous and loving in all we do, we are sharing the hope that can be found in Christ.

This Sunday is known as Peace Sunday and this reminds us that we should also be good witnesses to peace and joy in our relationships with each other.

"Let us ask our Lord to help us bear shining witness to his love in every area of our lives."
(Pope Francis)



Successful Leadership

As we will learn in Sunday's Gospel message, John the Baptist was a very humble and unassuming man.

Senior staff across the Federation have been looking at successful leadership and we have found an interesting definition of humility from author John Dickson: ***"Humility does not mean...curbing your strengths and achievements. (Jim) Collins's work reminds us it is possible to be humble, iron-willed and successful, and they frequently go together."***

Jesus Christ and John The Baptist are recognised as humble, strong and determined leaders of people. They had a clear vision and their mission was to help others learn how to live their lives according to God's direction and will.

We too can be true witnesses to Jesus's love for everyone. By working in partnership with the school vision as our guide, teachers and parents support children in discovering their God-given talents and reaching their full potential. Our school policies are designed with the children in mind so that they too will become strong, humble and successful leaders and that *"they may have life, and have it abundantly."*

Attendance

★ Classes NG, 2S and 3K have won the Attendance Cup this week for achieving 100% attendance all week. So many classes are now in contention for the Best Class Attendance reward trip to Chessington!

★ 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.

Year 1 Work on 'The Nativity'

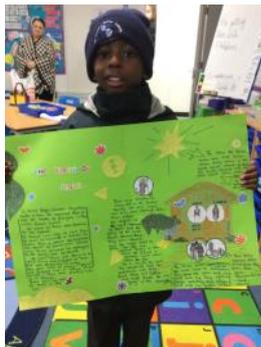
Year 1 children completed some excellent projects on the Nativity story during the Christmas break.

There were some excellent art, mathematics, science, geography, writing and research projects in relation to the story as told in the Gospel of Matthew.

We hope that Year 1 parents enjoyed this exciting home learning project and we also hope that everyone will enjoy looking at the wonderful photos showing the children's hard work.



- Denis** *I loved that my mummy and daddy helped me with the project*
Tersharn *I worked hard to complete the project and I hope I get a prize*
Elyza *I got to complete my project with my mum and my aunt*



Salvation Army Letter

St Joseph's has received a lovely letter from the Salvation Army thanking the children, parents and staff for their generous support of the Christmas Appeal.

"Our church really did resemble the best toy shop in the world after your donations were unpacked."

The gifts donated by our families helped the Salvation Army put together parcels for 180 families who had been referred to the organisation by various agencies. Each child in the supported families received at least 4 presents and some stocking fillers.

Thank you for your continued support for those who are facing very difficult circumstances. Your kindness and generosity ensured so many children and their families had an enjoyable Christmas.

People of Prayer - Year A

Linking School, Parish and Home



Religious Education

Key Idea:

This framework of learning is intended as the first in the Spring Term in the academic year 2016/2017. At this time of year the resource always looks at the prayer life of the Church. This resource studies the **Feast of the Epiphany** and two prayers found in **Matthew's Gospel: the Beatitudes and the Lord's Prayer**. It asks pupils to consider the people they think are Beatitudes People, including St Teresa of Calcutta.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

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

- A willingness to pray
- An openness to people of other faith traditions

- An appreciation of the role of prayer in deepening a relationship with God
- A sense of wonder about different styles of 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 greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs.

- Pray the Lord's Prayer with your child each night at bedtime. Find a copy of it online and print it out as a mini poster for their room or the fridge.

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen

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:

Sophie 2F, Damian 2O, Sadhbh 2S, Janelle 3K, Julia 3M, Corliss 4G, Kieran 4O,
Callum 5K, Nina 5M, Katie 5S, Shayne 6L and Luke 6R

Student of the Week Award

- 3K Dasha** For taking risks in Mathematics in order to improve her skills
4G Nilah For being enthusiastic about new challenges and encouraging others
5M Shania For a fantastic approach to her work and being a wonderful role model

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