



# St Joseph's News

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School  
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Newsletter 27

Friday 28 April 2017

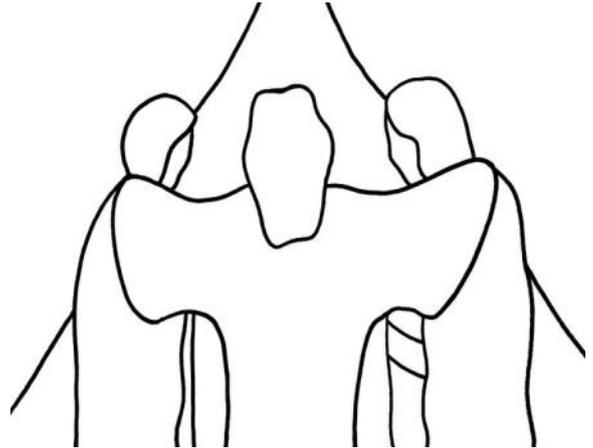
They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' **Luke 24:34**

## Catholic Life of the School

At Mass on Sunday, we will hear the story of the Risen Christ appearing to two disciples who were on their way to Emmaus, a village seven miles from Jerusalem.

While the disciples did not recognise Jesus, they knew something was different about this 'stranger'; they felt their hearts "burning within" as Jesus spoke to them about the Messiah from the Scriptures. When they finally realised who Jesus was, he had vanished.

There may have been a number of reasons why these close followers of Jesus did not recognise him; they may have been consumed by their grieving for Jesus or been distracted by their journey.



Sometimes, we too can miss the presence of Jesus in our lives. We can be so focused on our daily tasks, and trying to do things all in our own strength, that we can forget that Jesus is alongside us. This is why it is so important to take the time to experience Jesus in our prayers and in our fellowship with each other.



In the same way that the two disciples recognised Jesus as he broke the bread and blessed it, we too can draw nearer to Christ as we celebrate the Eucharist at Mass. We should also read the Gospels regularly and 'feed' on the Word of God so we know Jesus and recognise his presence in our lives.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to give thanks for a time when you knew Jesus was with you. You may also wish to pray for Jesus to reveal more of himself through the Gospel at Mass or during our learning about Jesus at school.

**Jesus is with us today! He is alive, Jesus is in our hearts**  
*(Pope Francis)*

## Attendance

Class 1M has won the Attendance Cup this week for achieving best class 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.

### **School Attendance & Punctuality**

We have recently sent letters to all parents to remind them about the importance of children attending school every day and arriving on time.

Parents and children have responded with a great effort; your co-operation will ensure that all children can enjoy uninterrupted learning experiences and reach their full potential.

Please remember that the school is able to issue prescribed medications when a parent signs the appropriate form which is available from the school office. We also have a School Nurse on site every day to support with the management of ongoing conditions and to advise on common childhood illnesses.

Finally, please ensure that the school has the correct telephone numbers for parents and relatives so we can make contact promptly in the event of an unexplained absence or if your child becomes unwell during the school day.

### **Dates for the Diary**

- *School will be closed to pupils on **Monday 1 May** as this is a national bank holiday*
- *Year 6 SATS will take place during **week beginning 8 May***
- *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***

### **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**

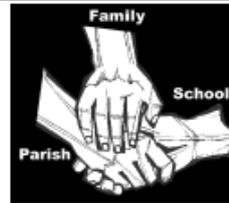
At St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School we strive to create a stimulating environment so that by learning, playing and working together, we openly follow Christ's teachings. We seek to offer every person the opportunity to be a unique and valued individual, sharing and developing belief in the teachings 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

# 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