



St Joseph's News

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

Newsletter 32

Friday 09 June 2017

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. **John 3:16-17**

Catholic Life of the School

In the Gospel reading this Sunday, we will hear Jesus' response to the Pharisee, Nicodemus, who had asked Jesus a number of questions. Jesus' answer includes one of the most well-known verses in the Bible (John 3:16).

Throughout the conversation, Jesus makes a number of references to the Holy Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us and gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit when Jesus returned to our Father.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to reflect on the mystery of the Holy Trinity and also give thanks to God for what has been revealed to us in John's Gospel: ***For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.***

“...the mystery of the Trinity also speaks about us, our relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit .”
(Pope Francis)



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.

Attendance

In the week beginning 22 May 2017, Class 3M had 100% attendance. The Classes 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.

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:

Kacper 2F, Enoch 2O, Kacper 2S, Mari 3K, Jack 3M, Keanu 4G, Jeremiah 4O,
Olga 5K, Santiago 5M, Amelia 5S, Tsion 6L and Jessica 6R

Student of the Week Award

2O Aleksandra	For being a fantastic role model for all children
4G Martyna	For an enthusiastic approach and high standards in class work
5K Nana	For being a positive role model and always willing to help others

First Holy Communion

Our Year 3 children have recently made their First Holy Communion in their respective parishes.

Adam, Klaudiusz and Chloe took this next stage in their journey of faith at The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, receiving the Eucharist for the first time from Fr Stephen and Father Gabriele.

We hope that you enjoy the photographs below and we look forward to sharing more with you over the next few weeks. Please email photographs to Mrs Studd at info@stjo.brent.sch.uk



Certificate of Catholic Practice

A number of requests have been made for a Priests Reference to support applications for entry to primary and secondary schools.

The Priests Reference was replaced two years ago by the **Certificate of Catholic Practice**. In recent months this has been subject to appeals by amongst other, the British Humanist Association. As a result of judicial review a formal consent order has been issued by the High Court, and the issuing of the Certificate has been upheld. This means that the priests decision cannot be challenged by the State or by parents.

The Certificate of Catholic Practice means a certificate issued by the family's parish priest (or the priest in charge of the church where the family attends Mass) in the form laid down by the by the Bishops Conference of England and Wales. It will be issued if the priest is satisfied that at least one Catholic parent or carer have (except where it is impossible to do so) attended Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation for at least five years. It will also be issued where the practice has been continuous since being received into the Church if that occurred less than 5 years ago. Further details will be available on the Diocesan website.

Like most other parishes, the school parish of Our Lady of Willesden arranges interviews to meet families seeking a Certificate of Catholic Practice. These take place in September and October for those applying for Secondary Entrance, and December and January for those applying to Primary schools. These are advertised in the Parish Newsletter, and can only be booked at Saturday evening and Sunday masses.

Please note that school carries out stringent checks on every form to identify any fraudulent applications. The parish priests are asked by the school to verify any Certificates they have signed.

Year 3 Class Trip

On Wednesday 7 June, Classes 3K and 3M went on a wonderful trip to the British Museum to support their current topic learning on Ancient Egyptians.

The children travelled into the city by coach and enjoyed seeing other sights on their journey.

All the children were superbly behaved and comments were received on their good manners and smart uniforms!

We hope that the photographs below provide a sense of the children enjoying this important learning experience.



*At the British Museum, I most enjoyed seeing many of the different gods that the Ancient Egyptian people believed in. It was fascinating to see their pictures on the stone. **Cherry***

*My favourite part of the trip was when I got to see all of the Ancient Egyptian Mummy statues. They were amazing! **Janelle***

*I most enjoyed the part when we got to look at the tombs of different Pharaohs, which were so powerful and ancient looking. **Nathan***

*My favourite part of visiting the British Museum was when we saw the huge statue of Tutankhamun. It was massive! **Mikolaj***

Charitable Works

The current Year 4 learning topic is 'The Kingdom of God'.

The children have been looking at people who live in the ways of God's Kingdom by thinking of others and carrying out acts of kindness.

Last week, Zuzanna in Class 4O carried out a wonderful and sacrificial act of kindness when she decided to have her long hair cut and to have the hair donated to charity.

The charity is the **Little Princess Trust** which helps children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses.

Zuzanna donated 20cm of her hair but has a wonderful new style which is, of course, still in keeping with the school policy!

We are very proud of Zuzanna and her family for showing us a great example of how to live our lives in line with the Kingdom of God.



School Council - Attendance

The School Council have been looking at ways children can be further encouraged to strive for 100% attendance at school.

They suggested that those with 100% at the end of each term could go into a prize draw for a special reward. This idea has been agreed so children with 100% attendance at the end of every term will have the chance of winning a special prize as well as attending the special trip for all children with 100% attendance throughout the year. The first draw will take place in July with a Kindle being awarded to one girl and one boy with 100% this Summer Term.

The Executive Headmistress and the Governors were so impressed by this idea that we have changed the Attendance and Punctuality Policy to take into account the children's ideas. Well done to the School Council for a great idea and for influencing policy!

Scholastic Book Club Orders

Children have brought home a booklet this week which promotes some great summer reading deals.

Please note that if you wish to place an order, you must do this directly through Scholastic as the school will not be collating orders on this occasion. The booklet details how you can place your order for home delivery via their website, by phone or by freepost.

Please check the website www.scholastic.co.uk/clubs for a wider selection of book deals.

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.

Safeguarding

St Joseph's treats seriously its responsibility to ensure children are safe and well. The school follows Social Services guidance with regards to referrals and information sharing to ensure our approach is child-centred.

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.

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



VCYM

THE VAUGHAN CENTRE FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS



A CHANCE FOR YOUR SON TO BENEFIT?

The Vaughan Centre for Young Musicians, held from 4.30-6.30 pm, on ten Mondays each term offers Primary School age boys (Years 4-6, ages 8-11) the opportunity to extend their music curriculum and receive specialist instrumental and choral tuition

Auditions for September 2017
will be held in July 2017

Application Forms and further details available from
your Primary School, from the Vaughan (020 7605 0046)
and online at www.cvms.co.uk

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS
FRIDAY 23 JUNE 2017

THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL
89 ADDISON ROAD, LONDON, W14 8BZ

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.