

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – 17th March 2017

Here at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we learn and grow through the love of Jesus. Our community is a safe, caring and happy place where everyone is supported and valued. We encourage and challenge everyone to achieve their full potential, spiritually, academically, morally and socially.

We inspire others with a love of learning and aim for excellence in everything we do. Through our own faith, we treat one another the way we would like to be treated. We help every child to be gentle and fair: to always do their best.

Message from the Head Teacher



Dear Parents and Carers

We have been blessed with some good weather this week, chilly today but bright, the sun shining always makes the world seem a better place.

On Saturday our Cross Country runners took part in the Bromley Primary Schools Cross Country competition at Crystal Palace. They ran beautifully and many of them came in the top 50, the top 100 and Megan in Year 4 came in the top 20. Well done to all of them for competing in such a large event. In some of the races there were over 500 children running. For a change, the weather was wonderful and the ground dry, we have had some very muddy years! Thank you to Mrs Camicia, Mrs Simner and Mrs Wray for the time they have given up on Saturday and weekly at Cross Country afterschool club.

On Sunday, 22 of our Year 2 children led the 9.15 Mass; they did so beautifully and maturely. Well done to all of them and thank you to the Year 2 parents who ensured their children took part. I am so proud of all of our children when they are in church, they behave in such a thoughtful and spiritual manner.

Our sports teams are competing in a range of events which develop their fitness and skills levels. It develops the children's confidence in their own abilities when they are out of their comfort zone and competing against other schools. We are supporting and encouraging our girls to participate in a range of sporting activities as we believe that girls should have the same opportunities as boys in what can be male dominated sports.

Thank you to the Year 4 parent for the donation of paint for the gardening club tyres so that they can be painted in a range of lovely colours. If you are able to donate a bag of compost to fill the tyres, I know Mrs Stanley would be very grateful. Thank you to everyone who is collecting Sainsbury vouchers for the school, especially to the parent who was able to donate a large number of them. The voucher scheme enables the school to purchase a range of sporting, cooking and gardening equipment. Every voucher counts. The school appreciates every donation that is given by parents, be it financial or time, staff feel grateful to be working with such supportive parents.

The Parish Pastoral Committee is looking for volunteers to ensure the Parish is able to provide as many events and give as much support to parishioners as possible. They would like your help to be able to do this. The Parish Pastoral committee of St Joseph's have a survey they would like you to complete online. The survey is to find out if there are skills and talents that can be used to support the work of the Parish, the link is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NJSY8VB>

In response to a request by a parent to find out how the school uses the donations given it by the PTFA, I would like to say firstly that the school appreciates the donations that parents give to support their children's learning. When setting out budget we look at what the school needs for the coming year. The donations come into the school budget and they are then allocated to resources that the school needs. For instance, last year the donations went to ensuring that subject leaders were able to buy learning resources for their subject areas, £6,000 of which went to Maths and English, Mrs Read used this to support the maths scheme and Mrs Simmons used the funds to buy into the bug club, new Guided reading books and books for classrooms; the remainder went to other subject areas and the computer suite. The school bought ipads for pupils to use and again have given subject leaders funding to support their subject areas.

We have recently been given a cheque for £6,000 from the PTFA which the school is extremely appreciative of as this year we have replaced two Interactive boards, one in Year 6 and one in Year 2. Mrs Nash was able to get a competitive price for these and they come with a wealth of resources to support learning, without your donations we wouldn't be able to do this.

I do always report back to parents at the PTFA AGM in September how we have spent the donations given to us and I am always amazed at how generous you are as a parent body. I am also always in awe of the PTFA committee, their organisational skills and the way in which they are able to put things into place that can be carried on in the future.

You will all be aware of the outcry from Head Teachers and other national organisations regarding the proposed National Fairer Funding Formula. The proposed Fairer Funding Formula will mean huge cuts in the budgets of all of the schools in Bromley and the Head Teachers as a group have written to the local MPs to voice our concerns for the future of our schools.

Every penny you donate is appreciated and used wisely for the benefit of our children.

Please can I remind you that parents should not come into classrooms before school without reporting to the office first and any questions should be directed to the class teacher and not the teaching assistant.

Tonight is Movie night, it is always a successful event and I hope children and parent volunteers have a good time.

I wish you a happy weekend. God Bless

Sharon Grange

Attendance

% Pupil attendance
for week ending
10/03/2017

Reception	100%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	98.8%
Year 4	98.1%
Year 5	95.8%
Year 6	98.1%

Well done to Reception and Year 1 for the best attendance.

Punctuality

Number of children arriving late
at school week ending
10/03/2017

Reception	0
Year 1	2
Year 2	6
Year 3	0
Year 4	0
Year 5	1
Year 6	5

Well done to Reception, Year 3 & 4 for no lates!

Birthdays

Christian
Anne
Valentina
Ava

Pupil of the Week

Congratulations to the following children for achieving Pupil of the Week:

- ❖ Ella-Rose
- ❖ Gabriella
- ❖ Mia
- ❖ Alphonsa
- ❖ Rachel
- ❖ Oliver
- ❖ Freya