

St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

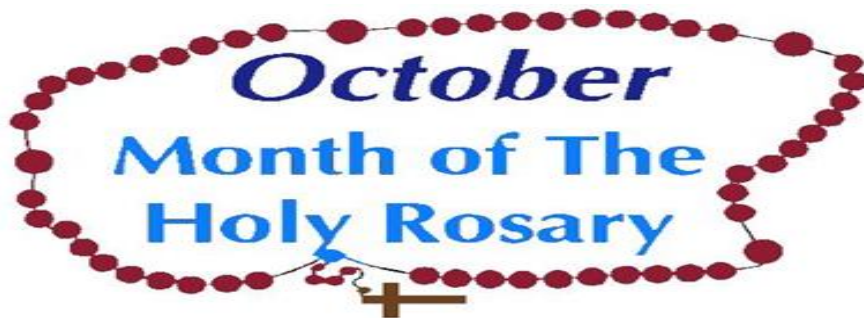
No 2 – October 2017



Vision

In our efforts to achieve the very best education, the children have been talking about our vision: Aiming For Excellence, Being The Best We Can Be, and how they can achieve their best every day.

Catholic Life Of The School

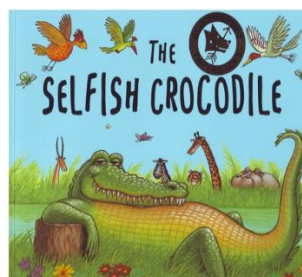
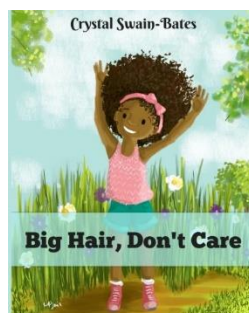


Say a decade of the Rosary as a family, to share your faith at home during this month.

Year 1 celebrated Harvest with a special assembly. Thank you to those who attended, and for the contributions of food for the local Food Bank.

Black History Month

We have been marking Black History Month with a range of activities. Year 6 started our learning with a special assembly. This year our whole-school work has centred around stories and the sharing of inspirational ideas. The children heard the story of Big Hair Don't Care, by Crystal Swain-Bates, in assembly last week, and have been fortunate to have sessions with the author Faustin Charles, who is an acclaimed and highly popular poet and writer of *The Selfish Crocodile*.



Communication

Please ensure that you notify the office if you change your mobile number.

School Website: www.robsouth.org

Please use the school website to find information about the school. The curriculum overviews for the year, with information about the content of the curriculum have recently been added to the website. These are the broad plans which teachers adapt week by week in class.

Continuing School Improvement

As a school this year we are working to further improve attainment in writing by encouraging children to read for both pleasure and as a challenge. A rich reading experience helps children to have ideas for their own writing and also extends their vocabulary. Talking about books and new words also helps develop children's confidence.

We are particularly working to improve the attainment of boys in English, overall.

Curriculum Packs

If you did not attend the welcome information meetings and have not yet received a curriculum pack for this year, please ask your child's teacher.

Book Fair

This will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday after school, 3.30 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. and Wednesday morning from 8.30 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. Buy a book to share with your child to help them improve further in English.

Perfect Presentation

The children work really hard to earn themselves a Pen Licence. When they gain their Pen Licence their photograph and a sample of their writing can now be seen in the Perfect Presentation book in the main foyer of the school. As part of the process, the children get to sample a large variety of pens to use. They choose the pen they find most comfortable to write with and they then get to keep this pen. If they need a new pen or lose their pen, we ask for a £1 donation for any replacement needed. You are more than welcome to purchase them a different pen but can we ask that it is an inky blue pen and not a biro. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

(Mrs Bleau).

How to Support Your Child's Learning At Home

Staff are often asked by parents how they can help their child at home. Below are some quick tips:

- Demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your children.
- Monitor your child's television, video game, and Internet use.
- Encourage your child to read.
- Talk with your child.
- Talk to them about their homework.
- Encourage your child to use the library.

Mathletics

All children from Years 3 to 6 have access to Mathletics at home. For your information:

1000 points = a bronze certificate

5 bronzes = a silver certificate

5 silvers = a gold certificate

Your child can only get one certificate each week. They will only get a silver or gold if they have completed the required number of bronze certificates first. Silver and gold certificates only are presented at Friday morning Celebration Assemblies.

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary

Thank you to those who supported the Open Day on 23rd September. There was a wonderful turn-out, including pupils who were in the first two classes when the school opened in January 1967. Our celebrations have continued with a special whole-school photograph, which was taken this week. This will be available for you to purchase after half-term. Our final event is the Dinner Dance, which is taking place tomorrow at Hendon Golf Club. Thank you to all the staff, parents, governors and wider community who have supported all our events this year. We wish the school continued success in the future.

Parent Consultation Evenings

These will take place as follows:

Reception – Tuesday 17th October, 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Year 1 – Monday 6th November, from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Year 2 - Wednesday 1st November, 2.30 to 5.45 p.m. **and** Thursday 2nd November, 4.00 – 5.30 p.m.

Year 3 - Thursday 2nd November, 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Year 4 - Friday 3rd November, 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Year 5 - Tuesday 31st October, 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Year 6 - Wednesday 18th October, 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

An additional evening for Years 1,3,4,5 and 6 will be held on Wednesday 8th November, from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

It is very important that parents attend these consultation meetings so that the school can work in partnership with parents to enable all children to achieve their very best.

Before-School Tennis for Year 3

There are a few spaces on a Thursday morning in Year 3. Please ask at the office if your child would like to join.

Tae Kwon-Do

A private, independent coach takes Tae Kwon-Do lessons on Monday & Wednesday evenings, between 6.00 and 7.00 p.m., in the school hall. Children need to be aged 7 and above. For more information and to confirm a place, call John on 07956 558422.

Safeguarding

Every child is everybody's responsibility.

1) Please remind your child that they must not leave the school site or go through the gate without an adult. (Unless you have given written permission for them to go home alone in Year 5 and 6).

- 2) Make sure we know if someone different is collecting your child.
- 3) If you are a junior parent please do not collect someone else's child without letting the class teacher know.
- 4) if you must drive to school, please park considerately of our neighbours.

Attendance

The class with the best attendance so far this year is 3S with 98.9%. Well done!
The greater the attendance the greater the achievement. Please make sure your child is in school every day and is on time. School starts at 8.55 a.m.

Polite Reminder

Whilst we understand that sometimes children need to attend medical, dental and other important appointments during the school day and that this is often unavoidable, we ask that you send a note into the class teacher so they know to send your child to the school office at the correct time, in preparation for early pick-up. This will help our admin team greatly and avoid unnecessary delay in getting your child to where they need to be. We do ask that you try to avoid making appointments during the school day so that children do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities.

Uniform

Thank you to all those parents who have supported the school by making sure their children wear the correct uniform to school each day. Please ensure your child has sensible black school shoes and a black school coat as the weather becomes colder. The children play outside whatever the weather so it is vital they bring a coat to school every day.

Hair Cuts

Hair Cut Reminder! Haircuts and styles are part of the uniform policy. Long hair must be tied back and fringes should be clipped away from the eyes. If you choose to have your children's hair cut very short, please time this so that, on the return to school, it has grown back sufficiently to meet school requirements, and is generally of one length, with no steps, no shaved symbols and no lines. Girls should have hair extensions and colour, etc., removed before their return to school.

Earrings

After half-term children must only wear small studs. Please change your child's earrings, if necessary, for the first day of the new half-term.

Secondary Applications Deadline

The deadline for applying for a secondary school online is 31st October 2017.
If you still need forms signing, the Dean, Fr Stephen Willis, will be available on Wednesday 25th October, from 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. at St Sebastian and St Pancras, Hay Lane. You will need to book a time slot on the lists on the table at the back of the Church. Please see the parish newsletter for more information.

Parents must also make sure that they have completed the necessary additional forms and confirmation of Catholic practice, for Catholic school applications. If you do not complete all the paperwork by the published deadlines for the schools you are applying to, then your child may not secure a school place for September 2018. Please do not wait until the deadline but complete all the paperwork as soon as possible.

Donations

Nursery and Reception appreciate donations of tissues. As a school we also appreciate any donations of Lego, toy cars, train sets, and high quality puzzles.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you for all your support; we raised £270.00.

A big well-done to Miss Kessler who won our in-school staff "Bake Off" off competition.

Pupil Parliament

For your information, the new Pupil Parliament representatives are listed below. Congratulations to all who were appointed.

Class	Girl	Boy
2R	Emily Loftus	Dominic McGrath Tommy Lee
2S	Ella McGrath	
3R	Lucy Montgomery	Dragos Hapurne
3S	Clara Daly	James Montgomery
4R	Nicola Klak	Michael Kelly
4S	Erin Warde	Kevin Gitau
5R	Alyssa Patel	Billy Gillmurray
5S	Jessica Baxter	Fabian Praela
6R	Clodagh Murphy	Ryan Inyinbor Conor Brosnan
6S	Rose Mambo	

Friends

The Friends' AGM will be on Thursday 2nd November.

The Christmas Fair will be on Sunday 3rd December.

PTA : DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD/GIFT TAGS

If your child would like to design their own Christmas Card/Gift Tag or Wrapping Paper please complete the order form separately and return to the school office, no later than Friday 20th October.

PARKING

Once again I have been contacted by local residents because parents are parking illegally on double yellow lines and causing an obstruction. Please ensure that you are parking with due regard to the law, and with consideration at all times. I believe the PCSO will be accompanying traffic wardens and issuing tickets for parking that is illegal.

Parents' Meetings for Nursery and Reception Intake – September 2018

Thursday 2nd November 2017

Reception - 6.30 p.m., followed by tour of the school at 7.00 p.m.

Nursery- Tour of the school at 7.00 p.m., followed by meeting at 7.45 p.m.

School finishes for Half Term for all children on Friday, 20th October at 3.15 p.m (3.30 p.m. for Nursery).

INSET DAY - Monday 30th October – School closed to all children.

All children must return to school on Tuesday, 31st October.

Let's encourage positivity and talking together

