



# St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No 5 – December 2015



## **Catholic Life Of The School**

### **Year of Mercy**

The Year of Mercy has now begun and, as you will be aware from the Parish Newsletter, the Hail Mary prayer during the bidding prayers is being replaced for the year by the Hail, Holy Queen. We will focus on this prayer when we return to school in January and for the rest of the Year of Mercy.

### **Advent**

We have been on a journey through Advent. This is a very special time in the Church's year, as we prepare for Christmas. Several of our Nursery and Reception children have taken home the Posada and shared special Advent prayers at home. During the final part of Advent, families may like to share the following prayer together:

*"Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You sent your Son to be the Light of the World and to spread His light of love to all. As we light the candles of this wreath May its growing brightness remind us of the approaching nearness of your Son So that the day of His coming may find us prepared and filled with joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

### **Thank you**

A big thank you to all the Year 3 children, who created the most amazing Advent Wreaths. These have been on display around the school.

### **Adult/Community Lunch – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

If you have booked and paid to come to this lunch, please arrive between 1.00 p.m. and 1.30 p.m.

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

All children may wear a Christmas jumper or their own clothes tomorrow, in return for a suggested donation of £1 for their year group's nominated charity.

### **Christmas Concerts and Assemblies**

Well done to all the children for their wonderful singing and acting over the last few weeks. A special thank you to those parents who showed consideration for the children by allowing them to perform without the distraction of crying babies and continual camera flashes. The DVD of the Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3/4 performance can be ordered from the school office. On a personal note, I would like to give special thanks to my staff who worked additional hours to provide crèche facilities whilst the children performed. So far £656.00 has been raised for charity. This money will be split between the variety of charities nominated by the children.

### **Friends' Association Christmas Fair**

This was a very successful event and well attended. A special thanks to all those who helped set up the event and tidy up at the end of the day, and to everyone who helped in any way. Thank you for all the donations and your support.

### **Staffing Update**

Mrs Egan will be going on maternity leave in January. We have made the following appointments to roles, within our staffing structure:

Miss Montgomery and Mrs Bleau have been appointed as Acting Assistant Headteachers until a decision is made about the possible future appointment to our Deputy Headteacher's post. Miss Montgomery will be taking over Mrs Egan's Inclusion Leader's role, including Behaviour and Safeguarding, as part of her Assistant Headteacher's post, and Mrs Bleau will be overseeing the implementation of the new curriculum, and teaching and learning across the school.

Miss Lay has also been appointed as the Year 4, 5, and 6 Phase Leader.

Congratulations to all these members of staff. We wish them continued success in their new roles within the school.

### **History Fortnight - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January.**

As part of our continued focus on providing good stimulus for writing, and following our successful previous Circus and Pirate weeks, the first two weeks of next term are taking a History focus. Each year group is focusing on one decade as follows:

Nursery/Reception	1980's
Year 1	1940's
Year 2	1930's
Year 3	1970's
Year 4	1950's
Year 5	1960's
Year 6	1920's

Children will be able to dress up in costume/clothes or as a famous person, representing their decade, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January. There will be a Headteacher's competition to create an A3 poster or information booklet about the decade the children are studying. It should include famous people, news stories, inventions, dress and music from the period being studied, and be submitted by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Website**

For your information, we have upgraded our website to make it compliant with the requirements of Ofsted: <http://robsouth.brent.sch.uk>

We would welcome your feedback and suggestions. Please complete the attached form if you wish to provide us with any comments.

### **Times Table Rockstars**

<https://trockstars.com>

In addition to Mathletics, children in Years 3 to 6 have been given passwords to access Times Table Rockstars, in order to help them with their learning of times tables.

## **Celebrating our Successes**

The release of the school performance tables (including unvalidated data) show us to be amongst the highest attaining schools in Brent. We are third in the performance table for the percentage of children achieving Level 4 and Level 5 overall. Our results also compare favourably with schools from other local boroughs. Special congratulations to the children who were in Year 6 last year and school staff who worked so hard and gained these very impressive results. You can access the information on school performance at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance>

Please note, schools are listed in alphabetical order and you need to click on the column title to see schools in order of rank.

## **Sainsbury's Bronze Games Mark**



We have been awarded the Sainsbury's Bronze Games Mark for all our sporting involvement. Thank you to all the staff who enable the children to be involved in a range of sports during the year and to Kingsbury Sport's Partnership who run a number of inter-schools' festivals involving our children. Special thanks to Mrs Keville who gave up her own time to prepare and submit the application on behalf of the school.

## **Summer Reading Challenge**

The Library Service has provided the following information on schools' participation in the Summer Reading Challenge:

<b>Schools</b>	<b>Joiners</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Finishers</b>
Islamia School	165	Barham Primary School	128
Barham Primary School	147	Lyon Park Junior School	104
Lyon Park Junior School	118	Kingsbury Green Primary School	70
St Mary Magdalen's RC Junior School	97	Islamia School	69
Kingsbury Green Primary School	96	Roe Green Junior School	63
Salisbury Primary School	95	Oliver Goldsmith Primary School	61
Roe Green Junior School	81	Sudbury School	60
St Joseph's RC Primary School Harlesden	81	St Robert Southwell RC Primary School	52
Sudbury School	80	Leopold Primary School	46
Leopold Primary School	79	Oakington Manor	45
Oakington Manor	79	Roe Green Infant School	45
Kilburn Park Junior School	76	Salisbury Primary School	44
Oliver Goldsmith Primary School	75	Wembley Primary School	42
Wembley Primary School	68	St Mary Magdalen's RC Junior School	40
Al sadiq and Al Zahra Schools	67	Ark Academy	38
Ark Academy	66	St Joseph's RC Primary School Harlesden	38
Preston Park Primary School	64	Preston Park Primary School	36
St Robert Southwell RC Primary School	61	Al sadiq and Al Zahra Schools	33

**OFSTED Registered Childminder for school pick up from St Robert Southwell.**

Please contact Sandra 07855 949826 or 0208 931 7885, childcare available from 7.30am to 7pm. Email: [futurekidsjsh@gmail.com](mailto:futurekidsjsh@gmail.com)

**St Sebastian & Pancras Parish Hall Events – Hay Lane, Kingsbury, NW9**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas fair 10am to 2pm.** Come along and join in with the festive activities, lots of things to make and buy for all ages, pick up a last minute gift or sit and relax in our 'pop up' tea room serving cream teas, ploughman's lunch, cheese toasties, and treat yourself to a glass of mulled wine and mince pie, Irish coffee, fruit punch and lots more. 50p entry (any cake donations gratefully received from 9.30am in the hall.)

**Family festive disco doors open at 5.30pm**

Fun for all the family; come along to dance the night away at our family disco, everyone is welcome, music for all the ages, with kid's tuck shop. Mulled wine and mince pie, Irish coffee, soft drinks and more for adults.

£2 per child/adult ticket (for every child ticket, one adult ticket reduced to £1, 'family offer'). Also pay on arrival at disco.

**Thank You**

Thank you for all the gifts and cards received by staff, they are greatly appreciated.

**Back to School**

Children return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Classrooms open at 8.45 a.m. Registration is at 8.55 a.m.

**School closes at 2.00 p.m. on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

## Website Feedback Form

We value all feedback and suggestions for improving the information we provide to parents/carers. Please be specific about the information you would feel is ambiguous, vague, unclear or incorrect.

Your Name/Child's Name*	Class

\*optional, although we might like to contact you for further information/clarification.

Main Website Category	Sub Menu title	Feedback/Suggestions

If you would like to suggest a link for our Kid's Zone pages, please do so here.

Name of Site/Website Address	Category (ie Maths, Science, Geography,etc)	What do you or your child like about this site/what works well?

Thank you for taking the time to review our new website and for providing feedback.