



St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No 6 – February 2018



Vision: Aiming For Excellence, **Being The Best We Can Be.**

Catholic Life Of The School

February is the month where we remember the Holy Family.

Father, help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Congratulations to our new Pupil Chaplains.

Leading Chaplains: Cara O'Sullivan & Augusta Jasinskaite

Chaplains: Zimife Agbarakwe
Samuel Sule
Colin Copcea
Kian Murphy
Jack Gillmurray
Aidan Bergin
Michael Angland
Samantha Uwaifo
Judyta Gorska

Eva Le Blanc
Carys Finnerty
Jaida Power
Victoria Pyza
Mia Farrell

Assistant Chaplains: Stefani Teneva
Gabriela Konat

Exciting Learning

We started our term focusing on careers and aspirations, and all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 took part in (STEM) Science Technology Engineering and Maths workshops in the school hall.

We had a special 'dress-as-a-job' day, which demonstrated the range of occupations children can aspire to.

This half term has seen several trips and visits, including our Year 5 residential journey to the Gordon Brown Centre.

After half term, our learning will be based on the authors selected for each year group. More information is available on the school website: www.robsouth.org

Parent Consultations

Save the date: School Closed to Pupils on Thursday, 8th March.

Parent consultations will take place between 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 7th March and all day on Thursday, 8th March.

School will be closed to all pupils on Thursday, 8th March.

Creche facilities will be available while you meet your child's teacher during the day on Thursday, 8th March.

Keep Reading

Last week was national Storytelling Week. Half term would be a good time to visit the public library and to share books as a family.

World Book Day

Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. Children may come dressed as a book character on this day.

Staff News

Welcome to Mr O'Sullivan who has taken over from Mr Geraghty in the mornings, opening the school and making sure everything is in working order for the start of the day.

Mrs Pettitt, who has worked in our office for many years, is retiring in May and Ms Lim, our School Support/Business Manager, is leaving at the end of June. We will say a proper goodbye to them nearer the time. The Governors are currently reviewing the staff structure of the administrative staff and will advertise the vacancies once the job descriptions have been finalised. If you would like to be sent an application pack, please e-mail Ms Lim on: mlim@robsouth.org who will send you a pack, including a job description, as soon as they are available.

Mrs Bleau is now on maternity leave and I am delighted to announce she gave birth to a baby girl on Friday, 2nd February. Mrs Sheehan is on maternity leave and she also had a baby girl, on 6th February. We extend congratulations to both families and hope they enjoy their new arrivals.

Playground Development

As you can see, the new climbing wall and outdoor gym equipment is now completely installed and the children have been trialling it with their teachers this week. It will be in full use after half term.

A huge thank you to the Friends' Association for funding most of this project. Special thanks to a family who gave a donation of £1,000 which paid for two extra wall panels.

We are also very grateful to Mr Carey for helping with the works, and to Rattigan Plant Hire who provided machinery to help us with the project.

This project reflects the great sense of community and collaborative effort within the school.

Next, we will be looking at playground markings and developing playground games.

Are You Helping Your Child To Stay Safe?

All children from Reception age upwards should know their name, full address and a phone number by heart. If they get lost they should be able to share this so that they can be reunited with a family member. Please practise with your child and make sure they know this important safety information.

Internet Safety

The message for this year's national Internet Safety Day, which was marked on Tuesday of this week, is...

Create, Connect and Share Respect

A better internet starts with you

Mobile Phones

We do not allow children to have mobile phones in school during the school day. This is to ensure their focus is on learning and to prevent trouble caused by misuse of such technology. If you feel your child must bring a phone to school because they walk to and from school alone, then they must hand it into the office at the start of the school day and collect it at the end of the day. Please remind your child to be aware of safe use of devices so they do not fall victim to having their phone snatched. Children who fail to hand in a phone during school hours will have broken our trust and may not be able to take part in school trips and events.

I would also take this opportunity to remind parents that primary aged children are too young to hold Facebook and other social media accounts and should be supervised using apps like WhatsApp.

Do You Have Expertise That Could Help Us?

If you work in finance, banking or accountancy, the Friends' are asking for someone to audit their accounts. Please leave your details at the school office.

If you have any WordPress website experience and would be interested in helping us with the school website, please leave your details at the school office.

Haircuts

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 child's hair cut very short, please time it so that on their return to school, it has grown back sufficiently to meet the school requirements. It should be of one length, with no steps, no shaved symbols and no lines. Girls should have hair extensions and colours, etc. removed before their return to school.

To ensure the children understand that this is part of the school uniform policy, children whose hair cut/style is not acceptable will be kept off the playground and may be withdrawn from school trips until the issue has been resolved.

Irish Music Night

Save the date: Sharon Kelly and the children learning Irish Music will perform a concert on Thursday, 8th March, in the evening. This will be a ticket event, raising money for the Friends' Association. More information to follow.

Road Safety

Do you leave your vehicle running when waiting to drop and collect your children?

A concerned parent has written for help and support; we can make a difference by turning car engines off when waiting.

I am contacting you to see if there is anything that can be done to tackle the issue of vehicle owners who leave their engines idling, especially outside schools.

I have 3 children aged under 7 and every morning and afternoon they have to breathe in the emissions from motor vehicles whose engines are left running outside St Robert Southwell School.

It appears that the public are not aware of the damage that this can cause to both the health of children and the environment, or that it is illegal.

Any help to tackle what is a very serious public health and environmental issue would be greatly appreciated, if we are going to tackle this problem.

Dates

Date	Time	Event	Other Information
19 th February	p.m.	Year 6 Transition Workshop	No charge
19 th February		Year 4 Premier League Primary Stars	Every Monday for 10 weeks
21 st February		Year 5 Watford Football Club Move and Learn	Every Wednesday for 6 weeks in school
22 nd February	8.00 p.m.	Friends' Meeting	
26 th February	a.m.	NSPCC Assemblies	
26 th February	1.00 p.m.	Year 6 "Staying Safe" Wizard Theatre	In school, no charge.
1 st March	All day	World Book Day	Dress as a book character
7 th March	3.00 – 6.00 p.m.	Parent Consultations	
8th March	All day	Parent Consultations	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
8 th March	t.b.c..	Irish Music Concert	
13 th March	1.00 – 2.30 p.m.	Year 1 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
14 th March		Years 3 & 4 Athletics	Willesden Sports Centre
15 th March	p.m. and evening	Year 4 Voice in a Million Wembley Arena	
16 th March		Friends' Cake Sale	
20 th March	1.00 – 2.30 p.m.	Year 2 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
28 th March		Last Day for Nursery	
29 th March	2.00 p.m.	Last Day for School	

Masses

Junior Classes will attend the morning Mass at Hay Lane on Tuesday mornings as per the following list. Please drop your child at the Church at 9.00 a.m.

Tuesday 20th February	6R
Tuesday 27th February	4R
Tuesday 6th March	6S
Tuesday 13th March	5S
Tuesday 20th March	4S
Tuesday 27th March	5R

Assemblies

These take place at **9.00 a.m.**

Thursday 22nd February	Year 5 Gordon Brown Assembly
Thursday 1st March	
Thursday 8th March	Parent Consultations
Thursday 15th March	Reception Assembly
Friday 23rd March	Year 1 Palm Sunday Assembly
Tuesday 27th March	Year 2 Last Supper Assembly
Wednesday 28th March	Year 4 Way of the Cross Assembly
Thursday 19th April	Year 5 Resurrection Assembly

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy half term break.

Return to School

All children return to school on Monday, 19th February 2018, at 8.55 a.m.