

St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No 7 – February 2018

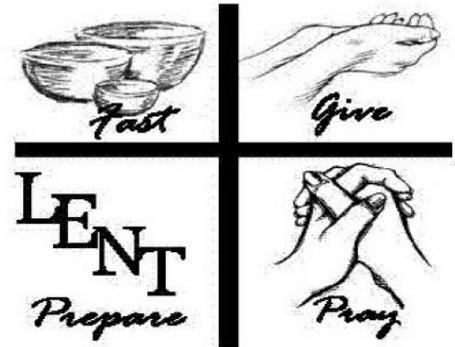


Vision: Aiming For Excellence, **Being The Best We Can Be.**

Catholic Life Of The School

The children have been talking in class about the season of Lent.

Many children have given up things like chocolate, crisps and sweets as part of a Lenten fast. Some children have also chosen to do something extra as part of a focus on their faith during Lent. As part of our Lent Almsgiving, collections have been taken after the Year 2 and Year 4 Holy Week liturgies. The money collected will be sent to the "Catholic Children's Society"



Parents' Forum Feedback

Thank you to the small number of parents who attended our recent Parents' Forum meetings. We really value your contributions and feedback. We discussed the improvements to the playground, the Ofsted inspection report, our actions in relation to attendance and also ways of improving communication between home and school. At the suggestion of some of those who attended, we are investigating the possibility of using a school app to communicate more easily and frequently with parents.

Friends' Association Events

The Friends' Association have had several events this term and have raised a great deal for their funds. This pays for equipment and resources for the children that the school would not otherwise be able to afford. Most recently, the Friends have paid for the new fixed playground equipment on the Junior playground, the playground markings and also a new football kit. We are very grateful to all those who help behind the scenes, donate raffle prizes and also all of you who give so generously. We had particularly lovely feedback about the Irish Music evening, which was a new event this year.

The next meeting will take place at 8.00 p.m. on Thursday 19th April, in school.

The next Friends event is on Friday 20th April - **Disco for St George's Day.** Reception to Year 2 disco - 3.15 p.m.- 4.45 p.m. If you have paid at the office by Thursday evening at 3.15 p.m., children will be taken by their class teacher to the hall for the disco. Year 3 – Year 6 disco 5.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. - children must be collected from school as normal at 3.15 p.m. and return at 5.00 p.m. for the disco. All children will be given a drink, bag of crisps and packet of Haribo sweets half way through the disco. Further information will be available at the start of term.

Summer Uniform

Children may return to school in Summer uniform if they wish, and, if the weather permits. This is optional until Monday, 21st May when all pupils should be in summer uniform.

I would take this opportunity to remind parents that summer dresses must be red check and knee length. All polo shirts must have the school logo. All children must wear closed-toe and closed-heel black school shoes. No trainers, except for Nursery children.

Class Photographs

We have generally asked Year 6 to wear winter uniform on the photo day for their final year group photograph. This year these will be taken on Tuesday 22nd May.

Build A Bear Clothes

Mrs Sullivan would be grateful for any donations of Build A Bear clothes and accessories for Barnaby Bear. Please hand them into 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.

Parking and Road Safety

Thanks to the persistence of local residents and Governors, the Council has reviewed the road safety and parking outside the school. In order to improve safety and ensure enforcement of the regulations, the Council are planning to implement a number of initiatives. These include increased enforcement, more yellow lines along Woodland Close, increased signage, and fixed cameras to fine motorists (or parents/carers) who ignore the restrictions near the school.

Most people park considerately but unfortunately, a small number of selfish individuals impact negatively on the residents' perception of the school, our children and their families. When finalising this plan with the council last week, I was dismayed to see several cars on Woodland Close parked with all four wheels on the pavement for more than 20 minutes when collecting children at the end of a school day.

On a number of occasions in the last week I have been embarrassed to be the Headteacher and horrified by the disrespectful and dangerous behaviour of parents dropping and collecting children from our school. I witnessed a car reverse onto the access road to the school towards children leaving the school site, and also saw four different parents parking across the drives of local residents, preventing those living in the houses from entering or leaving their own driveways. This is a very disappointing role-model to give to our children.

I have been asked to name and shame parents who endanger the safety of our children, and the Governors have been asked to consider other sanctions for those who show such disrespect when dropping the children and collecting them.

Unfortunately, I fear that until a child is seriously injured or killed, those who show such disregard for others by parking dangerously or being inconsiderate will not change their behaviour.

Debt

Very occasionally families have a debt for dinner money, trips and before and after-school childcare. We are acutely aware of the pressure on families and always endeavour to ensure children can take a full part in school activities. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please make a confidential appointment to see Miss Beck, who will advise you if and how the school can help. Any debt not being reduced through regular payments will be reviewed and action will be taken to recover the money owed.

Internet Safety

Being safe on the internet: please read these guidelines to ensure your children are as safe as possible. **The responsibility for keeping children safe online lies with parents and carers.** It is not a child's responsibility to protect themselves, but of course as parents and teachers we teach children about what to do if they feel unsafe online. Electronic devices should be used in communal areas; an adult should be present when children are using any device that connects to the internet. Children should only be communicating online with people they know. Parents should have access to children's online accounts, including their usernames and passwords. Children should be 13 years and older to upload to YouTube. Children should be 13 years and older to participate in most social media sites, e.g. Snapchat. Useful websites for information are included below:

1. CEOP – www.ceop.police.uk/
2. ThinkuKnow- www.thinkuknow.co.uk
3. Childnet – www.childnet-int.org
4. Beat Bullying – www.beatbullying.org
5. Know IT All – www.childnet.com/KIA
6. Insafe – www.saferinternet.org
7. www.net-aware.org.uk
8. www.nspcc.org.uk

**We encourage the children to use the action: if in doubt click out and report.
This would work equally well at home.**

Exciting Learning

Building on all your children have learnt this year, we continue our exciting learning journey with our Geography focused theme next term. The overview plan for each year group will be uploaded to the website by the end of the first week of term.

Football Update

The girls are through to the final of the Brent League, they will be playing Sinai next term. Unfortunately, the boys team got knocked out in the semi-final by John Keble.

Both teams have played very well, congratulations to them all.

School-Run Sports Clubs

Mr Pascoe will be running the following clubs during the Summer term:

Year 5 boys' football on Monday morning

Years 3-6 girls' football on Tuesday morning

Years 5-6 mixed tennis on Wednesday morning

Years 3-4 mixed tennis on Thursday morning

Children have been given letters to secure a place at these clubs. If we have more requests than places, priority will be given to children who have not yet had a turn.

Parent Consultations

Thank you for your amazing support of our consultation evening this term. Only eight parents across the school have not yet managed to meet their child's teacher. Thank you to the teachers who were exceptionally flexible in offering additional morning and after-school appointments to accommodate the small number of parents who did not attend the set meetings. As with lots of schools, we have started selling additional resources and practice books for you to purchase if you wish to do additional work with your child at home. The resources sold on parent consultation evening can be purchased from the school office.

Several parents asked for resources to support spelling and comprehension. We are going to look for these over the summer term.

Useful Websites

We've put together a list of really useful websites with free games and activities that you can introduce to your child to support their learning:

[BBC Spellits](#) (Spelling games) (KS2)

[BBC Bitesize](#) (Spelling and grammar) (KS2)

[Arcademic Skill Builders](#) (Literacy and maths games) (KS1 & KS2)

[Crickweb](#) (Literacy and maths educational games) (KS2)

[Kids Spell](#) (Create your own spelling lists & games) (KS1 & KS2)

[Fun Brain](#) (Maths, reading and spelling games) (KS1 & KS2)

[Learning Games for Kids](#) (Spelling and word games) (KS1 & KS2)

[PrimaryGames.com](#) (Spelling rules, incl. vowels, blends, plurals etc) (KS1 & KS2)

[ICT Games.com](#) (Look, cover, check game) (KS1 & KS2)

www.spellingframe.co.uk

www.literacyshed.com

<http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk>

SAT's revision:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/>

School Website

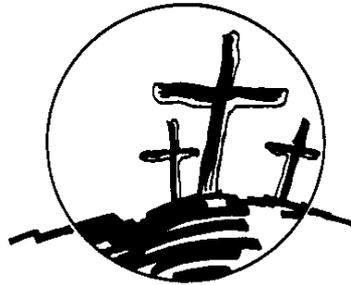
More information and copies of these letters can be found on our website at:
www.robsouth.org

Do You Have Expertise That Could Help Us?

We are looking to update our sound system in the main hall. If you have expertise, 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.

HAPPY EASTER



I WISH YOU ALL A PEACEFUL AND HOLY EASTER.
I HOPE THAT YOU ALL HAVE A LOVELY HOLIDAY AND ENJOY YOUR TIME WITH
YOUR CHILDREN.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON
MONDAY 16TH APRIL FOR THE SUMMER TERM.

Key Dates

THURSDAY 3rd May - School will be closed to all pupils except Year 6, as the school will be being used as a Polling Station.

Wednesday 4th July - Sports Day for Years 1- 6. Please note all children, as far as possible, should be dropped and collected from Hendon football ground on that day. Parents and family members are welcome to stay for the day, if they wish.

Summer Term Dates

Date	Time	Event	Other Information
Monday 16 th April	8.55 a.m.	All children return to school	
Tuesday 17 th April	11.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Commonwealth Community Lunch	Adults only. All welcome.
Thursday 19 th April	9.00 a.m.	Year 5 Resurrection Assembly	
Friday 20 th April	3.15 – 4.45 p.m.	Friends' Disco	Reception to Year 2
Friday 20 th April	5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Friends' Disco	Years 3 - 6
Tuesday 24 th April		Years 3 & 4 Athletics	Willesden Sports Centre
Thursday 26 th April		Year 2 Queen's Tea Party	
Tuesday 1 st May		Years 3 & 4 Tennis	Kingsbury High School
Tuesday 1 st May	All day	Year 1 to Kew Gardens	
Thursday 3 rd May		Polling Day SCHOOL CLOSED	Except Year 6 who should attend 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon
Friday 4 th May	All day	Year 2 to Windsor Castle	
Monday 7 th May		BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED	
Wednesday 9 th May	3.30 p.m.	KS1 & EYFS art exhibition	Main hall
Thursday 10 th May	3.30 p.m.	KS2 Art Exhibition	Main hall
Monday 14 th May		KS2 SATs Week	
Tuesday 15 th May	morning	Reception 1 to Welsh Harp	
Tuesday 15 th May	afternoon	Reception 2 to Welsh Harp	
Tuesday 15 th May	afternoon	Year 3 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
Tuesday 15 th May	afternoon	Year 4 Theatre Workshop	
Tuesday 22 nd May		Class Photographs	
Tuesday 22 nd May		Years 2 – 6 Music Concert	
Tuesday 22 nd May	afternoon	Year 4 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
Thursday 24 th May	All day	Reception to Willow Farm	
Monday 28 th May – Friday 1 st June		HALF TERM WEEK SCHOOL CLOSED	
Tuesday 5 th June	tbc	Year 5 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
Thursday 7 th June		Nursery to Bekonscot	
Tuesday 12 th June		Year 1 Sports at Kingsbury High	
Wednesday 13 th June	9.15 – 11.00 a.m.	EYFS Sports Day	Nursery and Reception
Wednesday 13 th June	7.00 p.m.	Meeting for New Nursery parents	
Monday 18 th June		Year 4 to Buckden	4S Mon – Wed, 4R Wed - Fri

Tuesday 19 th June		Year 2 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
Monday 25 th June – Friday 29 th June		Year 6 to PGL	
Wednesday 27 th June		Italian Day	
Friday 29 th June	6.30 p.m.	Reception's Got Talent	
Tuesday 3 rd July		Year 3 Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass	
Wednesday 4 th July		Sports Day at Hendon Football Club	
Monday 9 th July		Year 6 Sporting Challenge at Kingsbury High School	
Wednesday 11 th July		Year 6 Leavers' Mass and Disco	
Friday 13 th July		Friends' Fun Day	
Tuesday 17 th July		End of Year Thanksgiving Mass	
Thursday 19 th July		Last Day of Term for Nursery	
Friday 20 th July	2.00 p.m.	Last Day of Term	Early Finish