



St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No 8 – May 2018



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

Catholic Life Of The School

Celebrating the Feast of the Ascension

The feast of the Ascension takes place next Thursday and is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Junior children, Years 3 to 6, will attend the Parish Mass in Hay lane. We would be grateful if you could drop your children to Hay Lane, if possible, for 9.05 a.m. Junior children who arrive at school will be walked to church by school staff. We would be grateful for parents to walk back to school with each class after Mass.

Infant children will have a special liturgy during the day.

Please note: the assembly for 1S will go ahead as normal at 9.00 a.m., in school.

Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost - Advance Notice

The Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost will take place on Sunday, 20th May. As part of our Pentecost celebrations, Friday 18th May is a non-uniform day and we would suggest that the children come to school in a colour, as follows:

Nursery and Reception – something Red, to represent the symbol of fire.

Years 1 and 2 – something Blue, to represent wind and water.

Years 3 and 4 – something Black or White, to represent the spiritual hero inside all of us.

Years 5 and 6 – something White, to represent peace.

Parents are also welcome to join us for our special Pentecost Assembly, which will be led by Year 3, on Friday 18th May, at 9.00 a.m.

Pupil Progress

Parents of children in Years 1 to 5 were sent home their child's attainment and progress information last week. A number of parents also attended an explanation meeting, led by Miss Joseph, last Friday. Our reason for sending out this information was to enable parents to have a picture of the data held by the school, and to re-inforce the information provided by the teachers at Parent Consultations. If you have any specific queries, please contact Miss Joseph, through the school office. The next assessment information will be provided to you in your child's end of year report, in July.

Summer Weather

With the changes in the weather, some children are suffering from hay fever. If your child is affected by this condition, they may wear sunglasses at playtime. We can also administer the appropriate medication, as long as we have your signed permission to do so. If you wish the school to administer hay fever medication, please make an appointment to meet with Mrs Lynott, through the school office.

If the weather is exceedingly hot, please ensure that your child has a school sun hat, and that you have applied sunscreen before sending your child to school.

As the weather can be unreliable, please ensure your child has a waterproof jacket in school with them every day.

Water Bottles

All children should have a water bottle, with water only, to drink during the day. An increasing number of parents have added juice to the water bottles. This is bad for children's teeth and also encourages ants and wasps which quickly become a problem. Please only send water in your child's drink bottle.

Welcome To Our New Nursery and Reception Families

We are having a special welcome event for families whose children are joining our Nursery or Reception in September. This event will take place on Saturday 23rd June at 2.00 p.m. This is an informal gathering so that families can meet each other. Refreshments will be available during the afternoon.

Affiliations

We are not specifically affiliated to any sport or music club. We are fortunate that so many of our children have the opportunity to attend a range of after-school activities and clubs. Where appropriate, we invite our children to share their talents at school Friends' Association activities and events. We are therefore willing to advertise a range of "out of school" activities for a small fee. We do not sell or share any information on pupils to organisations and only distribute leaflets providing club information.

If there was only one football team, they would have no one to play against. Variety is healthy and different children enjoy different groups and activities.

Library Books

We are currently auditing our library book selection. If your child has any school books at home, please send them back into school. We are trying to ensure books that are missing, or have been at home a long time, are returned. Children who have not returned their library books may not be able to continue to borrow after half-term.

Changes in Admin Staff

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Anne Quigg to our admin team. As Mrs Pettitt is retiring at the end of this half-term, we are re-allocating roles within our Admin team.

Mrs Lynott is now taking responsibility for Breakfast Club, After-School Club, and invoices and payments for school meals.

Mrs Quigg will undertake a range of administrative roles including personnel, admissions, lettings, and will also be our Pupil Attendance Officer.

Mrs Kew will undertake a range of administrative roles, and will manage services and the overall school budget.

Safeguarding

The UK-based International Watch Foundation (IWF) is a global reporting organisation for reporting and removing child sexual abuse images. Their 2017 report has just been published and, sadly, shows no reduction in the number of abuse images there are online. In total, during 2017 there were 80,318 reports of confirmed child sexual abuse images, a 35% increase from 2016.

The IWF report shows that there has also been an increase in “commercial” hidden services – dedicated websites offering child sexual abuse imagery for sale. Many of these illegal images are stored in free to use cloud storage services. The IWF shows that 87% of these images were being stored in just five countries: Netherlands, USA, Canada, France and Russia; UK servers stored only 0.3%.

More information can be found here: <https://www.iwf.org.uk/news/iwf-global-figures-show-online-child-sexual-abuse-imagery-up-by-a-third>

Be Parent E–Safety Aware - Free Online Training

The school has purchased a bulk package for parents to access online training to help them be e–safety aware.

It is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about the online dangers, and how to act safely on the internet.

We are therefore delighted to announce that Robert Southwell Primary School has shown our commitment to protecting pupils online and has worked with National Online Safety’s “Online Safety World” to deliver an interactive online workshop for all of our parents & carers.

The course can be taken at your own convenience and covers:

- Information about online dangers and the newest platforms
- What online risks to look out for and how to protect your child
- Interactive quizzes, to check your understanding

Please find below the URL you need to visit to access the course guide:
www.onlinesafetyworld.com/school-course-access

Robert Southwell Primary School code is: **ROBERTSOUTH**

If you have any questions, or trouble accessing the course, please contact:
support@nationalonlinesafety.com.

Football Update

The girls played The Michael Sobell Sinai School and finished the season as the runners-up in the Brent Football League. Well done!

Parent Feedback

We have received two suggestions in the suggestion box, one about music trips and one about parent consultation evenings, which have been reviewed and considered by the senior staff team.

Head Lice

We have had a few cases of head lice in school. Please follow the advice on the following website <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.co.uk>

- About one in ten children in the UK, around one million, may have head lice at any one time
- Children aged 4 to 11 are most at risk as they have more physical, close contact with friends and family
- The best known symptom of head lice is the itching, although only about 30% are aware of it – it can be uncomfortable, can prevent sleep and concentration.

School Budgets

There has been a great deal in the media about budget cuts. We are fortunate not to need to make any staff redundant in the short term, and to be able to maintain all our provision in the next school year. However, if budgets continue to be cut, then we will have to make some difficult choices in the next few years.

School Cuts is a national campaign calling on Parliament to take immediate action to stop funding cuts to schools. This campaign is supported by a coalition of heads, teachers, school support staff, parents and trade unions.

You can find up to date school funding data, including local authority and constituency breakdowns, at; www.schoolcuts.org.uk

Commonwealth Lunch

Thank you to the Friends and the school staff who helped arrange the adult Commonwealth Lunch. This was enjoyed by all those who managed to attend.

Friends' Update

Change of date: the celebration of International Children's Day will now take place on **Thursday 7th June**, instead of Friday, as originally published. The food tasting and sharing can only take place if we have volunteers from our school parent community to cook and provide food. This has historically been very well attended and enjoyed by all. It is a wonderful opportunity for the whole school to celebrate our broad cultural heritage.

Friday 13th July – Friends' Fun Day. The Friends ask for a donation for the children to take part on this day, and then we have a BBQ for families between 3.30 and 6.30 p.m. This is a lovely social occasion and we hope you will put this in your diary so you can enjoy a family evening.

Summer Uniform

Summer uniform 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.

Thank You

Thank you to those who have come forward to support the website and audit the Friends' funds.

Key Dates

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 Club 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 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 Willows 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	
Thursday 7 th June		International Children's Day	
Tuesday 12 th June		Year 1 Sports at Kingsbury High School	
Tuesday 12 th June	7.00 p.m.	Meeting for new Reception parents	
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