



St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No 7 July 2019



Mission Statement Summary

*Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell
we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.*

Catholic Life of The School

Dear God, thank you for all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school this year. Thank you for providing us with the opportunities to share our gifts and talents. Thank you for teaching us how to love and respect one another, just like Jesus taught us. Amen.

We have celebrated two very special Masses over the last two weeks. The First Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass and the Leavers' Mass. It is wonderful for our children to be able to have a special celebration as a Catholic community, with Mass. Many thanks to Fr Stewart for giving so generously of his time.

Wall of Crosses

Thank you to those who have contributed to our wall of crosses. We always appreciate gifts from your travels. We will update the wall in September with any additional crosses donated from your summer holidays.

Farewell Year 6

It is the time of year when we say farewell to all our Year 6 children, who are moving on to their new schools in September. During their final year, not only have they worked extremely hard to achieve academically, they have been fine ambassadors in the way they have represented our school at sports, music and cultural events, helping visitors, encouraging and supporting younger children in their play and being superb, co-operative, dedicated and friendly members of our school. They have also contributed to the school gaining its OUSTANDING judgement in the recent Ofsted inspection. We wish them lots of luck for the next stage in their education.

Thank you

On behalf of all the staff we would like to take this opportunity for all your kind words, cards and gifts given to us at the end of the term. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity.

As a staff we are touched by the hamper collection from Year 6 which they contributed too. This has been shared in the staffroom this week.



Goodbyes

This is also the time of year when we say goodbye to some staff members. This year we are saying goodbye to Ms Sarah Josephs, Miss Laura Kelly and Mr Zack Benserghin. Mr Benserghin has worked in Year 5 this year each Friday finishing the week smoothly with 5S. We thank him for his commitment to the school.

Miss Laura Kelly has spent two years in Reception and is moving to Our Lady of Grace Junior school to broaden her teaching experience, teaching Year 5 in September. Miss Kelly has made a significant contribution to our Reception team over the last two years and has supported the introduction of Forest Schools.

Ms Josephs has worked in our school for many years, undertaking long and short-term cover, and leading our lessons about Judaism. It is an amazing opportunity for our children to hear about another faith from someone who lives it with great commitment every day. Ms Josephs is retiring from teaching and is looking forward to spending time with her grandchildren. We may see her pop in as a supply if we need cover in the future.

We wish all the staff leaving a future full of happiness and good health.

Another Successful Year

As we move into the summer holidays it is a good time for us to remember all our successes. It has been an incredibly busy and successful year which has also been a great deal of fun. In no particular order, we have listed our key successes below:

- The Boys' football team won the Brent Cup
- The Choir secured a place in the Brent Schools Choir final, and won first place in the St Dominic's choir slam
- The Maths team won the St Gregory's Maths challenge
- We had a very successful Ofsted, judged Outstanding in all categories
- The school took part in the Ofsted pilot for the new inspection framework
- The school achieved the 'I Can Accreditation' for enhanced speech and language provision.
- We achieved the Early Years Quality Mark in June
- We achieved the Basic Skills Quality Mark in July, for improving outcomes in English and Maths across the school.
- Winning the shield at the Gaelic ABC competition

We have also:

- Participated in The Kingsbury Sports Partnership, taking part in inter school competitions
- Undertaken three successful residential journeys for children in Year 4, 5 and 6.
- Raised £2180 for charity
- Collected for the local foodbank
- Supported the One Child Foundation, with a stationary collection

In addition:

One of our Governors was elected Mayor of Brent

National Data and Our School

We continued our good outcomes at the end of EYFS, in the Y1 phonics screening and at the end of KS1 and KS2.

Key Stage 2 results are above those achieved nationally in all subjects and better than 2018 in Reading, Maths and Grammar. A big well done to all our Year 6 pupils and the teachers for these amazing outcomes.

The data for 2019 is unvalidated and is based on the results sent home with the children this week.

End of Year 6 60 pupils	Expected standard +	Expected standard +	Expected standard +	Greater depth
	National 2019	School 2019	School 2018	School 2019
Reading	73%	76% (46)	80% (45)	25% (15)
Writing	78%	83% (50)	82% (46)	38% (23)
Maths	79%	93% (56)	88% (49)	37% (22)
GPS	78%	92% (55)	84% (47)	47% (28)
R,W & M	65%	73% (44)	73% (41)	15% (9)

Past Pupil Successes

We are delighted to celebrate the successes of some of our past pupils.

Daniel Adu-Adjei, a past pupil, currently plays for Fulham FC and has been selected for the England under 15's football team.

Tom Angland recently gained his pilot's licence.

Ofsted



I hope by now, you will all have had the opportunity to read our recent Ofsted report. It is wonderful that St Robert Southwell School has been judged 'OUTSTANDING' in all areas. The inspectors recognised the school's many strengths and were particularly impressed with the children: their excellent attitude to learning and their exemplary behaviour. Once again, I would like to say thank you to all the parents who completed the questionnaire and were very positive and supportive of the school.

Governors' building Fund

Thank you to those who have paid their contribution to this fund. We have received £3800 towards this fund. If every family had contributed, we would have raised £20,000. We need to maintain the building and outside environment for the children. If we had raised more, then we would have carried out some maintenance projects like upgrading our CCTV and installing some air conditioning in the halls and hottest classrooms. As we have not raised enough, the maintenance of the school over this holidays will be much less. If you have not paid, please pay on line using your Scopy login

Keep learning over the holidays

Reading and Times Tables

The holidays are a time for rest, but must not be a wasted learning opportunity. Six weeks is a long time in a child's life so please remember to read with them regularly, share a book, and also to practise their times-tables, learning them in and out of order. These are the keys to English and Maths and if they are performed at a high level, then your child will make a lot of progress when they return in September.

We have made appropriate holiday homework books available for you to purchase if you wish. These are for parents to work through with their children and do not need to be returned to school.

Send a Post card or letter

If you are away or go on a day trip, send a letter or postcard to school. This is a good opportunity to share some of the fun things that you do over the holidays. You do not have to go a long way; a postcard from Wembley is as valuable as one from overseas. Our address is:

St Robert Southwell School, Slough Lane, Kingsbury London, NW9 8YD.

Brent Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge 2019

Brent Libraries, which last year had 3379 children participating, is running the Summer Reading Challenge once again. This will be Brent Libraries' nineteenth year of running the scheme and this year's title is Space Chase – celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Children taking part in the Challenge will join the super space family, The Rockets, for a thrilling mission to track down books nabbed by mischievous aliens! Children will collect stickers and have lots of fun and adventures along the way!

Sign up at your local library and enjoy lots of new books.

Curriculum and Learning

When we return to school in the Autumn term, the subject in focus in the curriculum will be Design & Technology. We are always striving to improve our teaching and learning and to make sure the children learn new skills. A range of activities supports children's understanding of Design and Technology including: using simple tools, to planning and making a model. Looking at structures like bridges and talking about how things work will enthuse them and support their learning.

School Website

For your information, our school website address is: www.robsouth.org

Parents' Forum

Thank you to those who attended our most recent Parents' Forum. We talked about the Ofsted inspection, communication to parents and bullying.

Friends' Association

The Friends' Association have had another very successful year and have raised a considerable amount of money to support the school and the children. This includes theatre performances, purchasing new library books and I-pads.

The most recent very successful event was the Year 6 Driving experience which raised over £800. A huge thank you to Mrs Marie Cawley who gave up three days of her time to run this unique experience for our Year 6 children.

The Friends' BBQ

This raised just over £4000. A big thank you to those who did the shopping, donated raffle prizes, set up and tidied away. Special thanks to the Governors who supported this event and all those who helped with the BBQ.

On-Going School Improvement

As a school we are really focusing on continuing to improve outcomes in reading. We hope that you will help your child succeed by making sure they read regularly at home.

Ear Piercing

If you are planning to get your child's ears pierced over the summer holidays, could we ask that you do this at the start of the holidays. This gives the ears a chance to heal so that earrings can be taken out for PE, swimming etc. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Parking

I am aware that several parents are at the end of their tether and feel a few parents continuously endanger our children's lives by stopping and parking inconsiderately.

The school pays £7200 per year from its own budget for our lollypop lady, to help your children cross safely. We are keeping this cost under review as with continuing budget cuts, we may not be able to afford to keep this luxury going in future years.

Below is an email from a local resident:

I wanted to share my frustration with you over a couple of parents who always seem to be parking on the yellow lines outside the school.

On Friday after school, Slough Lane came to an absolute standstill because of these 2 parents. This caused cars to drive up onto the pavements where children were walking! It was a disgrace to see. These parents are always parked here and I don't understand why they seem to think the rules do not apply to them!

I know how frustrating it is for you as a school as I can imagine you have complaints all the time regarding careless parking. A suggestion would be to name and shame. I know other schools get sent pics of bad parking and the admin on Twitter post them to show awareness. Yes, it's another job to be done but somehow these parents need to be made an example of.

It is so sad that local people feel that those attending our school set such a poor example to the children in their care.

Those who cause distress to our neighbours and endanger the lives of the children attending this school on a daily basis, do not support the shared values of aiming for excellence, showing compassion and following in Jesus' footsteps.

Reminders

Please remember that when your children return in September they must have:

- Proper black shoes (not trainers)
- Black coats
- Proper uniform and school haircut
- All of their clothing and property labelled.

From Year 3 upwards, the children will need their own pencil case and equipment (including a glue stick).

Free Gift

Every child has been given 5 free name labels over the last few weeks or with this newsletter. If you buy anymore, please quote the code 21813 to www.Stikins.co.uk as the school will get a small donation for orders placed with this code.

End of Term

The last day for Nursery is today. School finishes for the rest of the school at 2pm tomorrow. Please collect your children promptly. We wish you all a wonderful summer break.

New Term

School starts again on Tuesday 2nd of September at 8.55am

[Planning ahead. The first Friends event of the new school year is Friday 13th September.](#)



spread
kindness
like
confetti

Vision: Aiming for Excellence, Being the Best we Can Be