

# Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs Tamsyn Lawlor  
The Federation of St. Joseph's Catholic Junior,  
Infant and Nursery Schools



July 2016

We have reached the last week of term and I'm sure we are looking forward to a well-deserved break. However there are always mixed feelings as we say goodbye to some staff members and Y6. We were extremely proud of our Year 6 pupils last week as they came together to celebrate mass with their families and teachers. The children also performed their production of 'Olivia' to the children, parents, governors and guests. We have been blown away by the children's talent and enthusiasm. It was a wonderful celebration of their time in primary school and we wish each and every one of the children a happy and successful future. To those parents who have had a long association with the school we also wish them well for the future and thank them for their loyalty and support of the St Joseph's community.

Year 2 were equally on fine form last week and performed 'Oliver'. The singing was incredible and the children really did themselves and their teachers proud. Congratulations to our talented children in Year 6 and 2.

This time of year it is important to say thank you to many groups of people who have worked together to strengthen St Joseph's Junior, Infant and Nursery Schools.

I would like to thank the governing body of St Joseph's for their support of the work of the whole community. We are truly blessed to have such a committed and able group of governors shaping the school and helping it to improve. Our newly elected chair Mrs Kate Guest has worked tirelessly this academic year and has enabled us to make significant improvements. We look forward to sustaining our improvements and working in partnership to make our school and even better place to be.

Thank you - although it doesn't seem enough in terms of recognising all the hard work the PTA put into making the summer fair a great success. A huge amount of support came in the way of donations, manning and organising stalls as well as the actual support on the day. There was a lot to do and it was great to see pupils past and present having a nice time and enjoying the sunshine. It is a big undertaking in a very short space of time and I wish to thank the PTA committee on behalf of us all. Our newly elected committee have been an inspiration and I look forward to many more successful events to come!

Sheila Frost as you know has been a loyal member of our staff for the past 36 years. Her strong catholic ethos and dedication to our schools has been inspirational. Her support of the governing body and senior leadership team has been consistently unwavering. She has always had the school's 'back' and has believed in our children. She will leave a void and I hope that as a team we can work to fill it! We wish Miss Frost a very happy and long retirement.

Thank you to Fr James and Fr Anthony for their frequent visits to the school and the pastoral care they provide to pupils and staff.

Finally to the entire staff of St Joseph's - I wish to personally thank them for their support, hard work and collegiate spirit. It has been a hugely successful year in many many ways none of which would have been possible without the hard work, commitment and dedication of our staff. I am very proud to be the head of school that is going places! I hope they all have a good break and enjoy some much needed quality time with their families and friends.

## Outcomes for our pupils this academic year 2015- 2016

### Phonics

85% of pupils in Year 1 met the required standard in phonics this year. This has risen from 79% of pupils last year. Congratulations to the Y1 children.

### **Infants & Nursery**

Crown Dale, London SE19 3NX  
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### **Juniors**

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KS1 - EXS - means children who met the expected standard for the end of Key Stage 1.

	WTS (W)	EXS (M)	EXS + (M+E)
READING	10%	48%	78%
WRITING	9%	67%	78%
MATHS	14%	55%	76%

KS2 -SATs data is still unvalidated until autumn term 2016

Subjects	St Joseph's Junior School 2015/16			National
	2015	2016	% increase from 2015 - 2016	% of pupils reaching expected standard 2016 (provisional)
Reading	73%	79%	+6%	66%
Writing	79%	89%	+10%	74%
GPS	67%	93%	+26%	70%
Maths	79%	93%	+14%	72%
Combined (R, W & M)	65%	79%	+14%	53%

We are delighted with the good standards of achievement across the school this year. Congratulations to our pupils and staff for their hard work.

## Sport

Once again this year we have successfully been awarded the Gold Mark Sports Award which is a national award recognised by Ofsted. This is due to the range of sports we offer at St. Joseph's, not just in the curriculum but also at a competition level with other schools. We have entered all 7 Catholic School Games competitions including rugby, cross country, netball, football, swimming, athletics, and our newest Catholic school competition diving which we managed to win (please see the cup in reception area). We also took part in these sports competing with other schools in Croydon and many more besides including gymnastics, squash, rollapaluzza and cycling, (please see the school website for pictures of all these events) This year the sports prizes went to: **Josiah Offiah-Lutterodt (Victor Ludorum)** and **Kayla-Mae TeBullions (Victrix Ludorum)**. They were awarded in recognition for their sportsmanship and the fact that they represented the school in so many different sports over the year. Congratulations to them both. Congratulations to Mrs Mangan and Mr Kavanagh for their achievements this year - there are so many to mention. Sports provision at St Joseph's is extremely strong.

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## Music

Music is equally strong at St Joseph's and we have had a lot of children learning instruments. The recent instrumental concert on the 7<sup>th</sup> July was very impressive and showcased a huge amount of talent. This year the Gordon Prize for music has been awarded to Eva Main and Matilda Oliver. The prize has been awarded for three reasons: very hard work on the chosen instrument, resulting in success in public exams, membership through the school of the choir, membership in year 6 of the recorder club and in year 5 and 6 of the orchestra. Special certificates for commitment, enthusiasm and helpfulness were awarded to Joshua Antaran, Kyah- Sarisse Marshall and Rose Hopkins.

## Fundraising

### **MATCHBOX CHALLENGE**

During Science Week, children were given the opportunity to participate in raising money for the school playgrounds through a sponsored Matchbox Challenge.

With thanks to all the children (and families) who participated, the schools have raised £1092.25 - £723.94 in the infants, £368.31 in the j juniors.

Prizes of £5.00 book vouchers have been awarded to a child in each year group who collected the greatest variety of items in their boxes. One prize of a £10.00 book voucher has been awarded to the child with the largest overall collection. Thank you once again and thank you to Miss Frost for coordinating the challenge.

This term we started the year group thermometers to visually represent the amount of funds each year group raise. The money the children are raising will be used to enhance the outside areas. The thermometers are in the junior hall on the wall and will be updated regularly. So far we have had cake sales this year. We will continue with the fundraising next term.

### Upper Norwood Library Challenge.

Despite any rumours you may have heard, Upper Norwood Library is still OPEN and will be for at least 2 more years. Please come and use our facilities. Starting on Monday 11th July we have been signing up children aged 5 to 11 years old to take part in this fun and FREE National Summer Reading Challenge called 'The Big Friendly Read'. The theme is based on Roald Dahl's books as it is his 100th anniversary of his year of birth this year. Children are encouraged to read any 6 books of their choice and come into the library to tell us about them. In exchange we give prizes for every book read, culminating in a certificate and medal on completion. The challenge finishes on 10th September. It is free to join the library and free to do the challenge so pop along and have some fun in the summer with us (or any public library close to where you live)

### Team points

Final team points for this year: The winners are St Sebastian the blue team!

Red - St Catherine: 17772

Green- St Francis: 17737

Blue - St Sebastian: 18113

Yellow - St Cecilia: 17946

### Good bye and Good Luck

#### **Year 6**

Congratulations to our children in year 6. The results achieved this year are the best we have since 2012 and 2014. I wish to thank them for the contributions they have made individually and collectively to St Joseph's. We are proud to see them go on to secondary school and wish them well. I am sure they will continue to be excellent ambassadors for our school

They move onto:

**Bishop Thomas Grant School  
St Philomena's**

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St Joseph's  
The John Fisher School  
La Retraite  
Coloma Convent Girls School  
Virgo Fidelis  
St. Mary's RC High School  
St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls  
Norwood School  
Whitgift School  
Sydenham High School  
Wallington Girls  
Harris Academy South Norwood  
Kingsdale Foundation School  
Elm Green School

## Summer work

Thank you in advance to Peter McEvoy who will oversee the site over the summer break and ensure things are ready and clean for the start of the new term. We have had some drainage work carried out in the infants and the removal of old play equipment. Unfortunately the play equipment was too expensive to repair and all our recent fundraising efforts will enable us to be able to buy more up-to-date equipment in the near future.

## Mini bus

We are still in need of volunteers to drive the mini bus from time to time for class trips and outings. Please contact either the infant or junior office if you would be happy to be trained and volunteer.

## Class allocations 2015- 2016

You will have all received information on staffing by now. I would like to once again record my thanks and best wishes to Miss Madigan. I wish her all the best in her new post and look forward to seeing her back with us in September 2017. We will also be saying goodbye to Mr John Graves who has been a teaching assistant in the junior school for the past 9 years. He leaves us to take up a post at The National Maritime Museum. All the very best John!

## Mrs Kelly- Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Kelly will be taking her maternity leave from the beginning of September. We wish her all the very best and hope that she relaxes in her final months of pregnancy! Mrs Kelly is due to return at the beginning of the summer term 2017.

## Miss Ceylan

Congratulations to Miss Ceylan who will be getting married during the summer holiday. On Miss Ceylan's return to school in September she will be known as Mrs Oruc.

## New staff

A warm welcome to: Ms Beverley Dennis (Year 4), Miss Naomi Bickmore (Year 5) and Miss Maria Kalliora (Year 3). I hope our new staff will have a happy and long association with St Joseph's

## Website

Our web site includes up to date information. We would welcome more subscribers to the site and more followers on Facebook and Twitter. Please do also follow the PTA Facebook page which has lots of useful information about local events as well as school events and photographs.

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## Holidays and Absences from school

Please note by way of a reminder we are not able to authorise any holidays during term time. We could use some sort of discretion in the past, this is no longer the case. Any holidays will be marked down as unauthorised. Please do not ask because you will be offended when your request is turned down. Prolonged illness and regular illness will need to be supported by a doctor's note/letter.

Please ensure you are back on the first day of term 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016

## Class assemblies

Many thanks to: Y4 and reception for the last assemblies of this academic year. Year 4 reminded us about the Pope's Year of Mercy. They reflected on their visit to Westminster Cathedral and the walk of mercy they experienced. We have our own door of mercy situated in between the year 3 classrooms.

## Forthcoming events

21<sup>st</sup> July - Leavers BBQ 1.30pm - School field (Y6 parents and children)

## September 2016

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September - INSET

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September - children back Reception - Y6

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September: Secondary transfer meeting and Y6 curriculum

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September - education Sunday - children to attend 11am Mass at Virgo Fidelis.

**Wishing you all a happy summer holiday - see you in September!**



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