

Deputy Head Teacher Infant School Ms. K Gaynor  
Saint Joseph's Infant, School Waverley Ave, Wembley, HA9 6TA

Deputy Head Teacher Junior School Mr. S Nicklin  
Saint Joseph's Junior School, Chatsworth Ave, Wembley, HA9 6BE

## Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools Parental Newsletter Friday 16th January 2025

### Value for January – Commitment

**Breakfast Club Daily**  
**7:45-8:30 a.m.**  
**Junior/Infant School Halls- registration required**  
**After School Club**  
**Junior School**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**3:00 -4:15p.m.**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Dance Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Year 5 Reading Club**  
**3:30-4:15**  
**Gym Club**  
**Chess Club**  
**Archery Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**  
**Football Club**  
**Film Making Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**  
**Year 3 Computing Club**  
**3:30-4:15 p.m.**  
**Fencing**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**  
**Gym Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

In assembly this week we were thinking about the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the River Jordan. This linked to last week's Gospel reading. We talked about when we are baptised that we become part of God's family. We thought about the Holy Trinity being present with God the Father's voice heard from Heaven; God the Son Jesus being baptised and God the Holy Spirit descending as a dove. Our mission this week was to remember that we all are God's beloved children and how that could influence our thoughts and actions this week.

### Year of Reading



2026 is the National Year of Reading. The Department of Education have launched a UK wide campaign designed to help people rediscover the joy of reading. The 'Go All In'

campaign aims to bring reading to everyone, through their passions. Whatever people are into – sport, music, food, gaming, film, fashion, or creativity – this interest is then used to draw them into reading. By starting with passions, not pressure, the aim is to create a stronger, more connected reading culture across the UK.

We all know the benefits of reading, but unfortunately fewer people are reading. Reading expands minds, builds confidence and fuels creativity. Yet with more distractions and less time, reading for pleasure is in decline across many groups.

Here in Saint Joseph's, we have lots of exciting events planned to encourage reading and continue to develop children's love of books. One of these is that we will be launching a very special reading café where parents and carers will be invited to join their child to read a favourite story or book together.



## **Ofsted School Inspections**

You may be aware that the school inspection framework has changed since November 2026. There is now a new school report card in place and a different grading system, which is quite different from the previous framework. The Brent Director of Education, Partnerships and Strategy in Education has written to all Parents and Carers to update them on these changes. Please see her letter on page 7.

## **Class Masses**

Thank you to Father Joseph for leading Saint Faustina's class Mass this afternoon. Many thanks also to those parents and family members who were able to join with us.

Please join with your child and our staff for their class Mass which will take place at 2p.m. in your child's classroom.

The Masses scheduled for this term are as follows:

Saint Vincent De Paul Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Saint Joan of Arc Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Francis Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Mary Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Catherine Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Saint Jude Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

## **Class Assemblies**

Assemblies take place in either school hall from 9a.m.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January Saint George

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February Saint Joan of Arc

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March Saint Teresa

## **Message From Saint Joseph's Church Wembley New Altar Servers Meeting**

### **NEW ALTAR SERVERS RECRUITMENT AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

There will be an introduction and registration meeting for children wishing to join the Altar Servers, together with their parents, on Saturday, 7th February at 11:30am in the Church. It is mandatory for at least one parent to attend this meeting, as we will be providing the requirements and guidelines. Only children who have received their First Holy Communion are eligible.

## **Admissions**

You should have by now submitted admissions applications for nursery, reception and Year 3 for September 2026. If you have not yet managed to do so, please speak to someone in either school office as soon as possible and we will try to support your late application.

**We currently have vacancies in Years 3 and 5 so if you know any families with children in non-Catholic schools in these year groups, please encourage them to apply.**

## Parental Workshops

**Mathematics parental workshops will take place in either school hall from 9a.m on the following dates:**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January Year 1

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February Year 5

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February Year 2

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March Year 4

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March Year 3

## Year 6 Sat's Parental Meeting

There will be a parental meeting outlining the arrangements for the Year 6 Sat's on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 8:45 a.m. in the junior hall.

## Reception and Nursery Stay and Play

There will be another opportunity for parents to join their child in reception and nursery to get an insight into their daily learning experience.

Reception Stay and Play Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January from 8:45

Nursery Stay and Play Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January from 8:30 (morning nursery) and 12:15p.m (afternoon nursery).

## OPAL Play



We have launched a special OPAL bingo competition to encourage children to donate things for OPAL play. We hope that you are able to support on this. You will also receive the OPAL newsletter with this newsletter which has more information. We are also requesting any donations of waterproof clothing that you may have and no longer need. Many thanks.



## Request for Transportation

If anyone has a van and a spare hour, we would be very grateful for your assistance. We need help to pick up some crates and barrels for OPAL play. The company that has donated is local in Wembley. Please speak to the office or Ms. Gaynor, Mr. Nicklin or myself if you feel that you could help us.

## Magic Breakfast

As you know the school is part of Magic Breakfast and we provide all children with the offer of toast or bagels each morning. We have recently been trialling offering the children cereal each morning and this has gone very well. Shortly we will be extending this to all classes. Currently the cereals offered each morning are Weetabix, Cornflakes and Quaker Original Oat Crisp Cereal. We have sent the allergen information about the products which we are currently using for your information.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we try our best to support you particularly in terms of the dangers that children may encounter online. If you have any concerns, please contact me. All school staff have regular training. I remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Staff who have had additional higher-level training in safeguarding.

## Safeguarding

## Safeguarding



Saint Joseph's Catholic  
Infant and Junior Schools

At Saint Joseph's we are committed to the safety and happiness of all our children and adults in our school family. If you are concerned about a child, please talk to our designated safeguarding officers.

Safeguarding Governor Mr. R. Hollings	Deputy DSL Mrs. S. Moore DSL Photo Leader	Infant School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. A. Cooper Deputy DSL Leader	Junior School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mr. A. Robbie Deputy DSL Leader
Deputy DSL Mrs. S. Moore DSL Photo Leader	Deputy DSL Mrs. S. Moore DSL Photo Leader	Deputy DSL Mr. A. Robbie DSL Leader	Deputy DSL Mr. A. Robbie DSL Leader
JUNIOR ADMIN TEAM	JUNIOR ADMIN TEAM	JUNIOR ADMIN TEAM	JUNIOR ADMIN TEAM

Copies of our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website along with links to the latest update of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment.)  
Paper copies may be found in the school office upon request.

## Online Safety

Each week we will include a link to an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world, this week the National Online Safety guide is on 'Sharing Photos Online' and can be found on page 9.

## House Points



<b>Luke</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2985 points	<b>Mark</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2816 points	<b>John</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2673 points	<b>Matthew</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> 2662 points

*House point totals 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

## Weekly Attendance Award

Attendance last week was extremely low across the school with a high number of children not returning on time after the Christmas holidays. I will continue to meet with parents about attendance concerns across next week. Please ensure that you book an appointment to meet with me if you have been invited to on our School Cloud Booking System.

Congratulations to the class winners for last week.

Junior School- Saint Catherine on 97%

Infant School- Saint Teresa and Saint Patrick on 94%



## Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Angel  
Saint Patrick- Achilles  
Saint George- Semenca  
Saint Teresa- Myler  
Saint John Paul- Anayah  
Saint Angela - Brion  
Saint Christopher- Andreea-Denisa

Saint Catherine- Tommy  
Saint Jude- Lestra  
Saint Mary- Julian  
Saint Francis- Alrick  
Saint Joan of Arc- Bresha  
Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Sofia  
Saint Vincent De Paul- Mikhail  
Saint Faustina- Naomi



## Prayer for Commitment

Lord,

Teach me the value of true commitment.  
Help me to stay faithful to my promises,  
Dedicate myself fully to my responsibilities,  
And persevere even when challenges come.

Let me understand that commitment shapes my  
character,

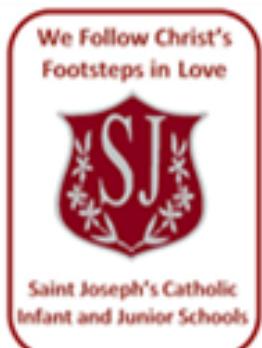
Builds trust with others,  
And brings purpose to all I do.

Guide me to honour my commitments with integrity and  
love.

Amen.

*Have a lovely weekend.*

*Mrs. Whelan*





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5 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share important information about changes to Ofsted school inspections. These changes started in November 2025.

Ofsted will no longer give schools one overall grade like "Outstanding" or "Requires Improvement". Instead, schools will receive a report card with grades covering different areas of their performance. There will be five grades:

- Exceptional
- Strong Standard
- Expected Standard
- Needs Attention
- Urgent Improvement

A school may receive different grades in different areas. For example, a school may do very well in some areas and be identified as needing more work in others. It is important to understand that the old grades are not the same as the new grades. They cannot be compared:

- the old grade "Outstanding" is not the same as the new grade "Exceptional"
- the old grade "Requires Improvement" is not the same as "Needs Attention".

Ofsted still has high expectations.

- The "Expected Standard" means the school is doing everything that it should be doing. This is a high standard set to ensure that your children are receiving everything that they need and deserve. Because expectations are higher, a school that was previously graded "Good" may now be graded "Expected Standard", even if the school has improved.
- Some schools may be graded as "Strong Standard" in some areas. Very few schools will receive "Exceptional" gradings.
- The grade "Needs Attention" means the school needs to improve in that area to reach the Expected Standard. It is not a failure. It helps schools fix small issues before they become bigger problems.

You can find more information for parents and carers here: [Understanding Ofsted report cards and grades – GOV.UK](#)

We are very proud of all of our Brent schools and the strong education they provide for pupils. We are confident that our Community Schools will be well prepared for their next Ofsted inspection, which normally happens within four years of the last inspection. Thank you for your continued support in helping our schools give your children the best possible education and start in life.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Parks  
Director, Education, Partnerships and Strategy,  
Children, Young People and Community Development, Brent Council



# There's nothing quite like sharing a story.

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**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

A regular safeguarding update will be provided with this newsletter to ensure that you have access to current useful information and guidance.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**INVASIONS OF PRIVACY**

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

**REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS**

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

**MISUSE OF IMAGES**

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

## ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

## PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are 'worth sharing'. Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

## IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

### CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

### THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting: it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

### Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.

### National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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HA9 6TA

St Joseph's RC Infant School - 19/07/2024

