

Executive Head Teacher Mrs. A. Whelan
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 19th January
Dance Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

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

Wednesday 21st January
Football Club
Film Making Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday 22nd January
Year 3 Computing Club
3:30-4:15 p.m.
Fencing
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday 23rd 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

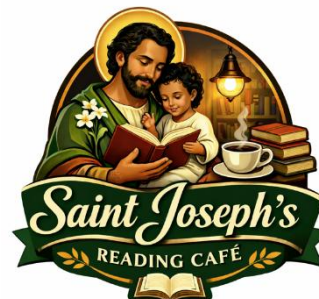


2026 is the National Year of Reading. The Department of Education have launched a UK wide campaign designed to help people rediscover the joy of reading. The 'Go All In'

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 23rd January

Saint Joan of Arc Friday 30th January

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Friday 6th February

Saint Francis Friday 13th February

Saint Mary Friday 27th February

Saint Catherine Friday 6th March

Saint Jude Friday 13th March

Class Assemblies

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

Thursday 22nd January Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Monday 26th January Saint George

Thursday 12th February Saint Joan of Arc

Thursday 5th 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 21st January Year 1

Wednesday 4th February Year 5

Thursday 26th February Year 2

Wednesday 4th March Year 4

Wednesday 11th 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 27th 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 28th January from 8:45

Nursery Stay and Play Thursday 29th 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

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.

Saint Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools

Safeguarding Governor Ms. S. Fitzgerald	Infant School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. S. O'Connell Teacher (Infant/Primary 1-2)	Junior School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Ms. S. O'Connell Upper First Teacher
Deputy DSL Mrs. C. Mahoney PSY. Support Officer	Deputy DSL Mrs. F. Lee Inf. School/Primary 1-2	Deputy DSL Mrs. S. O'Connell Upper First Teacher
Deputy DSL Mrs. S. O'Connell Upper First Teacher	Deputy DSL Mrs. S. O'Connell Upper First Teacher	Deputy DSL Mrs. S. O'Connell Upper First Teacher

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



Luke	Mark	John	Matthew
1st 2985 points	2nd 2816 points	3rd 2673 points	4th 2662 points

House point totals 16th 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*



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".

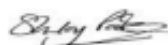
Ofsted still has high expectations.

- 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

A photograph of a family of four (a woman, a man, and two young girls) sitting inside a white tent. They are gathered around a large open book, looking at it intently. The woman is on the left, the man is on the right, and two young girls are in the center. One girl is holding a small object, possibly a piece of popcorn, near her mouth. A bowl of popcorn is visible on the table in front of them. The scene is warmly lit, suggesting a cozy evening. The background shows the interior of the tent with some hanging lights.

There's nothing quite like sharing a story.

Discover more at goallin.org.uk

GO ALL IN.

National
Year of
Reading
2026

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 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.



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HA9 6TA

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

