

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

Executive Head Teacher Mrs. A. Whelan

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 Letter Friday 26th September 2025** **Value for September- Community**

### **Breakfast Club Daily**

**7:45-8:30 a.m.**

**Junior School Hall-  
registration required  
After School Club Infant  
/Junior School Monday-  
Friday**

**3:00 -4:15p.m**

### **Monday 29th September**

**Dance Club**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Taekwondo**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

### **Tuesday 30th September**

**Gym Club**

**3:30-4:30p.m.**

**Chess Club**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Archery**

**3:30-4:30**

### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

**Football Club**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

**Art Club**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Year 3 Computing Club**

**3:15-4:15 p.m.**

**Fencing**

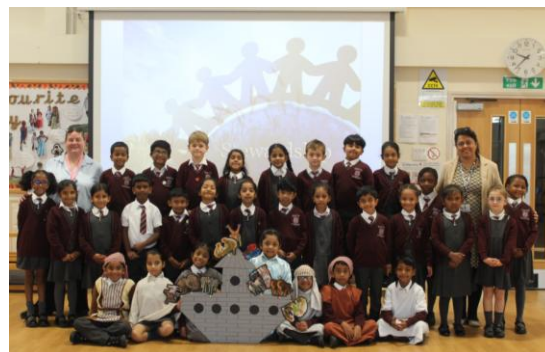
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

**Gym Club**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

We had two wonderful assemblies this week led by Saint Faustina and Saint Angela. They were both linked to the theme of 'Creation and Covenant'. They explored looking after our world and being responsible stewards of the earth. Our mission was to go out and carry out actions which demonstrate care for the world and to always remember that 'small actions can make a difference'.



### **Class assemblies – 9 a.m. in either school hall**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October Saint Vincent De Paul

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October Saint John Paul

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November Saint Christopher

### **Harvest Festival**

The Prayer Leaders have decided to donate to Brent Food Bank as part of their harvest festival collection.

Thank you to those of you who have already sent one tinned item of food in already. Please see the list below for the things that are needed at this time of year by the foodbank. One tinned item would be much appreciated.



### **Our Shopping List**

Tinned Fish

Tinned Puddings (eg: Rice Pudding and Custard)

Long Life Milk

Tinned Pulses

Tinned Meat

We are also in need of plastic bags/bags for life

Updated 16th September 2025

### **Year 6 PGL Trip Meeting**

There will be a meeting for parents whose children are attending the residential trip to PGL in October.

**The meeting will be on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 8:45 a.m.in Saint Maximilian Kolbe's classroom.**

## **Notice from Saint Joseph's Parish**

### **CATECHETICAL YEAR 2025-26**

The Catechetical Year 2025-26 will commence with an inaugural Mass for all Catechism children on **Sunday, 28th September** at the 10.45am Mass.

Children attending for Catechism are requested to arrive by 10:30am at the Pastoral centre to register. *As the front half of the church will be reserved for Catechism children, we expect the church to be at full capacity.*

Also we invite **First Holy Communion** Programme Catholic schools to attend a Parent's Meeting on **Wednesday, 5th November 2025** at 5:30pm in Pastoral Centre.

## **World Poetry Day**

We will be celebrating World Poetry Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The children will be completing special poetry focused activities. This will also include our regular poetry spread where the whole school tries to learn a short poem across a day and teach it to each other by word of mouth.

## **Forward Notice Parental Workshops- Reading and Phonics Workshops**

These will take place at 8:45 a.m. in either school hall- workshops usually last about an hour.

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October Year 1**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Year 2

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October Year 5

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Year 4

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November Year 3

## **Scoot Fit Day**

Scoot Fit will be taking place next week for **Years 1-3** on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Please the parental letter on page 9.

## **Reception Stay and Play Day**

There will be a stay and play morning on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 8:45 a.m. This is an opportunity for parents to stay with their child for the beginning of the session and experience a phonics session. There will also be tips on how you can support your child in developing their phonics and reading knowledge.

## **Nursery Stay and Play Day**

There will be a stay and play morning and afternoon on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 8:30 a.m. (morning nursery) and 12:15 p.m. (afternoon nursery) This is an opportunity for parents to stay with their child for the beginning of the session. You will experience playing alongside your child in the nursery environment and experience some of the activities they enjoy across the week.

## **Coffee morning Brent Parent Carer Forum**

PINS in Brent in Partnership with Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools.

Brent Parent Carer Forum Parents Coffee Morning, join us Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025, in the Prayer Room. At 8.30am onwards. Further information on page 10.

## **Parental Prayer Group**

The next Prayer Group will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 8:30a.m. in the Prayer Room.

## Annual Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire last week. We now have 53 responses. We will keep the questionnaire open until half term. We will repeat the questionnaire at the end of the summer term again. Please find the link and QR code. I would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the form so that we can gather your views on any areas that you may wish to give us feedback on. This will help us to ensure that we continue to provide the best possible school experience for your child.

Many thanks in advance for completing this.

<https://forms.gle/JprMJZK9zS19qqU6A>



## School Nurse Team- Flu Vaccination

You should have received information about the nasal flu vaccination which is coming up in October. It is really important that children are vaccinated so please ensure that you sign up for this. If you have any questions, please ask the office or email the team directly. See the flyer on page 7 which has links to registration.

## Balance Bike Training

Reception pupils will be having balance bike training on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November. More details will be sent directly to reception parents.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you for supporting the coffee morning this morning and for your generous donations. **We raised a magnificent £593.49 for Macmillan.**



## OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

As you know we introduced OPAL last year in both schools. This was to improve the quality of lunchtime play and to make it more enjoyable for all children. We are very grateful to parents who have come in to help or who have donated to our play resources. In her newsletter last week Mrs. Evans requested donations of the following:

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

### Requests

- All children to have a pair of wellies that stay in school
- Make sure your child has a waterproof jacket with a hood when rain is forecast.
- Spare pair of socks
- Natural resources such as conkers, twigs and pine cones
- Any kitchen utensils
- Small world play such as lego, mobilo

## Year 6 Secondary School

**Year 6 applications for admission to secondary school need to be submitted by October 31<sup>st</sup> 2025.** I include the link below to further information on the Brent website. Remember to submit an application to the individual school and also to complete your online eAdmissions application.

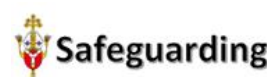
<https://www.brent.gov.uk/education-schools-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place#planandprepare>

## Online Safety

Each week we will include an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world. This week the National Online Safety guide is about what parents and carers need to know about 'Making Friends Online' please see page 8.

## 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 and Governors have regular training. I remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Staff who have had additional higher-level training in 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<br>Mrs. K. Phillips          | Person with the responsibility for any safeguarding concern<br>Mrs. J. Whelan<br>Executive Head Teacher | Infant School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)<br>Mrs. T. Turner<br>Deputy Head Teacher | Junior School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)<br>Mr. S. Smith<br>Deputy Head Teacher |
|                                                    |                                                                                                         |                                                                                           |                                                                                         |
| Deputy DSL<br>Mrs. L. Buchanan<br>CPS Phase Leader | Deputy DSL<br>Mrs. J. Lee<br>Key Stage One Phase Leader                                                 | Deputy DSL<br>Mrs. G. Jones<br>JUNIOR SCHOOL YC&M                                         | Deputy DSL<br>Mr. S. Francis<br>Lower Key Stage Two Phase Leader                        |



## Weekly Attendance Award

Well done to the winners of the attendance award for last week.

Junior School - a draw between Saint Francis and Saint Vincent De Paul on 99%!

Infant School- Saint Christopher also on 99%!

## House Points



|                             |                             |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Mark</b>                 | <b>John</b>                 | <b>Luke</b>                 | <b>Matthew</b>              |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> 2031 points | 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1604 points | 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1497 points | 4 <sup>th</sup> 1432 points |

*House point totals 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

## Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Abner  
Saint Patrick- Jayden  
Saint George- Semenca  
Saint Teresa- Gwen  
Saint John Paul- Nestor  
Saint Angela – Amelia J  
Saint Christopher- Vannia

Saint Catherine- Geana  
Saint Jude- Olivia  
Saint Mary- Franek B  
Saint Francis- Cheryl  
Saint Joan of Arc- Asenka  
Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Alexis  
Saint Faustina- Alvisha  
Saint Vincent De Paul- Deborah



## Prayer to Saint Vincent de Paul

Loving God,

Through the example of Saint Vincent de Paul,  
You teach us to serve with compassion,  
To lead with humility,  
And to love without limits.

We ask Saint Vincent to walk with us today  
As we care for the minds, hearts, and souls  
Of the children entrusted to us.

Give us patience in challenges,  
Wisdom in our teaching,  
And joy in our service.

May we see the face of Christ  
In every student, parent, and colleague.  
Help us build a school community  
Filled with kindness, justice, and peace.

Saint Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

Amen.

*Have a lovely weekend.*

*Mrs. Whelan*



# STOP THE FLU! VACCINATE YOUR CHILD! PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY!

Vaccinating your child will  
**STOP** them from being seriously ill this winter and  
protect vulnerable friends and family.

## THE INJECTION

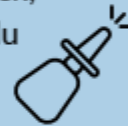


We offer a **PORK-FREE,**  
**GELATINE-FREE** injection  
considered a  
faith-friendly alternative.

OR

## NASAL VACCINE

No needles - just quick,  
painless, effective flu  
protection  
(contains gelatine)



**IT'S QUICK**



**IT'S FREE**



**GIVEN AT  
SCHOOL**



**IT PROTECTS  
YOUR LOVED  
ONES**

To complete a  
consent form



**Scan Here!**

✉ [brent@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:brent@v-uk.co.uk)

☎ 020 8432 7075

🌐 [www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu)

📺 YouTube: @vaccinationuk

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

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com). Trigger Warning: This guide contains mention of suicide, which may be distressing for some readers.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

### PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

### COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sexortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

### LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

### ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

## Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



The National College

@wake\_up\_weds

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## **Scooting Training**

Your school is receiving a visit from Scoot Fit, a professional scooting company who use scooters as secret exercise machines. Their aim is to get children confident and competent at scooting after a single session so children want to scoot more often.

Scoot Fit sessions are completely innovative, children scoot for 30 minutes non stop to music helping develop skills, abilities and confidence.

After this session your child may come home from school enthused about scooting and want to scoot more often.

### **Did you know?**

Scooting burns 30% more calories than cycling and running

Faster than walking, 20 minute walk in 7 minutes on a scooter

Safer than cycling, you scoot on the pavement

Scooting is a great way of building exercise into your child's daily routine if they scoot to and from school. Scooting is an all over body workout engaging all the major muscle groups in the body.

### **Why are we coming to your school?**

Our evidence shows 40%-60% of children in EYFS and KS1 can't scoot correctly and are put off scooting when they can't get the hang of it and never scoot again.

When these children enter KS2 their body grows making it easier for them to scoot and they become excited and enthused about scooting after a Scoot Fit session.

### **The Result**

A direct result of this training is more children wanting to be active on scooters so please encourage your child to scoot whenever possible; it's really good for them.

Scoot Fit use all different kinds of scooters that your child may not have ridden on before, ask your child what scooter did they use and why they liked it?

If you have any questions about the training or what scooters are best for your child, please contact [info@scootfit.co.uk](mailto:info@scootfit.co.uk) or [www.scootfit.co.uk](http://www.scootfit.co.uk) we're here to help get you scooting.

Many Thanks

James Rodger

Scooting Instructor

[www.scootfit.co.uk](http://www.scootfit.co.uk) **Twitter:** ScootFit **Facebook:** Scoot Fit **You Tube:** Scoot Fit

# **PINS in Brent in Partnership with Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools.**

## **Brent Parent Carer Forum Parents Coffee Morning**



**Join us on  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
At 830-10am**



**In**

**The Prayer Room**

**(Junior School on Chatsworth Ave)**

### **Partnerships for inclusion of neurodiversity in schools (PINS)**

Working together with our health and local authority colleagues, we developed a “team around the school” approach. This initiative aims to create a neurodiversity-friendly learning environment where children's needs are met. It also focuses on empowering parents as their child's primary educator, helping them become more knowledgeable, confident, and engaged in their child's education.

- General scene setting- find out more about PINs
- Tell us what you feel your school does well
- Tell us what you feel your school could or would like to do more of
- Identifying internal or external barriers
- Exploring the idea of developing school parent champions

Mobile 07852101492

e-mail: [admin@brentpcf.org](mailto:admin@brentpcf.org)

[www.brentpcf.org](http://www.brentpcf.org)

BPCF whats App <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FkK5ph5qGXe692WsSqK6Xu>

Follow us on Tuesday

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Visit Brent's Local Offer for SEND: [www.brent.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.brent.gov.uk/localoffer)



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Search for our school by  
searching st jos. It is labelled  
the infant school but it is for  
both the infant and junior  
schools.



HA9 6TA

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

