



Aiming for Excellence - Being the Best We Can Be

<p><b><u>Wellbeing &amp; Mental Health Vision</u></b></p> <p>To support everyone’s wellbeing and mental health, so that they can be the ‘Best they can Be,’ are happy together, resilient, ready to learn and succeed.</p>	<p><b><u>Mission Statement</u></b></p> <p>Following Jesus’ footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell, we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.</p>	<p><b><u>Vision Statement</u></b></p> <p>Vision: Aiming for Excellence: <b>Being The Best We Can Be.</b></p>
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**Catholic Life**

**Pope Francis**



We continue to pray for Pope Francis who remains in hospital.

God of wholeness and hope: Send Your Spirit of healing, that it may accompany our shepherd Pope Francis in his illness. As he endures pain and discomfort, give him strength and peace. May he experience the continued grace of your mercy. Amen

**Lent**



We have focused on prayer and giving this week. The Pupil Chaplains lead prayer in assemblies and with their link classes. Our charity concert raised much needed funds for three charities.

Some of our children also gave their time to perform at St Luke’s Hospice today.



This week was science week and there were amazing investigations as well as some planting going on across the school.

Evidence of the talent of our children and the support of our families shone brightly yesterday at our charity concert.

We had our annual review visit from the Diocese this week and the advisor was very impressed with all she saw during the day. Special congratulations to our amazing Pupil Chaplains who talked so knowledgeably and also led aspects of our worship during the day.

## **Thank you**

A thank you to the kind anonymous donation of religious medals sent by post to the school.

## **Uniform**

We are proud to be a uniform school and believe school uniform demonstrates belonging to our community. Parents are made aware when their child joins the school that that we are a school who has some branded items of uniform. We have reviewed the uniform and reduced the number of compulsory branded items.

All children must have a jumper or cardigan, white PE t-shirt and red PE sweatshirt with the school logo on, purchased from our uniform supplier.

The other items of uniform can be purchased in any store and **do not need** to have a logo. We expect all children to have a black coat, black school shoes (not boots) for formal uniform days and black trainers with no coloured stripes for PE days.

Children with pierced ears can wear one pair of stud earrings only, sleepers and hooped earrings are not permitted.

## **Friends' Association Easter Raffle**

The children should have brought home envelopes today to participate in the Friends' Association Easter raffle. All children in school on the day of the raffle assembly will be given a sweet treat to bring home from the Friends' Association as a sign of their appreciation for all the support families give to the Association.

## **Friends' Association Committee Meeting**

The next meeting of the Friends' Association committee is next Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm in school.

## **Safeguarding**

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Miss Joseph; however, all members of staff have a duty to, and are trained in, safeguarding of our children. Should you have any safeguarding concerns please contact a member of staff as soon as possible. For any matters concerning safeguarding outside of school hours or during the holidays, please send an email to: [safeguarding@robsouth.org](mailto:safeguarding@robsouth.org)

## **Triple Charity Fundraiser**

This event sold out and raised money for three charities in one night. The Robert Southwell Charitable Foundation which supports the maintenance of our building and supports the costs of running the school. The Friends' Association who provides extra resources and experiences for the children in our school and St Luke's Hospice.

A big thank you to:

- All the school staff who worked behind the scenes before the event and stayed late to support on the night.
- The Friends' Association who organised and sold the refreshments.
- Sharon Kelly and Elaine Headd McDermott for all their organisation and work with the children

I have included below a section of a message from a parent which is much appreciated and gives a flavour of this amazing event.

I hope this email finds you well. I just wanted to take a moment to express how wonderful yesterday's St. Patrick's Day concert was. It was truly a spectacular event, and we were absolutely blown away by the effort and enthusiasm that both Mrs. Head-McDermott and Mrs. Kelly put into preparing the children. Their dedication really shone through, and it was clear how much time and care went into preparing the children.

You must be incredibly proud of the fact that over 35% of the children at St. Robert Southwell play an instrument, possibly even more, as some children take lessons outside of school. It's truly inspiring to see such a high level of musical talent and commitment among the students. Well done!

Thank you so much for allowing the children to showcase their amazing work. It was an unforgettable experience, and I'm sure the students will treasure the memories of performing for their families and peers.

### **Anti Littering/Stewards of Creation Poster**

Thank you to all who took part. Well done to the Eco Council who selected the winners and runners up for this competition, they were given their prizes at assembly this week and the winning posters will also be sent to Brent Council who asked the children to compete at a special assembly.

### **Attendance and Absence**

Requests for special leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, holidays are not exceptional circumstances. An attendance rate of 95% is considered only satisfactory, 96.5 and above good and 99% and above as outstanding. Persistent absence (PA) is defined as an attendance rate of 90% or below.

Our whole school attendance for the year so far is 95.5%. We currently have 54 children recorded on the government data base as persistently absent meaning their attendance for this school year is below 90%. We have written to all parents of children in this category.

Good attendance is central to raising standards in education. Ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated - pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind.

All children are expected to be in school up to, and including, Friday 4th April in the Spring term. The Summer Term begins on Tuesday 22nd April and all children are expected to be back in school on this day.

Parents are reminded that we have a duty to keep children safe and if we do not know why they are absent, we will follow our procedures for checking on them which may lead to a home visit from a member of school staff.

### **Parent Consultations**

Thank you for signing up so promptly for our consultation evenings. The excellent sign-up rate is a real indicator of how well the children in our school are supported.

## **Negative Impact of Parents and Carers Inconsiderate Parking**

Unfortunately, due to inconsiderate parking by parents and carers dropping and collecting children from our school, some coach companies are now unwilling to collect from our school. Going forward this could reduce the trip opportunities and increase costs for the trips we are able to offer to the children.

Please park considerately and be respectful to our neighbours. Please DO NOT leave your car idling, this is illegal. Please do not park on and or drop off children on the yellow zig zag lines as it reduces visibility to the access road and could prove fatal. Parents should park a short distance away and walk the last part of their journey.

## **Upcoming Dates**

Date	Time	Event
March Women's History Month		
March Month of St. Joseph		
7-16/3 British Science Week		
18/3- 24/3		Neurodiversity Week
16/3		Second Sunday of Lent
17/3		Feast of St. Patrick's Day
19/3		Feast of St. Joseph
19/3		Year 1 – Wembley Stadium walk
20/3	Afternoon	Nursery Parental Consultations
21/3		World Poetry Day
22/3		World Water Day
23/3		Third Sunday of Lent
25/3		Feast of Annunciation
25/3		Year 2 trip to Natural History Museum
26/3		Parental consultations – Nursery – Year 6
30/3		Mother's Day
2/4		Year 6 trip to Imperial War Museum
3/4		Friends' Association Easter Raffle Draw
3/4		Parental Consultations – Reception – Year 6
4/4		Nursery visit to Kingsbury Library
4/4		School closes for Easter break at 2.00pm

## Lenten Liturgies

Easter Liturgies – main school hall

Year 1 – Palm Sunday	9.00am Monday, 31st March
Year 2 – Last Supper	9.00am Tuesday, 1st April
Year 4 – The Way of the Cross	9.00am Wednesday, 2nd April
Year 5 – Resurrection	9.00am Thursday, 24th April

