



St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

No. 8 – July 2026



Aiming for Excellence - Being the Best We Can Be

<u>Wellbeing & Mental Health Vision</u>	<u>Mission Statement</u>	<u>Vision Statement</u>
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.	Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell, we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.	Vision: Aiming for Excellence: Being The Best We Can Be.

Free School Meals (FSM) - Funding

IMPORTANT - Free School Meals (FSM) criteria changing: We would like to inform you that the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) has recently changed. You may be eligible even if you were not previously eligible. You must prove your eligibility in order to qualify for FSM/Pupil Premium (PP) in the academic year 2026/27. Please take a few minutes to check your child's eligibility using the following online checker:

Free School Meals Eligibility <https://fsm.lgfl.net> or <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/> select CHECK ELIBIGILITY then on the next page click PROCEED (you do not need to create an account) then select BRENT then our school.

Registering for Free School Meals can provide a number of benefits, including:

- Free school meals for eligible children
- Additional funding for the school through the Pupil Premium, which helps us provide extra support, resources and enrichment opportunities for pupils
- Access to additional support and assistance that may be available through the school or local authority

Even if your child prefers to bring a packed lunch, we would still encourage you to apply if you are eligible, as this additional funding benefits both your child and the wider school community.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions or would like assistance with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or Brent council directly.

Catholic Life of the School

Prayer:

We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord to bless our families as we take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish. Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together in September. Amen.

As a Catholic School we continually look to fulfil our Vision and Mission By “Being the Best We Can Be” and “Following in Jesus Footsteps”.



Flourishing to Virtue

Following in Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell, we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness

We are always trying to live out our values and this year we have identified a few students who consistently demonstrate not one, but all the values consistently.

These pupils were given a certificate at the end of term, and their names will be recorded in our new flourishing to Virtues book.

Children will generally be selected annually for this award.

Pope's Monthly Pray Intention for July: Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising that it is a gift from God.

Message

As we end of another wonderful school year, I would like to thank the whole community for making it so successful. We received the National Eco Award in the Autumn term, the Superkind Schools Award for the second time and the Games Mark Gold for the fourth consecutive year. We also won the Brent Boys League and Brent Boys Cup. Winning double trophies was amazing and a credit to the training and talent of our Boys Football Team.

Our children have achieved so much, and I am incredibly proud of all they have accomplished, both in and beyond the classroom.

As a community, we thank you all for working in partnership with us over the last academic year. We know that you are your child's first and most important teacher. Thank you for the many thoughtful cards, gifts and kind messages received by the staff, all are much appreciated.

We said two significant goodbyes at the end of term to Mrs Lynott who had worked here for 23 years and Mr Holland, who was a past pupil and who had worked here for 8 years, during which time he also secured his Degree in Education.

Please remember our Year 6 children in your prayers as they move on to secondary school. Thank you to each of them for being such a valued part of our school community. We wish all of them every success and happiness in the next stage of their educational journey and for the future.



Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team. Our Safeguarding email box Safeguarding@robsouth.org is monitored during the holidays and we will respond as soon as we can.

For any matters concerning safeguarding outside of school hours or during the holidays please contact:

Brent Family Front Door Office hours (Mon – Fri 9am - 5pm): Call 020 8937 4300.
(option 1) Outside office hours: Call the emergency duty team on 020 8863 5250.

If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

Children and young people can contact Childline free and confidentially on 0800 1111. Parents and carers can contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000. If a child or young person is struggling with their mental health, they can text Young Minds to 85258 for free, 24/7 crisis support.

Parents wanting advice can also contact the Young Minds, Parents Helpline on 0808 802 5544.

Reading Over the Summer Break

As you know a love of books and reading is a gift forever. Fostering this love of reading is very important. Last week your child was given a book to take home to read over the holidays. We hope that they enjoy reading it.

Your child can enter the Summer Reading Challenge at any Brent Library. The libraries also run fun activities and story times through the summer break.

They can also take part in the read aloud challenge by logging on via [Letter to Parents](https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/join/5TZA-QXNL-RLS4) and using this code <https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/join/5TZA-QXNL-RLS4> or <https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/> and see the app for further information. Prizes are on offer!

Relaxing Balanced with Keeping the Brain Active over the Holidays

The summer holidays are a time to relax, have fun and create great memories.

You may like to try some of these activities or may have some of your own for keeping active physically and mentally during the break from school.

- Go for a walk
- Read every day – share books together or encourage independent reading
- Practise times tables, number bonds and quick mental arithmetic for 10–15 minutes each day
- Write a story, comic strip, poem or postcard
- Go on adventures – visit parks, museums, or explore somewhere new
- Bake or cook together and practise measuring and following instructions
- Play board games, card games and puzzles to develop problem-solving skills
- Enjoy quality time together and make wonderful summer memories

Attendance

Absence during term time will not be authorised. Time away from school results in missed learning opportunities and can have an impact on children's progress and achievement.

Please see the information provided by Brent Council regarding attendance expectations and fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absences.

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/education-schools-and-learning>

Uniform/ Earrings/ Piercings

Our policy states only small stud earrings are permissible and for clarification only one earring in each earlobe. No other piercings are permitted. We will be monitoring this carefully at the start of term and you will be sent a message if your child is wearing incorrect earrings. We would expect this to be resolved and the policy to be adhered to.

Our school colours are compulsory for all items worn into school. Black coat black shoes etc

In line with the Government's guidance, we now only have 3 compulsory branded items which are clear on our uniform page on the website and have been sent via the App.

If you have any problems with uniform, please contact the school to see if we can help.

Building Works

You will see that we have had a lot of works since January and have been lucky to have most of this funded by the diocese. We have to pay our 10% contribution of £65,000 in the new term. We can only receive grant funding if we can pay the 10% contribution. Thanks to parents' who have paid consistently into the building fund/charity we have just about enough money to cover these works. This will clear our account except for our All-Weather surface separate fundraising pot.

A big thank you to parents' who have paid a contribution for this year. You have made a difference now and for children in the future. Thank you to all who have contributed any amount every penny counts!

It would be great to have air conditioning in the main hall and the library, but we can only do this if we raise enough funds.

Please do consider contributing to the building fund if you can so we can keep improving the building for everyone.

Fund Raising for the All-Weather Surface

I am delighted to share that we have raised £49,420 towards our target of £150,000. Please do share the QR code on your social media and ask your employer if they would be willing to make charitable donation. Every penny really does count.

[SRSCF - GoFundMe - all weather sports surface](#)

<https://www.gofundme.com/u/6342afe1-710d-4cf9-92d1-0caf9c28b001>

Thank you for all your support during the year.

Thank You

As this will be the last newsletter for this academic year, we would like to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support again this year. We wish all children and families a safe and happy summer.

Back to School

School will recommence on **Wednesday, 2nd September at 8.50am** for children in Years 1 to 6 (gates open at 8.40am. before school childcare and ASC will run as usual). Nursery and Reception have had dates advised separately.



Wishing all our children and families lots of summer holiday fun!

We look forward to seeing you in September.