



Parents' Update: Friday 10th June 2022

Dear Parents

FOR THE CHALLENGES FACING HUMANITY AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Pope Francis entrusts his Worldwide Prayer Network each month with prayer intentions that express his great concern for humanity and for the mission of the Church. His monthly prayer intention is a worldwide call to transform our prayer into specific actions; it is a compass for a mission of compassion for the world.

Prayer for June

We pray for Christian families around the world: may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

This week we have welcomed the community back to school after the May half term break. I am hoping that you were able to enjoy some of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and, for those parents who managed to come to the school, you enjoyed our own party on the afternoon of Friday 27th May. If you were not able to come to the school you can see snippets of the concert on our Instagram page ([sppmitcham1](#)). You can also see photos and videos of our Year 6 watersports days that were held at Wimbledon Park lake this week. The children that attended had a good time being challenged to engage in new activities such as kayaking, rafting and learning to sail.

We began the term with Mass for Pentecost and are grateful for Fr Stephen for leading our celebration.

Support for Understanding the Gospel

This coming Sunday is the Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity and the Mark 10 Mission has two new liturgies to help you celebrate with children.

The Holy Trinity — The Mark 10 Mission.

The Holy Trinity - Little Liturgies (EYFS & KS1)

Please also find the link to the Wednesday Word here. This is the booklet that began with the week before half term, so please turn the pages until the final reading for this weekend.

Covid Matters

At the time of writing this newsletter, I am currently absent from work, having tested positive for Covid (and feeling quite ill too). It is a reminder that the disease is still with us, so we must all be vigilant. I know of at least two families in the school at this time who are also affected by Covid.

Coincidentally, our school received this message this week to share with you:



There is a Pop Up Clinic for Covid 19 Vaccinations (5 to 11 year olds, and 12 plus) on Saturday 18th June at Gorrings Park Primary school – this is open to all children. This has been organised by our colleagues at Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare Trust.

Click [here](#) to book an appointment for 5-11 yrs

Click [here](#) to book an appointment for 12 yrs+

Summer Dates

The summer term promises to be one that is full of activities and gatherings so do keep the following dates in your diaries:

Wednesday 29th June

Feast day of SS Peter and Paul. All are welcome to join us for Mass at 10.00 AM. We would like to invite all children who made their First Holy Communion this summer to wear their dresses/suits for the Mass. Parents are welcome to come to the school to assist with any changing.

Thursday 30th June

Summer Music Concert. All are welcome to come to see our children show off their musical talents from 9.30 AM. there will be individual pieces and ensemble performances too.

Sunday 3rd July

PTA School Summer Fete. All are welcome to join in the festivities on the school field.

Monday 4th – Thursday 7th July

Spirited Arts Week – come to see our exhibition of artwork and spiritual reflections at the end of the week.

Wednesday 6th July

Sports Day for Years 1, 2 and 3 from 9.30 AM

Thursday 7th July

Sports Day for Years 4, 5 and 6 from 9.30 AM

In case of poor weather, the back-up dates are 12th/13th July for sports days

School Admissions

The reinstatement of the obligation to attend Mass 5th June 2022

You may have heard the bishops of England and Wales have now reinstated the Sunday obligation



following pandemic lockdowns. It is wonderful that we are all now able to worship in person, but there is an implication once again for Mass attendance in order to complete the application forms for places in Catholic schools. Please read the statement below (which will be very similar in other Catholic schools, both primary and secondary) – most importantly for parents of children in year 5 who will be applying for secondary school places for September 2023.

As of the 5th June 2022, Pentecost, the Bishops of England and Wales reinstated the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Parents applying for a place at SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary school, under faith based criteria will need to complete a Supplementary Information Form. Evidence of practice will be measured by frequency of attendance at Mass as validated by either a priest or minister, as was the case prior to 18th March 2020. These arrangements apply to the admissions round for 2023 and subsequent rounds.

Staffing Matters

Both assistant headteachers will be leaving the school at the end of the term. Mr Stopps will be with us until the end of July, but Mrs Bermingham will not be returning this term. After a period of illness, she decided not to return to school in order to fully recuperate before starting her new role in September. We thank them for all their hard work and wish them well for the future.

Mrs England and I are managing the school's special educational needs and disabilities during the present time, with support from two other professionals who come to the school each week. I can assure parents that all the systems and processes for SEND are in place whilst we make arrangements for September.

Mrs Brewin has kindly increased from three days per week to five days, in order to become the substantive teacher for St Clare class (Year 2).

In September there will be an interim deputy headteacher working at the school (she has worked with us in the past, just prior to the pandemic) whilst the governing body seeks to make a permanent appointment to this role.

Wider School Changes

From September, our school is undergoing some major changes. You may already be aware that we have merged two Year 3 classes into one larger class. From September, there will be three classes across Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) due to the reduced number of children attending the school. The Reception year group admissions number has also been reduced in consultation with the Department of Education's adjudicator for school admissions and has now been set at 30 pupils per year. We are not alone in the reduction in size of the school – neighbouring schools have reduced from three forms of entry to two and from two forms to one.

Despite these changes, we will continue to approach our work with the children and families with as much care and attention as ever.

I will be sending a separate message out to parents of the current Reception and Year 1 children to organise a meeting at the school regarding September. Please watch for this.



Requests and Reminders from the School Office

Request for signatures on forms/letters from the Headteacher

This is a reminder that if you require forms/letters to be signed from the school that we ask for a week's notice. It is also customary that you make a donation to the school in making these requests.

Dinner Money

Please can you ensure that your dinner money balance is in credit especially if your child is in Year 6 as we near the end of the academic year.

Reception Forms

If your child is due to start Reception in September please can you return all forms that were sent to you via email, to the school office by Monday 13th June. The deadline for this has already passed. If you are having problems printing these please collect some hardcopies from the school office.

Do encourage other parents to read this newsletter and keep in touch via Instagram and Twitter.

With blessings for a relaxing weekend.

David Hennessey
Headteacher