



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Dr N Fernandes Viana
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mr K Bowles



Jesus said: 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'.

8th March 2024

Dear Children, Parents, Staff and Governors,

Our netball athletes in Y5 and Y6 represented the school brilliantly last week, achieving excellent results in all of their matches despite challenging opposition. Well done for securing first place! Our Y5 girls also participated in the St. Benedict's Sports Competition, demonstrating excellent behaviour and professionalism throughout. **I am extremely proud of all of you for your team spirit and enthusiasm.**

Many thanks indeed to all of our parents and carers who attended the **Pupil Chaplaincy Team's Act of Worship dedicated to all of those who love and nurture our children.** It was wonderful to see so many of you and I would also like to say a special thank you to our Pupil Chaplaincy Team who led the assembly with such respect and reverence.

Our children excelled in their World Book Day costumes this week with a range of costumes including ladybirds, Peter Rabbits, Willy Wonka's, Harry Potters and inventive home-made props as well as some children deciding to represent their favourite author. It was particularly wonderful to **see Nursery in all of their colourful costumes and I would like to say a special thank you to James and Ava in Y6 as well as Filip in Y4 who were wonderful quiz consultants.** KitKats were awarded to children who were able to identify the literary reference or quotation – thank you to Miss Armstrong for organising. **Please also note that on Friday 22nd March, we look forward to seeing children in their most colourful attire in support of our Lenten Fund-raiser – Brighten Up with CAFOD.** We ask that children bring in a voluntary donation as well as their "brightest", most dazzling outfit! All contributions will be sent to CAFOD.

Please remember that we will be celebrating British Science Week between 8th and 17th of March with competitions, experiments and live lessons exploring key STEM topics (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). **Many thanks to all parents who have agreed to take part. We are looking forward to welcoming you next week and would be happy to include even more dentists, engineers, mathematicians or computer analysts in the next few weeks.** If you would like to talk about your STEM-related jobs or science-related hobbies, please email the school office.

Our school uniform supplier Ace, are running a special promotion. **From March 6th 2024, to April 8th 2024, they are offering a FANTASTIC DISCOUNT of 15% off on any order over £50 placed ONLINE ONLY.** To avail of this offer, parents and guardians simply need to use the online code "15OFF50" during checkout on the Ace website

Maida Vale library are running a wonderful calligraphy course in the next few weeks. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

On Monday 11th March, our school photographer will be visiting. Please ensure all children are wearing their full school uniform. Please note, if your child usually wears a PE kit on Monday, trainers may be brought in to change.

Parent Teacher Consultations are taking place Wednesday and Thursday 13 and 14th March. Please arrive promptly for your appointment because all of our timeslots have been allocated.

Finally, as some of you may be aware, one of our caretakers, Maria Strachinaru and one of our office team, Mrs O'Connor will be leaving at Easter. **We will be saying thanks during our Celebration Assembly on Friday 22nd March, which will be held in the school hall at 10:00.** Both Mrs O Connor and Maria Strachinaru have worked at St Joseph's for a number of years, both in roles which have supported our school immensely. Please join us if you can.

Final Call for Donations! Don't Wait, Give Now!

It's our last chance to contribute to our school auction, and every donation counts! Whether you volunteer your time, donate items, or offer services, your support is invaluable.

We're asking for one donation per family, ranging from homemade cooking and entertainment to professional services, leisure experiences, and everything in between. Whether it's a homemade dish, a babysitting service, or a thrilling sports or art activity (lessons, camps or adventure), the sky is the limit

To upload your donations: <https://ourschool.auction/>

We have also been asked to promote UCM – the Union of Catholic Mothers. Please see below for further information.



Registered Charity No. 249901

*Catholic Church of Our Lady, St Johns Wood.
54 Lodge Road, London, NW8 8LA*

Our Mission Statement

The Union of Catholic Mothers was founded in 1913 by Mrs Etheldreda Chichester who was concerned about the spiritual & moral conditions that children and families were experiencing in rural parts of the country at that time. Until then, there were no organisations supporting mothers and very little guidance on bringing up children in the Catholic Faith.

Etheldreda was 1 of 12 siblings and along with her sister Agnes decided they would form a society to help catholic women. They called this The Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM). They wrote a UCM Prayer and with the support of Cardinal Bourne, the UCM was formed.

Soon afterwards UCM groups began to grow in nearly every parish in the country and today, the UCM is a national organisation operating at the parish and diocesan level, that continues to support, children, families and their parish communities, uniting women and mothers everywhere.

The modern day UCM fosters support for those who share common values and is open to all Christian women and primary carers who are passionate about raising children with a deeper spiritual understanding whilst contributing to the welfare of the community.

In our parish, the UCM has a rich legacy dating back 111 years. The group began meeting at St Edwards School but soon relocated to the Church of our Lady, where it remains.

Today's UCM in St John's Wood is an eclectic group of women from the surrounding parishes and communities, ranging in age from 30 to 101! Some have been members for over 50 years, whilst others only recently joined. The common thread is we care about families, the church and the wider community. Many have become close friends and helped each other through challenging times. The group has a steadfast leader in Sister Brigid and is ably supported by an active executive committee. We also have Canon Kevin who is an enthusiastic supporter of the UCM mission, for which we are grateful.

We meet once a month in the Parish Hall, for community, friendship, prayer... a cup of tea and a biscuit and sometimes food and wine! It's a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere that provides an opportunity to plan events, raise all important funds for

the church, Cafod, the Passage and St John's Hospice, amongst others, as well as pray for those who are sick or need of our spiritual support.

Our upcoming event includes an Easter Quiz and Egg Hunt for the children after Sunday morning mass on the 17th March and an Easter Raffle for the adults with some great prizes. A Perfume Workshop, Makeup lessons, Flower arranging and Plenty More..

Our doors are always open to New Members , So come & Join us in faith, fun and friendship!

Here is how you can get in touch:

Email: ucmstjohnswood@gmail.com

Tel: 07828 148513

Instagram: @union_of_catholic_mothers

With best wishes,

Dr N. Viana
Mr K Bowles

MERITS AND AWARDS		
NAME	READING	AWARDS
REC1 Miss Chani	Max	Matilda
REC2 Miss Diriye	Luz	Joshua
PINK1 Miss (Dorota)Wegrzynowicz	Didi	Maxim
PINK2 Mr Starbuck & Mrs Morrin	Daria	Simon
PINK3 Miss S Ward	Naveah	Lucca
BLUE1 Miss Donnellan	Ryon	Joaquina
BLUE3 Miss Armstrong	Loic	Blanche
VIOLET 1 Miss Lawson	Stanley	Louis
VIOLET 3 Miss A Ward	Ava	James

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

YEAR GROUP	Percentage Attendance (target >97%)	Late %
RECEPTION 1	96.7%	0.6%
RECEPTION 2	92.4%	0.6%
Y1 PINK 1	95.2%	2.2%
Y1/2 PINK 2	97.9%	0.7%
Y2 PINK 3	98.1%	1.9%
Y3 BLUE 1	90.0%	0.6%
Y4 BLUE 3	97.7%	0.6%
Y5 VIOLET 1	96.1%	0.9%
Y6 VIOLET 3	92.6%	0.3%
Totals	95.2%	0.9%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

March

Monday 11th

School photographer in – individual & sibling photos (revised date)
African drumming workshop for Y3 & Y5

Tuesday 12th

Y6 Reconciliation with Fr Alex
Dental workshop for Y1-Y6
Y4 visiting the ENO

Wednesday 13th

Y5 Vue Cinema Trip (Children's University)
Teams from Y5&Y6 Basketball competition
Parent Teacher Consultations day 1

Thursday 14th

Pink 3 Forest School pm
Y5 & Y6 Sports Course
Y5 Boys visiting library pm
Girls team from Y3 & 4 Football @ Paddington rec'
Parent Teacher Consultations day 2

Friday 15th

St. Patrick's Day Assembly

Monday 18th

Living Eggs arrive in EYFS

Tuesday 19th

St Joseph's Assembly with Father Alex KS1 & KS2

Friday 22nd

Special Celebration Assembly
CAFOD bright clothes dress up day (£1 donation)
Rec1 visiting Forest Schools am
Rec 2 visiting Forest Schools pm

Saturday 23rd

SJSA SCHOOL AUCTION

Monday 25th

Holy Week begins
Year 3 Palm Sunday Liturgy @ 9:30am
Y5 @ Lord's Cricket Ground

Tuesday 26th

Y4 Maundy Thursday Liturgy @ 9:30am
Y5 Reconciliation with Father Alex.

Wednesday 27th

Y5 Good Friday Liturgy @ 9:30am

Thursday 28th

Y6 Resurrection Liturgy @ 9:30am
Collection of chicks from Nursery
School breaks up @ 1:30pm

April

Monday 15th

Term begins

Tuesday 16th

Easter Bonnet Parade
Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 @ 9:15am
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 @ 10:30

Friday 19th

Years 3 & 4 visiting the Wallace Collection

Monday 22nd

Reception trip to the Puppet Theatre Barge

Monday 29th

Dental screening Rec & Year 1

May

Wednesday 1st

Nursery visiting Forest School
2pm in hall - Whole school Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph the Worker