



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 21st October 2022



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

At the end of this half-term, we thank you God for...

Every prayer we have prayed,

Every song we have sung,

All the things we have learned,

All the laughter and fun.

Thank you for all the joy you bring

And our wonderful times together.

May we walk with you as each new day begins

This moment and forever

Amen

Dates for your Diary

Friday 21 st October	School closes for half-term	3.15pm
Monday 31 st October	Return to school	8.55am
Tuesday 8 th November	MAC Health and Wellbeing Strategy Meeting	9.00am

School Term Dates 2022 -2023

Autumn Term 2022	Spring Term 2023	Summer Term 2023
Monday 5 th September 2022 to Friday 21 st October 2022	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023 to Friday 17 th February 2023	Monday 24 th April 2023 to Friday 26 th May 2023
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 31 st October 2022 to Friday 16 th December 2022	Monday 27 th February 2023 to Thursday 6 th April 2023	Monday 5 th June 2023 to Friday 21 st July 2023
END OF TERM	END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

Teacher Days - Monday 5th September 2022 / Tuesday 6th September 2022 / Friday 10th February 2022 /
Monday 24th July / Tuesday 25th July
+ MAC teacher day - Friday 17th February

Our teacher days have now been allocated as Friday 10th February, Friday 17th February, Monday 24th July and Tuesday 25th July. School will be closed on those days.

St Joseph's Parish

Mass at St Joseph's Church takes place every **Sunday morning at 9.45am**. Please do try to attend Mass as often as you can.

Parents Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening this week. We had a great turn-out and some lovely feedback on the parental questionnaires.

46 Secondary Transfer Applications for September 2023

A reminder that the deadline for Secondary Transfer preferences to be submitted to the City council is Monday 31st October 2022. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice. You need to apply on the Birmingham City Council website at <https://eadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/prefs.php>

Fr Solomon - Silver Jubilee Celebration

Fr Solomon will be celebrating his Silver Jubilee over the next few weeks, which means that he has been a Priest for 25 years! As part of his celebrations, St Vincent's School are organising a Mass for him, followed by a buffet in St Vincent's school. They have very kindly invited the St. Joseph's School family to join them and help celebrate this special day.

Eritrean Mass Celebration for Fr Solomon – TOMORROW!

There will also be a special Eritrean Mass taking place tomorrow (Saturday 22nd October) in St Vincent's Church at 11am. This will be followed by a reception to take place in Walsall town centre at 1 Intown Row, Walsall, WS1 2AD from 2.30pm. All are welcome to attend and join Fr Solomon in celebrating this special event!



MAC Health and Wellbeing Strategy Meeting

The MAC are currently putting together a MAC health and wellbeing strategy and would like to consult with parents about this. There will be a meeting taking place here on Tuesday 8th November from 9:00-10:30am which all parents and carers are welcome to attend. The MAC are very keen for parents, schools and community GPs to work together for the benefit of the local community and also it would be wonderful if we could have a good turnout of parents for this event.

Remembrance Day – Poppies

Poppies are now on sale in school. They will be available to the children during the day, priced at 20p per poppy. We have been able to get quite a large number of the ever-popular snap bands this year too! They are priced at £1.50 each, and there are also other items available priced between 50p and £1 each. Please send your child with the correct money as change cannot be given. Thank you!



Harvest Donations

We donated just over 180kg of food this week to the Aston and Nechells foodbank! Thank you to everyone for their very kind donations to our Harvest appeal – they will be a great help to those in need over the coming months. Thank you also to our Spiritual Council who helped to pack up all of the food ready for delivery.

Stay and Play – free@last

free@last also run a stay and play session every Friday from 1.30pm for children under 5 at the free@last building, 49 Nechells Park Road. Everyone is welcome to attend – just drop by! This is also a lovely way of meeting other parents with young children and making new friends, especially if you are new to the area.

This half-term's virtues are: Compassionate & Loving

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Mrs West*

Starting School - Reception 2023

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2018 and 31-08-2019, online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2023. Please note that paper applications are no longer available and applications must be submitted via the website. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15th January 2023**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice

50 Things to Do

The '50 Things to Do' website gives you 50 activities that parents and carers can support their children to try out and repeat. All the suggestions are low-cost or no cost experiences that include indoor, outdoor, seasonal, home-based and out-and-about activities, that are not only fun but will get your little one off to a flying start with his/her learning and language development. There is app for both under-fives and age 5-11. The app is available to download for both Android and IOS devices and check out the 50 Things To website for more information about '50 Things' and the '50 activities' - available in over 60 languages.

<https://www.50thingstodo.org/>

Severn Trent visit – questionnaire

Last week the children had a visit from Severn Trent who did a wonderful presentation for them all about water; how we can help to save it, use it effectively and look after the environment. They have sent through a little survey that they would like children to compete with their parents to see what they have learnt from this and how it has helped them to be more conscious of water use at home. You can find the survey at

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mR5c4eN7XEmXjuynuOqfMR6MwD9FKgRJkvHKVY10yQBUMziOWjM1WJIINDZaNFpYM0ICQURCM0VIUC4u>

This week's news



Y6 have been doing some fabulous art this week! They have been learning all about Vincent Van Gogh and have created their own adapted versions of his famous 'Starry Night'

Year 5 and 6 had a fabulous time at the Black Country Museum earlier this week. Not so sure about Mr Caffrey though.... he looks like he was in a bit of trouble!!



Year 2 made some delicious fruit kebabs on Thursday. This was part of their 'fabulous finish' to Handa's Surprise.

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Year 3 are discovering what it takes for plants to grow. They had fun planting cress seeds and recording their observations over a week.



Reception practised saying the Lord's Prayer this week during collective worship 🙏 They have also been singing one of their favourite songs, Our God is a Great Big God 🎵👏

Pastoral Team

In school we have a team of safeguarding DSLs, Wellbeing staff and we also have a Pastoral Team. Our Pastoral Team is made up of myself (Mrs Ashley), Mr Caffrey, Miss Teague, Mrs Pattinson, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

Class Attendance – weekly attendance treats

As you know, it is very important that children attend school every day, both for their wellbeing and academic achievement and also to encourage good habits of their future working life.



Every week, the class with the highest attendance will be rewarded with a certificate and an extra day during the week to attend our lunchtime 'Board Games' club. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!

Attendance – week ending 21st September 2022

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with an amazing **100%!!**

This is fabulous – well done!!! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	97%	Year One	98%	Year Two	95%	Year Three	96%
Year Four	99%	Year Five	98%	Year Six	100%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 97.5%



Congratulations to the following children who have shone in school over the last week;

Reception	Aron	Fabulous progress in writing
Year 1	Dagmawit	Showing great understanding of features of a book
Year 2	Yandeh	Good progress and effort in her Maths work
Year 3	Dawud	Always trying his best
Year 4	Whole class	Always being supportive and helpful
Year 5	Amera	Fantastic effort
Year 6	Rumatha	Good progress in swimming

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