



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

## Prayer for our World

God of all,  
 Open our eyes to see the needs of our brothers and sisters.  
 Open our ears to hear your words of hope and compassion.  
 Open our mouths to speak up when people are suffering.  
 Open our hearts, to reach out in love.  
 Amen.



## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photograph Day	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival Non-Uniform Day (donations for foodbank)	
	Reception Welcome Service (details to follow)	2.30pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening	2.30pm – 5.30pm
	(school finishes at 2.15pm)	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for half-term	3.15pm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Return to school	8.55am

## School Term Dates 2023 -2024

Autumn Term 2023	Spring Term 2024	Summer Term 2024
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 to Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 to Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024 to Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024
<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>END OF YEAR</b>

<p><b>Teacher Days –</b>          Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September          Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  <i>3 tba</i></p> <p>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February – MAC training day</p>
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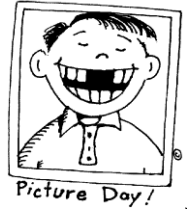
<p><b>Bank Holidays –</b>          Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024          Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024</p>
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## St Joseph's Parish

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.

## School Photographs – NEXT WEDNESDAY!

Our school photographs will take place this coming Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Your child will be photographed individually and with any siblings that they have in school. They will also be included in a class photo that will be offered for sale. If you do not wish for them to be included in the class photograph, please let us know in writing. Many thanks!



## Harvest Festival – non uniform day **next Friday (6<sup>th</sup>)**

Next week, children will be learning about harvest and the importance of this. On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our annual Harvest collection day, where we ask families to bring in some items that we can donate to our local foodbank. The Aston and Nechells foodbank have asked if we could especially collect:

- FRUIT JUICE OR SQUASH
- MEAT SOUPS
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED FISH – tuna, salmon etc
- TINNED RICE PUDDING
- UHT (LONGLIFE) MILK (not fresh milk!)
- SMALL JARS OF COFFEE
- PASTA
- BAKED BEANS
- DEODORANTS
- SHAMPOOS



Children may come in wearing their own clothes in return for a donation towards our harvest collection. Thank you for your generosity with this.

## Backpacks

There are currently a lot of children coming to school each day with a backpack rather than a school book bag. Backpacks have not been permitted in school for a number of years now, as unfortunately, we do not have room to store them in our cloakroom areas and they can be a hazard, especially in corridors and near to the stairs. As I am sure you would agree, we want to make sure that everyone in school is kept as safe as possible.

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, please ensure that your child only brings a book bag to school (no more backpacks), which will be more than adequate enough to carry their reading book(s) and homework diary. Any lunch boxes can be carried separately, as these are put into a storage box as soon as the children enter school.

## Starting School - Reception 2024

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2019 and 31-08-2020, online application opens on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2024. 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 **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice

*This half-term's virtues are: Grateful & Generous*

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

## Reception 2024 Open Session

We are holding an Open Session on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October from 9.15am to 10.15am for those parents/carers whose children are due to start school in September 2024. If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2019 and 31-08-2020, please come along. If you know anyone who has children in Nursery and is considering sending their child to St. Joseph's, please send them along too! We will be proud to show you around our school.



## Reception - September 2024

Online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2024. 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 2024. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice.

## Y6 Secondary Transfer Applications for September 2024

All children in Year 6 should have received a letter with details on how to apply for a secondary school place for September 2024. Online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website at <https://eadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/prefs.php> If you need any assistance with this, please come into school and we will be happy to help.

Secondary Transfer preferences for school places must be submitted to the City council by **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice.

## BOA Digital Academy Open Sessions

BOA Digital Academy, a new school on Barrack Street, Nechells, is holding two open events for Year 6 parents to see the school. They will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October from 4.30pm to 7pm. You can find BOA Digital Academy at 47 Barrack Street, Nechells, B7 4EU. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.boa-digital.co.uk/open-days>

## Online Safety Newsletter

Also attached to your newsletter today is our monthly Online Safety newsletter.

## FREE Coffee Morning

There is a free Coffee and Cake morning on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at St Matthews Community Hall (10.30am to 12pm). You can find out what is proposed for the renovation of St Matthew's Hall and see photos from a private collection showing what the area was like before the 1950 and 60s redevelopment. For more information click this link <http://www.astonnechellscofe.org.uk/news> The location is St Matthews Community Hall, 63 Wardle Road, Duddeston B7 4JH.

## Free@Last Warm Space

Free@Last hold a 'Warm Space' session every week, where you can enjoy the warmth of some friendly company, tea, coffee and toast. It runs on a Friday from 10am until 3pm and you can drop in at any time during the day. There is no need to book. Free@Last can be found at 49 Nechells Park Road.

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## Reception Welcome Service – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 2.30pm

We will be holding a special service on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm to welcome all of our new Reception children and their parents and carers. It would be lovely if all Reception parents or carers could come, as the children will be taking part in this service too. Please come along to this first special event for your child; we are looking forward to seeing you.



## Flu Vaccination

You should have received a form this week to complete for your child to have a nasal spray flu vaccination in school. **Please return this form even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated.** It is important that we hold a completed form for each child.

## 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.

## This Week's News



A big thank you to all of the Reception parents who came to school this week to learn about supporting children with phonics.

Year One have been practising their throwing and catching skills during PE



The Year Six children have written some lovely prayers this week, thanking God for his wonderful and generous love during our prayer and liturgy this morning

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Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Mrs West*

## 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 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Well done to **Reception** who had the best attendance this week with an amazing 100%! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	100%	Year One	91%	Year Two	99%	Year Three	98%
Year Four	96%	Year Five	98%	Year Six	97%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 97%



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

Reception	Bitanya	For super listening and concentration.
Year 1	Mariam	Always trying her best with all her work 😊
Year 2	Ashleigh-Grace	For her excellent effort in Maths.
Year 3	Matthew	For his excellent effort in all his lessons!
Year 4	Hewan	For always being a positive role model in all areas of the curriculum.
Year 5	Sofoniyas	For always giving brilliant answers in lessons and being kind. Well Done!
Year 6	Natanem	For always setting a good example to all his classmates. Superb! 😊

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Communication and Autism



Access to  
Education

Communication and Autism Team

Autumn Parent Session - NORTH BIRMINGHAM

## Come along and meet Wendy and Jo from the Communication and Autism Team (CAT).

### This is an opportunity for you to:

- Meet other parent/carers with autistic children and young people
  - Find out a bit more about autism
    - Ask questions
  - Have some time to reflect and recharge

The sessions will be delivered face to face termly at the following venue and time:

<b>Saint Peter and Saint Paul's Primary School</b> <b>Kingsbury Road, Erdington,</b> <b>B24 9ND</b>	<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b> <b>9.30 – 11.30am</b>
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*Please note: we do not have any childcare facilities at the venue.*

**If you have any questions, please contact us.**

**Just turn up on the day - there is no need to book. We look forward to seeing you there!**

*Wendy Gibb & Jo Clifford*

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ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Jesus light our way on our faith journey. Be our guide,  
our joy and hope, as we learn, live, love and pray together"*

Rocky Lane, Nechells, Birmingham, B7 5HA

Tel: 0121 464 8140

Email: [enquiry@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk)

Website: [www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs M Ashley



A St. Teresa of Calcutta  
Multi Academy Company  
School

29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to let you know that sadly, Mrs Pattinson will be leaving us at the end of this half term. Her last day in school with us will be Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

As you will know, Mrs Pattinson has been an important part of our school family for over 20 years. As our Lead Learning Manager, she has worked supporting families and children with all kinds of things – from day-to-day advice and mentoring to housing support and financial advice. She has been responsible for looking after the safeguarding and wellbeing of our children, families and staff and has looked after the needs of the children and school loyally and with great care, going above and beyond her role. More than anything, she has been a friendly, supportive, listening ear and friend to children, families and staff alike, and I know she will be very much missed and very hard to replace!

To thank her for all of her years of hard work and dedicated service to St. Joseph's, we will be holding a special celebration/presentation assembly for her before the end of term. We will let you know the date as soon as we have confirmed this. In the meantime, I'm sure you would all like to join me in saying a huge thank you to Mrs Pattinson for her years of loyal dedication.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M. Ashley  
Head Teacher



## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mrs M Ashley



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Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Book bags, not Backpacks**

Thank you to those parents, who informed us about delays with the ordering and delivery of new book bags at the start of September. We hope you appreciate the grace period school offered with allowing backpacks, whilst orders were processing. Most of these orders have now been completed and delivered. However, there are still a lot of children coming to school each day with a backpack rather than a school book bag.

Backpacks have not been permitted in school for a number of years now, as unfortunately, we do not have room to store them in our cloakroom areas and they can be a hazard, especially in corridors and near to the stairs. As I am sure you would agree, we want to make sure that everyone in school is kept as safe as possible.

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, please ensure that your child only brings a book bag to school (no more backpacks), which will be more than adequate enough to carry their reading book(s) and homework diary. Any lunch boxes can be carried separately, as these are put into a storage box as soon as the children enter school.

### **Coats and Umbrellas**

As you know, the British weather tends to be very wet and now that we are entering Autumn, the weather is likely to get wetter and also colder. Please make sure that children are wearing their coats, which should be suitable for wet and cold weather.

If your child travels to school with an umbrella on a wet morning, you will need to take their umbrellas back with you. We are not able to store these in school, as we do not have room and they cause a lot of problems with water dripping on to surfaces. If umbrellas do come into school, they will be put in the foyer, outside the main office, for you to collect at the end of the day.

### **Uniform and PE kit**

Please see below some reminders about uniform and PE kits, which we have seen in school recently:

As with book bags, some parents have previously advised that they were having difficulties with buying school PE pumps. Any children that have been wearing normal trainers for their PE lessons, should now have the correct PE pumps.

Children wearing bottoms for PE should only wear

- plain black / grey tracksuit bottoms.
- Leggings / Lycra type bottoms are not permitted.
- Please do not send children in tracksuit tops / jackets. Pupils should wear their normal school jumper or cardigan over their PE top, which they can remove if they need to.

**Leggings should not be worn as part of normal school uniform either in place of trousers or under a skirt.**

As always, we appreciate your understanding and support with the above and making our school the perfect place for our children. If you need to discuss any of the above, please feel free to contact me or Mrs Ashley.

**Mr. C. Caffrey**

**Deputy Head Teacher**

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Nechells.**