



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 3rd February 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

Dates for your Diary

Mon 6th – Thurs 9th February

Wednesday 8th February

Thursday 9th February

Friday 10th February

Thursday 16th February

Monday 27th February

Friday 3rd March

Wed 8th – 15th March

Wednesday 15th March

Friday 17th March

Thursday 6th April

Monday 24th April

Mental Health week

St Josephine Bakhita House **ONLY** – Non-uniform day

'Dress to Express' day – all children

School closed – Teacher Training Day

School finishes for half-term

3.15pm

School re-opens

8.45am

Book Character Dressing up Day - £1 per child

Book fair in school

Parents' Evening

2.30 – 5.30pm

Mother's Day INSPIRE – *details to follow*

School closes for Easter holiday (2 weeks)

1.00pm

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE DATES ARE DIFFERENT TO OTHER BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS)

Return to school

8.45am

A Prayer written by Reception

Dear God,

Thank you for making our bodies, so that we can dance, jump, hop, run and skip. Help us to keep our bodies safe and well.

Amen

A Prayer written by Y1

Dear God,

Please look after all my friends and everyone who is sick. Please heal them so they feel better.

Amen



SCHOOL CLOSED

Just a reminder that school will be closed NEXT FRIDAY 10th for teacher training day. We are back in as normal on Monday at 8.45am

ADVANCE WARNING - HALF TERM BREAK

We close on **Thursday 16th February** for our half-term break. The children return to school on Monday 27th February at 8.45am



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 Mass

School Mass takes place on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.00pm. Our Mass next week will be led by Y4. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

Safer Internet Day / New online Safety newsletter

Today we have had an external company in school who have been running workshops throughout the day for the children to teach them about Safer Internet use. In partnership with this, school has also subscribed to a regular monthly newsletter which will give families updates about any issues with apps and internet use

for children. We have attached this month's newsletter with your emailed school newsletter today, and also a booklet about Parental Controls. This gives lots of really useful tips and information about how you can restrict what your child is able to access online. Please read this carefully and consider how you can help your child to better stay safe online. The documents will also be available on our website under our 'Online safety' page.



If you have any questions regarding this or would like any further advice or support, please come into school.

St. Josephine Bakhita Feast Day

Next Wednesday 8th February is the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita, one of our house group patron Saints. On this day, children in the **St Josephine house group only** should come to school wearing their own clothes.

Dress to Express day – Thursday 9th February – all children

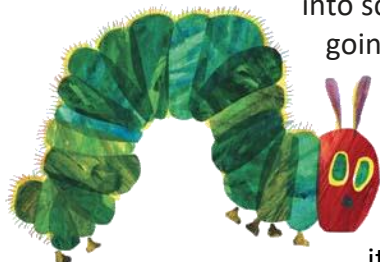
On Thursday 9th February as part of our Mental Health Week, we will be having a 'Dress to Express' day in school. You can come to school dressed in your own clothes and accessories that express you and your unique personality and that you feel most comfortable in.

You can dress however you want to (obviously appropriately for the weather!). If you want to wear *temporary* hair colours, ribbons etc that's fine too but please remember that **normal uniform rules will reapply on Monday!** There will be no charge for this.



Book Week / Dressing Up Day – Friday 3rd March

World Book Day takes place in school on 3rd March and to celebrate this we are holding a 'Book Week' in school. Children will be encouraged to talk about their favourite authors and books (and maybe bring them into school to share) and will take part in activities and lessons based around books. It is going to be a very exciting week in school, which we are all looking forward to.



Friday 3rd March will be 'Book Character' dressing up day, where children (and staff!) can pay £1 to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. You will receive a letter about this next week. Remember costumes don't have to cost a lot of money. Why not think about making your own costume? Or using items of clothing you may already have to make a costume.

This half-term's virtues are: Eloquent & Truthful

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

Bring it on Brum - Holiday Activities and Food Programme February Events - NO CODE REQUIRED!

Bring it on Brum are offering two opportunities for children and families to join in some exciting events taking place across Birmingham during February half-term. The events are aimed at children and young people in Birmingham aged 4-16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Come and Try Bring it on Brum! - from Monday, 20 February to Friday, 24 February

These FREE 'taster' sessions will allow children and families to experience some of the services and activities available through Bring it on Brum, and be encouraged to sign up for the Easter Summer, and Winter holidays!

Bring it on Brum! Family Food Festivals - from Saturday, 11 February to Sunday, 26 February

These FREE events are designed to include a variety of practical demonstrations, workshops for children and adults alike, and offer information and advice on cooking for a family.

Open for bookings now and no HAF codes required!

Visit the Bring it on Brum! website: www.bringitonbrum.co.uk

For queries or further information please contact: Birminghamholidayactivities@streetgames.org

Feedback from Parents' Evening Questionnaire

As you know, at Parents' Evening last term we conducted a questionnaire amongst parents and carers in order to find out your views on the provision delivered by school. Of 142 families within school, we received 119 completed questionnaires which is amazing! And also the reason why it has taken so long to collate all of the data!!! This represents 84% of our families in school. All of the questions asked had a majority of positive answers, with 75% of all questions having a 90% or higher positive response rate.

Here are the responses from the next three questions....

Q7: My child is making good progress

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
38% (45/119)	53% (63/119)	8% (9/119)	1% (2/119)	
91% positive responses		8% neutral	1% negative	

91% of respondents felt that their child was making good progress at school. Only two parents or carers felt negatively about this question, suggesting that those who answered neutrally would maybe benefit from more clarification of how their child is progressing.

Q8: The school communicates with me effectively about my child's progress

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
35% (42/119)	53% (63/119)	9% (11/119)	3% (3/119)	
88% positive responses		9% neutral	3% negative	

% of respondents feel that the school communicate effectively regarding their child's progress.

Q9: The school communicates with me effectively about how to support my child's learning

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
32% (38/119)	55% (65/119)	5% (6/119)	7% (8/119)	1% (2/119)
87% positive responses		5% neutral	8% negative	

87% of respondents feel that the school communicates effectively on how to support their child's learning.

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Warm Welcome Spaces – Birmingham City Council

BCC are coordinating an initiative across the city which brings together a directory of organisations that are opening their facilities as 'warm, welcome spaces' during the winter months. This gives you a place to go during the day time if, due to heating costs, you are unable to heat your home in order to be able to comfortably stay in the house. You can find a list of facilities that are open and what they offer by visiting https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/directory/73/warm_welcome_spaces_in_birmingham

This week's news...

This week in Science lessons, Year 2 have been carrying out experiments to find out which tissue is the most absorbent.



In Maths this week, Year 5 have been using dominoes to help them compare fractions!

In Reception this week, we have been learning about all the jobs that our parish & school priest has.

Fr Solomon has lots of very important jobs....

P - he teaches us about God

A - he comes into school for Mass

N - he teaches us the stories of Jesus in Mass



Year 4 have been working on improving their cricket skills in PE this week. We have been learning to do underarm and over arm throws. We finished off with a quick game of cricket.

This week's Mass was really beautiful! Celebrating The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas - with over 100 (battery) candles was amazing. Well done to year 5, who read beautifully.



All of the children have really enjoyed their Safer Internet workshops today!



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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

Every week, the class with the highest attendance are 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 3rd February 2023

Well done to **Year Three** who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous 99%!! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	98%	Year One	92%	Year Two	98%	Year Three	99%
Year Four	96%	Year Five	97%	Year Six	96%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 97%

House Champions

Well done to St Josephine Bakhita who were our House point Champions this week!



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

Reception	Vida	Really good progress in her reading. Well done!! :)
Year 1	Zemira	Being a good example
Year 2	Mary	Some lovely handwriting this week
Year 3	Hallelujah	Amazing progress in English and excellent test score!
Year 4	Eldana B	A great achievement in her reading assessment this week.
Year 5	Whole class	Fantastic results in swimming!
Year 6	Isahak	Super progress in Maths!

School Term Dates 2022 -2023

Spring Term 2023	Summer Term 2023
Tuesday 3 rd January 2023 to Thursday 16 th February 2023	Monday 24 th April 2023 to Friday 26 th May 2023
HALF TERM	HALF TERM
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 YEAR

Teacher Days – Friday 10 th February 2022 Friday 17 th February Monday 24 th July Tuesday 25 th July
Bank Holidays – Monday 1 st May 2023 Monday 8 th May 2023

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