



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 12th January 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

Prayer for the beginning of a new school term

Lord, as we prepare for the coming of a new term, make us ready, attentive and available to hear you. Thank You for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance that You walk through it with us. Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use. Amen.



Happy New Year to you all and welcome back. The staff and I would like to send our sincere thanks to you for all your cards, good wishes and gifts which we received during the Christmas period. The staff and I were most touched by your kind words and generosity. May the coming year be a good one for you all, filled with the peace and joy that Christ alone brings.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 17 th January	School Mass – led by Y3	2.00pm
Friday 9 th February	School finishes for half-term	3.15pm
Monday 19 th February	School closed – Teacher Training Day	
Tuesday 20 th February	School re-opens	8.45am
Wednesday 21 st February 2024	First Reconciliation for Holy Communion for Children & Parents at St Joseph's School	1:30pm
Sunday 9 th June 2024	Actual Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:20pm

School Term Dates 2023 -2024

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

Teacher Days –
Monday 22nd July
3 tba
Friday 19th February – MAC training day

Bank Holidays –
Friday 29th March 2024
Monday 6th May 2024

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.

First Holy Communion Reconciliation Mass

Wednesday 21 st February 2024	1:30pm	First Reconciliation for Holy Communion for Children & Parents at St Joseph's School
Sunday 9 th June 2024	12:20pm	Actual Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church

Swimming

Swimming this term will be for Year Five and will start this coming Friday 19th January. You should have received a letter regarding this.



Winter Warmer Pyjama Day – NEXT THURSDAY

Next Thursday 18th January is 'Wear Your Pyjamas to School day'. There will be no charge for this and all children (and staff!) can come to school in their pyjamas!

On this day, the school kitchen are holding a 'Winter Warmer' day with a special menu so that children who do not normally have school dinners can try a warm dinner for the day. The dinner will be an all-day breakfast – sausages & bacon (with vegetarian alternatives), omelettes, hash browns, beans and tomatoes. If your child usually has a packed lunch and they would like to have a dinner on this day, the cost will be £2.70.

PTA Coffee Morning – NEXT FRIDAY

There will be a PTA Coffee morning **next Friday** 19th January at 9:05am. Please come along with ideas and ways we can help our children and community.

After-School Clubs – Y2 Art - Tuesdays

We will be opening Art after school club to Year 2 on Tuesdays up until the end of the Spring Term. Year 2 have been sent letters this week. The first session will be on Tuesday 16th January 2024 and the final session will be on Tuesday 19th March, a total of 9 weeks.

There is a charge of £3.00 per session, the payment up until half term will be £12 for 4 weeks and then after half term holiday you will pay £15 for 5 weeks up until the end of the term. We still have a few places left. Please note there is a limit of 14 places available and children who have not attended the Art Club before will have precedence. The places will be given on a first come, first served basis.

The club will finish at 4.15pm and children must be picked up on time by a responsible adult.

After-School Clubs – Y3/4 MultiSkills - Thursdays

We will be opening MultiSkills after school club to Year 3 and 4 on Thursdays up until the end of the Spring Term. Years 3 and 4 have been sent letters today. The first session will be NEXT Thursday 18th January 2024 and the final session will be on Thursday 21st March, a total of 9 weeks.

There is a charge of £3.00 per session. The payment up until half term will be £12 for 4 weeks and then after half term holiday you will pay £15 for 5 weeks up until the end of the term. Please note there is a limit of 20 places available and places will be given on a first come, first served basis.

The club will finish at 4.15pm and children must be picked up on time by a responsible adult.

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

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

New School Website

Our new school website, which has been set up through our MAC, is now up and running. I'm sure that you will agree it looks wonderful, with some fabulous photos that were taken during the summer term. Please go on and take a look at it when you get a chance. It is the same website address as before (www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk)

Online Safety Newsletter

Attached to your newsletter today is our monthly Online Safety Newsletter for January 2024.

Parents Collective Worship Newsletter

Also Attached to your newsletter today is our monthly Parents Collective Worship Newsletter.

Starting School - Reception 2024

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2019 and 31-08-2020, online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2024. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **THIS COMING MONDAY 15th January 2024**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late application



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.



Snow!

In the event of any heavy snow over the coming weeks or extreme weather which causes significant disruption, any school closures will be listed on local radio stations, as follows: Free Radio 96.4, Heart FM 100.7 and Radio WM 95.6. If you do not hear our school name or any mention of 'blanket closures', then school is open!! Remember that there are several St Joseph's schools and you must listen out for ours. We will also send a text message out so please ensure that you keep us up-to-date with any changes of contact numbers. Thank you!

Weekly Events at the POD

Every Monday	3:45pm – 4:45pm	Fencing
Every Tuesday	9:45am – 10:45am	Stay & Play pre-school children



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 West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

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

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This Week's News

Reception are enjoying being explorers in their new jungle role play area.



Year One have started their new topic today 'flight'. We made kites and decorated them.

Year One have also begun their new text "The Robot and the Bluebird". Today, we are learning about how robots are different to humans. We danced like robots and met a real robot to help us write our sentences.



Year Two have been thinking about our virtues for the term- Compassionate and Loving. We discussed how we can be more like our virtues and wrote prayers to God asking for guidance.

Year Three have been learning to use musical instruments to keep the rhythm and beat to our new song, Three Little Birds.



Lunch-time Award

Mrs Gowan has started a new weekly lunchtime reward system in school. The award is open to all children, and children can earn a reward certificate for good behaviour during lunchtimes. One boy and one girl from each key-stage will be chosen each week and will receive their certificate in assembly and be mentioned in the newsletter.

Lunchtime Award winners

Our lunchtime award winners for this week are:

KS1 Award

Year 1 Skyla-Rose
Year 2 Trai'von

KS2 Award

Year 4 Kezia
Year 6 Shukylus



This half-terms virtues are: Compassionate and Loving

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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. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!



Attendance – week ending 12th January 2024

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous 98.9%! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 93.1% Year One: 96.4% Year Two: 96.7% Year Three: 94.6%
Year Four: 95.6% Year Five: 92.4% Year Six: 98.9%

This gives a whole school attendance of 95.5%



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

Reception	Ruth	Fantastic effort in Maths
Year 1	Matiwos	Trying his best in everything this week.
Year 2	Caden	Fabulous Maths work
Year 3	Leonardo	For his excellent effort in all lessons this week!
Year 4	Abigail	Being very sensible and having a positive attitude towards her behaviour
Year 5	Shifaa	Always putting 100% effort in all her work
Year 6	Victoria	For her perseverance and resilience in Maths this week!

This half-terms virtues are: Compassionate and Loving

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