



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 10th May 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer for SATs week

Dear Lord,

As I take my SATs tests, I thank you that my value

Is not based on my performance, but on your great love for me.

Come into my heart so that we can walk through this time together.

Help me, not only with this test, but the many tests of life that are sure to come my way.

Bring back to my mind everything I studied and be gracious with what I have overlooked.

Help me to remain focussed and calm, confident in the facts and in my ability,

and firm in the knowledge that no matter what happens, you are always there with me.

Amen

Dates for your Diary

13 th May to 17 th May	Year 6 SATS Week	
Friday 24 th May	School closes for one week – half term holiday	3.15pm
Monday 3 rd June	Return to school	8.45am
Thursday 6 th June	Rec & KS1 trip to Twycross Zoo – cost £18	
Friday 7th June	INSET Day - SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS	
Sunday 9 th June 2024	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:20pm
Tuesday 11 th June	KS2 trip to Twycross Zoo – cost £18	
Friday 21 st June	KS1 Sports morning (in school) KS2 Sports afternoon at Nechells Wellbeing Centre 1.00pm – 2.45pm	
Wednesday 3 rd July	Y6 Transition Day Reception new intake parents' meeting (pm)	

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	Tuesday 20 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 –
Friday 7th June
Monday 22nd July

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

Friday 7th June will be an INSET day for ALL children. School will be closed on this day.

Year 6 SATs Week / Breakfast Club

Year Six SATs will take place **next week 13th – 17th May**. It is VERY IMPORTANT that your child is in school for the whole of this week, and also that they are in on time each day. As you know, we are running a free breakfast club for all Y6 children for the duration of next week. **Please ensure that your child is in school before 8.30am** so that they have time to prepare themselves before the tests start.

If you have requested a sibling place for Breakfast club during next week, this must be paid for in full on Tuesday morning if you haven't already sent in the money. Breakfast Club is run by an outside agency and they collect payment on a daily basis.

Changes to the School Day

As you will remember, recently we sent out a letter regarding changes to the school day and times. Having considered the majority votes on these two options by both staff and parents the governors have chosen to add 5 minutes to either end of the school day starting from September 2024.

This means **from September our school day will run from 8:50am-3:20pm** - this means **the gate will be open from 08:40-08:50am** and again from 3:15-3:25pm.



Safeguarding – Road Safety

Please can I ask that parents remain vigilant of where their children are at all times during drop off and collection. Last week we had another incident where a child had run into the road and was almost hit by an oncoming vehicle. Once children have been dismissed, they are in the care and responsibility of the adult that collects them and should have a parent with them at all times, particularly younger children and those who do not attend here. Unfortunately, our road is very busy, particularly when school is opening and closing, and is also a bus route. This is why we also ask you to respect the laws regarding parking on the zig-zag lines. They are there for the safety of our children and to ensure that the road and visibility of the road remains clear.

New Intake - Reception Class 2024

Our Open Day for all families who have been allocated a place for their child to start in school in September 2024 takes place on **Wednesday 3rd July**. Please remember to bring with you all relevant forms and documentation, as detailed on the letter that you will receive shortly. This will also confirm arrangements for the day such as times. We are looking forward to meeting you all on that day.



Online Application - Grammar School Entry September 2025 (current Y5 children)

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for a place at any of the grammar schools in Birmingham (for entry to Year 7 in September 2025). Registration can be made online by visiting www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk

The closing date for registering is 4pm on 28th June 2024.

The test will take place on 14th September 2024.

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

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



Reminder - Trip to Twycross Zoo

Just a reminder to those parents/carers who have not yet returned their consent forms for the trip to Twycross Zoo, if you would like your child to attend please return the consent form with payment of £18 to the school office as soon as possible. Parents who have made part payments towards the trip, please could you bring in the balance, thank you.

Dates of the trips are as follows: -

KS1 (Reception, Year 1 & 2) - Thursday 6th June 2024 - cost £18

KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) - Tuesday 11th June 2024 - cost £18

Safeguarding – TikTok

There is some useful information for Parents about TikTok at the link below. Please have a look and read through it.

[TikTok for Parents](#)

Warm Weather Reminders!

- Please ensure that your child has their water bottle in school with them **every day**. It is very warm at the moment, especially in the school building, and we do not have cups in the classrooms for them to use. Also, can I please remind you that **ONLY** plain water is allowed in bottles. Your child should not have any squash or flavoured water in school.
- You may send your child with a sun hat to wear outside (no sun glasses please!) while it is warm and you should apply sun cream to them before they come to school. **Please do not send them with bottles of sun cream or sun glasses for health and safety reasons.**
- Please could you check that your child's jumpers and cardigans **are all clearly labelled with their names**. In the warm weather, children often take off their jumpers, particularly in the playground, and forget where they have left them. If they do not have names in, we will not be able to find them amongst others. Please remind your children (especially KS2) that they should be putting jumpers and cardigans in their tray to avoid them being lost.
- If your child suffers with Hayfever, please give them medication in the morning before they come to school, as we have noticed a lot of children have been struggling with symptoms this week.



Penalty Notice Fines for Holidays / Attendance are changing

Please note that the rules for attendance will be changing from September 2024. Any days of absences that are unauthorised (this also includes 'late after registration' marks where a child arrives after 9.15am) will now count towards number of absences. **Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, or less days if you have had previous unauthorised absence in the 10 weeks prior to the holiday.**

Penalty Notice Fines will also be considered when there have **been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period**. You do not have to be on holiday to be fined. You can have sessions of other unauthorised absence, for example keeping a child off school as you thought it was a teacher day and it wasn't, going shopping, birthdays, waiting in for people to attend your property – these are not authorised reasons to miss school.

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Similarly, if we do not hear from you when your child is absent or you do not answer a call from us, and we have a reason for their absence, it will be marked as unauthorised. School does not have to authorise medical absence. If a child is repeatedly absent for minor 'medical issues' we will require you to bring in evidence of illness such as an appointment card from a doctor.

From September, penalty notice fines are issued to each parent of £160 (reduced to £80 if paid within 28 days) for each child that was absent. For example, if you have 3 children absent for term time leave, this would result in each parent receiving a fine of £480 (reduced to £240 if paid within 28 days).

Please bear this in mind when you are booking travel arrangements for the summer holidays. Any children who are not back in school on time will be fined if they fit into the categories above.

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 Gowen, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

This Week's News

We all learnt how to be safe around dogs during our Dog Safety assembly.



Reception class had an exciting time discovering millipedes in our Art resources. The children decided to make them some little shelters.



Reception have also been creating 3d Art using natural materials. Didn't they do a fabulous job!

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Year Three as part of our history topic on Ancient Greece, made a delicious Greek salad.



Well done to the children from Year Three and Four for competing in a tennis tournament with [@KESSPB](#)



Our Year Five children had a great time and enjoyed the challenge of the Triathlon. Thank you [@KESSPB](#) and Diamond Academy for a fantastic Triathlon Festival.



Lunch-time Award

Our weekly lunchtime reward system is open to all children, to earn a reward certificate for good behaviour during lunchtimes. Children will be chosen each week and will receive their certificate in assembly and be mentioned in the newsletter.



Our lunchtime award winners for this week are:

Zekari	Y1	Success	Y2
Jay	Y4	Jessica	Y5

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 for their future working life. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!



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Attendance – week ending 10th May 2024

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with 97.7%

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 96%	Year One: 94.7%	Year Two 96.3%	Year Three: 96.8%
Year Four: 96.1%	Year Five: 96.8%	Year Six: 97.7%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 96.4%



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

Reception	Lulya	Super effort with writing.
Year 1	Zekari	Excellent contributions in class this week.
Year 2	Mazin	Excellent effort in reading.
Year 3	Benjamin	Excellent work in maths this week.
Year 4	Adolina	Trying her best in maths this week.
Year 5	Huda	Doing well in lessons and taking part.
Year 6	Marta	Making good progress in your reading assessments this half term! 😊

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