



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 24th May 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Help us to love and care, to be gentle and fair.
Help us to work and play together,
Help us to live and grow together,
To be always glad to help each other,
Happy in your loving care. Amen



Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd June

Return to school

8.45am

Thursday 6th June

Rec & KS1 trip to Twycross Zoo – cost £18

Friday 7th June

INSET Day - SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS

Sunday 9th June 2024

Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church

12:20pm

Tuesday 11th June

KS2 trip to Twycross Zoo – cost £18

Friday 21st June

KS1 Sports morning (in school)

KS2 Sports afternoon at Nechells Wellbeing Centre 1.00pm – 2.45pm

Wednesday 3rd 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.

Term Dates for next academic year (from September 2024 – July 2025) are attached with your newsletter today

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.



Half-Term

We break up for our May half-term holiday TODAY!

The children return to school on Monday 3rd June at 8.45am.

Well done Year 6!

Well done to all of the children in Year Six, who have been working extremely hard and given their best to their assessments last week. I would like to thank parents for their support in ensuring that their children were in school on time every day last week - keep it up!

First Holy Communion Mass – 12.20pm Sunday 9th June

The Celebration Mass for First Holy Communion will take place at 12.20pm on Sunday 9th June in St Joseph's Church. Everybody is more than welcome and encouraged to attend and it would be lovely to see lots of people to welcome the children into our faith community. Please keep the children in your prayers over the coming weeks.

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.



ECO Schools Project

As part of our Eco Schools project, we would like to encourage families to recycle more. Please could you bring any old batteries to school for recycling. Give them to Mrs Holmes in Reception class and she will arrange for them to be recycled.



Reminder - Trip to Twycross Zoo

Our first trip for Reception and KS1 takes place during the first week back after the holiday. Please ensure that consent forms and payments are in school on Monday 3rd June at the latest. 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

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*

Library Consultation Event

The council is proposing to make a significant change to the library service and there is a public consultation that is currently underway. There will be an in-person meeting at **Bloomsbury Library at Nechells POD, 28 Oliver Street, B7 4NX** on **Wednesday 26th June at 3.00-4.30pm**. There is no need to book, just 'drop in'.



Safeguarding – Road Safety

Please can I ask that parents remain vigilant of where their children are at all times during drop off and collection. A few weeks ago, 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.

Nechells Parks

Friends of North Nechells Parks Community are holding an open meeting at Free@Last on Tuesday 28th May at 6pm. This is a community group committed to the development and regeneration of the parks in Nechells, and making them a safe, fun and healthy place to be for our children. Please go along and support this effort. You can visit Katie in the Free@last reception for more information. There is a poster at the bottom of the newsletter.

Health & Wellbeing for families

Nechells POD will be hosting various activities in regard to Health and Wellbeing for families and further details are at the bottom of this newsletter. There is also a storytelling workshop and picnic taking place in Bloomsbury Park on Thursday 30th May at 12.30pm. Free food and picnic blankets are provided. Just go along! A poster is at the end of the newsletter.

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

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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.

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).

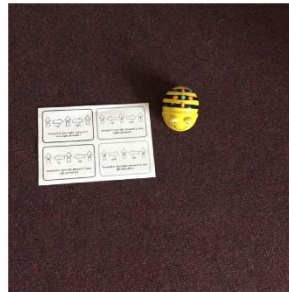
Please bear this in mind when you are booking travel arrangements for the summer holidays. Any children who are not back in school on time will be fined if they fit into the categories above.

This Week's News

In **Reception**, we have been very carefully painting the clay animal sculptures we made last week.



Year One in their Design Technology lesson have made their smoothies which they designed.



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Year One have also enjoyed celebrating National Maths Day, we learnt about Ada Lovelace who was a mathematician ahead of her time, she is considered the first computer programmer. She realised that the computer could follow a set of simple instructions.



In our Prayer and Liturgy session **Year Two** have been practicing saying the Angelus, as May is the month of Mary. It is also one of our class prayers.



Year Six celebrated National Maths Day by learning all about Alan Turing, a very famous and well-known mathematician who used coding to reveal hidden messages.

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:

Success	Year 2	Aryam	Year 5
Eldana	Year 3	Noel	Year 6



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!

Attendance – week ending 24th May 2024

Well done to **Year Four** who had the best attendance this week with **100%**! Well done – this is fabulous!!
The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 97.7%	Year One: 96.9%	Year Two 98.7%	Year Three: 97.7%
Year Four: 100%	Year Five: 98.7%	Year Six: 98.6%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 98.4%



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

Reception	Nahom B	Super progress in writing.
Year 1	Whole Class	Excellent effort during phonics this week! 😊
Year 2	Success	Excellent effort all of the time!
Year 3	Natan	Amazing work during World Maths Day.
Year 4	Daejarn	Impressive knowledge about telling the time
Year 5	Ashrah	Settling into Year 5 quickly and taking part in lessons – well done!
Year 6	Orion	His positive attitude to learning in History this week! 😊

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Health & Wellbeing for Families



Nechells POD – 28 Oliver Street, Nechells B7 4NX

Phone: [0121 681 2173](tel:01216812173) - Find them on Facebook

MON 27TH MAY

27th May 2024 @ 9:30 am - [Walking Group](#)

27th May, 2024 @ 10:30 am - [Story Tots at the Library](#)

WED 29th May

29th May, 2024 @ 11:30 am - [Coffee & Chat](#)

29th May @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm - [Share Shack](#)

THU 30th May

30th May 2024 - [Health & Wellbeing Workshop](#)

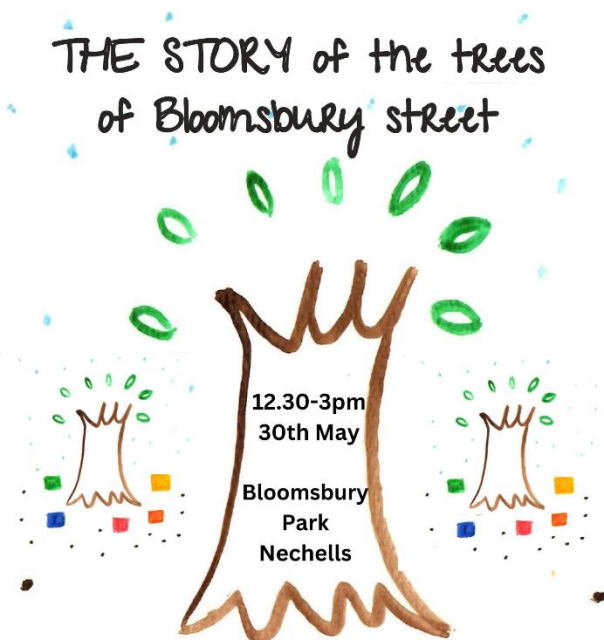
FRI 31st May

31st May, 2024 @ 9:30 am - [Place Of Welcome](#)

Coffee Morning (Children Allowed)

31st May, 2024 @ 10:00 am - [Food Pantry](#)

Each household can access the pantry 2x a month £3 per shop Please bring Change and own Bag



Join us for a **PICNIC** under the trees followed a creative **STORYTELLING** workshop with **SYNTHIA!**

Picnic food and blankets provided! No need to book, just turn up.
Children should be accompanied by parents.



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