



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 4th October 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A School Prayer for Children and the things they are grateful for:

Thank you for my family, for hugs and kisses and special times together.
 Thank you for my friends, for laughter and chatting and sharing.
 Thank you for my home, for rest times, bath times and bedtimes.
 Thank you for food, for breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks and treats.
 Thank you for playtimes, for toys and games and books.
 Thank you for fun, for giggles and for silly happy times.
 Thank you for making all these lovely things
 And for helping me to enjoy them all.
 Amen.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 9 th October	Reception Sept 2025 entry Open Day	9.15am – 10.15am
Monday 14 th October	Reception Sept 2025 entry Open Day	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Thursday 24 th October	School closes for half-term	3.20pm
Friday 25th October	Teacher Training Day – SCHOOL CLOSED	
Monday 4 th November	Return to school	8.50am
Wednesday 27 th November	Parents' Evening (School finishes at 2.15pm)	2.30pm – 5.30pm

School Term Dates 2024 -2025

Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Monday 2 nd September 2024 to Thursday 24 th October 2024	Monday 6 th January 2025 to Friday 14 th February 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025 to Friday 23 rd May 2025
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 4 th November 2024 to Friday 20 th December 2024	Monday 24 th February 2025 to Thursday 17 th April 2025	Monday 9 th June 2025 to Monday 21 st July 2025
END OF TERM	END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

Teacher Days – Monday 2 nd September 2024 Friday 25 th October 2024 Monday 21 st July 2025

Bank Holidays – Friday 18 th April 2025 Monday 5 th May 2025

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.

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, Mrs Boxwell, Mrs Gowen, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane. If any parents want to discuss any issues, please contact us at pastoral@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk

Flu Vaccination

You should have received a form 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. These must be returned by 8th October.

Teacher Day / October Half-term

As indicated in the term dates sent out earlier in the year, Friday 25th October will be a teacher day. This means that we will break up for October half term on Thursday 24th October at 3.20pm
We return to school on Monday 4th November at 8.50am.

Childs name on School Uniform

Just a reminder, please ensure that you put your child's name on all their uniform so that if it gets lost we can easily identify it. **If your child has no name on their uniform and it gets lost unfortunately there is nothing we can do.** Most children within the class will have the same size clothes and it is impossible to tell them apart without them being labelled. Please be aware that the school is unable to replace lost uniform.



Starting School - Reception 2025

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2020 and 31-08-2021, online application will open on 1st October on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2025. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15th January 2025**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice



Reception 2025 Open Session

We are holding an Open Session NEXT Wednesday 9th October from 9.15am to 10.15am and on Monday 14th October from 2.00pm to 3.00pm for those parents/carers whose children are due to start school in September 2025. If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2020 and 31-08-2021, 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. A image file of our Open day poster is attached with your email today. Please feel free to share this with friends and family who may be interested.

Y6 Secondary Transfer Applications for September 2025

All children in Year 6 should have received a letter before the holiday with details on how to apply for a secondary school place for September 2025. Applications for a secondary school place starting September 2025 can be made between 12 September and 31 October 2024. You are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if you apply late. Secondary Transfer preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council **by Tuesday 31st October 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-terms virtues are: Curious and Active

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

Penalty Notice fines for holidays / poor attendance



Please note that the rules for attendance have changed 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. The fine for unauthorised holiday is now £160 for each parent (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 school holidays. Any children who are not back in school on time will be fined if they fit into the categories above. Medical absences either side of school holidays will require evidence of illness for them to be authorised.

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:

Kali - Reception Yosan - Year 1
Dawud - Year 5 Nicola - 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 4th October 2024

Well done to **Year Two** who had the best attendance this week with a **fabulous 100%**!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 99.4%	Year One: 94.4%	Year Two 100%	Year Three: 96.3%
Year Four: 99.4%	Year Five: 98 %	Year Six: 97.3%	

This gives a whole school attendance of **97.8%**

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

Reception	Mana	Super effort with handwriting.
Year 1	Harri	Excellent listening this week.
Year 2	Abenob	Excellent work in English this week.
Year 3	Adonay	Excellent work in Maths this week.
Year 4	Bsrat	Trying her best in Maths and English.
Year 5	Jack	Resilience and working hard on reading and handwriting.
Year 6	Shifaa	For her amazing artwork this week!

This Week's News

Year One have been busy in their Maths lessons this week. They have been learning about 'more' 'fewer' 'same' H - "it goes this way because 3 is more than 2" R - "it's always the biggest number".

Year One have also been sequencing the events of The Great Fire of London.



Year Three as part of their Stone Age topic made Stonehenge from biscuits and icing.



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In **Science Club** we made our own Lava Lamps. We used oil, water, food colouring and alka seltzers to create the bubbles. We had a great time!



Nurse Ruth came to talk to us about road safety. We had great fun dressing up as a lollipop person and practicing crossing the road safely.



A start of a new month can only mean one thing... @livingstreets badge day! A great start to the new academic year, ranking as 5th most active in school in the local authority 🏆 with a special well done to **Year Five** with 88% of their trips to school being active!

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