



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

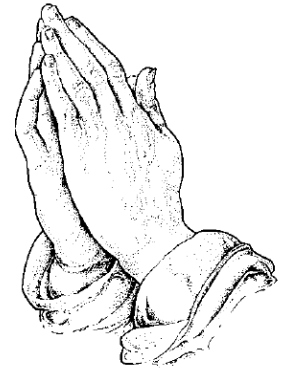


Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer for all primary and secondary children undertaking exams in the coming days and weeks

Lord, pour out your Spirit of Wisdom on these pupils:  
help them to remain calm,  
to attend carefully to the questions asked,  
to think clearly, to remember accurately,  
and to express themselves well.

Grant that they may reflect on the best of the work they have done and the best of the teaching they have received.  
Accept their best efforts in these examinations  
and in the great test of life on earth.  
May your love be upon them, O Lord, as they place all their trust in you.



We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## Dates for your Diary

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week for Y6	
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	School closes for TWO WEEKS holiday	3.20pm
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens	8.40am
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:00pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Sports Day at School KS2 Sports Day at Nechells Wellbeing Centre	
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Y6 Trip to London	
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Y6 Transition Day & new Reception starters open day	
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y3, 4 & Y5 trip to West Midlands Safari Park	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception, Y1 & Y2 trip to Hatton Adventure world	

## School Term Dates 2024 -2025

Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 to Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 to Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025
HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 to Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

<b>Teacher Days –</b> Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
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<b>Bank Holidays –</b> Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
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## 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. A coffee morning also takes place **every Friday morning at 10:30am** at St Joseph's Church, all are welcome.

Please scan the QR code to view St Joseph's Instagram page.

Age Concern are also starting a Friendship Group for people ages 55+. This will take place every Thursday at 11.00am starting from Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May. If you know anyone who may be interested, please let them know. It will take place in the Community room at St Joseph's Church.



## School Mass – every Wednesday

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm, led by Year 4. The children lead the Liturgy and they work hard to prepare their readings each week. If you have never been to one of our Masses why not come along? You are all welcome to attend and you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

## Habemus Papam: We have a Pope!

It was wonderful to hear that white smoke was billowing from the Sistine Chapel chimney yesterday afternoon! We welcome our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV - the first American Pope! Archbishop Bernard has issued the following statement:

*"I welcome the wonderful news of the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. As he prepared to give us his first blessing as Pope in St Peter's Square he also gave us a message of joyful encouragement, calling us to be bridge-builders who are the light of Christ in the world. As the first Pope from the United States of America he also remembered the people of Chiclayo in Peru where he had served as bishop until 2023.*

*I have just spent the last few days at Buckfast Abbey with all the Bishops of England and Wales as we prayed for the Cardinals in Conclave and as we waited to hear whom the Holy Spirit would identify as the Successor of Peter. It will be a great joy to serve the Church's mission inspired by the guidance of Pope Leo. All the lay faithful, the Religious and clergy of our Archdiocese are praying for our new Holy Father that he may serve the Church for many years and be richly blessed in his apostolate.*

*Let us pray for our new Holy Father. Habemus Papam: We have a Pope!"*

For a biography of our new Pope, please visit:

[Welcome to our new Pope, Leo XIV | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](#)



## INSET DAY – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May will be an INSET day for all children. School will be closed on this day.

## Year 6 SATs Week – NEXT WEEK!

Year Six SATs will take place **next week 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 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 breakfast club before 8.30am** so that they have time to prepare themselves before the tests start. Please help your children be well rested by encouraging 8 to 10 hours sleep per night, a regular bedtime and avoiding screens an hour before bed.

*This half-term virtues are: Compassionate & Loving  
If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West.*

## Grammar School Entrance Test – Year 5 Parents

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/West Midlands (entry to Year 7 in September 2026). Registration can be made online by visiting the website ([www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk)). The closing date for registering is 4pm on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The test will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

## Football Boots

Please can all parents avoid sending their children into school in studded football boots on non-school uniform days and for PE lessons as these pose a health and safety risk. Thank you.

## Child Bereavement UK – Free Event for Families

Child Bereavement UK are inviting families to attend a free event to make crafts to remember someone special who has died, supported by trained and experienced bereavement support practitioners. Creative activities can be a helpful way to support a bereaved child to talk about their feelings, explore strategies to manage their grief, and find ways to remember someone special to them who has died. This session will be held at Oscott Community Centre, Bird Brook Road, Birmingham, B44 9TY on Wednesday 4th June 2025, 4:30pm-6:30pm. If you are interested in attending, please click on the link below:



[Events to remember](#) | [Birmingham](#) | [Child Bereavement UK](#)

## Free ADHD Webinars for Parents & Carers

Looking for support and guidance on ADHD? Think ADHD is offering free 60-minute webinars covering key topics like Making Sense of ADHD and Navigating the Diagnostic Process. Each session includes expert advice and an open discussion space. Book your free place or explore more dates here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/relate-birmingham-and-black-country-105693011121>



## Ward End Fire Station Open Day

Ward End Fire Station (Washwood Heath Road, Ward End, B8 2HF) will be holding a free to attend Station Open Day on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 between 11:00am to 3:00pm. The event will include a range of interactive demonstrations, opportunities to meet firefighters, explore the fire engines, and take part in activities designed to both entertain and educate.

## 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 & Miss Crane.

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## 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:

Ania – Y1

Kimi – Y2

Caden – Y3

Margaret – Y5



## Attendance – week ending 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Well done to Y2, who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous **100%**!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 97.8%

Year One: 92.2%

Year Two: 100%

Year Three: 96.1%

Year Four: 97.7%

Year Five: 98.4%

Year Six: 98.2%

This gives a whole school attendance of 97.2%



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

Reception	Betselot	Excellent progress in both reading and writing.
Y1	Seb	Excellent artwork :)
Y2	Shumyla	Lovely sentence work in English this week.
Y3	Zemira	Trying her best in maths.
Y4	Natan	For trying to improve his behaviour and have a positive attitude to learning.
Y5	Abigail	For good effort when learning about Area in maths lessons.
Y6	Nardoss	For her super listening and participation in Maths & English this week 😊

## This Week's News

Reception have enjoyed using natural materials to create patterns and materials whilst Year One have been trying different fruits during their DT lessons.



As part of their DT project to cook and package a meal Year Five have been tasting bolognaise sauce!



Everyone enjoyed celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day on Thursday, here are Reception proudly waving their flags!

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