



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 13th June 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Dear God,

We pray for dads around the world this Father's Day. We think particularly of fathers living in poverty. Give strength to those who work long hours or struggle to find employment as they try and care for their families.

God our Father, please guide those of us who are fathers to care for our families with your wisdom. Strengthen us in the daily challenges of parenting. Give us the fruits of your spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Amen.



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 22 nd June	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:20pm
Tuesday 24 th June	KS1 Sports Day at School KS2 Sports Day at Nechells Wellbeing Centre	am pm
Tuesday 1 st July	Y6 Trip to London	
Wednesday 2 nd July	Y6 Transition Day & new Reception starters open day	
Thursday 3 rd July	Y3, 4 & Y5 trip to West Midlands Safari Park	
Tuesday 8 th July	Reception, Y1 & Y2 trip to Hatton Adventure world	
Tuesday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers' Production/assembly	
Wednesday 16 th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass/Production	2:00pm
Friday 18 th July	School closes for summer holidays	1:00pm

School Term Dates 2024 -2025

Summer Term 2025	Teacher Days – Monday 21 st July 2025
Monday 28 th April 2025 to Thursday 22 nd May 2025	
HALF TERM	
Monday 9 th June 2025 to Monday 21 st July 2025	
END OF YEAR	



Father's Day

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Father's Day on Sunday and a happy day with your families. We also remember at this time fathers who are no longer with us, and those who have lost their fathers, as Father's Day is also a time of celebrating the happy memories that we have shared. You are very much in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

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.



School Trips – Payment Reminder

Please be mindful that each year group has a school trip coming over the next couple of weeks (dates and locations detailed under 'Dates for your Diary'). All trip payments need to be made to the School Office by Monday 23rd June. Thank you.

New Intake - Reception Class 2025

Our Open Day for all families who have been allocated a place for their child to start in school in September 2025 takes place on **Wednesday 2nd July**. Please remember to bring with you all relevant forms and documentation, as detailed on the letter that you have received. This will also confirm arrangements for the day such as times. We are looking forward to meeting you all on that day.



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). The closing date for registering is 4pm on 27th June 2025. The test will take place on 13th September 2025.

Archdiocese of Birmingham – Foundation Governors

The Archdiocese of Birmingham has 236 Catholic schools and 16 Multi-Academy Companies, all in need of Foundation Governors and Directors. The Archdiocese are seeking practising Catholics to help shape the future of Catholic education by supporting and challenging school leaders, and upholding the Archbishop's vision.

Watch the [video](#) to hear from Archbishop Bernard, school leaders, and current governors and directors about how rewarding the role can be. Opportunities are available across the Archdiocese, and all skills and backgrounds are welcome.

Important Information from Public Health Regarding Measles

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

How to protect yourself and your family from measles

What is measles?

Measles cases have started to spread across Birmingham. Measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious health complications, especially in vulnerable, immunocompromised, or pregnant people. Outbreaks can happen when not enough people have been immunised.

What are the symptoms of measles?

Measles usually starts with cold-like symptoms. The first symptoms of measles include:

- a high temperature
- a runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- a cough
- red, sore, watery eyes



A rash usually appears a few days after the cold-like symptoms. The rash starts on the face and behind the ears before spreading to the rest of the body. Some people may also get small spots in their mouth, particularly inside the cheeks and on the back of the lips. To learn more about symptoms, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles>.

What should you do if you or your child has suspected measles?

If your child develops symptoms, urgently contact your GP. Please contact the surgery by telephone before visiting and tell the reception staff that you think that your child may have measles. Do not attend the surgery unless you are asked to. The doctor will make special arrangements to see your child so that if they have measles, they won't

pass it on to others.

How can you protect yourself and your family from measles?

The MMR immunisation is the best way to protect yourself and your family against measles because it is:

- effective
- safe
- free of charge

2 doses of the MMR immunisation are needed to give the best protection against measles.

The first dose of the MMR immunisation is normally given soon after the first birthday, and a second dose before starting school, but you can catch-up with missed MMR doses at any age.

Research has shown there is **no link** between the MMR immunisation and autism.

The MMR immunisation is safe for all **faiths and cultures**. A pork-free version is available for those who avoid pork products. This immunisation is available at every GP practice, and it is free.

For more information on the MMR immunisation, **scan this QR code** or visit <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>



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 22nd 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.

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 8th 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.



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:

Eyoal – Reception

Lulya – Y1

Nova – Y3

Jessica – Y6



Attendance – week ending 13th June 2025

Well done to Reception, who had the best attendance this week with an amazing 98.8%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 98.8%

Year One: 95.2%

Year Two: 95.2%

Year Three: 97.8%

Year Four: 95.8%

Year Five: 97.9%

Year Six: 96.8%

This gives a whole school attendance of 96.7%



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

Reception	Eyoal	For being very helpful :)
Year 1	Maya	Excellent progress in reading 😊
Year 2	Zephaniah	For excellent reading and answers to questions!
Year 3	Yididya	For his work on angles this week, well done!
Year 4	Xios	Trying his best to improve his concentration in lessons
Year 5	Deon	Always tries hard to do his best and reads every single day!
Year 6	Eliana T	For using a variety of methods in maths until she solves the problem! 😊

This Week's News

Year Three have been learning about angles and sounds during their lessons this week. They even created their own experiment to show how sound travels through vibrations.



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Reception will be busy making boats this term so in preparation they have been testing which materials are waterproof.

The Eco Committee have harvested some fresh coriander and have also supported the school in looking at air quality.



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