



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 20th June 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time.

May this day be the step toward a life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. May their hands, extended in anticipation of your body and blood, inspire all of us to cherish this sacred Sacrament. 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 | 09:20am 12:55pm |
| 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 | |
| Friday 11th July | School Closes at 1pm | 1:00pm |
| Friday 11 th July | Summer Fayre | 1:30pm – 3:30pm |
| Tuesday 15 th July | Y6 Leavers' Production/assembly | 2.00pm |
| Wednesday 16 th July | Y6 Leavers' Mass | 2:00pm |
| Friday 18 th July | School closes for summer holidays | 1:00pm |

School Term Dates 2024 -2025

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| Summer Term 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 |

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| Teacher Days – Monday 21 st July 2025 |
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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.

MyClothing also have a 10% off uniform code 'INTAKE10'. Please visit www.myclothing.com, the code is valid until 31st July.



School Mass – every Wednesday

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 25th June at 2pm, led by Year 3. 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.

School Trips – Payment Reminder Deadline Monday 23rd June 2025

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'). **The final date for consent forms and trip payments is this coming Monday 23rd June.** Thank you.

First Holy Communion Mass – 12.20pm Sunday 22nd June

As you may already know, some of our pupils are making their First Holy Communion on Sunday in St. Joseph's Church. First Holy Communion is a very special event in the Catholic faith, and marks the third major step on the children's journey of faith. At First Holy Communion, the children will receive the sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time.

First Holy Communion is a very happy and joyful event. Just like for any celebration, the children share their special day with their family and friends. The children have been preparing to receive their First Holy Communion for a long time, and have been learning all about the Catholic faith and teachings of Jesus, so that they may be ready to become full members of the church. The Celebration Mass for our children's First Holy Communion takes place at 12.20pm on Sunday. 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.



Sports Day – Tuesday 24th June 2025

Letters have been sent home this week about this year's Sports Day. KS1 Sports Day is taking place at school and parents who wish to spectate are asked to arrive via the main playground gates by **09:20am**. **There will be no entry for latecomers for the health and safety of the children.**

KS2 Sports Day is taking place at Nechells Wellbeing Centre (Rupert Street, B7 4AR) with a start time of **12:55pm**. Children will walk from school accompanied by teachers and will eat their lunch at the Centre.

Once the event has finished the children will walk back to school with the teachers and parents/carers should collect their children **from school at 3:20pm** as normal. The children should come into school wearing their PE kits and should have their water bottles with them. If the weather is hot, please can you ensure that they have applied sun cream in the morning and your child is wearing a sun hat. This is always a lovely event and we hope you will be able to join us.



Summer Fayre – Friday 11th July 2025

A Summer Fayre will be taking place at school on Friday 11th July 2025 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. In order for this to take place, **school will be closing at 1:00pm on Friday 11th July.** This will be an exciting event for the children with plans for a variety of stalls including; Sponge the Teacher, Darts, Hook a Duck, Temporary Tattoos, Refreshments, Sports Activities, Lucky Dip, Raffle, Book and Uniform Sale and a visit from some very special guests... alpacas! We hope to see all the children and their families there to enjoy this great afternoon! Miss Dalziel and Miss Crane will be selling raffle tickets at the end of the school day in the playground starting from Monday (23rd June 2025) and running up to the event.



This half-term virtues are: Faith-filled & Hopeful

*If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team;
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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.



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.

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.



Smoking Guidance for Expectant Mothers

The Education Safeguarding Team at Birmingham City Council have asked schools to share the below link to read more about the impact of smoking during pregnancy:

<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/baby-safety/being-a-parent-or-caregiver/smoking/>

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Important Information from Public Health Regarding Measles



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/>



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.

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:



Melody – Reception

Elihu – Y1

Mudesir – Y4

Bersaba – Y5

Attendance – week ending 20th June 2025

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with an amazing 100%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 99.4%

Year One: 95.2%

Year Two: 95.2%

Year Three: 98%

Year Four: 96.9%

Year Five: 96.9%

Year Six: 100%

This gives a whole school attendance of 97.3%

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

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|
| Reception | Aiden | Super work in PE. 😊 |
| Year 1 | Lulya | Fantastic Maths assessment score 😊 |
| Year 2 | Whole class | Trying hard in all their assessments this week. |
| Year 3 | Zemira | For her excellent scores during assessment week! 😊 |
| Year 4 | Eldana | For always being a positive role model to her classmates. |
| Year 5 | Rufael | For very good work in his assessments! |
| Year 6 | Ashrah | For providing comprehension answers of a very good Year 6 standard! 😊 |

This Week's News

It has been a busy week at school, Reception have been closely watching the caterpillars in class grow and they also enjoyed their Active Play session with Sally from Kings camp.



All the classes enjoyed their sessions with Kings camp, here are some pictures of Year 4 and Year 6 in action.



In other sporting news, KS2 finished third place in the first STOCMAC Sports Day at the Alexander Stadium last Friday. Well done to all of the children who were involved!

Some children got to partake in mini medics first aid training this week – a valuable skill for all!



Finally, Year 5 have been cooking up a storm and made delicious bolognese!

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