



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 18th July 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer for the End of the School Year

At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school and at home this year,

For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced;

For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed;

For the respect and care that has been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.

For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,

For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days

And for the love that has kept us going.



We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord –

Bless our children as they are out of school this summer, keep them safe and prepare them for their return to school in September.

Bless our families as we take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish. Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Dates for your Diary

Friday 18 th July	School closes for summer holidays	1:00pm
Tuesday 2 nd September	Return to school for Y1 – Y6	8.40am
Thursday 4 th September	Reception start school	8.40am

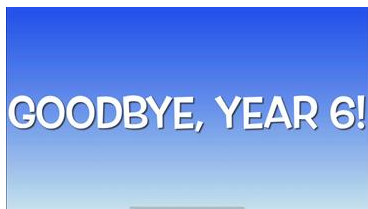
School Term Dates 2025 -2026

Autumn Term 2025	Spring Term 2026	Summer Term 2026	Teacher Days Monday 1 st September 2025 TBC TBC Monday 20 th July 2026 Tuesday 21 st July 2026 Friday 13 th February (MAC teacher day)
Monday 1 st September 2025 to Friday 24 th October 2025	Monday 5 th January 2026 to Friday 13 th February 2026	Monday 13 th April 2026 to Friday 22 nd May 2026	
HALF TERM - one week holiday	HALF TERM - one week holiday	HALF TERM - two weeks holiday	
Monday 3 rd November 2025 to Friday 19 th December 2025	Monday 23 rd February 2026 to Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Monday 8 th June 2026 to Tuesday 21 st July 2026	
END OF TERM – two week holiday	END OF TERM – one week holiday	END OF YEAR – 6 weeks holiday	Bank Holidays Friday 3 rd April 2026 Monday 4 th May 2026

End of School Year

We would like to wish you all a safe, happy and fun filled holiday with your families. Enjoy your break together and stay safe! We return to school at 8.50am on Tuesday 2nd September. Our new Reception class will start school on Thursday 4th September 2025.

Year 6 Leavers



Today our Year 6 children will be finishing their Primary School Career with us and moving onto Secondary school. On behalf of the governors and all the staff and pupils of St. Joseph's, I would like to say goodbye to Year 6 and wish them all the best in their new schools. I hope that you will enjoy your new schools and do your very best to achieve your dreams and that you will take with you very happy memories of your time at St. Joseph's. We pray that God may bless you and keep you safe. Please do keep our Year 6 children in your prayers over the summer holidays.

Goodbye!

Sadly today we are saying goodbye to Mrs Aldridge, who has been with us for four years as our Year Three teacher. We will miss her very much and wish her all the best in her new school!



Hello!

In September we will be welcoming Miss Downing and Miss Bibi to St. Joseph's, who will be teaching our Year Two and Year Four class. We hope that they will be very happy here with us!

Teachers for September

Reception – Mrs Emmott

Year 1 – Miss Young

Year 2 – Miss Bibi

Year 3 – Mr Tobias

Year 4 – Miss Downing & Mr Stanley

Year 5 – Mrs Holmes

Year 6 – Mrs Boxwell & Mrs Koumi

Miss Dalziel & Miss Crane will be working across Rec, Y1 and Y2

Mrs Dalziel and Ms Bailey will be working between Y3-Y5 as support staff.



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.

Breakfast Club

All children who have attended Breakfast Club regularly this term will need to complete new registration forms at the beginning of September. Please note that the cost of Breakfast Club is £1.50 per day. All places are allocated and must be applied for. **Please note, there will be no Breakfast Club during the first week back in September.**

After School Clubs

There will be no After School Clubs during the first week back. Details of how to apply for places will be in the first newsletter when we come back.

Uniform

I would just like to remind you of a few of our policies regarding uniform in school ahead of the children coming back in September. We understand that as we have come to the end of the school year clothes have been grown out of and shoes split, however, please ensure that the correct uniform is worn when returning in September.

- Shoes should be black formal school shoes, **NOT trainers** or pumps.
- PE kit is a white or red t-shirt with black plain shorts or black jogging bottoms when cold.
- Please ensure that your child's name is clearly written or sewn into each item of uniform as this will make it much easier to find it if it gets lost.

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.*

- Also as it clearly states in our prospectus; “The school does not permit children to have ‘extreme’ hairstyles that could serve as a distraction to others. Shaved patterns, lines and colours are not allowed. Hair should be all one length and not ‘stepped’ or shaved at different levels.” Please ensure that any hairstyles your child has over the summer that are not appropriate for school are grown out/corrected ready for the start of term in September.

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

Father Hudson’s Caritas – Pilgrimage of Hope

Father Hudson’s Caritas have developed a self-guided walk around Birmingham City Centre whilst reflecting on social justice. The walk is suitable for families and would make for a great Jubilee Year activity during the summer holiday.

More information, including a walk map, can be found here: [Caritas Network - Father Hudson's Caritas](#)

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.



Bulls in the City

Please see the information below regarding the art trail which will be in Birmingham from Wednesday 16th July 2025 to Sunday 14th September 2025. You can find out more about the trail here: <https://bullsinthecity.co.uk>.

Bloomsbury Park – Free Children’s Activity – Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Ranger Penny will be doing a free children’s activity in Bloomsbury Park on Wednesday 23rd July, all are welcome to attend. Please see the flyer for more information.

Nechells POD Updates

During the Summer holidays Nechells POD will be running a Holiday Activities and Food programme for five weeks. Those who are eligible can sign their children up through the Bring It on Brum link. All information regarding signing up through Bring It on Brum was emailed out to eligible parents/carers last week.

POD Fest will take place on Friday 22nd August 2025 from 12 midday until 3pm. There is a carnival theme and activities include; games, live music, crafts, food, performances, face painting and tattoos. Everyone is welcome.



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NHS Pharmacy First Service

If you, your child, or a family member is feeling poorly, think Pharmacy First! Community Pharmacists can offer free, confidential advice for minor illnesses including coughs, colds, and eye infections. If appropriate, they can also provide treatment without a prescription for seven common conditions:

- Urinary tract infections (women aged 16-64)
- Sinusitis (ages 12+)
- Sore throat (ages 5+)
- Earache (ages 1-17)
- Infected insect bites (ages 1+)
- Impetigo (ages 1+)
- Shingles (ages 18+)

For more information, please visit [Think Pharmacy First](#).

First Aid tips for the Summer Season

Tick Bites

If you or someone else is bitten by a tick, it's important to act quickly and carefully:

- Using plastic tweezers from the first aid kit, grasp the tick by the head, including the mouth parts, as close to the skin as possible.
- Pull steadily and firmly upwards—don't twist.
- Clean the area afterwards with antiseptic or soap and water.
- Always monitor for symptoms of infection or Lyme disease and seek medical advice if concerned.



Minor Burns and Scalds

If you or someone else suffers a burn or scald, take the following steps:

- Cool the affected area under cool running water for at least 20 minutes.
- After cooling, cover the area with a non-fluffy sterile dressing or cling film to protect it.
- Avoid using ice, creams, ointments, oils, or butter as none of these will help the burn and could make it worse.
- Do not burst any blisters or remove anything stuck to the burn.
- Do not use adhesive dressings such as standard plasters directly on the burn.
- Seek medical attention should you have any concerns.

Cuts and Grazes

If you're dealing with a small cut or graze:

- Clean the area once only using a sterile wipe or clean water to prevent re-contamination.
- Gently dab the area dry especially after using water—avoid rubbing which could cause irritation.
- Cover with a plaster or bandage after cleaning.
(Tip: Check if the casualty has a plaster allergy before applying one.)
- If any debris like gravel or glass is embedded, do not attempt to remove it. Cover the area and seek medical assistance promptly.

Bee and Wasp Stings

If stung by a bee or wasp:

- Remove the sting as soon as possible to prevent more venom being released.
- Use the edge of a bank card or something similar to gently scrape the sting out—*do not use tweezers*, as squeezing may release more venom.
- Wash the area with soap and water, and apply a cold compress to reduce swelling.
- Monitor for signs of an allergic reaction (e.g., difficulty breathing, swelling of face/lips) and seek emergency help if needed.

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Summer Reading Challenge 2025

Bloomsbury Library at Nechells POD will be delivering the Summer Reading Challenge 2025, Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am - 5:00pm, starting on Saturday 5th July until Saturday 13th September. Go to your library this summer to register for the Challenge and get your Story Garden sticker booklet, then read six library books and either draw, write or comment something about them. Children will be rewarded with stickers and goodies along the way and will receive a medal and certificate if they complete all six. Bloomsbury Library will also be running children's craft sessions related to the Challenge during the holidays and these will be advertised both in house and on the Bloomsbury Library Facebook page.



Child Bereavement UK – Family Wellbeing Day – Thursday 7th August 2025

Child Bereavement UK will be holding a family wellbeing day on Thursday 7th August at St Germain's Church, City Road, Birmingham B17 8LE from 11.30am to 3.30pm.

To find out more about the day and for booking details, please visit the following website or scan the QR code:

<https://www.childbereavementuk.org/events-birmingham>



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:

Nael - Reception Zeqiao – Year One Taliyah – Year Six Amanuel – Year Six

Attendance – whole school year

Well done to **YEAR FOUR** who have the best attendance for the whole school year with 97.2%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 95.4%	Year One: 95.0%	Year Two: 96.0%	Year Three: 96.8%
Year Four: 97.2%	Year Five: 95.6%	Year Six: 96.7%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 96.2% for the full school year.



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

Reception	All of Reception	For a super last week in EYFS and getting ready for Y1!
Year 1	Fatiha	For excellent effort throughout Y1 😊
Year 2	Whole Class	For being amazing in Year Two this year!
Year 3	Whole Class	Having an amazing year in Y3!
Year 4	N'Taya	For working hard all year and for always being supportive to her classmates.
Year 5	Yoliya	Always working hard and being a fabulous member of our school community.
Year 6	Whole Class	For their hard work and effort when preparing and performing their Leavers Assembly! 😊

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