



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 12th September 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you for Saint Maximilian Kolbe,

Who showed great love by giving his life for others.

Help us, in his example, to love others generously and to serve you and our neighbours with joy.

Teach us to be brave and to trust you, even when things are hard.

May we always learn from the example of St. Maximilian Kolbe.



Amen.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 15 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Three	2.00pm
Tuesday 16 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year One	2.00pm
Wednesday 17 th September	School Mass led by Year 5	2.00pm
Monday 22 nd September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.00pm
Tuesday 23 rd September	Curriculum Workshop – Reception	2.00pm
Thursday 25 th September	Curriculum Workshop & Residential Parent Talk Year Six	2.00pm
Friday 26 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Two	2.00pm
Tuesday 30 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Five	2.00pm
Friday 3 rd October	Reception Welcome Service (details to follow)	2.30pm
Friday 24 th October	School closes for half-term	3.20pm
Monday 3 rd November	Return to school	8.50am
Wednesday 12 th November	Parents' Evening (school finishes at 2.15pm)	2.30pm – 5.30pm

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	Bank Holidays Friday 3 rd April 2026 Monday 4 th May 2026
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	

School Mass – every Wednesday

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 17th September at 2pm, led by Year 5. 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.

Curriculum Workshops

We will be holding Curriculum Workshops for parents/carers in school in the coming weeks. These are based on the National Curriculum and designed to show you a little of what your children are learning in school, so that you can help them at home. Our first workshop takes place on Monday for Y3.

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Tuesday 16 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year One	2.00pm
Monday 22 nd September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.00pm
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After-School Clubs

We still have places available for

- Years 1 and 2 – Multi-skills every Tuesday – Charge £21.00
- Years 3 and 4 – Football every Monday – Charge £21.00

All clubs run from 3:20pm to 4:20pm and will finish week commencing the 20th October. If you wish your child to attend you should go to the School Office to pay and complete a consent form. Places will be given on a first-come, first-served basis and will not be held.

School Job Vacancies

The school currently has vacancies for two lunchtime supervisors and one Key Stage One teacher. If you, or anyone you may know would be interested in applying, details can be found on the school website ([Vacancies - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)).

Parent Online Internet Safety Workshop

Parents are invited to come into school for an Online Internet Safety Workshop which will be run by Mrs Gowen. This is taking place on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 9:00am. All parents/carers welcome.

Uniform

It is wonderful to see all the children looking so smart in their uniforms! I would just like to remind you of a few of our policies regarding uniform in school:

- 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.
- 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."
- For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear any jewellery in school. The only exception to this is small gold studs, which should not be worn on days when your child has P.E. or swimming. Members of staff are not allowed to remove earrings, and no responsibility will be taken for any child who removes their own earrings. **Hoop or Creole earrings, necklaces (of any kind), bracelets, and rings are not allowed in school.**
- 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.



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

Y6 Secondary Transfer Applications for September 2026

Online applications for Year 7 in September 2026 opened on 1 September 2025. Parents and carers who live in Birmingham should apply via [the Birmingham City Council website](#) by the deadline of 31st October 2025. Full details, including admission arrangements and guidance to help parents with making preferences, are available on our website. For additional advice and support, please contact Children's Services on 0121 303 1888.

Ten Ten Resources

During the children's PSHE lessons, teachers will be using Ten Ten resources which is a provider of resources for Catholic schools. If parents wish to view these resources online they can do this via the parent portal (<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>) You can get log in details from the school office.

New 24/7 Mental Health Text Service for Birmingham and Solihull

A new mental health text service is now available for people of all ages across Birmingham and Solihull. The service is free, confidential, and available 24/7 – offering support at the touch of a button.

Text 'Space' to 85258 to connect with a trained mental health professional.

Whether you're feeling anxious, stressed, low, or overwhelmed, help is just a text away. This service is especially helpful for those who may find it difficult to talk on the phone or in person. Launched in partnership between **Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust** and **Shout**, the UK's first 24/7 text messaging support service, this initiative aims to make mental health support more accessible to everyone. In addition to immediate support, texters can be signposted to local services such as Talking Therapies, Crisis Cafés and NHS 111 Option 2.

This new digital service offers a safe space to talk and is a valuable resource for anyone seeking early help or waiting for further support.

Grow Family Services – SEND Community Day: 9 October 2025

[Grow Family Services](#) is a SEND support network based in Sutton Coldfield, designed for SEND parents by SEND parents. They provide a supportive and empowering space for parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to connect, learn, and grow together. Grow Family Services warmly invites parents and carers to a FREE community event where they can:

- Meet Birmingham's SEND Services
- Chat directly with service providers
- Discover support and resources available locally

Venue: Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, Upper Clifton Road B73 6DA

Date: Thursday, 9 October 2025

Sessions: Morning: 09:30–11:30 and Afternoon: 12:30–14:30

Booking is essential: www.ticketsource.co.uk/grow-family-services

FREE Mental Health Webinars for Parents & People Working with Children

The [Charlie Waller Foundation](#) is offering a series of free webinars on young people's mental health, open to anyone who supports children and young people. Led by experienced mental health trainers and guest speakers, each session provides practical, evidence-based strategies to promote positive mental health.

[Talking with young people about suicide:](#) 15 September 2025 12:30-14:00

For anyone wanting to feel more confident discussing suicide and suicidal thoughts.

You'll gain understanding of risk factors and suicide theories, tools for opening sensitive conversations, guidance on when to worry and what to do and ways to build protective factors

[Neurodiversity and mental health:](#) 24 September 2025 12:30-14:00

For parents, carers, teachers, youth workers, tutors, and lecturers.

You'll explore what neurodiversity means, environmental adaptations that support neurodivergent individuals and how to foster inclusive cultures that support mental health

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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.

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.



Attendance – week ending 12th September 2025

Well done to **Year 2** who had the best attendance this week with 99.1%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 83.9%	Year One: 93.5%	Year Two: 91.6%	Year Three: 99.1%
Year Four: 92.5%	Year Five: 97.2%	Year Six: 90.4%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 93.2%



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

Reception	Whole class	Everyone settling into school so well for their first week. Well done Reception!
Year One	Aiden	An excellent start to Y1
Year Two	Yosan	For a great start to Year Two and for being polite and truthful.
Year Three	Michelle	For her excellent behaviour and attitude to learning
Year Four	Adila	For making an amazing start to Year Four by being so helpful and kind!
Year Five	Penelope	Being such a pleasant and helpful member of our class.
Year Six	Bersaba	For making a great start to Year Six! 😊
Little Flower Room	Eliana	For settling back into school really well.

This Week's News



All the children have settled back well into school and have been enjoying a variety of different activities in their classes.



Year One have been using peg boards in Maths to practice counting and Year Five held a beautiful prayer service on the theme of Creation.



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