



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

## A Prayer

Creator God, who made our beautiful world,  
 appointed us as its guardians and gifted us with everything we need,  
 forgive us for the times we cause it harm;  
 for the times our way of life affects our neighbours.  
 Inspire us to care for the environment;  
 to help rebuild lives and communities;  
 to share in the griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes of all your people,  
 so that all your creation may flourish.  
 Amen.



## Dates for your Diary

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.00pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Reception	2.00pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	School Mass led by Year Four	2.00pm
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop & Residential Parent Talk Year Six	2.00pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Two	2.00pm
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Five	2.00pm
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	School Photographs	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Festival non-uniform day Reception Welcome Service (details to follow)	2.30pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	St John Henry Newman house group own clothes day	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET Day	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 & Y6 Whittington barracks trip	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	St John Paul II house group own clothes day School closes for half-term	3.20pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Return to school	8.50am
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 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	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025 to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 to Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	<b>Teacher Days</b> Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025 Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October TBC Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026
<b>HALF TERM - one week holiday</b>	<b>HALF TERM - one week holiday</b>	<b>HALF TERM - two weeks holiday</b>	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February (MAC teacher day)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025 to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026 to Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 to Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	
<b>END OF TERM – two week holiday</b>	<b>END OF TERM – one week holiday</b>	<b>END OF YEAR – 6 weeks holiday</b>	<b>Bank Holidays</b> Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026 Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026

## School Mass – every Wednesday

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 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.

## Curriculum Workshops

The remaining Curriculum Workshops for parents/carers are taking place 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.

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.00pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Reception	2.00pm
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Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Five	2.00pm

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 at 9:00am. All parents/carers welcome.

## Starting School - Reception 2026

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2021 and 31-08-2022, online application will open on 1<sup>st</sup> October on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2026. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice.



## 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

## Year 7 admissions – September 2026 – St Paul's School for Girls

*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.*

If you are applying to St Paul's School for Girls for a Year 7 place in September, you will need to apply through the Local Authority online and also complete a Supplementary Information Form. If your child is Catholic, you need to send a copy of their baptism certificate and a certificate of Catholic Practice that the Parish Priest will need to complete. All forms need to be sent directly to St Paul's School for Girls.

The Supplementary Information Form is also available on their website - [Year 7 Admissions 2026 2027](#).

## Medical Appointments

We are seeing an increasing number of children being taken out of school to attend medical and dental appointments. Please ensure that appointments are made outside of school hours where possible. If unavoidable, school should be notified in advance of any appointment your child may have in school time and any proof of the appointment brought to the School Office.

## School Photographs – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

The school Photographer will be in school on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October to take the annual school photographs. Please note that photographs are only taken on this day, and no repeat sessions will be available for children who are absent, so please ensure that your child is in school on time, as photographs will commence at 9:00am.

Your child will be photographed individually and with their siblings (if they have any in school). Please ensure that your child is in full school uniform, and also may I remind you at this time of the school policy regarding haircuts. Thank you for your support with this.

## Flu Vaccination

Forms have been sent home this week to complete for your child to have a nasal spray flu vaccination in school. **Please return this form even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated.** It is important that we hold a completed form for each child, please return these as soon as possible.

## Medical Emergencies/illnesses

To keep your child safe, it is important that we know of any medical issues that may affect them in school. We also need to make sure that we have accurate and up-to-date medical information in the event of your child becoming ill at school. Please make sure that you let us know of any changes or updates in your child's health.

Please can we also ask that if your child has had any medical emergency at home, especially those that have required hospital admission or treatment, that you let school know about this as soon as possible.

## 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.

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## 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](http://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.

**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

## 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.



## 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:

Asiyah – Y2

Mercy – Y3

Abigail – Y4

Aman – Y6



## Attendance – week ending 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Well done to **Year 3** who had the best attendance this week with an incredible **100%**!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 87.7%

Year One: 90.3%

Year Two: 91.7%

Year Three: 100%

Year Four: 89.6%

Year Five: 98.8%

Year Six: 96.1%

This gives a whole school attendance of 93.9%

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

Reception	Divine	Trying her best in all lessons this week 😊
Year One	Sherice	For trying her best with her learning
Year Two	Tyler	A good week
Year Three	Skyla	For capturing the moment during Super Science Day!
Year Four	Amina	For her amazing creativity!
Year Five	Mary	Super effort in writing. 😊
Year Six	Aman	For her super responses in RE this week 😊
Little Flower Room	Nael	Good listening

## This Week's News

In this week's lessons Year One have begun to look at how numbers are written as words and putting these in order. Great work Year One!



Year Five and Six had a visit from Paul who told them all about the role his Grandad played in WW2. The children found it fascinating to see some of Paul's Grandad's personal items relating back to this time and it really helped bring the history alive!

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