



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 5th December 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

This Sunday (8th December) is the Second Sunday of Advent, the theme of this Sunday is "Peace". This verse tells us that Jesus came to be the Prince of Peace. For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*



Christmas Dates for your Diary

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Monday 8 th December | MAC Carol Concert (live streamed) | |
| Wednesday 10 th December | Mass – led by the Spiritual Council | 2.00pm |
| Thursday 11 th December | Christmas Dinner Day | |
| Friday 12 th December | Christmas Jumper Day - £1 per child | |
| Monday 15 th December | Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Assembly | 2.30pm |
| Tuesday 16 th December | Y3 & Y4 Parents – KS2 Christmas Assembly | 2.30pm |
| Wednesday 17 th December | Y5 & Y6 Parents – KS2 Christmas Assembly | 2.30pm |
| Thursday 18 th December | Christmas Carol Concert for Parents | 2.30pm |
| Friday 19 th December | School closes at 1pm for Christmas holidays | 1.00pm |
| Monday 5 th January | Return to school | 8.40am |

School Term Dates 2025 -2026

| Autumn Term 2025 | Spring Term 2026 | Summer Term 2026 |
|---|--|--|
| 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 |

| Teacher Days |
|--|
| Monday 1 st September 2025 |
| Monday 13 th October TBC |
| Monday 20 th July 2026 |
| Tuesday 21 st July 2026 |
| Friday 13 th February (MAC teacher day) |

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

School Mass – every Wednesday

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 10th December at 2pm, led by the Spiritual Council. We will; also be remembering Mrs Sutton at this Mass. 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.

This half-term virtues are: Learned & Wise

*If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West.*



Starting School - Reception 2026 – apply now!

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2021 and 31-08-2022, online applications are now open 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 **15th 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.

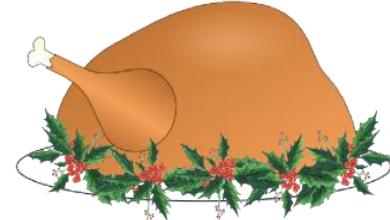


For more information, scan the QR code

Christmas Dinner – Thursday 11th December

Our School Christmas Dinner will take place on Thursday 11th December. The menu is:

- ★ Roast Turkey/ Chicken / Quorn/ Tempura Fish
- ★ Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing balls & Gravy
- ★ Creamed Potatoes / Seasoned Roast potatoes
- ★ Sprouts / Carrot / Sweetcorn
- ★ Christmas Ice Cream Tub / Christmas Cherry Cracknell /Mince Pie & Cream



Children who have dinners normally in school will get Christmas dinner anyway, but **if your child usually has a packed lunch** and you would like your child to have a dinner on this day, please send in the payment of £2.70 in an envelope with your child's name and class on it by Friday 5th December.

Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day – NEXT Friday 12th December

Friday 12th December is 'Wear Your Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day' in school. The cost of this will be £1 per child, and you should come to school dressed in your *craziest* Christmas jumpers!!!



Christmas Performances

Our Christmas Performances take place on the following dates:-

| | |
|--|--|
| Monday 15 th December 2.30pm | Rec Y1 and Y2 Christmas Assembly |
| Tuesday 16 th December 2.30pm | KS2 Christmas Assembly for Y3 & Y4 Parents |
| Wednesday 17 th December 2.30pm | KS2 Christmas Assembly for Y5 & Y6 Parents |



The children are working very hard to prepare for these already and would be delighted to see their parents and carers in school to watch them perform. Please come along; it makes such a difference to the children when their efforts are well supported.

We will not be able to admit latecomers, this is because of the way the hall is set up, as entering the hall will involve you walking through the stage area. For health and safety reasons, once the performance has begun this will not be possible. **Also, there will be no staff in the office area to admit people once the plays have started, so please bear this in mind and allow enough time to get to school.**

Family Support Service

Mrs Gowen is running a new family support service in school on a Thursday morning (by appointment only) between 9:00 and 10:30am. Mrs Gowen is able to offer help, advice and signpost/refer to relevant community/charity and wellbeing services. If you would like to book an appointment, please do this via the School Office.

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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Beezee Families in Birmingham – Healthy Lifestyle Programme

Beezee Families Birmingham is a FREE healthy lifestyle programme designed for the whole family – available in-person or online.

- Your family gets a dedicated nutritionist
- Fun weekly sessions with games and activities
- Learn easy, nutritious meals and snacks to cook together
- Connect with other families and get expert support from coaches and nutritionists

This programme is perfect for families with children aged 5-12 years who are above their ideal weight (based on the NHS BMI centile chart). Checking is quick – use the [NHS BMI calculator](#) or let the Beezee team help you.

Don't miss out – sign up today and start your family's journey to healthier living! Find out more and register here: <https://bxh.maximusuk.co.uk/beezefamilies/>

MyClothing Free Delivery Code

MyClothing are offering a free delivery code which can be used on uniform orders from 05/12/25 to 09/12/25. The code 'FREEDELIVERY' needs to be added at checkout or can be accessed by clicking on the auto-apply link (<https://myclothing.com/discount/FREEDELIVERY>).

Birmingham SEND is now on Instagram!

Birmingham SEND has officially launched its Instagram account and growing our social media presence. Our goal is to create a space where children, young people, parent carers, professionals, and the wider community can stay connected and informed. On Instagram, just like we do on our Facebook page we'll be sharing updates on SEND services and support, helpful resources and guidance, upcoming events and workshops, stories, achievements, and community highlights and tips for navigating the Local Offer.

By joining us on social media, you'll have easier access to timely information and a more engaging way to stay involved with our work. Follow us today and help us build a supportive online community:

Instagram - @LocalOfferBirmingham - <https://www.instagram.com/localofferbirmingham/>

Facebook - www.facebook.com/SENDBirmingham

SHINE@Nechells POD – Tesco Stronger Starts

SHINE@Nechells POD has been shortlisted for the Tesco Stronger Starts vote. This means that from October 2025 to January 2026, the community can help the POD to secure up to £1500 in funding by voting in local Tesco stores (Erdington Six Way Express, B23 7NR and Aston Lane Superstore, B6 6QR). How to vote:

1. Shop at one of the above Tesco stores
2. Collect a blue token at checkout
3. Pop it into the Nechells POD Food Pantry slot

Every token makes a difference and will help the POD to be able to continue supporting the community to provide affordable, quality groceries for families in the B7 area.

Managing seasonal illness – key information for schools and parents

As we move further into the term, DfE wants to remind all settings of the key guidance available to help manage seasonal illnesses and keep pupils and staff well.

[Education Hub Blog](#): Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance.

[NHS Guidance for Parents](#): Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.

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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:

Yoliya – Y6 Eyoal – Y1 Elizabeth – Y2 Kebba – Y3



Attendance – week ending 5th December 2025

Well done to Year Five who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous 99.1%

The full attendance figures are as follows:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Reception: 92.5% | Year One: 89.4% | Year Two: 87% | Year Three: 95.4% |
| Year Four: 95% | Year Five: 99.1% | Year Six: 91.3% | |

This gives a whole school attendance of 93.3%



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

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|--|
| Reception | Adam | For excellent phonics this week. |
| Year One | Lucas | For excellent effort this week with singing. |
| Year Two | Ferida | For being kind and respectful and always doing her best in every lesson. 😊 |
| Year Three | Mercy | For always being sensible and having a positive attitude to her learning. |
| Year Four | Salem | For her effort and determination with her times tables, well done Salem :) |
| Year Five | Samiha | For sharing her fantastic ideas in English. 😊 |
| Year Six | Eldana | For trying hard in her writing this week 😊 |
| Little Flower Room | Adriel | For excellent work during Maths 😊 |

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This Week's News



Year Four and Five have been trying lots of new and exciting things in their lessons this week. Year Four have been conducting ice experiments in Science and Year Five have been learning line dancing. Both classes have had great fun!

Some of our Key Stage Two children were lucky enough to attend the Shooting Star festival run by King Edwards School Sports Partnership, where they have been working on their football techniques.



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