



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 20th March 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Dear God, may my Lenten sacrifice of today remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy.
Amen.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 25 th March	Class group & Y6 Leavers school photographs School Mass – led by Y2	2.00pm
Tuesday 31 st March	Y3 & Y4 Maundy Thursday Liturgy (pm)	
Wednesday 1 st April	Mrs Smith's Retirement Assembly Y5 & Y6 Stations of the cross Liturgy (pm)	9.10am
Thursday 2 nd April	School closes for ONE WEEK Easter holiday	1.00pm
Monday 13 th April	School reopens	8.40am

School Term Dates 2025 -2026

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: Monday 1 September 2025
Half-term: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025
Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026
Half-term: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026
Term ends: Thursday 2 April 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026
Half-term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 5 June 2026
Term ends: Tuesday 21 July 2026

Teacher Days

Monday 1st September
Monday 13th October
Friday 13th February
Monday 6th July
Monday 20th July
Tuesday 21st July

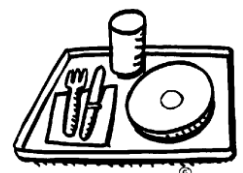


School Mass – every Wednesday

The next school mass will be on Wednesday 25th March at 2pm and will be led by Year 2. 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 Meals price increase

The price of school meals will be increasing from after Easter by 25p per week. This means that the costs will be £2.75 per day or £13.75 per week. Unfortunately, this is due to rising costs through our catering company and the costs of food increasing.



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



Goodbye!

Sadly, we will soon be saying goodbye to Mrs Smith who has been a Teaching Assistant with us for almost 20 years. Mrs Smith has been away from school more recently but is still a huge part of the St Joseph's community. Mrs Smith's father was the caretaker at St Joseph's for around 25 years and then Mrs Smith started her own career at the school. Mrs Smith has always gone above and beyond for our children and families, and she will be greatly missed. There will be an assembly in school to celebrate her retirement on **Wednesday 1st April 2026 at 9.10am** and all parents are welcome to attend to wish her well.

Well done!

A huge well done to our Y5 History quiz team, with our Boudicca Bear mascot, who proudly represented us at The Little History Quiz at King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys. They came **SECOND** out of 21 Y5 and Y6 teams from lots of different primary schools across Birmingham. Well done children and Mrs Holmes! We are very proud of you 😊



School's X (formerly Twitter Page)

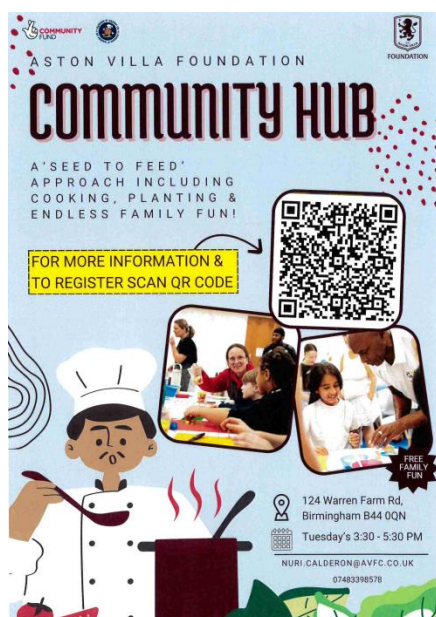
The school does have an account on X (formerly Twitter) which is regularly updated with what the classes have been doing each week in school. Please visit our page ([St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, B7 \(@stjosb7\) / X](https://twitter.com/stjosb7)) to see what your children have been doing. You will need an account on X to be able to view any updates.

Google Translate

If you would like to translate the newsletter into your home language, this can be done through Google Translate. Please follow the link ([Google Translate](https://www.google.com/translate)) where you can 'drag and drop' the newsletter and this will automatically translate the content into the language you choose.

Different Upcoming School Holidays

Just a reminder that we have different holidays to other Birmingham schools this year. We will be having **ONE** week holiday at Easter and **TWO WEEKS** at May. Please bear this in mind when making any travel arrangements for the holidays. Dates are on the first page of this newsletter and have been on since September. Medical absences either side of school holidays will require evidence of illness for them to be authorised. Once you have had 5 unauthorised days absence you can be fined. These days do not have to be all at the same time/ consecutively and can be over a period of different terms. Any days of absences that are unauthorised (this also includes 'late after registration' marks where a child arrives after 9.15am) now count towards number of absences. Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, or less days if you have had previous unauthorised absence in the 10 weeks prior to the holiday. The fine for unauthorised holiday is now £160 for each parent (reduced to £80 if paid within 28 days) for each child that was absent. For example, if you have 3 children absent for term time leave, this would result in each parent receiving a fine of £480 (reduced to £240 if paid within 28 days).



Aston Villa Foundation Community Hub

Please see the poster for more information on the Aston Villa Foundation Community Hub sessions. To register and for more information you can also scan the QR code.

This half-term virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic

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

Parents and Carers Conference – Thursday 26th March

Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for details on the Parents and Carers Conference taking place on Thursday 26th March at the Birmingham Rep Theatre. The conference is hosted by Blesst CIC, West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP), and Birmingham Children's Trust and aims to provide a full day of empowerment, learning, and community connection created especially for parents and carers of children of all ages, from early childhood (4+) to teenagers. To register for the free event please click on the following link:

[PARENTS & CARERS PARENTING CONFERENCE BIRMINGHAM Tickets, Thursday, Mar 26 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm | Eventbrite](#)

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.

Public Health Information

Due to extreme pressures across emergency departments, please only attend the A&E if you're experiencing a life-threatening emergency. For help with minor healthcare needs, try these alternative options:

- Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs): visit UTCs for support with common injuries and illnesses
- Pharmacy First: visit your [local pharmacy](#) for advice, guidance, and medication for common conditions
- NHS 111: call 111 or visit 111.nhs.uk for urgent, non-life-threatening medical advice 24 / 7
- GP practice: call or book an appointment with your GP

To find out more about how to choose the right service for your healthcare needs,

visit <https://www.birminghamsolihull.icb.nhs.uk/health-information/choose-well>.

Nature Activities in Nechells

Please see the poster below for nature activities taking place in Eliot Street Park on Friday afternoons (3.15pm – 4.30pm).



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:

Abigail – R Ania – Y2 Jin – Y5 Dawud – Y6

This half-term virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic

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Attendance – week ending 20th March 2026

Well done to **Reception** who had the best attendance this week with 96.5%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 96.5%	Year One: 95.8%	Year Two: 94.2%	Year Three: 94.6%
Year Four: 93.2%	Year Five: 96.3%	Year Six: 93.5%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 94.8%

This Week's Menu

Please see details of the school's three week rotating dinner menu, week commencing Monday 23rd March 2026 children will be offered the Week 2 menu:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1	Pasta Bolognese Cheese and Onion Pasty (V) Broccoli(V) Carrots (V) New Potatoes (V) Shortbread and Custard Fresh Salad Bar and Bread	Chicken Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce Vegetable Meatballs (V) Spicy Wedges (V) Carrot and Swede (V) Green Beans (V) Apple Crumble and Custard	Roast Chicken or Quorn Roast Dinner with Trimmings(V) Roast Potatoes(V) Carrots and Cauliflower(V) Fruity Jelly Jacket Potato and Fillings	Chicken and Chickpea Curry Sweet Potato and Spinach Curry (V) Boiled Rice and Naan (V) Broccoli (V) Fruit Sponge and Custard	Homemade Margherita Pizza(V) Crumbed Cod Fish Cake Chunky Chips(V) Spaghetti Hoops (V) Garden Peas(V) Ice Cream Tub Fresh Fruit and Yoghurts
WEEK 2	Crispy Turkey Burger Quorn Burger(V) Green Beans(V) Baked Beans(V) Spicy Wedges(V) Flap Jack and Custard Fresh Salad Bar and Bread	Cottage Pie Vegetable Lasagne (V) Baby Carrots (V) Broccoli (V) Herby Diced Potato(V) Chocolate Crunch and Custard	Sausages, Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy Quorn Sausages (V) Roast Potatoes(V) Carrot & Swede Satons (V) Peas (V) Fruit Jelly Jacket Potato and Fillings	Chill Con Carne Cheese and Potato Pie Boiled Rice & Garlic Bread Broccoli (V) Marbled Sponge and	Homemade Margherita Pizza(V) Breaded Pollock Chunky Chips (V) Baked Beans(V) Sweetcorn (V) Ice Cream Tub Fresh Fruit and Yoghurts
WEEK 3	Macaroni Cheese(V) Fish Fingers(V) Spicy Wedges(V) Garden Peas(V) Carrots(V) Lemon Drizzle Cake and Custard Fresh Salad Bar and Bread	Hot Dog with Onions Quorn Hot Dog & Onions(V) Herby Diced Potatoes(V) Sweetcorn (V) Broccoli (V) Chocolate Cracknell and Custard	Roast Gammon Dinner with all the Trimmings Cheese and Onion Lattice Finger(V) Roast Potatoes(V) Carrots and Green Beans Fruit Jelly Jacket Potato and Fillings	Cajun Chicken Wrap with Fried Onions and Peppers (V) Italian Pasta Bake Homemade Coleslaw (V) Spicy Wedges(V) Baked Cookie	Homemade Margherita Pizza(V) Bubble Crumb Fish Fillet Chunky Chips(V) Baked Beans (V) Sweetcorn(V) Ice Cream Tub Fresh Fruit and Yoghurts

Vegetarian options available daily.
For any allergen or special dietary requirements please speak to a member of the catering team.



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

Reception	Enzo	Recognising doubles in Maths this week 😊
Year 1	Muad	Settling into St Joseph's really well
Year 2	Nahom M	Excellent participation and dancing in P.E.
Year 3	Naod K	Trying to improve his behaviour and achieving on his assessments
Year 4	Isaiah	Achieving full marks in his multiplication practice check!
Year 5	Jin, Abigail, Benjamin & Elnathan	Representing our school at The Little Primary History Quiz. We are so proud of them! 😊
Year 6	Hewan	Always putting her best effort into everything she does, both academically and spiritually. 😊

*This half-term virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic
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Parents & Carers Parenting Conference 2026

— Birmingham —

📍 Birmingham Rep Theatre

📅 Thursday, 26th March 2026

🕒 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM

✓ **FREE LUNCH INCLUDED**

Keynote Speakers

♥ **Darren Laville**
Trauma-Informed Parenting Expert

♥ **Matt Stone & Lea-A. Bentley**
Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)

♥ **Zelpher Ferguson**
ADHD & Neurodiversity

♥ **Steven Stanier**
Online Safety & Digital Risk

♥ **Malieka Selassie**
Loss and Bereavement Specialist

♥ **Malieka Selassie**
Community Advocate & Lived
Experience Speaker

♥ **Craig Pinkney**
Urban Youth Violence Specialist

Casey Gordon
Child & Adolescent
Psychotherapist

Steven Stanier
Family Law Solicitor

Craig Pinkney
Urban Youth Violence
Specialist

Dion Calder
Family Law Solicitor

Amarni
Youth Voice Representative

Register Now

- ✓ Expert Speakers
- ✓ Practical Workshops
- ✓ Community Support



And many more... You don't want to miss this! Scan to Register