



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 17th April 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Reflection for Easter

You are the resurrection! How wonderful, Lord Jesus, you came back.
 You suffered death but conquered it.
 You laid in the tomb but on the third day You rose again.
 O joyful day, Lord Jesus, when you returned!
 You are the resurrection, our hope and our life.
 O glorious and victorious Redeemer help us not to be afraid of death,
 For we must pass through it to see you face to face
 And on the last day we will rise again, for you said so.
 Let us rejoice and praise you, our Blessed and triumphant Lord,
 On this happy, joyful feast. Amen.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 4 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED for May bank holiday	
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th May	SATs week for Y6	
Friday 22 nd May	School closes for TWO WEEKS holiday	3.20pm
Monday 8 th June	School reopens	8.40am
Sunday 28 th June	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:30pm
Tuesday 30 th June	KS1 Sports Day at School KS2 Sports Day at Nechells Wellbeing Centre	
Wednesday 1 st July	Y6 Transition Day	
Monday 6 th July	SCHOOL CLOSED for Teacher Training Day	
Thursday 9 th July	Y3, Y4 & Y5 trip to Warwick Castle – details to follow	
Monday 13 th July	Y6 End of Year trip – details to follow	
Tuesday 14 th July	Reception, Y1 & Y2 trip to Attwell Farm Park – details to follow	
Friday 17 th July	School closes for Summer 6-week Holidays	1:30pm

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



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



School Mass

Please note there is no school mass next Wednesday (22nd April). The next school mass will be on Wednesday 29th April at 2pm and will be 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.

Upcoming Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May

Please note that Monday 4th May 2026 is a Bank Holiday and school will be closed on this day. School will reopen on Tuesday 5th May, as normal, at 08:40am.

Year 6 SATs Week

Year Six SATS will take place during the week of 11th – 15th May. It is VERY IMPORTANT that your child is in school for the whole of this week, and that they are on time each day. To help with this, we will provide a free breakfast club for all Y6 children for the duration of the week. Research has shown that a good, healthy breakfast improves brain function and helps children to function better in their lessons! Letters will be sent to Y6 families regarding this shortly.

After-school Clubs

There are still a couple of spaces available for the football after-school clubs. The sessions for Years 4, 5 and 6 are on a Monday and cost £15.00 for five sessions and the sessions for Years 1, 2 and 3 are on a Tuesday and cost £18.00 for six sessions. If you would like your child to take part, please come to the School Office to complete the consent form and make payment. Places are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

MAC SEND Coffee Morning – Archbishop Ilsley School – Date Change

The MAC would like to invite you to a SEND Coffee Morning, an event designed to bring together families of children with physical disabilities, visual impairments, or hearing impairments. This will be a relaxed opportunity to meet other families, share experiences, and build a supportive community.

- When: **Thursday 23rd April**
- Time: 9.30am–11.00am
- Where: Library, Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School, B27 7XY

During the session, you will have the opportunity to connect with other parents and carers, share strategies, challenges, and successes and enjoy a warm drink in an informal and welcoming environment. To help us plan for numbers, please complete the Microsoft Form if you are able to attend: [Invitation to a SEND coffee morning – Fill out form](#) We hope you will be able to join us.

Kind regards, the SEND Team at Archbishop Ilsley



Reminder – Refillable Water Bottles

We would like to remind all families that single-use plastic water bottles are not permitted in school. To help us reduce waste and promote environmentally friendly habits, please ensure your child brings a refillable water bottle each day. Children have access to water stations around the school and can refill their bottles whenever needed.

Thank you for your support in helping us encourage sustainable practices.

Online Safety video

Along with the monthly Online Safety parent newsletter, we will now be sharing a short video each month on a relevant Online Safety topic. The April video has the theme Online Gaming, and provides a quick overview on how to keep your child safe whilst gaming online, outlining communication risks, in game spending, age ratings and reporting tools.

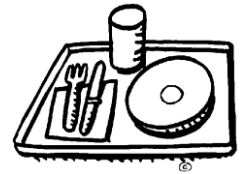
You can view this at <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Online-Gaming.mp4>

You can also see these on the '[Online Safety Videos](#)' page of our school website.

*This half-term virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic
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School Meals price increase

The price of school meals has now increased 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.



Parent Wellbeing Newsletter

We're pleased to share the latest Parent Wellbeing News Update from the [Togetherness](#) team – an online NHS-supported learning environment designed by psychologists and health practitioners. Togetherness provides accessible, research-informed resources to support emotional health, positive behaviour and strong relationships at home. You can access the newsletter here [PDF April 2026 parent wellbeing newsletter.pdf](#)

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](#)) where you can 'drag and drop' the newsletter and this will automatically translate the content into the language you choose.

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](#)) to see what your children have been doing. You will need an account on X to be able to view any updates.

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.

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).

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:

Nasra – Reception Henok – Y2 Kimi – Y3 Jayden – Y5

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Attendance – week ending 17th April 2026

Well done to **Y3** who had the best attendance this week with an incredible **100%**!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 98.3%	Year One: 98.9%	Year Two: 97.1%	Year Three: 100%
Year Four: 97.9%	Year Five: 96.9%	Year Six: 94.5%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 97.5%

This Week's Menu

Please see details of the school's three-week rotating dinner menu, week commencing Monday 20th April 2026 children will be offered the Week 2 menu:

CITY SERVE		LUNCH 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	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	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 Salad Bar and Bread		Jacket Potato and Fillings		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	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 Batons (V) Peas (V) Fruit Jelly	Chilli 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 Salad Bar and Bread		Jacket Potato and Fillings		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	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	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 Salad Bar and Bread		Jacket Potato and Fillings		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	Simona	For excellent effort with her writing this week 😊
Year 1	Aiden	Trying his best in Phonics this week 😊
Year 2	Elizabeth	For fantastic rhyming sentences in English this week 😊
Year 3	Zekari	For showing improvement in his handwriting and presentation.
Year 4	Caden	For his incredible effort and improvement in his writing
Year 5	Samiha	For writing an excellent spring themed poem. 😊
Year 6	Eldana	For her excellent effort and work in Maths this week 😊

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