



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

## A Prayer for all primary and secondary children undertaking exams in the coming days and weeks

Lord, pour out your Spirit of Wisdom on these pupils:  
help them to remain calm,  
to attend carefully to the questions asked,  
to think clearly, to remember accurately,  
and to express themselves well.

Grant that they may reflect on the best of the work they have done and the best of the teaching they have received.  
Accept their best efforts in these examinations and in the great test of life on earth.  
May your love be upon them, O Lord, as they place all their trust in you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen



## Dates for your Diary

Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week for Y6	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Wear Green Non-Uniform Day – 50p per child or £1 per family.	
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>School closes for TWO WEEKS holiday</b>	<b>3.20pm</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens	8.40am
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:30pm
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Sports Day at School	
	KS2 Sports Day at Nechells Wellbeing Centre	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Y6 Transition Day	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	SCHOOL CLOSED for Teacher Training Day	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3, Y4 & Y5 trip to Warwick Castle	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 End of Year trip – details to follow	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception, Y1 & Y2 trip to Attwell Farm Park	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July



*This half-term virtues are: Grateful and Generous  
If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
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## School Mass

There is no school Mass next week!



## Year 6 SATs Week – NEXT WEEK!

Year Six SATS will take place **next week 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May**. It is VERY IMPORTANT that your child is in school for the whole of this week, and that they are in on time each day. As you know, we are running a free breakfast club for all Y6 children from Monday to Thursday next week. **Please ensure that your child is in breakfast club before 8.30am** so that they have time to prepare themselves before the tests start. Please help your children be well rested by encouraging 8 to 10 hours sleep per night, a regular bedtime and avoiding screens an hour before bed.

## Non-Uniform Day – Wear Green – NEXT FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week and so next Friday we will be holding a wear green non-uniform day to raise money for the Mental Health Foundation. Children can come to school wearing something green. The cost of this will be 50p per child or £1 per family.

## Grammar School Entrance Test – Year 5 Parents

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for a place at any of the grammar schools in Birmingham/West Midlands (entry to Year 7 in September 2027). Registration can be made online by visiting the website ([www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk)). The closing date for registering is 4pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026. The test will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

## Ward End Fire Station Open Day

Ward End Fire Station (Washwood Heath Road, Ward End, B8 2HF) will be holding a free to attend Station Open Day on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026 between 11:00am to 3:00pm. Please click on the [link](#) to view more information on the Open Day.

## Free Manage Your Diabetes Programme – Nechells POD

Nechells POD will be running a Manage Your Diabetes programme taking place from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June for seven weeks. For more information, please click on the following [link](#).

## Autism West Midlands Free Online Course

Autism West Midlands' next full online understanding autism course for parents and carers, **Rising to the Challenge Online**, is starting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May. This course commissioned by the NHS and is free.

The course covers:

- Understanding Autism
- Autism and Communication
- Autism and Social Interaction
- Sensory Differences
- Autism and Anxiety
- Autism and Behaviour

If you can't attend the sessions live, a video replay will be sent to everyone who registers. For more information and to sign up, please visit [Rising to the Challenge Online | Autism West Midlands](#)

## National Book Tokens – Help us win £1,000 for our Library

National Book Tokens are giving schools the chance to be one of five winning schools to **receive £1,000 in National Book Tokens** to fill their library's shelves with new, inspiring books. Please help our chances of winning by nominating St Joseph's! Everyone who votes will also enter a prize draw to win themselves a £100 gift card. Please visit the [Win £1,000 / €1,000 for your school's library! | National Book Tokens](#) link to complete the nomination.

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## MyClothing Uniform Discount Code

Parents and carers can enjoy 10% off school uniform at [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com). Simply use code **INTAKE26** at checkout. Valid until 31 July 2026.

## School Disabled Toilet

Please be aware that **ONLY** toilet paper should be placed down this toilet (or any toilet on the school premises), anything other than toilet paper that is flushed away blocks the system and causes damage with a significant financial impact to the school. The disabled toilet uses a shredding-type mechanism and items such as wipes and sanitary products break this. A bin is provided in the toilet for other items. Please be mindful and also speak to your children about using the toilets at school in the correct way. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Water Safety

Did you know that an average of 82 UK citizens drown each year whilst abroad? Whether holidaying abroad, or at home in the UK and Ireland, the link below has advice and information from the NHS to help you to ensure that your family stays safe whilst having fun in, on or around water.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/safety-on-holiday>



## Aston Villa Free Courses

**Coaching Academy:** The Coaching Academy is a FREE 6 week course that combines obtaining industry-recognised qualifications with opportunities, experiences, and employability skills, allowing local people to start a coaching journey. For more information please [click here](#).

**Catering Club:** This popular course has entered into its 6th year of delivery. The FREE 10 week course helps unemployed adults gain catering and hospitality qualifications, which real-life experiences and opportunities for entry-level jobs within the sector. For more information please [click here](#).

## 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.

## Different Upcoming School Holidays

Just a reminder that we have different holidays to other Birmingham schools this year. As we had just one week holiday at Easter, we will be having TWO WEEKS in 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. 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).

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## 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:

Sherice – Y1

Maya – Y2

Muheymin – Y4

Abigail – Y5

## Attendance – week ending 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Well done to **Y4 AND Y5** who had the best attendance this week with an incredible 100%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 95.7%

Year One: 98.7%

Year Two: 97.8%

Year Three: 98.0%

Year Four: 100%

Year Five: 100%

Year Six: 98.0%

This gives a whole school attendance of 98.4%

## This Week's Menu

Please [click here](#) to see details of the school's three-week rotating dinner menu, week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 children will be offered the Week 2 menu.



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

Reception	Enzo	For improved behaviour this week 😊
Year One	Noah	Excellent recall of number bonds in maths lessons
Year 2	Ferida	Excellent recall of how school was different in 1950's 😊
Year 3	Abenob	For his excellent reading in Mass.
Year 4	Salem	For her improved presentation and handwriting in her books!
Year 5	Elnathan	For a super effort in R.E.
Year 6	Yostina	For her brilliant effort and progress in both Maths and English! Keep up the hard work. 😊

## This Week's News



Y6 have thoroughly enjoyed the past four weeks with the team from Project Pulse. They have learnt lots about working as a team and how to communicate effectively, as well as trying out a variety of different physical activities.

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