



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 26th June 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer for First Communion

Dear Lord Jesus,

Bless these children as they come forward to receive You for the first time.

May this sacred day be the beginning of a lifelong friendship with You.

Fill their hearts with Your peace, Your love, and Your joy.

Guide their steps, help them to grow in faith, and teach them to share Your love with everyone they meet.

Amen.



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 28 th June	Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:30pm
Tuesday 30 th June	KS1 Sports Day at School	9.05am
	KS2 Sports Day at Nechells Wellbeing Centre	12.45pm
Wednesday 1 st July	Y6 Transition Day/moving up day	
	New Intake Reception Open day	1.45pm
Monday 6 th July	SCHOOL CLOSED for Teacher Training Day	
Thursday 9 th July	Y3, Y4 & Y5 trip to Warwick Castle	
Friday 10 th July	School closes at 1:00pm	
	Summer Fair	1:30pm – 3:30pm
Monday 13 th July	Y6 End of Year trip to Star City	
Tuesday 14 th July	Reception, Y1 & Y2 trip to Attwell Farm Park	
Wednesday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass/Production	2:00pm
Thursday 16 th July	Y6 Leavers' Production/Assembly	
Friday 17 th July	School closes for Summer 6-week Holidays	1:00pm

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

The next School Mass will be on Wednesday 8th July 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.

Sports Day – Tuesday 30th June 2026

KS1 Sports Day is taking place at school and parents who wish to spectate are asked to arrive via the main playground gates by **09:05am. There will be no entry for latecomers for the health and safety of the children.**

KS2 Sports Day is taking place at Nechells Wellbeing Centre (Rupert Street, B7 4AR) with a start time of **12:50pm**. Children will walk from school accompanied by teachers and will eat their lunch at the Centre. **Please ensure you arrive no later than 12.45pm.**

Once the event has finished the children will walk back to school with the teachers and parents/carers should collect their children **from school at 3:20pm** as normal. Children may be taken home **by their own parents only** from the sports centre if parents are attending the sports day. The children should come into school wearing their PE kits and should have their water bottles with them. If the weather is hot, please can you ensure that they have applied sun cream in the morning and your child is wearing a sun hat. This is always a lovely event and we hope you will be able to join us.



Healthy Packed Lunches – Parent Information

We were delighted to recently welcome a representative from School Food Matters into school to speak with parents about creating healthy and balanced packed lunches for children. The session provided helpful guidance on making nutritious choices that support children's growth, energy levels, and concentration throughout the school day. To support all families, School Food Matters has kindly provided a selection of healthy recipe cards, which we are pleased to share with you over the coming weeks. Please follow the link to view the [carrot cakes recipe](#).

Heatwave Alert – How to keep your children safe

With further heatwaves expected, more young people are heading to water to cool off. Tragically, this brings a sharp rise in drownings. During May half-term alone, 19 people lost their lives – including 14 teenagers. Anyone can drown. No one should. Please remember the Water Safety Code:

- Stop and think.
- Stay together with a friend or family member.
- If you're in trouble in the water, Float to Live.
- Call 999 or 112 if you see someone else in trouble in the water.

RNLI are encouraging families to choose safer supervised water locations like lifeguarded beaches, swimming pools or lidos. More information can be accessed by visiting the [RNLI website](#).

Warm Weather Reminders!

- Please ensure that your child has their water bottle in school with them **every day**. It is very warm at the moment, especially in the school building, and we do not have cups in the classrooms for them to use. Also, can I please remind you that **ONLY** plain water is allowed in bottles. Your child should not have any squash or flavoured water in school.
- You may send your child with a sun hat to wear outside (no sun glasses please!) while it is warm and you should apply sun cream to them before they come to school. **Please do not send them with bottles of sun cream or sun glasses for health and safety reasons.**
- If your child suffers with Hayfever, please give them medication in the morning before they come to school, as we have noticed a lot of children have been struggling with symptoms this week.



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Summer Savings for Families

The Government led Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, helping families feel a bit less squeezed this summer. The new scheme includes reduced VAT on days out, including tickets at attractions like soft play, adventure centres and theme parks, children's tickets for theatres and cinemas, and children's meals in restaurants. Children aged 5 to 15 in England will also be able to travel

free on local bus services throughout August.

For further information about the scheme visit [Summer Savings](#). This is in addition to further support available to families, with more information available at [Cost of Living Help](#).

St Joseph's Summer Fair

The school will be holding a Summer Fair this year on Friday 10th July from 1:30 to 3:30pm, please click the [link](#) to view the poster and more information. Please note that school will close at **1:00pm** on Friday 10th July to allow for the setup of the fair. Please ensure an adult from your child's contact list is at school on time to collect your child on this day. Thank you.

School Trips – Payment Reminder

Please be mindful that each year group has a school trip coming over the next couple of weeks (dates and locations detailed under 'Dates for your Diary'). Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4 & 5) trip payments need to be made to the School Office by Thursday 25th June and Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 & 2) trip payments need to be made to the School Office by Tuesday 30th June. Finally, Year 6 trip payments need to be made to the School Office by Wednesday 1st July 2026.

Child Safety over the Summer Period

As we move towards the Summer months, please be mindful of keeping your children safe, particularly around water. Please access the following resources which provide practical safety advice:

- [Child Safety Advice | Practical tips and free resources](#)
- [Child Safety Videos | Child Accident Prevention Trust](#)
- [RNLI launches its Float to Live campaign for 2026 | RNLI](#)
- [The Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK\)](#)

2026/27 Term Dates

Please note that the 2026/27 term dates have now been published on the school website and can be viewed by following this link ([Term dates - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)). Please ensure you have looked at these before booking any holidays for next year. It is also worth noting that all of the next academic year's school holidays align with Birmingham City Council dates.

New Intake - Reception Class 2026

Our Open Day for all families who have been allocated a place for their child to start in school in September 2026 takes place on **Wednesday 1st July**. Please remember to bring with you all relevant forms and documentation, as detailed on the letters that have been sent out. This will also confirm arrangements for the day such as times. We are looking forward to meeting you all on the day.



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 19th July 2026 between 11:00am to 3:00pm. Please click on the [link](#) to view more information on the Open Day.

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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.

MyClothing Uniform Discount Code

Parents and carers can enjoy 10% off school uniform at www.myclothing.com. Simply use code **SPEND10** 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>

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.

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 – Reception Zayan – Year Three Nova – Year Four Dina – Year Six

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Attendance – week ending 26th June 2026

Well done to Year One who had the best attendance this week with a brilliant 98.9%

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 96.8%	Year One: 98.9%	Year Two: 97.3%	Year Three: 96.8%
Year Four: 90%	Year Five: 93.5 %	Year Six: 97.3%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 95.5%

This Week's Menu

Please [click here](#) to see details of the school's three-week rotating dinner menu, week commencing Monday 29th June 2026 children will be offered the Week 1 menu.



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

Reception	Kimberly	For improved listening and concentration on the carpet.
Year One	Pareesa	Excellent knowledge about money in maths this week
Year 2	Tyler	For being thoughtful when helping someone in class. 😊
Year 3	Zephaniah	For his exceptional behaviour and good decision making this week.
Year 4	Inaaya	Fantastic effort in English this week! Keep it up, Inaaya 😊
Year 5	Mudesir	Super effort in both English and Maths this week. 😊
Year 6	Suren	For fantastic effort and determination this week in his Exciting Writing! 😊

This Week's News



Wow! Another fun filled day for some of our students at the King Edward School Sports Partnership colour run last week.



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