



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 18th September 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

Dear God,
Generous and giving God,
you created the world with enough for everyone.
Help us to share what we have been given
and make sure all your people have enough.
Amen.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 14 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Two	2.15pm
Tuesday 15 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year One	2.15pm
Wednesday 16 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Three	2.15pm
Friday 18 th September	School Mass led by Year Five	2.00pm
Monday 21 st September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Five	2.15pm
Tuesday 22 nd September	Curriculum Workshop & Residential Parent Talk – Y6	2.00pm
Wednesday 23 rd September	Curriculum Workshop – Reception	2.15pm
Thursday 24 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.15pm
Friday 18 th September	School Mass led by Year Four	2.00pm
Wednesday 30 th September	Reception Welcome Service (details to follow)	2.45pm
Friday 23 rd October	School closes for half-term	3.20pm
Monday 2 nd November	Return to school	8.50am
Wednesday 11 th November	Parents' Evening (school finishes at 2.15pm)	2.30pm – 5.30pm

School Term Dates 2026 – 2027

Autumn Term 2026	Spring Term 2027	Summer Term 2027
Tuesday 1 st September 2026 to Friday 23 rd October 2026	Monday 4 th January 2027 to Friday 12 th February 2027	Monday 12 th April 2027 to Friday 28 th May 2027
HALF TERM - one week holiday	HALF TERM - one week holiday	HALF TERM - one week holiday
Monday 2 nd November 2026 to Friday 18 th December 2026	Monday 22 nd February 2027 to Thursday 25 th March 2027	Monday 7 th June 2027 to Wednesday 21 st July 2027
END OF TERM – two week holiday	END OF TERM – two weeks holiday	END OF YEAR – 6 weeks holiday

Teacher Days

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Friday 4th December 2026
Friday 12th February 2027
TBC
TBC
Wednesday 21st July 2027



Bank Holidays

Friday 26th March 2027
Monday 3rd May 2027

*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.*

Attendance

Attached with your newsletter email today there are some important documents regarding attendance. Please ensure that you read these carefully. Thank you!



Curriculum Workshops

We will be holding Curriculum Workshops for parents/carers in school in the coming weeks. These are based on the National Curriculum and designed to show you a little of what your children are learning in school, so that you can help them at home. We understand that childcare arrangements can sometimes be challenging; however, we kindly ask that younger siblings are not brought to the workshops. Thank you for your understanding.

Monday 21 st September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Five	2.15pm
Tuesday 22 nd September	Curriculum Workshop & Residential Parent Talk – Y6	2.00pm
Wednesday 23 rd September	Curriculum Workshop – Reception	2.15pm
Thursday 24 th September	Curriculum Workshop – Year Four	2.15pm

School Mass – every Friday

School Mass has now moved to a Friday and the next School Mass will be on Friday 25th September at 2pm, led by Year 4. The children lead the Liturgy and 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.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has now reopened. All children who have attended Breakfast Club regularly last term will need to complete new registration forms if you haven't already. Please note that the cost of Breakfast Club is £1.50 per day. All places are allocated and must be applied for. We would also like to remind parents that, when arriving for Breakfast Club, please use the pedestrian gate rather than the vehicle entrance to the car park. Staff vehicles are arriving at the same time, and using the pedestrian gate helps to ensure everyone's safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

Is my child too ill for school?

As we move into the colder months, we know it can sometimes be difficult to decide whether your child should attend school when they are feeling unwell. To help parents make informed decisions, we encourage you to refer to [NHS guidance](#), which outlines common illnesses, symptoms and recommended exclusion periods.

Y6 Secondary Transfer Applications for September 2026

Online applications for Year 7 in September 2027 opened on 1 September 2026. Parents and carers who live in Birmingham should apply via [the Birmingham City Council website](#) by the deadline of 31 October 2026. Full details, including admission arrangements and guidance to help parents with making preferences, are available on the website. For additional advice and support, please contact Children's Services on 0121 303 1888.

Heartlands Academy Open Event for Y6 children – Saturday 26th September

Please see the information below sent to us by Heartlands Academy regarding an upcoming open day for Y6 children..

We are delighted to invite the Year 6 pupils, parents and carers at to our upcoming Year 6 Open Day at E-ACT Heartlands Academy on Saturday 26th September 2026, from 9:30am–12:30pm.

As pupils begin to think about their transition to secondary school, we would love the opportunity to welcome them and their families to Heartlands Academy, where they can explore our academy, meet our staff and students, and experience what life at Heartlands is really like.

*This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning
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Uniform

It is wonderful to see all of the children looking so smart in their uniforms! I would just like to remind you of a few of our policies regarding uniform in school:

- Please ensure that your child's name is clearly written or sewn into each item of uniform as this will make it much easier to find it if it gets lost.
- Also as it clearly states in our prospectus; "The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' hairstyles that could serve as a distraction to others. Shaved patterns, lines and colours are not allowed. Hair should be all one length and not 'stepped' or shaved at different levels."
- For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear any jewellery in school. The only exception to this is small gold studs, which should not be worn on days when your child has P.E. or swimming. Members of staff are not allowed to remove earrings, and no responsibility will be taken for any child who removes their own earrings. Hoop or Creole earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings are not allowed in school.
- Shoes should be black formal school shoes, **NOT trainers** or pumps.
- PE kit is a white or red t-shirt with black plain shorts or black jogging bottoms when cold.



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 (currently on maternity leave), Mrs Gowen, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi & Miss Crane.

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:

Ferida – Year 3

Livia – Year 4

Amir – Year 5

Roumisa - Year 6

Attendance

Well done to Y1 & Y3 who had the best attendance this week with an amazing 99%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 98.8%

Year One: 99.1%

Year Two: 94.7%

Year Three: 99.1%

Year Four: 98.8%

Year Five: 98%

Year Six: 97.8%

This gives a whole school attendance of 98.1% for this week.

This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning

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

Reception	Elyas	For excellent work in phonics this week 😊
Year One	Derin	Excellent work in RE this week
Year 2	Betselot	Beautiful handwriting and a lovely version of Handa's surprise
Year 3	Ayra	For her beautiful handwriting and presentation in all her books.
Year 4	Farah	For an increased confidence when completing her times tables.
Year 5	Zemira	Fantastic ideas in terms for writing a diary.
Year 6	Eldana	For always following instructions and being ready to learn.

This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning

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