



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 4th September 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



Dates for your Diary

Friday 11 th September	School Mass led by Y6	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.*



Welcome Back!

I hope that you have all had a good holiday and summer. It is lovely to see everyone looking so well! I would like to welcome you all back and give a special welcome to the new children who have started and also a very big welcome to our new staff! I am sure that you will be very happy at St. Joseph's.

The staff and I would also like to thank you for all the gifts and cards we received at the end of last term, we were all touched by your generosity and thoughtfulness. Thank you!

School Mass – every Friday

School Mass has now moved to a Friday and the next School Mass will be on Friday 11th September at 2pm, led by Year 6. 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.

Swimming

Swimming this term will be for Year Four and will start next Friday 11th September. You will receive a letter regarding this.



Dinner Money

Dinner money is £13.75 a week and should be paid to the office every Monday. Children from Y3 upwards have to pay for their meals unless you are entitled to free meals. Under the updated entitlement criteria, all children from families receiving Universal Credit may now be eligible for Free School Meals. If you are currently receiving Universal Credit and have not yet applied for Free School Meals, we encourage you to check your eligibility and submit an application as soon as possible. Even if your child is in a year group that already receives a

universal meal entitlement (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) registering for Free School Meals can help the school access additional funding to support pupils' education and wellbeing. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, please contact the School Office.

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.

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.



This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning

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Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club starts again on Monday. 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.

Collective Worship and Online Safety Newsletter

Also attached to your newsletter today is the Collective Worship Parents and Online Safety newsletter.



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.

Attendance

Well done to Reception & Year 5 who had the best attendance this week with an amazing 100%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 100%	Year One: 90.2%	Year Two: 94.7%	Year Three: 98.5%
Year Four: 94%	Year Five: 100%	Year Six: 96.7%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 96.1% for the full school year.



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

Year 1	Enzo	For making a fantastic start to Year one – Well Done
Year 2	Daniel	For working hard and trying his best this week.
Year 3	Kaylani	For settling well in her new class and for using her manners.
Year 4	Matiwos	For thoughtful prayer contributions
Year 5	Isaiah	For always being ready to listen and learn.
Year 6	Michael	For his outstanding presentation and handwriting!

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