Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 23rd October 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

A Prayer

At the end of this half-term, we thank you God for...
Every prayer we have prayed,
Every song we have sung,
All the things we have learned,
All the laughter and fun.
Thank you for all the joy you bring
And our wonderful times together.
May we walk with you as each new day begins
This moment and forever
Amen



Dates for your Diary

Friday 23rd October	**School closes for half-term**	**3.20pm**
Monday 2nd November	**Return to school**	**8.50am**
Tuesday 10th November	Reception 2027 Open Day	9.00am – 10.30am
Wednesday 11th 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 1st September 2026 to Friday 23rd October 2026	Monday 4th January 2027 to Friday 12th February 2027	Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027
HALF TERM - one week holiday	**HALF TERM - one week holiday**	**HALF TERM – one week holiday**
Monday 2nd November 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026	Monday 22nd February 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027	Monday 7th June 2027 to Wednesday 21st 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

October Half Term

Just a reminder that school will break up for half term TODAY at 3.20pm.
Children will return to school on Monday 2nd November at 8.50am.



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 – every Friday

School Mass has now moved to a Friday, and the next School Mass will be on Friday 6th November at 2pm, led by Year 3. 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.

Parents Evening

Letters have been sent home this week regarding the next parent/carer evening which will take place on Wednesday 11th November 2026. **School will finish at 2.15pm** on this day and your children must be collected at this time. Appointments will be offered from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. Please complete the online preference form which you can access by scanning the QR code on the letter as soon as possible. The online forms went live at 5pm on Wednesday 21st October and will stay live until 4pm on Monday 2nd November. School will try to accommodate all parents in their reuquested time slot, where possible.



Poppy Sale

Poppies will be available for sale in school after the half term holiday.

Online Safety Newsletter

Attached with your newsletter today is the Online Safety newsletter for this month. There is also a monthly video available to view at

This month's theme is Online Grooming and has useful information on what Online Grooming is, spotting the warning signs and what actions you should take if this is happening to your child.



School Pictures – Aperture Portraits

A reminder to parents/carers that you can view your child's school photograph by logging in with the unique passcode provided on your photo proof card. Your child would have brought this home in their bag on 1st October. Once you have viewed your child's photograph, you will be able to place an order directly through the Aperture Portraits website if you wish to purchase any photographs. Thank you.

Free Creative Saturday Programme for Children Aged 5–13

Registration is now open for BOA Super Saturday School 2027, a free eight-week creative programme for children aged 5–13, run by Birmingham Ormiston Academy. Sessions will take place on Saturdays from 23 January to 13 March 2027, from 10am to 1pm, with workshops including dance, drama, art, singing and DJ skills.
Free places with priority registration are available for children eligible for Free School Meals, Pupil Premium or Universal Credit. Register for BOA Super Saturday School 2027

Anti-Bullying Week – Pyjama Day Monday 16th November 2026

To mark Anti-Bullying Week, we are inviting all children to come to school wearing their pyjamas on Monday 16th November. This is a great way to show our support for kindness, respect and inclusion, while helping to raise awareness of the importance of standing up against bullying. Children can wear their favourite pyjamas and there will be no charge. We look forward to seeing everyone join in and helping us make the day a memorable one!

MAC Annual Parent and Carer survey

Our MAC (St Teresa of Calcutta) would like you to take part in their annual parent and carer survey. Please visit the following link to complete the survey St Teresa of Calcutta Multi Academy Company (MAC) Parent/Carer Survey - Autumn Term 2026 The deadline for responses is Friday 27 November at 9:00am. Many thanks!

This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning
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Starting School - Reception 2027

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2022 and 31-08-2023, online application will open on 1st October on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2027. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15th January 2027**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice.



- Apply online before 15 January 2027
- Visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions to apply

If you have any friends or family with children that are due to start school at this time, please encourage them to consider St Joseph's and recommend us to them!

Reception 2027 Open Morning - Tuesday 10th November - 09:00-10:30am

We will be holding an Open Morning for families with children who are due to start school In Reception in September 2027. It will be a 'drop-in' event held between 9.00am and 10.30am and is a lovely opportunity for you to visit school and see what we can offer your child. Please let your friends and family know and anyone you may know who has a child due to start school.

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.

School Places Available

We currently have places available in all classes from Reception to Year Four. If you know anyone who has recently moved into the area, or who is looking to change their child's school, please encourage them to consider St. Joseph's!

Events at Nechells Pod

Thrive Together - Tuesday 27th October - PLACES MUST BE BOOKED

This is a lovely family event, with something for everyone to enjoy, including a delicious hot, sit-down meal, a cookery demonstration and free recipe bags, free books to take home, kindly provided by the National Literacy Trust, craft activities and games and fitness taster sessions. It's a great opportunity to come together, enjoy some good food and have a bit of fun along the way! Please see https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/01/thrive-together/ for details on how to book.



You can see details of other events at the following links
Fitness & Wellbeing – https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/02/fitness-wellbeing-activities-nechells-pod/
Food pantry - https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/02/food-pantry-nechells-pod/
Story Tots & Stay and Play – https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/02/story-tots-stay-and-play-nechells-pod/
Bloomsbury Library - https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/02/bloomsbury-library-nechells-pod/
Manage Your Diabetes Course - https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/2026/10/01/manage-diabetes-nechells-pod/for details on how to book.

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.

This half-term virtues are: Attentive & Discerning
If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team;
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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 has 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:

Matan – Reception Abelakat – Year 1 Michelle – Year 4 Janelle – Year 6

Attendance

Well done to Y2 who had the best attendance this week with an incredible 100%!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 95.6**%**	Year One: 94.8**%**	Year Two: 100%	Year Three: 97.6%
Year Four: 93.8**%**	Year Five: 93.1%	Year Six: 99.3**%**	

This gives a whole school attendance of 96.2% for this week.

Star of the week

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

Reception	Luliana	For excellent reading this week, Well done! 😊
Year One	Abelakat	Excellent effort in English this week. Well done
Year Two	Gelila	For trying hard and recalling some information from our RE unit. Well done for doing well in your phonics assessment!
Year Three	Yukang	For trying his best in all lessons and for his times table knowledge.
Year Four	Zekari	For a thoughtful and beautiful prayer written in RE
Year Five	Zemira	Always being on task in every lesson.
Year Six	Khakalaiia	For his incredible extended writing in RE!
LFR	Ezana	For improving in his maths work

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