



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 21st July 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 5th September Children return to school 8.45am

Prayer for the End of the School Year

At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school and at home this year,

For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced;

For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed;

For the respect and care that has been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.

For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,

For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days

And for the love that has kept us going.



We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord –

Bless our children as they are out of school this summer, keep them safe and prepare them for their return to school in September.

Bless our families as we take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish. Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

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.

End of School Year

We would like to wish you all a safe, happy and fun filled holiday with your families. Enjoy your break together and stay safe! We return to school at 8.45am on Tuesday 5th September. Our new Reception class will start school on Thursday 7th September.

School Term Dates 2023 -2024

Autumn Term 2023	Spring Term 2024	Summer Term 2024	Teacher Days – Monday 4 th September Tuesday 25 th July 3 tba Friday 19 th February – MAC training day
Monday 4 th September 2023 to Friday 27 th October 2023	Monday 8 th January 2024 to Friday 9 th February 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024 to Friday 24 th May 2024	
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM	Bank Holidays – Friday 29 th March 2024 Monday 6 th May 2024
Monday 6 th November 2023 to Friday 22 nd December 2023	Monday 19 th February 2024 to Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 3 rd June 2024 to Monday 22 nd July 2024	
END OF TERM	END OF TERM	END OF YEAR	

Uniform

I would just like to remind you of a few of our policies regarding uniform in school ahead of the children coming back in September. We understand that as we have come to the end of the school year clothes have been grown out of and shoes split, however, please ensure that the correct uniform is worn when returning in September.

- 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.
- 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." Please ensure that any hairstyles your child has over the summer that are not appropriate for school are grown out/corrected ready for the start of term in September.

Year 6 Leavers

Today our Year 6 children will be finishing their Primary School Career with us and moving onto Secondary school. On behalf of the governors and all the staff and pupils of St. Joseph's, I would like to say goodbye to Year 6 and wish them all the best in their new schools. I hope that you will enjoy your new schools and do your very best to achieve your dreams and that you will take with you very happy memories of your time at St. Joseph's. We pray that God may bless you and keep you safe. Please do keep our Year 6 children in your prayers over the summer holidays.



Goodbye!

Sadly today we are saying goodbye to Miss Saghir, Miss Malik, Ms Jackson-Courts and Mrs Watchorn. Miss Malik and Ms Jackson-Courts have been here working as teaching assistants over the last year and have done a wonderful job supporting our children. Miss Saghir has been with us for two years, and prior to that on placement with us and has done an amazing job teaching our Y5 children for the last two years. We will miss them all very much and wish them all the best in their new ventures!

As you know, Mrs Watchorn also retired this week. Mrs Watchorn has been an important part of our school family for 26 years. A very big thank you to all of the parents and carers who came to her special assembly on Wednesday. She was very touched by your presence, and would like to thank you all for the very kind gifts, cards and messages she has received this week. We wish her every happiness in her retirement and we will miss her very much.

Teachers for September

Reception –	Mrs Holmes & Mrs Peplow
Year 1 –	Miss Young & Miss Dalziel
Year 2 –	Miss Jordan, Mrs Emmott & Miss Crane
Year 3 –	Mrs Aldridge & Mrs Dalziel
Year 4 –	Mr Tobias & Ms Bailey
Year 5 –	Mrs Scarrott & Mrs Govani
Year 6 –	Miss Teague & Mrs Koumi

Mrs Badhan will also be supporting in classes



*This half-term's virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic
If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey, Miss Teague and Mrs West*

New Staff Members / Staff Changes

Mrs Scarrott, Ms Bailey, Mrs Govani and Mrs Corbett will be joining us as full time members of staff in September. Mrs Govani and Ms Bailey have been working here over the last year as agency staff so already know the children very well. Mrs Scarrott is joining us as a new, full time teacher. Mrs Corbett will be joining our office team and is very much looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know you and the children. She will be taking over Mrs Farnan's role, who will be our new Senior Office Manager. We would like to welcome them to our St. Joseph's family and hope that they will be very happy in their time here with us.

After School Clubs

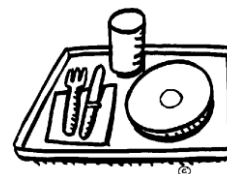
There will be no after school clubs during the first week back. Details of how to apply for places will be in the first newsletter when we come back.

Breakfast Club

All children who have attended Breakfast Club regularly this term will need to complete new registration forms at the beginning of September. Please note that the cost of Breakfast Club is £1.50 per day. All places are allocated and must be applied for.

School Meals price increase / Y3 School meals

The price of school meals will be increasing from September by £1 per week. This means that the costs will be £2.70 per day or £13.50 per week. Unfortunately this is due to rising costs through our catering company and the costs of food increasing.



Also just a reminder that free meals for all children is only applicable to children from Rec – Y2. All children moving to Y3 in September who are not entitled to free school meals under the benefit system and who have not returned a FSM application proving their eligibility will have to start paying for their meals from September, or bringing a packed lunch.

A Guide to Parental Controls

With your newsletter email today you will also receive a 'Guide to Parental Controls'. This gives you information about how you can restrict and monitor your child's internet and gaming usage.

Summer Reading Challenge – POD

The Reading Agency's annual Summer Reading Challenge, aimed at children from 4 – 11 year is now on! Children are challenged to visit their local library several times during the summer holidays, borrow and read six books and tell the library staff about them. They will be rewarded with stickers and goodies along the way – and if they complete the challenge, they will be presented with a medal and certificate in September! It is free to join; children just need to have a current, clear Birmingham library card and parents need to fill out a registration form for them. Your local library is Bloomsbury Library at The POD. For more information visit birmingham.gov.uk/libraries or summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

*This half-term's virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic
If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey, Miss Teague and Mrs West*

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, Miss Teague, Mrs Pattinson, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

Attendance – whole school year

Well done to **Year Two, Four and Six** who had the best attendance this school year with 97%!! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	93%	Year One	92%	Year Two	97%	Year Three	96%
Year Four	97%	Year Five	95%	Year Six	97%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 95.5%