



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

## Prayer for our World

God of all,  
Open our eyes to see the needs of our brothers and sisters.  
Open our ears to hear your words of hope and compassion.  
Open our mouths to speak up when people are suffering.  
Open our hearts, to reach out in love. Amen.

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.15PM**  
Parents' Evening 2.30 - 5.00pm  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November Wear Blue Non-Uniform day - 50p per child or £1 per family

## 🌿 Christmas Dates for your Diary 🌿

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December KS2 film night - £2 per child 3 - 4.30pm  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December Rec & KS1 film night - £2 per child 2.30 - 4.00pm  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December Y3 & Y6 visit to the Crescent Theatre  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December Y4 & Y5 visit to the Crescent Theatre  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner Day  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper Day - £1 per child  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Rec, Y1 & Y2 North Pole Adventure trip  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Y3 & Y4 Parents – KS2 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December Y5 & Y6 Parents – KS2 Christmas Assembly 2.20pm  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Carol Concert for Parents 2.30pm  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December **School closes at 1pm for Christmas holidays** 1.00pm  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January Return to school 8.40am

## School Term Dates 2024 -2025

Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024 to Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 to Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 to Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 to Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>END OF YEAR</b>

**Teacher Days –**  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 -  
MAC Teacher Day  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

**Bank Holidays –**  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## 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.

## 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, Mrs Gowen, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane. If any parents want to discuss any issues, please contact us at [pastoral@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk)

## Wear Blue non-uniform day- NEXT Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Thank you for your support with Wear Green day today. Next Friday will be a 'Wear Blue' themed non-uniform day. The cost of this will be 50p per child or £1 per family.

## My Clothing - 10% discount on uniform

[MyClothing](#) have given us a 10% discount code to save you money on uniform costs please see below code and details of the expiry date.

Code = **UNIFORM10**

Expires 20/12/2024

## Parents Evening

Our Parents' Evening will take place NEXT Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2.30-5.00pm. Letters with appointment times have been sent out this week so please check your child's bag. During the time that you are in your appointment, your child can go into our Creche facility (**only for children who attend our school**) but please only bring children along if they cannot stay at home with another adult.



**Please note that school will close at 2.15pm NEXT Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>. All children must be collected at this time by an adult.**

## Film Night - £2 per child



We will be holding our Advent fund-raising Christmas Film Nights once again this year. Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6's Film Night will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December until 4.30pm, and Reception, Year 1 and Year 2's Film Night will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December until 4.00pm (they will start at 2.30pm). The cost of this will be £2 per child and this will include crisps or popcorn and a drink. Letters have been sent out for this today, so if your child would like to attend, please return them in an envelope with the correct money to book their place.

We will release the children from the KS2 playground, so please be on time to pick your child/ren up as it will be getting dark. **Please note that if your child does not want to take part, they will need to be collected at their usual pick-up times.**

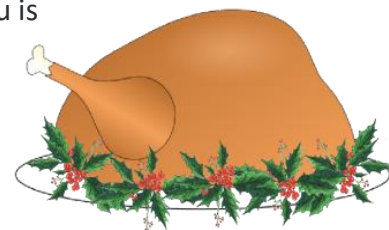
*This half-term's virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic*

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West*

## Christmas Dinner – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Our School Christmas Dinner will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. The menu is

- \* Roast Turkey/ Chicken / Quorn/ Tempura Fish
- \* Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing balls & Gravy
- \* Creamed Potatoes / Seasoned Roast potatoes
- \* Sprouts / Carrot / Sweetcorn
- \* Christmas Ice Cream Tub / Christmas Cherry Cracknell /Mince Pie & Cream



Children who have dinners normally in school will get Christmas dinner anyway, but **if your child usually has a packed lunch** and you would like your child to have a dinner on this day, please send in the payment of £2.70 in an envelope with your child's name and class on it by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December is 'Wear Your Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day' in school. The cost of this will be £1 per child, and you should come to school dressed in your *craziest* Christmas jumpers!!!



## Christmas Performances

Our Christmas Performances take place on the following dates:-

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm	Rec Y1 and Y2 Christmas Assembly	2.30pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm	KS2 Christmas Assembly for Y3 & Y4 Parents	2:30pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December at 2:20pm	KS2 Christmas Assembly for Y5 & Y6 Parents	2:20pm



The children are working very hard to prepare for these already and would be delighted to see their parents and carers in school to watch them perform. Please come along; it makes such a difference to the children when their efforts are well supported.

**We will not be able to admit latecomers**, this is because of the way the hall is set up, as entering the hall will involve you walking through the stage area. For health and safety reasons, once the performance has begun this will not be possible. **Also, there will be no staff in the office area to admit people once the plays have started, so please bear this in mind and allow enough time to get to school.**

## Starting School - Reception 2025 – apply now!

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2020 and 31-08-2021, online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2025. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice



*This half-terms virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic*

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West*

## Penalty Notice fines for holidays / poor attendance

Any days of absences that are unauthorised (this also includes 'late after registration' marks where a child arrives after 9.15am) will now count towards number of absences. Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, or less days if you have had previous unauthorised absence in the 10 weeks prior to the holiday. The fine for unauthorised holiday is now £160 for each parent (reduced to £80 if paid within 28 days) for each child that was absent. For example, if you have 3 children absent for term time leave, this would result in each parent receiving a fine of £480 (reduced to £240 if paid within 28 days).



**Please bear this in mind when you are booking travel arrangements for the school holidays. Any children who are not back in school on time will be fined if they fit into the categories above. Medical absences either side of school holidays will require evidence of illness for them to be authorised.**

## 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:

Elita - Reception      Maya - Year 1      Adila - Year 3      Benjamin - Year 4



## Class Attendance – weekly attendance treats

As you know, it is very important that children attend school every day, both for their wellbeing and academic achievement and also to encourage good habits for their future working life. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!

## Attendance – week ending 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with a **fabulous 98.5%**!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 89.4%      Year One: 90.5%      Year Two: 93.8%      Year Three: 93.4%  
Year Four: 96.9%      Year Five: 96.7%      Year Six: 98.5%

This gives a whole school attendance of **94.6%**



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

Reception	Noah	Trying his best in every area.
Year 1	Bitanya	Excellent maths work this week :)
Year 2	Matiwos	Excellent contributions in all lessons this week.
Year 3	Bitanya	Excellent work in maths this week on grouping.
Year 4	Mary	Always being sensible and showing good behaviour
Year 5	Suren	Improvement in behaviour, excellent reading in Mass and resilience
Year 6	Saffire	Working hard and showing a brilliant effort this week!

*This half-term's virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic*

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West*



## This Week's News



We had a special visitor in school today, to show us what it is like to be a musician. Thank you, Milly, you were amazing and lots of children said they wanted to be your number 1 fan. We can't wait for your next visit.

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed their three days on their residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes. They have enjoyed sharing activities such as a Gladiator climbing course, orienteering, archery, the night line obstacle course, abseiling, rock climbing and even an early Christmas dinner! They have also enjoyed special social time together and the fun of 'sleepovers' - it has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to strengthen their friendships and resilience. They have had an absolutely fabulous time, and we would like to give our huge thanks to our MAC family - St Teresa of Calcutta - for funding this fabulous opportunity for our children.



Last Friday, Y2 enjoyed a wonderful day out exploring the Lickey Hills with the help of the Forest Rangers. The children were excited to travel on the train, and once we arrived had so much fun sharing activities and exploring the woods and beautiful scenery. The children learned about trees, vegetation and changes to the woods during the autumn, linked to our Geography and Science lessons.



*This half-term's virtues are: Intentional & Prophetic*

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West*