



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 17th January 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

God of light, you sent the Spirit down upon your Son so that others might know who he was. Send your Spirit on us, so that we might spread your message of love and peace to others. Amen



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 22 nd January	Confirmation Mass at St. Joseph's Church	6.00pm
Monday 27 th January	Y4 visit to Singers Hill Synagogue	
Tuesday 28 th January	Y3 visit to the Sikh Gurdwara	
Wednesday 29 th January	Y6 visit to the Islamic Exhibition Centre	
Thursday 30 th January	Rec & Y1 visit to St Joseph's Church	
Friday 7 th February	Y2 visit to St Joseph's Church	
Friday 7 th February	St Josephine Bakhita house group children ONLY - own clothes day	
Thursday 13 th February	School closes for half term	3.20pm
Friday 14th February	SCHOOL CLOSED – MAC TRAINING DAY	
Monday 24 th February	School reopens	8.40am
Wednesday 26 th February	First holy Communion Parents' meeting	3.00pm
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day dressing up day	
Sunday 9 th March	First Holy Communion commitment mass	9.45am
Wednesday 12 th March	Parents' Evening 2.30pm – 5.30pm	
Tuesday 15 th April	Y3 & Y4 Maundy Thursday Liturgy (pm)	
Wednesday 16 th April	Y5 & Y6 Stations of the cross Liturgy (pm)	
Thursday 17 th April	School closes for ONE WEEK Easter holiday	1.00pm

School Term Dates 2024 -2025

Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Monday 6 th January 2025 to Thursday 13 th February 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025 to Friday 23 rd May 2025
HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 24 th February 2025 to Thursday 17 th April 2025	Monday 9 th June 2025 to Monday 21 st July 2025
END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

Teacher Days – Friday 25 th October 2024 Friday 14 th February 2025 - MAC Teacher Day Monday 21 st July 2025
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Bank Holidays – Friday 18 th April 2025 Monday 5 th 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.

School Mass – every Wednesday

Our next School Mass will take place on Wednesday 29th January at 2pm and will be led by Year 5. The children lead the Liturgy and they 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.

Y2 Parents Evening

As you know, unfortunately Y2 Parents Evening was unable to take place in November along with the other classes. Y2 children have been sent home with a short 'report card' today in lieu of the parent meeting. Please check your child's bag for this.

Confirmations



As you may know, some of our children in Y5 and Y6 have been preparing to make their Confirmation over the last term. The Mass of Confirmation takes place at 6.00pm this coming Wednesday 22nd January in St. Joseph's Church. Everybody is more than welcome and encouraged to attend. It would be lovely to see lots of people there to support and welcome the children as they become fully initiated into the faith of the Catholic Church. Please come along and celebrate with your friends in this very special event in their lives.

Snow!

In the event of any heavy snow over the coming weeks or extreme weather which causes significant disruption, we will send a text message if we feel it is not safe to open school. If you do not receive a message, then school is OPEN! Please ensure that you keep us up-to-date with any changes of contact numbers. Thank you!



Different Upcoming School Holidays

Just a reminder that we have different holidays to other Birmingham schools this year. We will be having ONE week holiday at Easter and TWO WEEKS at May. Please bear this in mind when making any travel arrangements for the holidays. Dates are on the first page of this newsletter and have been on since September.

Medical absences either side of school holidays will require evidence of illness for them to be authorised. Once you have had 5 unauthorised days absence you can be fined. These days do have to be all at the same time/ consecutively and can be over a period of different terms.

Any days of absences that are unauthorised (this also includes 'late after registration' marks where a child arrives after 9.15am) 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).

*This half-term's virtues are: Compassionate & Loving
If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Gowen, Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey, Mrs Boxwell and Mrs West.*

Vacancy – School Cleaner

We currently have a vacancy for a School Cleaner. Please visit

<https://www.stjosb7.bham.sch.uk/vacancy/vacancy-for-a-school-cleaner-2/>

for more information or to apply.

Communication and Autism Team - Parent Workshop / Drop In Session

Come along and meet Dawn, Wendy and Jo from the Communication and Autism Team (CAT). This is an opportunity for you to meet other parent carers with autistic children, or children who are on the neurodevelopmental pathway for assessment.

The session will be held at Lakeside Children's Centre B23 7UH on Friday 7th February from 9.30-11.30am (Please note there are no childcare facilities at the venue.) If you have any questions, please contact the email below: Joanne.clifford@birmingham.gov.uk Just turn up on the day – there is no need 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, Miss Teague, Mrs Gowen, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

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:

Naod K

Ezekai

Mudesir

Adolina



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 17th January 2024

Well done to **Year 6** class who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous **99%!**

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Reception: 92.9%	Year One: 92%	Year Two: 97.8%	Year Three: 94.9%
Year Four: 93.1%	Year Five: 91.9%	Year Six: 99.6%	

This gives a whole school attendance of **94.7%**

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

Reception	Noah	Super progress with his handwriting.
Year 1	Ayra	Excellent answers in RE this week 😊
Year 2	Vida	Excellent writing in English this week.
Year 3	Nova	Excellent work in English this week 😊
Year 4	Penelope	Trying her best to improve in all subjects
Year 5	Jay	Showing a mature attitude towards his learning!
Year 6	Ashrah	Brilliant effort in writing this week 😊

This Week's News



Manjit from HSBC has spent two days here at St. Joseph's teaching the children about many different banking aspects. In Year 6, we have been learning about fraud and our money. The children even created their own scam email! Year 3 learnt all about the difference between what we want and what we need. We also looked at jobs we would like to do and what we would do with our wages.

Reception have been having lots of fun with mud painting this week! In R.E., we have also been learning about when Jesus called his first disciples. We used role play to help us remember the story.



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