



Key Dates

Tues 22nd Oct	Year 6 St Chad's trip
Tues 22nd Oct	Year 1 Harvest Assembly for parents at 9:15am
Wed 23rd Oct	Year 5 Parents evening
Thurs 24th Oct	Pupils break up for half term today as tomorrow is Inset day
Mon 4th Nov	Pupils return back to school
Wed 20th Nov	Nasal Flu Vaccine
Thurs 21st Nov	Year 6 Confirmation at 5:30pm-venue TBC



Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

This week has been a very busy week at Guardian Angels. Our Key Stage 2 children got to take part in a VR experience at school. Each class had a different virtual focus:

- Year 3 - The Egyptians
- Year 4 - The Greeks
- Year 5 - Mount Everest
- Year 6 - Climate Change

Thank you to our Year 3 parents who attended the Stay and Pray session on Tuesday. These sessions are a fantastic opportunity for parents and children to pray together. Please look out for future opportunities later in the year.

Finally a big thank you all for your generous donations for harvest. The generosity of families show we really are living our catholic social teachings by putting the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. It also shows we are following in the footsteps of Jesus as we are called to work for the good of each other. We collected 12 bags of food to send to our local foodbank!

Year 7 Secondary School Applications

Year 6 Parents, we hope that you have managed to look around some Secondary Schools for your child, please remember the deadline to apply is Thursday 31st October 2024.

Birmingham residents apply here:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1778/apply_for_a_secondary_school_year_7_place/3

Solihull residents apply here:

<https://www.solihull.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/School-admissions>

This Week's Gospel



Today Jesus reminds us that it is not power or money which makes us important, but how much we help other people.

Mark 10:35-45

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus. "Teacher," they said, "there is something we want you to do for us."

"What is it?" Jesus asked them.

They answered, "When you sit on your throne in your glorious Kingdom, we want you to let us sit with you, one at your right and one at your left."

Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking for. Can you drink the cup of suffering that I must drink? Can you be baptized in the way I must be baptized?"

"We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup I must drink and be baptized in the way I must be baptized. But I do not have the right to choose who will sit at my right and my left. It is God who will give these places to those for whom he has prepared them."

When the other ten disciples heard about it, they became angry with James and John. So Jesus called them all together to him and said, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the heathen have power over them, and the leaders have complete authority. This, however, is not the way it is among you. If one of you wants to be great, he must be the servant of the rest; and if one of you wants to be first, he must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served; he came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people."





Black History Month

This month, our pupils have taken part in a wide range of enriching cultural activities to celebrate successes of all cultures and backgrounds across the curriculum.



Winter Uniform

After half term, please make sure you are prepared for your child to wear their winter uniform. This consists of, a white shirt, school tie, jumper or cardigan and a grey skirt/pinafore or trousers.

Black school shoes must be worn. Winter PE Kit should be worn on PE days (plain black joggers/leggings, yellow PE t-shirt and school jumper or hoodie).

Building the Kingdom Homework

October's Big Question - How can we care for God's world?

Create a poster about looking after God's world

The Pope wrote a letter to discuss the damage being inflicted on the Earth by humans and calls on 'every person living on this planet' to make urgent changes to our lifestyles and how we consume energy in order to protect the planet.

This Week's Awards



Virtues Award

EYFS - Amelia G
Year 1 - Charlie
Year 2 - Adonis
Year 3 - Brianna
Year 4 - Ella F
Year 5 - Davian
Year 6 - Blake



Reader of the Week

EYFS - Za'rae
Year 1 - Koa
Year 2 - Billy
Year 3 - Inioluwa
Year 4 - Jacob W
Year 5 - Mylah
Year 6 - Cassius



PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Medley
Year 1 - Gracie-Mai
Year 2 - Winnie
Year 3 - Aoife
Year 4 - Ella L
Year 5 - Mia
Year 6 - Emily S

Star Pupils

EYFS

Daisy-Leigh and Jack

Year 3

LJ and Imogen

Year 1

Naemi and Sylvie-Fae

Year 4

Troy and Chae

Year 2

Isla and Emily S

Year 5

Olivia and Joey

Year 6

Ariela and Nicola

This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	95.9
Year 1	93.6
Year 2	88.0
Year 3	91.0
Year 4	98.7
Year 5	96.9
Year 6	91.0

Attendance Update

Schools can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age.

Guardian Angels have now had to fine 17 families following Birmingham City Council guidelines

If issued with a penalty notice, parents must pay £80 within 21 days or £160 within 28 days. The payment must be made directly to the local authority..

If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute the parent.

Attendance Support

Mrs Tennant and the attendance team are always available to offer advice and support to help ensure your child is able to attend every day and reach their full potential. To book an appointment, please call the office on: 0121 747 2782

Every Day Counts

Just before the holiday, all schools in England received a message from the Secretary of State for Education, outlining the concerns linked to attendance nationwide. Whilst our attendance has improved and the number of children below 90% attendance has decreased, there is still work to be done. Our teachers are providing an excellent education in every classroom, everyday - every day missed is a missed learning opportunity. Attendance will remain a huge focus for the whole school this year.

Attendance Ladder





Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Public Health - Healthy Schools
SUPPORTING FUSSY EATERS

PLEASE FOLLOW LINK TO SIGN UP
Virtual

Facilitator: MAXIMUS (Birmingham's Family Weight Management provider)

Duration: 1 hour

This session is open to staff working at schools in Birmingham and parents of children attending schools in Birmingham. Please share the sign-up link with parents at your school who may be interested in attending.

The session will cover:

- what fussy eating is
- the causes of fussy eating
- the types of fussy eaters
- a range of practical solutions to manage and improve fussy eating

Monday 21st October 2024

6.00pm – 7.00pm

Please follow link to sign up to the session:
[Supporting Fussy Eaters](#)

E- Safety Tip

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 18+ demand availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age/inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN
The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:
U Suitable for all ages
PG For children aged 8 and above, this content shouldn't concern them
UA Children under the age of 11 should not watch without an adult. The content generally features bad language, nudity or sexual references
M Suitable only for 16-year-olds and above
18 Suitable for 18 and over, with potentially explicit themes of substance, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE
Modern mobile devices make it easy for children to watch streaming films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which have closed content if not controlled by parental controls. This could be viewed by children, who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION
Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction, however with modern-day technology making parents' content and home life exposures available, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, content reviews of other films, where detailed special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been combined for more convincing images and gore.

PEER PRESSURE
Horror encourages each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As the content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together - potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY
It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As more children adapt to not sleeping or discussing the content after watching a film, it's hard for parents to open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume and how it's affecting them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS
Horror genres build on its ability to scare or induce genuine fears in the viewer - it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually reserved for children. A content rate review of this is that young viewers, as a result, psychological concerns can have lasting effects and compound over time. The resulting concern can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST
If you're concerned that a film might be appropriate for children, whether it's that first view into the horror genre or a single trailer classification, then take a long look yourself. There's no better way to judge a picture than to see it yourself. It's often surprising for a child - and a parent, for example, but usually when the film is on all major platforms (e.g. they can connect it for more credits).

REMEMBER - IT'S NOT REAL
Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and they can choose whether they're in or out. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them. This can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS
If a child has seen a film that you think they may have exposed them to potentially inappropriate themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to participate in the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS
Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and TV shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time in parental discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

Meet Our Expert
John Inghy is an excellent participant at a secondary school. He has been involved with a variety of activities for over 20 years, writing articles and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies to multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://www.wake-up-wednesday.com/parents-need-to-know-about-horror-films-and-age-ratings/>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.10.2024

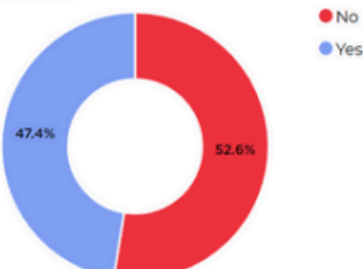
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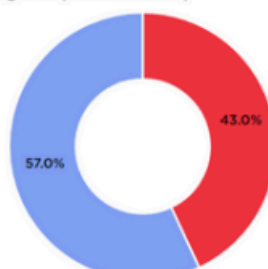
This week's vote:

Do you know when you have had too much sugar? Key Stage 1
Should energy drinks be banned for under-16s? Key Stage 2

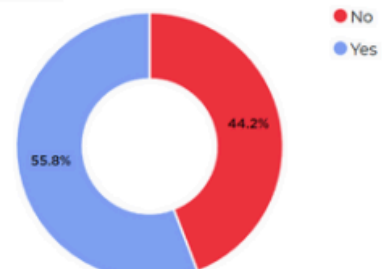
Your School



Regional (West Midlands)



National



Other News



Black History Month 2024 is a momentous occasion to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. Find out more by clicking here: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

Virtues of the Half Term Curious and Active



Pupils in our school are growing to be Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Our school helps our pupils to grow By leading pupils to be curious about the universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning, and by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church, and the wider community.

Birthday Celebrations

Lilly-Paige (Year 2), Oliver and Chloe (Year 5)

Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



Weekly Prayer



God of hope, encourage us to do what we can when we see people who need our help. Open our hearts so that we may work together to make the world a fairer place for all people. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless,

Mrs Helen Milligan, Mr Spindlow and all the staff at Guardian Angels

Composer of the Week Samuel Coleridge-Taylor



Interesting facts:

- Samuel Coleridge-Taylor was an English composer, conductor and political activist who fought against race prejudice with his incredible compositions
- Taylor was taught to play the violin at a young age by his father
- Because his talent and affinity towards music was obvious, he was encouraged to join the Royal College of Music when he was just 15 years old and it was here that he perfected his technique
- Taylor's classical compositions were heavily influenced by traditional African music and this made him one of the most progressive writers of his time
- He was invited to the White House by President Theodore Roosevelt as a result of his work across music and politics- a bold statement and a positive step forward for African Americans
- He died of Pneumonia at age 37 after facing a lifetime of financial struggles and personal tragedy



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

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Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and the other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

Wednesday 16th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

The Articles of Association and Scheme of Delegation requires that the local governing body must include **2** parent governors who have been elected by the parents of registered pupils of the school and who are themselves parents of registered pupils of the school at the time of their election. However, any parent who is an elected member of the local authority or employed to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any twelve consecutive months is not eligible to be a parent government.

Please note that meetings usually take place within the school day and you will need to be available to attend most meetings. On average, there is one meeting per half term and dates are set in advance to provide adequate time and notice to attend. Half of the meetings take place on site at St Wilfrid's with the other three taking place at Guardian Angels School. There is also an option to join the meeting online via teams where needed.

Please note that it is **not the role of a parent governor to air complaints or issues as part of the meeting**, and a full induction, consisting of two training events, with the Diocese is a requirement of the role.

There is/are currently **1** vacancy and you are therefore invited to take part in the election of 1 parent governor for this school who will serve on the local governing body for 4 years unless they resign the post in the interim.

Nomination forms are available from **The School Office** and must be returned to the school no later than 9am on **Wednesday 23rd October 2024**. Should only **one** nomination be received by the official closing date, the candidate will be duly elected unopposed. In the event of there being two or more nominations an election will take place between **Monday 4th November 2024** and **Friday 8th November 2024**. Information on voting arrangements will be sent to you at a later date.

Please note that you should not participate in more nominations than there are vacancies. Each nomination requires two proposers.

In the meantime, please acknowledge receipt of this letter by returning the slip given below.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H Milligan

Returning Officer

I, the undersigned, being a parent of in class acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning the election of parent governors.

Signed:

Date:

Please return to: Mrs H Milligan C/O school office





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NOMINATION FORM

NOMINATION OF PARENT(S) TO SERVE ON THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OF Guardian Angels and St Wilfrid's Federated Board FOR 4 YEARS

Candidate Name (Block capitals)	
--	--

Nominator 1 Name (Block capitals)	Address
--	----------------

Parent of		Year(s)
------------------	--	----------------

Signature		Date	
------------------	--	-------------	--

Nominator 2 Name (Block capitals)	Address
--	----------------

Parent of		Year(s)
------------------	--	----------------

Signature		Date	
------------------	--	-------------	--

I accept the above nomination. In the event of a ballot being necessary I wish the attached information in support of my candidature (e.g. comprising not more than 100 words) to be circulated to those entitled to vote. I understand that neither the local governing body nor Returning Officer bear any responsibility for the validity of any statement made.

By signing this nomination paper I acknowledge that I understand and accept the conditions printed overleaf, agree to undertake a disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau and accept that my appointment, if elected, will not be valid until such a disclosure has been obtained.

Candidate Name (Block capitals)	Address
--	----------------

Parent of		Year(s)
------------------	--	----------------

Signature		Date	
------------------	--	-------------	--

Please return to: **Mrs Helen Milligan c/o School office by Wednesday 23rd November 2024**



Our ref: AA/CP/Rec25

October 2024

Parent/Carer of

Dear Parent/Carer,

Apply online for your child to start Reception class in September 2025

I am writing to you because I understand that your child is able to start school soon. By law, parents/carers must ensure that their child is receiving suitable full-time education at the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. In Birmingham, however, your child can go to school in the September after his or her fourth birthday.

We would ask you to visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application from 1 October 2024 and by **15 January 2025** (the final closing date). We would strongly recommend that you ensure you read the 'Primary Admission Arrangements 2025' information prior to submitting your application. In addition to this, most schools will hold open sessions where parents/carers can talk to teachers or view the school's own prospectus etc. Please visit your preferred school's website for further details.

Online applicants will receive an immediate email confirmation when the application is submitted. Those online applicants who have not provided an email address will not receive an acknowledgement, so it is very important that you include an email address. If you have not received an acknowledgement by 15 January 2025, then you should call Children's Services on 0121 303 1888 to confirm that your application has been received.

Online applicants that submit their application with a valid email address will be sent an offer by email on 16 April 2025. Parents/carers that submitted an online application without a valid email address will be sent an offer letter by first class post which should arrive from 16 April 2025 and should be delivered by the end of that week. Finally, please remember, you do not need to have the internet at home. You can apply online from any device with internet access or if you are able from a computer whilst at work.

If you have any questions about your child starting school, please do not hesitate to contact a member of Children's Services on 0121 303 1888 where staff will be pleased to offer their assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Michell
Head of Schools Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking

