



Key Dates

Frid 17th Jan	Year 1 Phonics screening meeting and parent workshop at 9am
Mon 27th Jan	Holocaust Memorial Day
Frid 14th February	Break up for Half Term
Mon 24th February	INSET Day- School closed to all pupils



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

A warm welcome back to all our wonderful pupils and families after the Christmas holiday! It's been an absolute joy to see the children's smiling faces as they've returned to school, ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

As we embark on this new year, we're thrilled to announce that our school community will be participating in the 'Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope'. We kicked off with a special assembly, introducing the theme, and logo as well as setting the stage for a year filled with hope, reflection, and spiritual growth. Throughout the coming months, we've got a fantastic array of activities planned that will bring this theme to life for our pupils. These experiences will undoubtedly enrich their understanding and foster a sense of unity and purpose within our school family.

One of the highlights of our first week back was the beautiful Mass we celebrated together. It was a lovely way to welcome everyone back to school, reminding us of the importance of faith and community in our daily lives. These moments of collective worship are precious, allowing us to come together in prayer and reflection, setting a positive tone for the term ahead.

Looking forward, I'd like to give you a heads-up about a few important notices. Firstly, we're excited to announce that a new system for ordering school meals will be introduced soon. Called 'Blue Runner', this system aims to streamline the process and make it more convenient for everyone. We're still finalising the details, but rest assured, we'll provide you with comprehensive information as soon as everything is sorted.

Additionally, as part of our ongoing commitment to pupil safety, we will be conducting a lockdown practice next week. These exercises are crucial in ensuring that our school community is well-prepared for any eventuality. We approach these practices with sensitivity, explaining their importance to the children in an age-appropriate manner.

As we move through this term, I'm filled with optimism about the wonderful experiences and learning opportunities that lie ahead for our pupils. The dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our children, and the support of you, our parent community, continue to make our school a vibrant and nurturing place of education. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's educational journey. Here's to a fantastic term ahead, filled with growth, achievement, and plenty of reasons to celebrate!

This Week's Gospel



Today we hear about Jesus' Baptism and about something very special that happened after it. He was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. So John said to all of them, "I baptize you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you."



**Please utilise our Ten:Ten Pray at Home resources:
<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>**



RE Homework

This month's RE homework focuses on celebrations in other faiths and cultures. We are asking children to create a poster, fact file, presentation or piece of artwork that shows and explains a celebration from a different faith or culture.

Homework is due in by 31st January 2025 and winners will be judged by our liturgy leaders and receive a prize.

We look forward to seeing all your creative ideas

Building the Kingdom Homework

January's Big Question - How do other faiths and cultures celebrate throughout the year?

Create a poster, presentation or information booklet about the celebrations celebrated by different faiths and cultures. E.g. Hindu - Diwali, Jewish - Passover / Yon Kippur, Muslim - Ramadan / Eid - ul - Adha, Sikh - Birthday of Guru Nanak



Jubilee Year

What is a Jubilee Year?

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

How often is a Jubilee Year?

A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years.

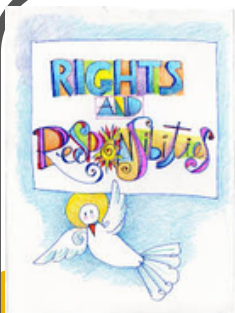
A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.

What is the theme of the Jubilee Year in 2025?

The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world.

When does the Jubilee Year start and finish?

The 2025 Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026.



Catholic Social Teaching

Everybody has a fundamental right to life. It is this right that makes all the other rights possible. Everyone has the right to food, health care, housing, education and employment. We all need to strive to secure and respect these rights for others both locally and globally.

This Week's Awards



Virtues Award

EYFS - Cayson
Year 1 - Paisley
Year 2 - Marnie
Year 3 - Aoife
Year 4 - Chae
Year 5 - Elijah
Year 6 - Ariela



Reader of the Week

EYFS - Arlo-Jay
Year 1 - Arlena
Year 2 - Ava
Year 3 - Joe
Year 4 - Eden
Year 5 - Jacob C
Year 6 - Finn



PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Melody
Year 1 - Koa
Year 2 - Chimamanda
Year 3 - Hosanna
Year 4 - Lacey R
Year 5 - Amelia N
Year 6 - Firefumni

Star Pupils

EYFS

Amelia and Harley

Year 3

Ayanne and Max

Year 1

Harry and Aiyza

Year 4

Troy and Eva J

Year 2

Lilly-Paige and Adonis

Year 5

Lola and Mila'rai

Year 6

Erin J and Miguel

This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	95.4
Year 1	91.8
Year 2	90.6
Year 3	94.9
Year 4	94.6
Year 5	96.4
Year 6	88.3

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

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 22 families following Birmingham City Council guidelines

If issued with a penalty notice, both 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 parents.

Minor sickness and school attendance

There has been a steady increase in the number of children missing school on account of assumed illness. We need the support of all parents and carers to tackle this trend.

Is my child well enough?

High temperature

If your child looks or feels shivery or is unusually cold or hot, he or she may have a high temperature. There may be various reasons for this. A child with a high temperature should not be in school. However after feeling and looking better for 24 hours, a child should be able to return to school.

Cold and cough

A cold and a cough does not disable a child from attending school. However children with heavy colds or persistent coughs should stay at home. A child whose cough is disappearing and who is feeling better should return to school.

Rashes

A rash could be the first sign of one of childhood's many illnesses, such as chicken pox or measles. The rash or spots may cover the entire body or appear in only one area. Do not send a child to school with an unexplained rash or skin eruption until you have contacted NHS 111 or your GP surgery for advice.

Minor aches and pains

A child whose complaint is a minor headache, aches or pains does not usually need to be kept at home. Keep the school informed and the staff can monitor your child.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

If vomiting occurs, your child should stay at home for 48 hours and until he or she can keep food down. A child with diarrhoea should also be kept at home for 48 hours after the last episode. If your child does not improve as you expect, contact NHS 111 or your GP surgery for advice.

Common sense

Use this when deciding whether your child needs to stay at home. Work on the basis that an extremely sick children belong at home and well children belong in class!

Please remember that early morning aches often pass, so don't keep your child at home "just in case" when he or she could be learning in class. For further advice, you could talk to a member of the school staff, your local pharmacy, GP surgery or NHS 111.



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Supporting your child if they are struggling to settle back at school

You may expect your child to have some anxious feelings and nerves at the start of the school year, or after a half term or end of term break. But what if your child is still struggling to settle in school.

In this article, we'll look at:

- how you can support your child by helping them share what is causing them to struggle
- how talking to the school can help some strategies you can try at home

<https://family-action.org.uk/self-help/supporting-your-child-if-theyre-struggling-to-settle-back-at-school/>

E- Safety Tip

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally enjoy life to its fullest. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

- START SMALL AND EARLY**
Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine at least a few days before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, mealtimes and school start times to ease the transition. Small changes can make a big difference to settling back into school and learning. Consider introducing the school routine gradually over the summer holidays.
- REVISIT THE SCHEDULE**
Invite your child to help map out their daily routine and discuss what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or timelines can help children understand the new routine. Encourage them to take ownership of their schedule and make adjustments as needed.
- CREATE A SLEEP PLAN**
Sleep and present one of the biggest challenges for children and teenagers when returning to school. Encourage your child to stick to a consistent bedtime and wake-up time, even during the holidays. Use a visual aid like a 'WEEKLY PLANNER' to track sleep patterns.
- ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS**
Help your child to reconnect with school friends by encouraging them to play together or invite friends to their home. Encourage them to share their experiences and feelings about the transition.
- GRANT RESPONSIBILITY**
Give children control over some aspects of their learning routine. Encourage them to take ownership of their learning and make decisions about their own work. Encourage them to take responsibility for their own learning and make decisions about their own work.
- FOCUS ON NUTRITION**
Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks) to fuel energy and concentration. Encourage them to eat a variety of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. Encourage them to drink plenty of water throughout the day.
- COMMUNICATE OPENLY**
Talk with your child about how they're feeling and encourage them to express their thoughts and feelings. Encourage them to share their experiences and feelings about the transition. Encourage them to share their experiences and feelings about the transition.
- RECONNECT WITH LEARNING**
Make children feel like a learning routine is a fun and engaging activity. Encourage them to play educational games that involve reading or discussing books and articles. Encourage them to play educational games that involve reading or discussing books and articles.
- PREP TOGETHER**
Turn preparation into a shared activity by involving your child in packing their school bag. Encourage them to take ownership of their school bag and make decisions about what to pack. Encourage them to take ownership of their school bag and make decisions about what to pack.
- BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE**
Transition time is a shared activity by involving your child in packing their school bag. Encourage them to take ownership of their school bag and make decisions about what to pack. Encourage them to take ownership of their school bag and make decisions about what to pack.

Meet Our Expert
Becky's a therapist and an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. She's passionate about supporting children who struggle with anxiety, depression and other mental health issues. She's also a mother of two children and a teacher. She provides workshops and resources to children during the holidays.

WakeUp Wednesday The National College

#wakeup_weds @wakeup_weds @wakeup.wednesday @wakeup.weds

Themed Meal Thursday

This Thursday, we will be hosting a delightful themed meal for our pupils. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to enjoy a tasty and nutritious lunch while also engaging with the theme.

If you would like your child to receive this special themed meal, please ensure you place your order via ParentPay. This will help us cater accordingly and provide an enjoyable experience for all our pupils.

As always, we are committed to offering high-quality catering that caters to the diverse needs and preferences of our school community. We hope your child will join us in celebrating this themed meal.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

FOOD FESTIVAL
Tell us your FAVOURITE MEAL

Thursday 16th January

Classic Hot Dog
OR
Classic Quorn Hot Dog

with
Peas or Beans & Chips

Sparkle Cookies

WHEEL OF FORTUNE
CHIPS
PEAS
BEANS
COOKIES

Other News



Reception Place for September 2025

Deadline to submitted an application for a Reception Place for September 2025 is Wednesday 15th January 2025

Please apply via the council that you pay your council tax to.

A Supplementary Information Form will also need to be completed. Upon request - this form can be emailed to you or you can collect one from the school office. Please ensure that this form is completed and returned to the school office before the deadline as above

Virtues of the Half Term Grateful and Generous



Pupils in our school are **Grateful**: We are grateful for the gifts God has given to us, for the gifts of other people and the blessings of each new day. We are thankful for what we have and for the people around us. **Generous**: We are generous with our gifts and use them in the service of others. We are generous with our time and give of ourselves to serve others as God wants us to. We are generous with our actions, doing things to help other people and make a difference in the world.

Birthday Celebrations

Kai-Kieran(RB) Jarvis (Year 2)
Jude C (Year 4) Jacob M (Y5)

Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



Weekly Prayer



God of all, as we gather at your table, we give thanks for your love. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and help us to show your love to others in all that we do. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless,

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

Composer of the Week Sergio Mendes



- Sergio Mendes is a Grammy Award-winning Brazilian musician, composer and actor.
- He has released over thirty-five albums, and plays bossa nova heavily crossed with jazz and funk.
- The child of a physician in Niterói, Brazil, Mendes attended the local conservatory with hopes of becoming a classical pianist
- As his interest in jazz grew, he started playing in nightclubs in the late-1950s just as bossa nova, a jazz-inflected derivative of samba, was taking off
- His 1992 album *Brasileiro* including artists such as Carlinhos Brown won the 1993 Grammy Award[1] for Best World Music Album and features the hit song *Fanfarra*.
- *Fanfarra* was unlike anything many people had heard before. It featured 100 Brazilian percussionists from samba schools in Rio de Janeiro, working on everything from the large, deep drums known as *surdos* to tambourines, recorded in a parking lot in Rio, creating a richly textured, rhythmic fabric on top of which two singers chant
- He is widely known for his nomination for an Oscar for Best Original Song in 2012 as co-writer of the song "Real in Rio" from the animated film *Rio*



The Jubilee Prayer

**Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.**

**May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole
cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.**

**May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.**

**May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.**

**To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.**

Amen

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

