



Key Dates

Mon 6th January	School open for all
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.

As we draw the curtains on another remarkable term, I'm filled with joy reflecting on the festive spirit that has enveloped our school community. Our pupils have truly embraced the essence of Advent, showcasing their talents and spreading cheer throughout our halls.

This week, Years 4, 5 and 6 lifted our spirits with their beautiful Advent carol service, while Years 2 and 3 charmed us all with their heartwarming Nativity performance. Our Aspens Team outdid themselves, serving up a delicious Christmas lunch that warmed both bodies and souls.

In this final week, we were blessed to have Fr Paul lead Mass and bless our Baminelli. The joy continued as he surprised us today by playing drums and leading a carol sing-along in the hall, filling the air with laughter and music.

Our Year 6 pupils demonstrated their hospitality skills, hosting a lovely lunch for our parishioners, complete with angelic singing from our talented children.

I've been thoroughly impressed by the creative Christmas scenes our pupils have crafted as part of their RE homework. These beautiful displays are a testament to their imagination and understanding of the season's significance.

As we look ahead, I'm pleased to announce that Mrs Wood will be joining our Year 2 teaching team in January.

To our wonderful families, thank you for your boundless generosity and warm wishes extended to our dedicated staff. Your support means the world to us. As we step into 2025, we look forward to another year of faith, learning, and success for our pupils, families, and staff.

May you all have a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year filled with love and peace.

Holy Mass Times at Christmas 2024 Mother of God and Guardian Angel Parish

**Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve
Christmas Vigil
5pm Christmas Vigil Mass at Guardian Angels
primary school (with carols before)**

**Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day
11am Mass at Guardian Angels primary school**

**Thursday 26th December - Feast of St Stephen,
Martyr
10am Mass at Mother of God and Guardian Angels
church**

This Week's Gospel



Today we hear how cousins Mary and Elizabeth rejoiced when they saw each other and how Elizabeth knew straight away that Mary's baby was very special.

Luke 1:39-45

Soon afterwards Mary got ready and hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear! Why should this great thing happen to me, that my Lord's mother comes to visit me? For as soon as I heard your greeting, the baby within me jumped with gladness. How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true!"



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



Christmas at Guardian Angels

What a wonderful few weeks we have enjoyed here at Guardian Angels in the run up to Christmas! The children and staff have worked tirelessly to produce Nativity performances and a Carol Concert for our parents. Pupils have enjoyed workshops, a film and PJ evening, Christmas dinner and class parties with their friends. Whilst our families and the local community have come together for our annual Christmas fayre and to gather for mass during the season of Advent.

During Advent, our pupils and staff have been preparing for Jesus' birth through prayer, reflection and giving. We offer our most sincere thanks for your kind donations during this time, may they help others in need and spread God's love.

Christmas RE Homework

Thank you to all who have completed the Christmas RE homework. We are overwhelmed by the creativity and your depictions of the Nativity. Well done to the winners in each class.



Spring 1

As we move into our new term, we will focus our attention to the virtues of Grateful and Generous and the Catholic Social Teaching Rights and Responsibilities. Please speak to your child about what this means to them as an individual and also as a member of God's

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, now and in the future.



family.

God wants us to help make sure that everyone is safe and healthy and can have a good life.



This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	92.0
Year 1	91.0
Year 2	87.5
Year 3	87.2
Year 4	93.7
Year 5	97.4
Year 6	85.0

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

Bring it on Brum.

A date for your diary! Bring it on Brum! winter holiday clubs start on Monday 23rd December and run until Friday 3rd January. Excludes bank holidays and weekends.

Bookings for our winter holiday clubs are now OPEN! To book, go to the Bring it on Brum! website.

<https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/>



E- Safety Tip

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Management is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the same-old issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

- INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY**
The best opportunities to successful resolution are undertaken. This means that rather than adults imposing their own will on children who have not had a disagreement, they should work with them. Encouraging children to come up with solutions that are acceptable to all parties and will hopefully teach them to solve their own disputes on their own in the future.
- ACTIVELY LISTEN**
Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs or other requirements. This can be done using a variety of methods, such as role-play, drawing, writing, or using puppets. It is important to ensure that all children have a chance to be heard and that their views are taken into account.
- BE CURIOUS**
Communicating how to approach conflicts with a mixture of encouragement and support can be a good example for children, which will give a good role for them later in life. Model this by asking questions and respectful questions about the issue at hand, usually by an understanding of all parties involved. Listen, and show interest in what they have to say, and where appropriate, this should encourage them to think about their own behaviour, listening to what the other side of a conflict, and that being more willing to hear them out.
- PROMOTE DIFFERENCES**
Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have different experiences and attitudes to conflict. Promote positive examples, hearing it out and communicating, rather than using force or physical discipline. Encourage 'I' statements and encourage children to express their own views, and where appropriate, to listen to what the other side of a conflict, and that being more willing to hear them out.
- BE SUPPORTIVE**
Children may be sensitive to, or some cases, be 'higher' on the spectrum. They may have internal feelings about the issue at hand. They could be shy or nervous about expressing their views to others. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and encouraged to express their views. If the conversation goes heated, to prevent this from escalating, consider using a 'time-out' sign.
- MENTALLY PREPARE**
Think of how you can prepare children to cope with a disagreement. Consider having some role-play or scenarios to help them to think about how to deal with a disagreement. Encourage them to think about how to deal with a disagreement. Encourage them to think about how to deal with a disagreement. Encourage them to think about how to deal with a disagreement.
- GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT**
Make sure you have all the facts, figures and evidence of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done in a respectful and positive way, with a focus on resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to use a variety of methods, such as role-play, drawing, writing, or using puppets. It is important to ensure that all children have a chance to be heard and that their views are taken into account.
- STICK TO THE POINT**
Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or discussions clear to the children. This should be done in a respectful and positive way, with a focus on resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to use a variety of methods, such as role-play, drawing, writing, or using puppets. It is important to ensure that all children have a chance to be heard and that their views are taken into account.
- BE SOLUTION FOCUSED**
It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about getting others to see things your way. This means that the main aim of any meeting or discussion should be to resolve the issue in a way that is acceptable to all parties. Encourage children to think about how to deal with a disagreement. Encourage them to think about how to deal with a disagreement. Encourage them to think about how to deal with a disagreement.
- DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT**
The one benefit from allowing concerns and disagreements to be discussed, is the chance to have a better understanding of the situation. This can help to build a better understanding of the situation. This can help to build a better understanding of the situation. This can help to build a better understanding of the situation.

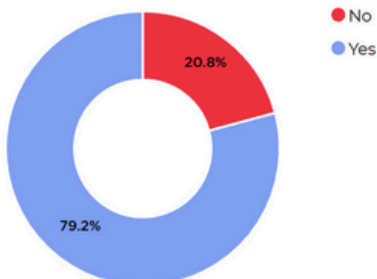
Meet Our Expert
Colleen Hunt is a management teacher, SEND and advisory teacher, the founder of the company, The National College, and a frequent speaker at conferences. She works with schools, colleges, and universities to help them to improve their safeguarding and compliance. She is also a frequent speaker at conferences.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College
@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake_up_wednesday | @wake_up_weds

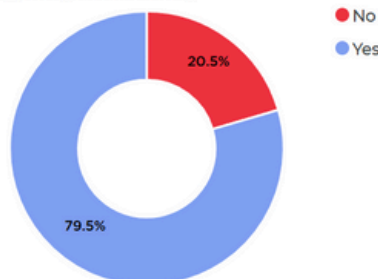
VOTES FOR SCHOOLS

Should we learn more about coping with extreme weather?

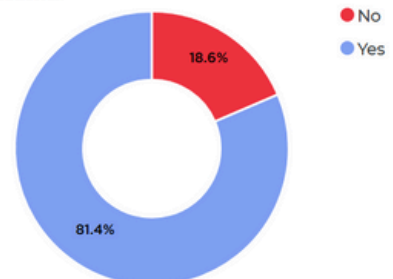
Your School



Regional (West Midlands)



National



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 Intentional and Prophetic

Pupils in our school are



Intentional: Planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to. Every action we make has an impact on other people and the world around us. We think about the choices we make and care for God's creation.

Prophetic: Spreading the word of God through how we live our lives. As we choose to act intentionally and make good decisions, we encourage others to do the same. We set a good example and try to be role models for others.

Birthday Celebrations

Arlo-Jay, Daisy-Leigh & Luna (EYFS)
Joshua (Year 1)
Freddie, Frankie & Casey (Year 4)
Mylah (Y5)

Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



Weekly Prayer



God of all, fill us with joy at the coming of your Son, as Mary and Elizabeth were filled with joy. Help us to spread your love by caring for all our brothers and sisters around the world.

Amen

**Have a break and God Bless,
Mrs Helen Milligan, Mr Spindlow and
all the staff at Guardian Angels**

Composer of the Week

Bjork



Björk Guðmundsdóttir is an Icelandic singer, songwriter, composer, record producer, actress and environmental activist. She is a keen advocate for environmental causes in Iceland

Born and raised in Reykjavík, Björk began her music career at the age of 11 and gained international recognition as the lead singer of the alternative rock band the Sugarcubes, by the age of 21

She started to study classical music at the age of 5 and released her first album in 1977 (mainly traditional Icelandic folk songs)

Bjork is known for her distinct three-octave vocal range and eccentric persona

She has developed an eclectic musical style over her four-decade career that has drawn on electronic, pop, experimental, trip hop, classical and avant-garde music



Parish Cluster Christmas Masses 2024

Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

4.30 pm: First Mass of Christmas Mass at St. Anthony's, Kingshurst

5pm: First Mass of Christmas Mass at Guardian Angels Primary School, Shard End

6pm: First Mass of Christmas for Children at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's, Coleshill

6pm: First Mass of Christmas for Children at Our Lady's, Kitts Green

6.30 pm: First Mass of Christmas at St. Anne's, Chelmsley Wood

8.30pm: Christmas Carols at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's, Coleshill

9pm: Christmas Night Mass at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's, Coleshill

9pm: Christmas Night Mass at Our Lady's, Kitts Green

Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day

9am: Mass at St John the Baptist, Smith's Wood

9.30am: Mass at Our Lady's, Kitts Green

10.45am: Mass at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's, Coleshill

11 am: Mass at St. Anne's, Chelmsley Wood

11am: Mass at Guardian Angels Primary School, Shard End

Holy Mass Times at Christmas 2024

Mother of God and Guardian Angel Parish
serving St John the Baptist church and school

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil

5pm Christmas Vigil Mass at Guardian Angels primary school
(with carols before)

Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day

9am Mass at St John the Baptist church

11am Mass at Guardian Angels primary school

Thursday 26th December – Feast of St Stephen, Martyr

10am Mass at Mother of God and Guardian Angels church

Saturday 28th December

5pm Vigil Mass at Guardian Angels primary school (for
Sunday - Feast of the Holy Family)

Sunday 29th December – Feast of the Holy Family

9am Mass at St John the Baptist church

11am Mass at Guardian Angels primary school

Addresses where Masses will be celebrated:

- ✚ Guardian Angels primary school, Hurst Lane, Shard End, Birmingham B34 7HN
- ✚ St John the Baptist church, Arran Way, Smith's Wood, Birmingham B36 0QE
- ✚ Mother of God and Guardian Angels church, Kitsland Road, Shard End B34 7NA (Access side door of church, through front of Guardian Angel House)



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

