



Key Dates

Mon 10th March	Year 2-reading workshop for parents at 2.40pm
Tues 11th March	Year 6 trip - payable on ParentPay
Wed 12th March	Parents meeting Holy Communion/Reconciliation at 2:45pm in school hall
Thurs 13th March	Year 6 - Stay & Pray workshop and SATs meeting at 2:40pm-school hall
Thurs 13th March	Aspens taster session at 3pm in the school playground
Mon 17th March	Science week - Science Forensic workshops and the Animal Man attending - payable on ParentPay
Wed 19th March	Parents Evening-bookable on MyChildAtSchool app only
Wed 19th March	Mass in the school hall - all invited led by Year 3
Frid 21st March	Downs Syndrome Day
Thurs 27th March	World Book Day - pupils may dress up
Thurs 27th March	Year 5 - Reading workshop for parents at 2:45pm in the school hall



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.

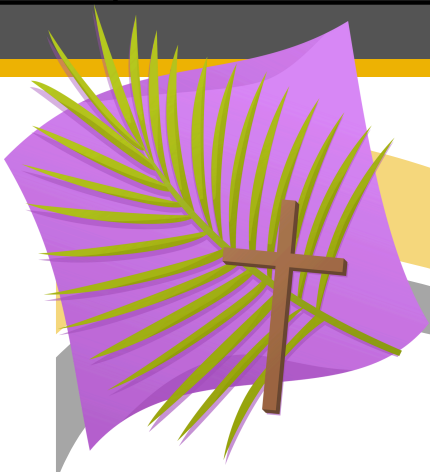
Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

As we journey through Lent, our school has been bustling with activity and spiritual growth. We marked Ash Wednesday with reverence, reflecting on our faith and the importance of this sacred time. It's heartening to see our pupils embracing the Lenten season with such thoughtfulness and dedication.

Our Year 4 pupils recently embarked on an exciting adventure to Lunt Roman Fort. This trip brought history to life, allowing our young learners to step back in time and experience the rich tapestry of our past. The enthusiasm and curiosity they displayed were truly inspiring, and I'm certain this experience will leave a lasting impression on their educational journey.

We've also had the privilege of welcoming the Catholic School Inspectorate to Guardian Angels this week. This visit provides us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the outstanding work of our pupils and staff, and to reflect on our continued commitment to excellence in Catholic education.

As always, we're immensely proud of our school community. Your support and engagement in these activities and experiences enrich the educational landscape for our pupils, fostering their growth academically, spiritually, and personally.



This Week's Gospel



Today we are going to hear about how Jesus spent 40 days praying in the desert, to get closer to God, and to get ready for his ministry. At the end of this time he was very hungry.

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus returned from the Jordan full of the Holy Spirit and was led by the Spirit into the desert, where he was tempted by the Devil for forty days. In all that time he ate nothing, so that he was hungry when it was over.

The Devil said to him, "If you are God's Son, order this stone to turn into bread."

But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Human beings cannot live on bread alone.'"

Then the Devil took him up and showed him in a second all the kingdoms of the world. "I will give you all this power and all this wealth," the Devil told him.

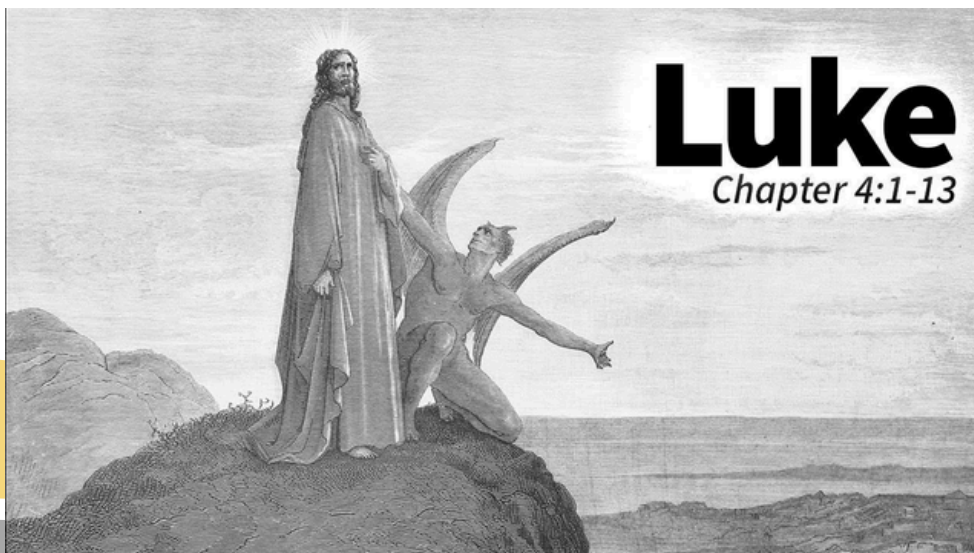
"It has all been handed over to me, and I can give it to anyone I choose. All this will be yours, then, if you worship me."

Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'"

Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem and set him on the highest point of the Temple, and said to him, "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here. For the scripture says, 'God will order his angels to take good care of you.' It also says, 'They will hold you up with their hands so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.'"

But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

When the Devil finished tempting Jesus in every way, he left him for a while.





World Book Day

Due to our Catholic Schools Inspectorate this week, World Book Day has been postponed to Thursday 27th March when children are invited to come in costumes. All competitions will run until that date.



Year 4 Swimming

We'd like to remind you that Year 4 will begin swimming, at Stechford Swimming Baths, on Friday 14th March. Children will need to wear their PE kit to school and ensure that they have their swimming kit and towel in an appropriate bag.

Ash Wednesday

Our pupils participated in a special service, receiving the traditional ash cross on their foreheads as a symbol of repentance and renewal.

This meaningful ceremony provided an opportunity for our young learners to contemplate their faith and personal growth. It was heartening to see our Guardian Angels family unite in this important Catholic tradition, setting the tone for a period of spiritual reflection and preparation for Easter. As we progress through Lent, we encourage our pupils to embrace this time of contemplation and positive change.

Parent's Evening

We'd like to remind you that Parents' Evening is scheduled for March 19th. To ensure a smooth booking process, please make sure you have the My Child at School APP installed on your device, this will be essential for booking your appointments (once the booking are available, you will receive a text).

If you encounter any difficulties or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact our school office. We're here to help and want to make this process as straightforward as possible for you.

Year 3 Sacramental Update

For our Year 3 families, two significant events are on the horizon. A meeting regarding reconciliation and holy communion will take place on Wednesday, 12th March at 2:45pm. This will be an essential gathering to discuss these important sacraments. Additionally, we're pleased to announce that the Year 3 Holy Communion ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, 21st June 2025. We look forward to sharing in this special milestone with our Year 3 pupils and their families.





DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR, WE WILL BE HOLDING **MONTHLY COMPETITIONS** FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN.
WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE SHARED IN OUR ASSEMBLIES.

<p><u>February</u> Artwork: Create a piece of artwork which represents hope to you. Entries will be sent to someone as a sign of hope afterwards (i.e. migrants, elderly, prisoners, hospitals, hospices)</p>	<p><u>March</u> Poem of Hope: Create a poem which fills you with hope, makes you think about something hopeful or explores something you hope for in the future.</p>	<p><u>April</u> Sound of Hope: could you record a sound which makes you feel hopeful, or record you singing a song which makes you full of hope? Maybe you could make up your own song?</p>	<p><u>May</u> Letters of Hope: Write a letter to Pope Francis telling him what you hope for and what change you want to see in the world. Could you tell him what you think you could do to make it happen?</p>	<p><u>June</u> People of Hope: Nominate the people of hope around you. Who makes you feel hopeful, like you can achieve what you want to achieve or makes you feel happy and loved?</p>
<p><u>July - August</u> Holiday of Hope: Can you share a photo of how you have shared hope in your community? Could you go on your pilgrimage with your family?</p>	<p><u>September</u> Story of Hope: Can you create a short story, of no longer than 400 words, which explores the theme of hope?</p>	<p><u>October</u> Scene of Hope: Could you take a photo of something which represents hope to you, or makes you feel hopeful?</p>	<p><u>November</u> Heroes of Hope: Design an icon for your favourite Saint, or Saint who represents hope to you.</p>	<p><u>December</u> Wreath of Hope: Create an Advent wreath for your classroom with messages of hope on the leaves.</p>



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This Week's Awards



Virtues Award

EYFS - Penelope
Year 1 - Koa
Year 2 - Hunter
Year 3 - Scarlett
Year 4 - Lacey R
Year 5 - Jacob M
Year 6 - Jacob



Reader of the Week

EYFS - Ka'Oir
Year 1 - Naemi
Year 2 - Ava
Year 3 - Amelia-Lily
Year 4 - Ella F
Year 5 - Jolie
Year 6 - Kairo



PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Joshua
Year 1 - Larna
Year 2 - Adonis
Year 3 - Millie-Mae
Year 4 - Mylo
Year 5 - Mila'rai
Year 6 - Lucas

Star Pupils

EYFS

Royale and Luna

Year 3

Aoife and Oscar

Year 1

Joshua and Esme

Year 4

Chae and Freddie

Year 2

Sidney and Billy

Year 5

Royale and Elijah

Year 6

Lexie and Miguel

This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	92.4
Year 1	87.5
Year 2	97.7
Year 3	95.4
Year 4	91.0
Year 5	90.2
Year 6	90.3

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 25 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

**KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Child remains safeguarded under the age of 18.**
- Childhood is the right time to address risks.**
- Remember: It's all about how you address safeguarding if concerned.**
- It's one of our core values, the welfare of children and keeping the environment safe, whatever the risk.**

What is safeguarding?
Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as preventing child abuse or neglect, or responding to it. It includes all actions that children and young people should take to protect themselves and others from harm.

What do I need to do?

- ALWAYS ACT** - If you are concerned about a child, there is always something you can do.
- KNOW HOW** - Know what to do, when to do it, and how to do it.
- KNOW THE DIFFERENT** - Know the different types of abuse and how to respond to them.

Staff Behaviour

Whistleblowing

For consultancy, training and advice, go to www.safeguardinginschools.co.uk

E- Safety Tip

**10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators
USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS**

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

- 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT**
Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help accessing digital text, consider using audio books or audiobooks, which can be used in a car or at home. If they are struggling with reading, consider using audiobooks, which can be used in a car or at home. If they are struggling with reading, consider using audiobooks, which can be used in a car or at home.
- 2 READING ON SCREEN**
Many devices now offer users to customize text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background color can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, while text on a screen is easier to read, it is also more distracting. Encourage children to use a device to read, but also encourage them to read a physical book.
- 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS**
Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support users with disabilities. Screen readers, text-to-speech, and other accessibility tools can be used to help children with reading disabilities. Encourage children to use these tools to help them read.
- 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES**
Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, vocabulary lists, and built-in dictionaries. These features help learners to look up complex words and phrases while reading. Encourage children to use these features to help them read.
- 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS**
Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogue and mission objectives. Reading these on-screen text is an effective literacy tool. Games that involve reading, such as Minecraft, can help children improve their reading skills.
- 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS**
Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, getting a better understanding of the written words used when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Regularly watching content with subtitles can also improve reading and writing skills.
- 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS**
Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop reading skills. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a recorded reading. This is particularly helpful for struggling readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Regularly watching content with subtitles can also improve reading and writing skills.
- 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING**
Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, making it easier for learners to write. Most word processors, tablets and computers come with this feature built-in. When enabled, users can speak words and phrases, and the device will type them out. This is particularly helpful for children with writing difficulties, as it allows them to express their thoughts and ideas more easily.
- 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY**
Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to read. Most word processors, tablets and computers come with this feature built-in. When enabled, users can select text and have it read aloud. This is particularly helpful for children with reading difficulties, as it allows them to hear the words and phrases they are reading.
- 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS**
While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions for 13-18 year olds. Encourage children to use social media responsibly. Many social media videos include captions and subtitles, which can help children improve their reading skills. Encourage children to use social media responsibly and to use parental controls to ensure their safety and privacy.

Meet Our Expert
Cathryn Jones is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She has worked in various roles in education, including as a literacy specialist, and has extensive experience in supporting children with reading difficulties. She is currently a literacy specialist at a primary school in London.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

Twitter: @wake_up_weds | Facebook: /thenationalcollege | Instagram: @wake.up.wednesday | TikTok: @wake.up.weds

MyChildAtSchool APP

We'd like to remind you that Parents' Evening is scheduled for March 19th, this will shortly be available on the MyChildAtSchool APP, thank you to all the parents that have already downloaded this app but if you haven't you may not be able to view the many features that this app provides. If you have not yet activated the app, you will require the 'school ID' number which is: 14442 and then use your email address that you have provided the school along with a password that you can remember. You will then be asked to choose a 5 digit code that you may need to use each time you login. Once you have logged into your child's account, please check that your personal details are correct and we ask that you add your work phone numbers in case of emergencies. If your child's medical details have changed - please inform the office as soon as possible in writing.





Virtues of the Half Term

Attentive and Discerning



Pupils in our school are **Attentive**: We are attentive when we listen to our calling from God to love and serve one another in all that we do. We are attentive to our experiences and can see where they will take us in our future vocations.

Discerning: We are discerning when we decide to do the right thing in the interest of the needs of others because we know the positive impact that will have on their lives.

Birthday Celebrations

Zyon (EYFS) Isla and Daniel (Year 2)
Mia (Year 5)

Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



God who walks with us and knows what it is to be hungry, teach us to support each other and to work together to overcome the problems in our world. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless,

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

Composer of the Week Kishori Amonkar





WORLD BOOK DAY

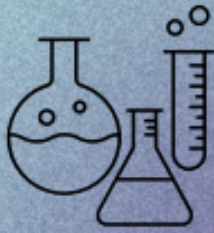
We will now be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 27th March 2025. This years theme is a World of Stories.



On the day, pupils and staff will be whisked off to the world of reading with a host of fun activities. Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Pupils will also have the opportunity to take part in a book swap - bring a book from home and swap it for a friends or for a book in our swap shop.

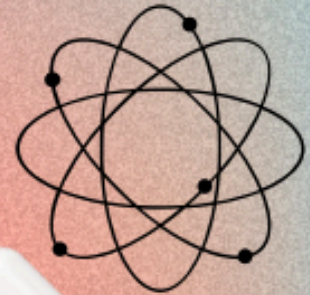
Story in a Jar competition is back this year! A winner will be chosen from each class to win a prize. Year 2 - 6 pupils will also have the chance to win their very own Amazon Fire7. All they need to do is read as many books as they can over half term and complete the book's Accelerated Reader quizzes. (A pass rate of 85% or more is required). The class with the highest reads will also win a set of new books to enjoy in class.

In past years, this has been a truly memorable day for our Guardian Angels family. We look forward to seeing all your efforts again this year!



SCIENCE WEEK 2025

W/C MONDAY 17TH MARCH



FORENSIC WORKSHOPS
A CRIME HAS BEEN COMMITTED AND
CLASSES MUST WORK TOGETHER TO PIECE
TOGETHER THE EVIDENCE!

BRING IN A WHITE SHIRT
SO YOU CAN DECORATE
YOUR OWN SCIENCE LAB
COAT.

DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES IN
CLASS TO BUILD ON YOUR
SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE!

ANIMAL MAN
AN EXCITING VISIT WHERE YOU WILL GET
TO SEE, HOLD AND LEARN ABOUT
DIFFERENT EXOTIC CREATURES!



SEND coffee morning



**Thursday 13th
March
at 9am**

Come along and enjoy a hot drink, biscuits and share great tips and strategies for supporting each other.

Please call office if able to attend.