



### Key Dates

Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 trip
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Pupils break up for May half term Reception class ONLY may wear party clothes to school for their Tea Party!
Frid 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Inset day-school closed to pupils
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	School open for all
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 trip
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS starting Sept 2025 induction meeting at 10am
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Reading workshop for parents in the school hall at 2:45pm
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Mass at 9am - led by Year 4
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Height and weight check for EYFS and Year 6 - if parents want to opt out, please inform the office ASAP
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y5 Bikeability - please ensure all slips have been signed and returned by 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3 Bikeability - please ensure all slips have been signed and returned by 22 <sup>nd</sup> May



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 approach the end of another remarkable term, we find ourselves reflecting on the incredible achievements and unwavering spirit of our pupils. It's moments like these that remind us why we're so proud to be part of this extraordinary school.

We would like to take a moment to shine a spotlight on our brilliant Year 6 pupils. These young stars have recently faced one of their biggest challenges yet – the SATs. It's no secret that these tests can be daunting, but our Year 6s approached them with a level of determination and resilience that was truly inspiring.

Throughout the preparation period, we witnessed countless examples of pupils going above and beyond. They attended extra revision sessions, supported one another, and maintained a positive attitude even when the going got tough. This dedication didn't go unnoticed, and it filled us with immense pride to see them tackle each paper with such focus and confidence.

**To our Year 6 pupils: your hard work has not gone unnoticed. The effort you've put in, the revision, the practice papers completed – it all matters. Regardless of the outcomes, you should be incredibly proud of yourselves. You've demonstrated qualities that will serve you well far beyond these tests: perseverance, teamwork, and a commitment to personal growth.**

**To the parents and carers who've supported our Year 6s through this journey: thank you. Your encouragement and support at home have been invaluable. You've played a crucial role in helping our pupils navigate this challenging time.**

**As we await the results, let's remember that these tests are just one small part of your educational journey. The skills you've developed, the friendships you've forged, and the personal growth you've achieved are the true measures of success.**

# This Week's Gospel



Today Jesus has a very important message for his disciples, and for all who believe in him. Jesus asks us to love one another as he loves us.

## John 13:31-35

After Judas had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man’s glory is revealed; now God’s glory is revealed through him. And if God’s glory is revealed through him, then God will reveal the glory of the Son of Man in himself, and he will do so at once. My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. You will look for me; but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities, ‘You cannot go where I am going.’ And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.”





Thursday, 22nd May at 10am, we will be holding our annual May Procession – a special service where we honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

*May Procession*



Pupils are invited to bring potted flowers or plants to this meaningful service, where we'll focus on Mary, our Mother.

## Volunteer Opportunity at Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Are you passionate about working with children and making a positive impact in your community? We are looking for dedicated volunteers to support children aged 4–11 across all areas of school life.

Opportunities include:

- Supporting reading and learning across the curriculum
- Engaging with children during playtimes and lunchtimes
- Helping with afterschool clubs and breakfast club

This voluntary role is ideal for individuals looking to gain experience in a school setting – particularly those completing an external Teaching Assistant (TA) course.

Key Information:

- Minimum commitment: 1 hour per week
- Unpaid, voluntary role
- Enhanced DBS check required (provided by the school)
- Start dates and times are flexible and negotiable

We're looking for individuals who are: Confident with spoken English Compassionate and team-oriented Hardworking and eager to learn new skills Respectful of confidentiality Professional and aligned with school policies and safeguarding procedures

To apply: You will need to provide a reference and complete our Application form. Your time could make a lasting difference. [enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk) or 0121 747 2782

# This Week's Awards



## Virtues Award

EYFS - Jack  
Year 1 - Holly-Bee  
Year 2 - Chimamanda  
Year 3 - Anniyah  
Year 4 - Summer  
Year 5 - Parker  
Year 6 - All of Year 6



## Reader of the Week

EYFS - Amelia G  
Year 1 - Joshua  
Year 2 - Marnie  
Year 3 - Abigail  
Year 4 - Eden  
Year 5 - Toby  
Year 6 - All of Year 6



## PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Michael  
Year 1 - Jaxson  
Year 2 - Daniel  
Year 3 - Frankie  
Year 4 - Lacey-Mai  
Year 5 - Elijah  
Year 6 - N/A

## Star Pupils

EYFS

Carson and Melody

Year 3

Inioluwa and Nellie

Year 1

Baby-Queenie and Esme

Year 4

Mylo and Oscar

Year 2

Michael and Charlie

Year 5

Maisie and Mia

Year 6

All of Year 6

# This Week's Attendance



## Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	97.3
Year 1	90.3
Year 2	91.0
Year 3	94.0
Year 4	99.1
Year 5	96.0
Year 6	97.0

### 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 29 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

Plenty of children will likely want to make the most of the sunny days when they come – but even over the course of a single day, the effects of hot weather can have an impact on young people's health and wellbeing

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, links and tips, please visit [www.thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## STAYING SAFE IN HOT WEATHER

As temperatures rise, it's essential to take proactive steps to ensure children and young people stay safe and healthy. Hot weather can pose serious risks such as dehydration, heatstroke and sunburn. This guide provides practical tips for parents and teachers to protect children during sunnier spells, helping them enjoy the summer safely.

- 1 STAY HYDRATED**  
Ensure children drink plenty of water throughout the day, even if they don't feel thirsty. Encourage them to carry water bottles and take regular sips. It's better to drink small amounts to rehydrate than to wait until they're very thirsty. Children's regular fluid intake should be increased during hot weather. Avoid sugary drinks and caffeine, which can contribute to dehydration.
- 2 APPLY SUNSCREEN**  
Use a broad-spectrum sunblock with at least SPF 30 on all exposed skin and reapply every two hours or after swimming. Don't forget the neck and tops of feet. Sunscreen needs around 20 to 30 minutes to be absorbed by the skin, so make sure you have plenty of time to apply it.
- 3 WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**  
Dress children in light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing made from breathable fabrics like cotton. Ideally, clothing should cover as much skin as possible. Hats should always be worn and sunglasses with UV protection are essential to shield them from the sun. Be sure to check your school's dress policy, as uniform rules may be relaxed during outdoor or hot weather health alerts (NHAs).
- 4 SEEK SHADE**  
Covering up and seeking shade are the most important sun protection measures. Encourage children to play in shaded areas, especially during the hottest part of the day (between 11 am and 3 pm). Use umbrellas or canopies if natural shade is unavailable.
- 5 AVOID STRENUOUS ACTIVITIES**  
Children shouldn't take part in vigorous physical activities in very hot weather. Limit these during the warmest parts of the day. Schedule any outdoor games or sports for early morning or late afternoon when it's slightly cooler.
- 6 KEEP COOL INDOORS**  
If it's safe and appropriate, open windows early in the morning to allow stored heat to escape from the building. Use fans or air conditioning to maintain a cool indoor environment. Check curtains or blinds to block direct sunlight. Switch off electrical equipment like computers, heaters and printers when not in use. Don't leave them in standby mode, as this still generates heat.
- 7 TAKE COOL BATHS OR SHOWERS**  
Encourage children to take cool baths or showers to lower their body temperature. Alternatively, use damp cloths on their skin to provide relief from the heat. When heading out of the house, consider filling up a spray bottle to cool everyone down on the go.
- 8 MONITOR FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS**  
If sensible precautions are taken, children are unlikely to be seriously affected by hot conditions – but teachers, educators, school nurses and all child carers should watch for symptoms of heat exhaustion, such as heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting. If any signs are present, move the child to a cool place, make sure they drink some water, and seek medical advice if needed.
- 9 MAINTAIN A COOL SLEEPING ENVIRONMENT**  
Ensure children's bedrooms stay cool by using fans or air conditioning, keeping windows closed and considering letting them sleep in the coolest part of the house. Older children can have more choice over what they wear to bed. Some children may prefer to sleep without pyjamas, while some may prefer to opt for a light cotton night and shorts.
- 10 EDUCATE CHILDREN ON SUN SAFETY**  
Teach children the importance of sun safety and encourage them to take responsibility for their health. Explain the risks of sunburn and heatstroke and the value of following these safety tips.

**Meet Our Expert**  
James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to industrial settings (and other industries) to help them maintain a safe working environment.

**WakeUpWednesday** The National College

[www.thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

Icons for social media: X (@wake\_up\_weds), Facebook (/www.thenationalcollege), Instagram (@wake.up.wednesday), TikTok (@wake.up.weds)

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## E- Safety Tip

Minecraft is a game enjoyed by millions of children, but like any activity, its important to keep safety in mind. Here is a few tips.

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide exploring the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
PEGI 7

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- SCARY ELEMENTS**  
While Minecraft can be seen as a fun or 'light' (ESDF) casual game, some modes include intense experiences. Some of these include:
  - Survival mode: Survival mode involves gathering resources, building a base, and surviving against hostile mobs.
  - Hardcore mode: Hardcore mode is a more challenging survival mode where the player's health is permanently set to 100% and death is permanent.
  - Adventure mode: Adventure mode is a more structured survival mode with pre-defined quests and storylines.
  - Hardcore mode: Hardcore mode is a more challenging survival mode where the player's health is permanently set to 100% and death is permanent.
- GRIEFING**  
Griefing is the act of intentionally destroying or damaging other players' creations in the game. This can be done through various means, including using cheats, exploiting bugs, or using malicious mods.
- ADDITIONAL PURCHASES**  
Minecraft is available as a free trial on some platforms, but the full game requires a one-time purchase. There are also various in-game purchases, such as skins, emotes, and other cosmetic items.
- PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
With public servers being so easily accessible on Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up interacting with strangers through the game's chat. Some servers even have an emphasis on social interaction, so-called 'social servers'. While this can be a positive experience, it also carries the risk of children interacting with strangers online, which could lead to cyberbullying, grooming, or other forms of abuse. Parents and educators should encourage children to use in-game chat responsibly, avoid sharing personal information, and report any suspicious behavior to the game's moderators.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

- CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE**  
Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to survive. However, it's still a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is low. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and resources affecting you or disrupting your building.
- HOST A PRIVATE SERVER**  
The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a private server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who is allowed to interact – if necessary – and ensures you should be able to remove any inappropriate content from the server. This is the clearest requirement to parental controls in Minecraft, creating a private server. However, it's not a simple task.
- TALK ABOUT STRANGERS**  
At some point in their lives, almost everyone will come across with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any trouble or difficult people. It's important that a child knows how to talk a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.
- RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS**  
Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for parents and kids alike when it comes to building. Thankfully, there's a wealth of resources online that can help you learn the basics, but be mindful that some of the content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.
- PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD**  
As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to learn to use computers and building construction in imaginative scenarios, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing a game made that includes elements that encourage critical thinking and problem-solving, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Kevyn Coleman is Managing Editor of the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for nearly 10 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is a dad and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.

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## Virtues this Half Term

### Compassionate and Loving

Pupils in our school are growing to be . . .

**Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.**

Our school helps our pupils to grow . . .

**By being compassionate and loving in the way pupils are treated, especially when a pupil is in trouble; and by opening pupils' eyes to those who suffer poverty, injustice or violence.**

## Birthday Celebrations

**Penelope (EYFS) Sylvie-Fae & Paisley (Year 1)  
Millie-Mae (Year 3)  
Mylo, Summer, Lacey-Maii & Oscar (Year 4)**



Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



**Generous God, fill our hearts with your love and help us to share this love with all our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Amen.**

## Composer of the Week



**Hans Zimmer**

**Listen here:**



**Have a lovely weekend and God Bless**

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



# GOOD ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Every school day counts



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

### Why is regular school attendance and good punctuality so important for my child?

Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education and improve their chances in adult life. School can also help your child's social skills such as making and developing friendships.

The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a child is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Good punctuality is important. For example, if a child arrives 15 minutes late at school each day, they lose almost 2 weeks of education over the year. Good punctuality also helps your child get into good habits for when they enter the world of work.

Lateness can cause your child embarrassment and, in some circumstances, can count as unauthorised absence.



### How can I help my child enjoy school and attend regularly?

Be organised, have a plan, be consistent and involve your child!

You should:

- ensure they have an appropriate bedtime routine
- create good routines for mornings at home so that your child can arrive punctually and are properly equipped;
- avoid absence from school wherever possible – try to make doctors and dental appointments out of school hours
- make time to encourage and show interest in school work, friendships etc.
- attend school open evenings and functions
- Create a calm space for them to do homework, check they understand the homework and that it has been completed.
- share any education concerns your child or you may have with the school staff as soon as possible
- set realistic boundaries



## EYFS Tea Party



*You are invited to a*



### **Royal Tea Party**



Reception have been learning lots about Kings and Queens!

In school, we will be making sandwiches and will hold a tea party to celebrate our learning. The children have been asked to come to school in their party clothes as they will be treated like royalty on this day!

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Any questions, please see  
Miss Gately or Mrs Wall**





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> <b>Artwork:</b> 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> <b>Poem of Hope:</b> 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> <b>Sound of Hope:</b> 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> <b>Letters of Hope:</b> 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> <b>People of Hope:</b> 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> <b>Holiday of Hope:</b> 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> <b>Story of Hope:</b> Can you create a short story, of no longer than 400 words, which explores the theme of hope?</p>	<p><u>October</u> <b>Scene of Hope:</b> Could you take a photo of something which represents hope to you, or makes you feel hopeful?</p>	<p><u>November</u> <b>Heroes of Hope:</b> Design an icon for your favourite Saint, or Saint who represents hope to you.</p>	<p><u>December</u> <b>Wreath of Hope:</b> Create an Advent wreath for your classroom with messages of hope on the leaves.</p>



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.