



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.

Key Dates

Frid 6th Feb	EYFS Parent reading workshop at 9am
Frid 6th Feb	NHS/SALT - Parent workshop at 9am for SEND pupils in RB and EYFS
Frid 13th Feb	Y2 Parent reading workshop at 9am
Frid 13th Feb	School breaks up for Feb half term
Mon 23rd Feb	Inset day-school closed for pupils
Tues 24th Feb	School open for all
Thurs 5th March	World Book Day

IMPORTANT

Front Gate

In December, we announced that the front gate would be undergoing extensive work during January to fix ongoing problems that we have been facing. Unfortunately, this work has been delayed for the time being. We will keep you updated of the process as we gain information.

Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

This week, our Year 3 children took part in an engaging and inspiring workshop that encouraged curiosity, creativity, and a deeper love of learning. The children represented our school beautifully and embraced every activity with enthusiasm. We also hosted Brilliant Brains Intervention workshop, which provided a valuable opportunity for parents to connect, share experiences, and access support. A heartfelt thank you to the parents who attended these workshops – your involvement and partnership make a real difference. We continue to be proud of our pupils for their positive attitudes, their readiness to learn.

Well done, Guardian Angels, for another successful and uplifting week.

This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	87.9
Year 1	93.1
Year 2	91.4
Year 3	88.1
Year 4	97.0
Year 5	94.4
Year 6	96.1

Our school attendance target is 95%. The overall attendance for last week was 92.7%.

It is really important that we continue to work together to do all we can to prioritise the children's attendance at school.

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

SPOTLIGHT ON PERSISTENT ABSENCE

What is persistent absence?

If your child takes too much time off school they will become categorised as PA or persistently absent.

(Attendance below 90% = persistent absence).

Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement. Don't allow your child to become a PA student.

This table shows how many days missed each half-term will make your child a PA student:

How many days will make my child a persistent absent student?	
Half-term 1	3 ½ days off school from September until October half-term holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-2	7 days off school from September until the Christmas holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-3	10 days of absence from September until February half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-4	12 ½ days of absence from September until the Easter holidays will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-5	15 ½ days of absence from September until May half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-6	19 days of absence for the full academic year (September to end of summer term in July) will make your child a PA student.



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Calming Strategies Poster for Children



The poster offers techniques to help children manage big emotions, reduce anxiety, and feel more in control. Designed with child mental health and emotional regulation in mind, this visual support tool helps children learn healthy coping skills they can use at home, in school, or in therapy.

E- Safety Tip

20 Apps Parents and Carers Need to Know

20 APPS PARENTS & CARERS NEED TO KNOW

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com

<p>Snapchat Messages and photos disappear. Children can be pressured to send images because they believe they will not be saved. Location sharing can show where a child is in real time.</p>	<p>Roblox Although it looks like a children's game, it includes chat features. Children can be contacted by strangers and slowly groomed through friendly game play.</p>	<p>Kik Messenger Accounts can be anonymous. It is often used to move conversations away from apps parents may check.</p>	<p>Fortnite Voice chat allows children to talk to strangers during games. Language and behaviour are often inappropriate.</p>
<p>TikTok Children can see adult content, receive sexual comments, and be contacted by strangers. Live videos allow real-time interaction, which can quickly become unsafe.</p>	<p>Telegram Messages and groups are encrypted, making them difficult to monitor. It is used to share sexual images, harmful material, and to keep conversations hidden from adults.</p>	<p>Hoop The app connects directly to Snapchat and encourages children to add new contacts quickly, including people they have never met.</p>	<p>Reddit Children can easily access sexual, violent, or extreme material through posts and comments.</p>
<p>Instagram Messages allow strangers to contact children directly. Many children run secondary accounts that parents do not know about. There is strong pressure around appearance and popularity.</p>	<p>OmeTV Random video chats with strangers. No effective safeguarding. Sexual content and adult behaviour are common. Children have no control over who appears on screen.</p>	<p>LiveMe Children can broadcast themselves live to anyone watching. Viewers can comment in real time, including adults.</p>	<p>BeReal The app prompts children to take photos instantly, which can lead to oversharing without thinking about safety.</p>
<p>WhatsApp Private chats and group chats are often used for school or friendship groups, but bullying, exclusion, and sharing of images can happen quickly and spread widely.</p>	<p>Yubo The app is designed to meet new people. Children can live stream and chat with strangers, which can quickly become sexual or exploitative.</p>	<p>Calculator+ These apps look like calculators but are used to hide photos, videos, and messages from parents and carers.</p>	<p>Twitch Children watch and interact with live streamers through chat, which often includes adults and unmoderated comments.</p>
<p>Discord Children join private chat servers linked to gaming or interests. These spaces are often unmoderated and can include adults, sexual content, or harmful language.</p>	<p>Monkey Children are placed into random video chats with people they do not know. They have no control over who appears on screen.</p>	<p>YouTube Children can be exposed to adult content through suggested videos, comments, and live streams, even when watching innocent clips.</p>	<p>Bumble This is a dating app. Despite age limits, some under-18s access it to talk to adults looking for relationships.</p>

This child online safety resource explains, in clear and direct language, why each app can be risky. It covers issues such as disappearing messages, anonymous accounts, location sharing, contact with strangers, grooming through games, unmoderated chats, live streaming, exposure to sexual or adult content, bullying, pressure around appearance, and hidden apps used to conceal photos and messages. The information is short, factual, and easy to understand, making it suitable for busy families

This Week's Awards



Virtues Award

EYFS - Jake
Year 1 - Arthur
Year 2 - Esme
Year 3 - Emily
Year 4 - Ella B
Year 5 - Troy
Year 6 - Davian



Reader of the Week

EYFS - Aryan
Year 1 - Amelia G
Year 2 - Paisley
Year 3 - Jack
Year 4 - Millie Mae
Year 5 - Eden
Year 6 - Lexi



PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Emani
Year 1 - Lexie
Year 2 - Aiyza
Year 3 - Kenzo
Year 4 - Sophie
Year 5 - Lacey R
Year 6 - Davian

Star Pupils

EYFS

Tiarah and Skylar

Year 3

Daniel and Ava

Year 1

Matilda and Melody

Year 4

LJ and Darius

Year 2

Noah and Harry

Year 5

Lacey-Maii and Jude

Year 6

Amelia B and Mila'rai



Birthday Celebrations

Please come back for more birthday celebrations next week

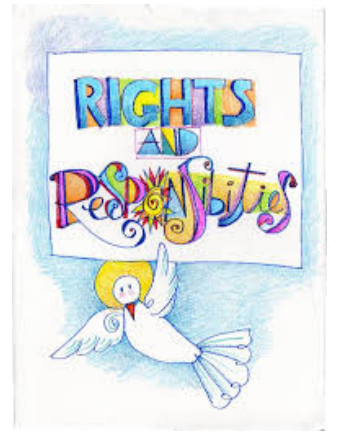


Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family

Catholic Social Teaching

Rights and Responsibilities

God wants us to help make sure that everyone is safe and healthy and can have a good life. Every person has a right to life. We have a responsibility to protect each person's right to life.



Virtues this Half Term

Curious and Active



Curious: exploring God's creation and asking questions to find out more.

Active: working to make things better where we can.



God of mercy, open our hearts to listen to what Jesus tells us and move us to do what we can to bring these words to life through our actions. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless

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

Other News



Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

**GO
ALL
IN.**

The National Year of Reading 2026 is the biggest campaign in a generation designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it part of their everyday lives. Keep an eye out for events during the year and join us on our reading journey!

2026 book missions



 **BookTrust**
Getting children reading

January

Read a book that makes you laugh!



February

Tell someone about a book you love



March

Join the World Book Day celebrations



April

Read a book because you love its pictures



May

Read a poetry book or a verse novel



June

It's a summer of sport! Read a sporty book



July

7 July: A new Children's Laureate is here! Read one of their books



August

Read a book outside! What's the most unusual place you can find?



September

Send a letter or a drawing to your favourite author or illustrator



October

Read a scary book for Halloween!



November

Read a non-fiction book and tell a friend a cool fact



December

Swap your favourite book with your friends



My favourite books of the year are...

Parent/Carer Workshops

Join our free Parent/Carer Workshops for practical tips, simple strategies and up-to-date guidance to help your child thrive.

These friendly, expert-led sessions cover key topics such as online safety and emotional regulation, giving you the tools to feel informed, confident and supported.



Online Safety

Learn about digital safety for kids including impact of screen time, apps, gaming, AI risks, cyberbullying and gain practical tips to create a safer digital environment at home

Date: Wednesday 25th February 2026

Time: 9:30-11:30am

Emotional Regulation

This workshop covers emotional regulation in children, causes and signs of dysregulation, the nervous system's role, and practical strategies to support healthy skills.

Date: Wednesday 4th March 2026

Time: 9:30-11:30am

Managing Worries/Anxiety

This workshop covers understanding anxiety in children, its causes and signs, and offers practical tips and strategies to help manage worries effectively.

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2026

Time: 9:30-11:30am






Register for the workshops here:

Scan me



Stay Connected!

Compass
Birmingham
Mental Health Support Team

-  birminghammht@compass-uk.org
-  0121 227 8254
-  www.compass-uk.org
-  Instagram: @compassbmht
-  Facebook: @compassbirminghamMHST

Receptionist and Office Assistant

St. Thomas & Edmund of Canterbury, Erdington Abbey
Part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Terms: Permanent/part-time-8 hours per week

Salary: £13.75 per hour

Location: parish office

About us:

We are a busy and diverse parish and community administration office, at Erdington Abbey, dealing with our Parish, School, Shop, Graveyard and funeral enquiries, and the public.

About the role:

Receptionist and Office Assistant in a busy parish office, with varied responsibilities.

Responsibilities:

We require someone to look after our office reception, dealing with the public on a variety of issues, including things concerning the church, masses, finance and enquiries connected to our graveyard and contacting funeral directors. The Hall and parish centre is used constantly by groups; there are enquiries about hall use.

There will be office clerical work to be attended to as well, keeping Registers up to date, other issues with Baptisms and funerals. Assistance will be needed to complete the weekly newsletter for the Church.

Training will be given on all the above.

Working for a parish within the Archdiocese, you will meet many people from different walks of life. We welcome applications from all faith/non-faith backgrounds creating a culture of respect, openness, and a commitment to embracing the diocesan vision and building positive relationships regardless of your faith/non-faith background.

Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the Parish Priest at Erdington Abbey fr.kieran.brady@rcaob.org.uk by 5th February 2026.

Shortlisting: 5th/6th February 2026

Interviews: 2nd week in February 2026