

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

Wed 18th March	Mass - led by Y5 - all welcome
Wed 18th March	Big Lent Walk - pupils can wear non uniform and pay £1 towards charity on ParentPay
Wed 18th March	Parent's Evening - bookable via MCAS (MyChildAtSchool) app
Frid 20th March	Down Syndrome Celebration Day Pupils may wear odd socks with uniform
Wed 25th March	Year 4 Parent Reading Workshop 9am in the school hall
Wed 25th March	Pledge a Pound - pupils can wear non uniform and donate £1 towards father Hudson's Caritas on ParentPay
Wed 25th March	Help Your Child Love Maths - Parent Workshop- 2.45pm
Thurs 26th March	Parishioners Easter lunch at 1pm in the Gap room/church
Frid 27th March	Year 5 Stations of the Cross assembly 9:30am - parents invited
Frid 27th March	School breaks up for Easter holidays
Mon 13th April	School open for all



Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

What a busy and wonderful week we've had at Guardian Angels. Our Science Week has been truly inspiring, with the theme of Curiosity encouraging our children to ask questions and explore the world around them. The Science Boffin's workshop was a fantastic way to kick things off, and it's been lovely to see the enthusiasm this has sparked across the school.

We've also been delighted to offer a free after school club this week, giving our children the opportunity to enjoy extra-curricular activities with their peers. It's these moments that help build such strong friendships and create lasting memories.

Our Year 3 families have been preparing for an important milestone, with our sacramental preparation meeting for First Holy Communion taking place. This is such a special time in our children's faith journey, and we're proud to support families through this.

In the Early Years, our little ones and their families enjoyed a lovely Mother's Day afternoon tea – a wonderful celebration of the special women in their lives.

I must take a moment to celebrate our behaviour reset. The positive response from our pupils, staff and parents has been truly heartening. Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our children to be their very best.

Finally, thank you for your patience as our new gates continue to progress. We look forward to seeing them completed soon.

Parent's Evening

Please book this on MyChildAtSchool app, the deadline to book is on Sunday 10pm.

This Week's Gospel



Today we hear how Jesus helped a blind man to see again. We can see many wonderful things that God has made in our world. But we also need to open our eyes to where things have gone wrong and try to do what we can to change them.

John 9:1-41

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been born blind. Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle; he rubbed the mud on the man's eyes and said, "Go and wash your face in the Pool of Siloam." (This name means "Sent.") So the man went, washed his face, and came back seeing. His neighbours, then, and the people who had seen him begging before this, asked, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "He is the one," but others said, "No he isn't; he just looks like him." So the man himself said, "I am the man."

Then they took to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. The day that Jesus made mud and cured him of his blindness was a Sabbath. The Pharisees, then, asked the man again how he had received his sight. He told them, "He put some mud on my eyes; I washed my face, and now I can see."

Some of the Pharisees said, "The man who did this cannot be from God, for he does not obey the Sabbath law."

Others, however, said, "How could a man who is a sinner perform such miracles as these?" And there was division among them.

So the Pharisees asked the man once more, "You say he cured you of your blindness – well, what do you say about him?" "He is a prophet," the man answered.

They answered, "You were born and brought up in sin – and you are trying to teach us?" And they expelled him from the synagogue.

When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" The man answered, "Tell me who he is, sir, so that I can believe in him!" Jesus said to him, "You have already seen him, and he is the one who is talking with you now."

"I believe, Lord!" the man said, and knelt down before Jesus.

This Week's Attendance



Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	84.1
Year 1	85.9
Year 2	91.4
Year 3	96.3
Year 4	97.0
Year 5	95.6
Year 6	94.8

Our school attendance target is 95%. The overall attendance for last week was 92.3%.

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

WHAT A CHILD NEEDS BEFORE THEIR BEHAVIOUR CAN CHANGE

Behaviour does not change because a child is told to behave better. It changes when the right conditions are in place.

SAFETY

The child must feel physically and emotionally safe. Fear blocks learning and self-control.

CONNECTION

A child needs a calm, available adult. Connection comes before correction.

FELT UNDERSTANDING

The child needs to feel understood, not judged. Behaviour often improves when a child feels seen.

SUPPORT WITH REGULATION

Children cannot calm down on command. They need adult support to regulate before behaviour can change.

PREDICTABILITY

Clear routines and consistent responses reduce anxiety and support better behaviour over time.

DEVELOPMENTALLY REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Children can only do what their brain development allows. Expecting skills they do not yet have leads to repeated failure.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN

- ❌ Ignoring behaviour
- ❌ Removing boundaries
- ❌ Letting children do whatever they want

IT MEANS

- ✅ Teaching skills when a child is calm and supported
- ✅ Not when they are overwhelmed

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

You cannot punish a child into emotional safety.
You cannot reward a child into nervous system regulation.
Behaviour changes when adults change the environment around the child.

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com

E- Safety Tip

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as DVD streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are offering more for no-trial viewing, and better quality and more content. Parents need to be aware of services with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ require a small increase to watch. Subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 10-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with autoplay watch-as-you-go, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified free trials to access streaming content without permission is illegal. It is also illegal to share a trial and gift membership to play to other devices for one year and to share a trial membership to other devices after an opportunity to pay for an added member or to use the start of a trial with any other use.

BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers to "accidentally binge" people to continue watching until they reach the end of a trial. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as watching until the end of a trial without stopping, with other watching a lack of content available, and binge-watching which can impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set age profiles for each family member with the aim of putting specific restrictions in place. They include a parental lock PIN, content, and a library of parental controls. However, third-party accounts based on illegal content, such as the "Netflix and Chill" app, which is not available for the UK, and other apps, or images which contain and are not age-appropriate.

HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms have streaming programmes, such as "The Last of Us" and "The Mandalorian". This is not surprising, but it is important to be aware of the potential for harmful stereotypes, such as "The Mandalorian" and "The Mandalorian" which can impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Most streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can see. Add profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this safe. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling authority of profiles and their expenses, and limiting content based on age ratings.

TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Ask to your child about how streaming services know what they watch, and how adults and recommended movies/shows on screens. Viewing recommendations can be tricky. Ask children to explain the algorithm. Encourage them to critically think about what they watch and how they may be influenced by their choices. Talk to them about what they watch and how they may be influenced by their choices.

MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child about what they are watching. Ask all which programmes are trending, and watch together. Some platforms have been known to censor or remove older or grosser content if a child's account has been opened. Some come to terms of service they have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content worse, or it may expose them to content they don't want to see with your child.

SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add individual features to your account, such as "The Last of Us". Set up play games, this can increase the amount of time young people spend on the TV and the screen. Some streaming services offer a "Pause" button to set time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't offer you set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and safety specialist for schools. She has implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has presented at national, regional and international conferences on online safety, digital citizenship, and the wellbeing of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

Wake Up Wednesday | The National College

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The poster outlines six key conditions that support positive behaviour change: safety, connection, felt understanding, support with regulation, predictability, and developmentally realistic expectations. It explains clearly that behaviour does not improve because a child is told to behave better. Behaviour changes when adults create the right conditions around the child.

Streaming Services & Children: What Parents Should Know

Streaming platforms like Netflix, Disney+, and Amazon Prime have become a big part of children's daily entertainment. With so much choice at their fingertips, it's easier than ever for young viewers to access shows and films they enjoy. While this can be a great source of learning and creativity, it also means children may stumble across content that isn't age-appropriate or spend more time watching than intended. Parents can help by exploring parental controls, setting viewing limits, and watching together when possible. Having regular conversations about what children are watching also supports healthy habits and helps them make positive choices online.

Last Week's Awards



Virtues Award

EYFS - Emani
Year 1 - Joshua
Year 2 - Muhammad
Year 3 - Jarvis
Year 4 - Abigail
Year 5 - Lacey-Maii
Year 6 - Maisie



Reader of the Week

EYFS - Eden
Year 1 - Jack
Year 2 - Elnaz
Year 3 - Isla
Year 4 - Darcie
Year 5 - Mason
Year 6 - Mason



PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Jake
Year 1 - Za'rae
Year 2 - Sophia
Year 3 - Winnie-Beau
Year 4 - Oscar
Year 5 - Phoebe
Year 6 - Mia

Star Pupils

EYFS

Aryan and Ilerioluwa

Year 3

Charlie and Kenzo

Year 1

Amelia A and Cayson

Year 4

Nellie and Bisrat

Year 2

Anthony and Paisley-Jane

Year 5

Frankie and Ronny

Year 6

Joey and Nadia



Birthday Celebrations

Riley (EYFS)
Scarlett (Year 4)

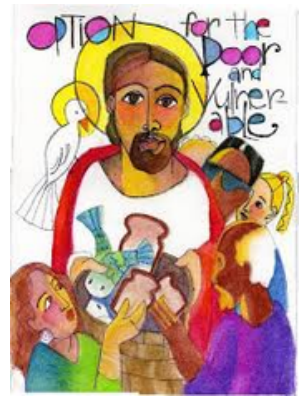


Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family

Catholic Social Teaching

Options for the Poor and Vulnerable

God wants us to help people who are poor, who don't have enough food, a safe place to live or a community.



Virtues this Half Term

Intentional and Prophetic



Intentional: planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to.
Prophetic: spreading the word of God through how we live our lives.



God of hope, inspire us to look out into the world, praising and thanking you for all that is good and seeking your help as we try to change what is not fair or right. 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...





ROCK YOUR SOCKS

IT'S WORLD **DOWN** SYNDROME DAY!

Friday 20th March
come to school in your odd
socks!



WORLD
DOWN
SYNDROME
DAY

The page is framed by a decorative border consisting of small blue and yellow hearts and handprints. At the top, there are several larger handprints in blue and yellow. At the bottom, there are more handprints, some with hearts on them. The background is white with a large, faint watermark of a handprint in the center.

Challenge 21!

Down's syndrome is caused by the presence of an extra copy of chromosome 21. Therefore, we are going to complete a selection of challenges in school that are based on the number 21! So, why don't you challenge yourself at home and have some fun!

Here are some ideas:

- 21 exercises
- 21 dance moves
- 21 acts of kindness
- 21 days without your favourite things: chocolate or social media.
- 21 chores around the house.

You can also create your own challenges based on the number 21. We would love to see what you get up to, so please let us know.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk>

Thank you for your continued support.



EYFS & KS1

**EASTER
BONNET**

COMPETITION

**PLEASE CREATE A BONNET WITH
YOUR CHILD FOR THEM TO BRING
INTO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY
26TH MARCH**



**KS2 EGG
COMPETITION**

KS2 children are invited to decorate an egg or create an egg scene and bring it into school on Thursday 26th March.

