

# "I am the Way"

John 14



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

Mon 4th May	May Day - school closed for all
Tues 5th May	Year 4 trip
Wed 6th May	Mass - led by Y4 - all welcome
Frid 8th May	Non-uniform day - wear green to celebrate David Attenborough's 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday
Mon 11th May	Year 5 - Parent reading workshop at 2:30pm
Mon 11th May-Thurs 14th May	Year 6 - SATs
Tues 19th May	Year 2 - Parent reading workshop at 2:30pm
Wed 20th May	Mass - led by Y6 - all welcome
Wed 20th May	Year 3 - Reconciliation in church at 3:30pm
Thurs 21st May	Parishioner Tea - Gap Room at 12:30pm
Frid 22nd May	School breaks up for May half term
Mon 1st June	School open for all
Wed 3rd June	Mass - all welcome
Thurs 4th June	Year 5 trip
Mon 15th June	New EYFS intake for Sept meeting at 2pm
Wed 17th June	Mass - led by Y5 - all welcome
Wed 17th June	Year 3 trip
Thurs 18th June	Special lunch - please order on ParentPay

## Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

What a busy and enriching time we've had at Guardian Angels! Our Year 1 children enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Botanical Gardens, where they explored the natural world and discovered the beauty of God's creation firsthand. It was lovely to see their curiosity and wonder as they learned about the plants and gardens around them. This week, our Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children participated in an assembly and workshop led by Loudmouth, focusing on online safety and the importance of being respectful online. In our increasingly digital world, these conversations are vital, and we're grateful for the opportunity to equip our children with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate online spaces safely and kindly. As we move through May, we have some special celebrations planned. We'll be marking Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday in school – a wonderful opportunity to reflect on his incredible work in protecting and celebrating our natural world. Children are invited to wear green to school to mark this special occasion. Additionally, we're delighted to invite pupils and parents to join us in praying the Rosary in the Peace Garden during May. This is a beautiful opportunity for our school community to come together in prayer and reflection.

**Please check the dates for your child's class on pg.8**

# This Week's Gospel



**Today Jesus tells us that through him we will come to know God and that we should trust him as we trust in God.**

**John 14:1-12**

**“Do not be worried and upset,” Jesus told them. “Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am. You know the way that leads to the place where I am going.”**

**Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way to get there?”**

**Jesus answered him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me. Now that you have known me,” he said to them, “you will know my Father also, and from now on you do know him and you have seen him.”**

**Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father; that is all we need.”**

**Jesus answered, “For a long time I have been with you all; yet you do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. Why, then, do you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe, Philip, that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I have spoken to you,” Jesus said to his disciples, “do not come from me. The Father, who remains in me, does his own work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If not, believe because of the things I do. I am telling you the truth: those who believe in me will do what I do – yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father.”**

# This Week's Attendance



## Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	92.3
Year 1	87.0
Year 2	89.3
Year 3	98.1
Year 4	92.7
Year 5	97.4
Year 6	98.7

**Our school attendance target is 95%. The overall attendance for last week was 94.6%.**

**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

### Trauma

All children and young people have difficult experiences sometimes. When this happens, they might feel more stressed or upset. But with a bit of support from those around them, they will usually feel better. However, when a child or young person experiences trauma, it can feel too big for their normal coping strategies. If you're worried that your child or young person is struggling with trauma, remember that you can play an incredibly important role in helping them. By providing emotional support and a loving, safe relationship, you can help them to heal with time. You can also make sure they get the right professional support if they need it. On this page, we've got information and advice to help you feel confident about supporting them.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/trauma/>



## 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 'on-demand' 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, some households have at least one streaming platform, and many parents have in some monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for HD streaming, and better quality content resolution, however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users cancelling to their non-subscribed in 2020.
- ILLEGAL STREAMING**  
Sharing passwords or using modified free trials to access streaming content without paying is illegal. Most streaming services have now put extra steps in place to prevent password sharing with users who are not subscribed members and will ask the user to verify their identity.
- AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Most streaming platforms allow users to set age or parental controls, but these are not always as strict as you think. Some platforms allow a limited number of profiles and may not have the same level of control as others. Some platforms also have a 'watch together' feature that allows you to watch content with your child, but this may not be suitable for all age groups and may include themes, language, and violence that you don't want your child to see.

**EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME**  
Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom reports that in the year ending December 2018, the average child watched 2.8 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, and including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

**BINGE WATCHING**  
Features such as autoplay make it easy for children to watch content for long periods. Binge watching episodes without a break. This can lead to children missing out on other activities, such as consuming a great amount of content in one go, which can be overwhelming and lead to a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and other negative impacts on mental and physical wellbeing.

**HARMFUL STEREOTYPES**  
Many platforms track viewing habits, time watched, and preferences, and generate recommendations based on this data. This can lead to children being in a 'loop' watching the same type of content over and over again, which can reinforce harmful stereotypes and limit their exposure to diverse content.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

- SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS**  
Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles. These can be used to track viewing history and preferences, and to restrict content based on age. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PINs. Some services also allow you to restrict content based on age, but this may not be suitable for all age groups and may include themes, language, and violence that you don't want your child to see.
- TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS**  
Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and how this can be used to recommend content. Encourage them to critically think about what the recommendations are, and to be aware of how they can be used to influence their choices.
- MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN**  
Discuss with your child what they are watching, and what programmes are available. Encourage them to think about the content they are watching, and to be aware of how they can be used to influence their choices. Some platforms have been known to recommend or suggest content that is inappropriate for children, so it's important to be aware of what your child is watching, and to be able to restrict content if necessary.
- SET TIME RESTRICTIONS**  
Many streaming services offer the opportunity to set time limits, or to restrict content based on age. This can help to ensure that your child is not spending too much time watching, and that they are not watching content that is not suitable for their age. Some services also offer the option to set time limits for individual profiles, so you can restrict content based on age.

Meet Our Expert  
Dr Claire Buchanan is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented award-winning online safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and presented at numerous conferences on digital literacy, online safety, and the behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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Violent videos, online arguments and shock-value challenges can spread quickly on social media and may appear in children's feeds even when they haven't searched for them. This guide explains how algorithms, group chats and viral trends can expose young people to violent content online and influence how they see behaviour in the real world. It also outlines the emotional, social and legal risks involved and offers practical advice for parents and how to talk with your child about online safety, understanding the law, and helping them make safe, responsible choices online.

# Last Week's Awards



## Virtues Award

EYFS - Luther  
Year 1 - Hudhayfah  
Year 2 - Sophia  
Year 3 - Jaymin  
Year 4 - Luna  
Year 5 - Jenson-River  
Year 6 - Davian



## Reader of the Week

EYFS - Tiarah  
Year 1 - Lorenzo  
Year 2 - Millie  
Year 3 - Aminah  
Year 4 - Ayanne  
Year 5 - Eva  
Year 6 - Jacob C



## PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Freddie  
Year 1 - Remailiah  
Year 2 - Aiyza  
Year 3 - Zane  
Year 4 - Aoife  
Year 5 - Herani  
Year 6 - Frankie

## Star Pupils

**EYFS** Emani and Soraya-Summer

**Year 1** Za'rae and Nicholas

**Year 2** Leo-James and Larna

**Year 6** Chloe and Lexi

**Year 3** Hunter and Sidney

**Year 4** Amelia-Lily and Nellie

**Year 5** Freddie and Harry



## Birthday Celebrations

Princess (EYFS), Lilly (Year 1), Arlena (Year 2)  
Aminah (Year 3), Abigail (Year 4)

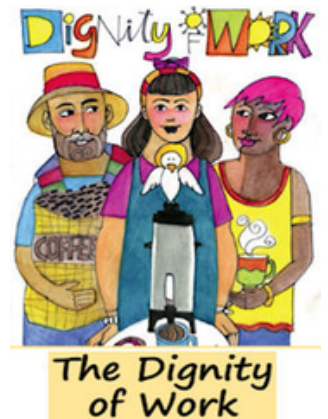
Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family



## Catholic Social Teaching

### The Dignity of Work

Work is important in God's plan for people.  
Jobs and pay should be fair for all.



## Virtues this Half Term

### Grateful and Generous



**Grateful:** We are grateful for the gifts God has given to us, for the gifts of other people and the blessings of each new day. We are thankful for what we have and for the people around us.

**Generous:** We are generous with our gifts and use them in the service of others. We are generous with our time and give of ourselves to serve others as God wants us to. We are generous with our actions, doing things to help other people and make a difference in the world.



God of life, we thank you for being there for us always. Help us to do all that you ask of us and to love one another, so that all people may have someone to trust.

Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless

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



# **MARVELLOUS MAY ATTENDANCE COMING THIS TERM**

This term, we're excited to launch an attendance initiative celebrating the importance of our pupils being in school every day and on time.

To make it more fun and motivating, children must maintain 100% attendance across the whole term, and prizes will be awarded based on 100% attendance during a selected week.

We are currently behind the national average for attendance, and this focused term will help us move closer to meeting our whole school targets.

**With your support, we can make a real difference.**

**Let's work together to make this term marvellous!**

# Rosary Stay and Pray

During the month of May, we warmly welcome parents to join us in praying a decade of the Rosary in the Peace Garden. Parents are asked to please sign in through the office on arrival.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 1

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 2

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 6

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Reception

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 3

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Y4

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 5





# ✦ First Holy ✦ Communion gifts

## ✦ Gifts available ✦

Guardian Angels rosary beads

My Little Communion Prayer book

My First Missal

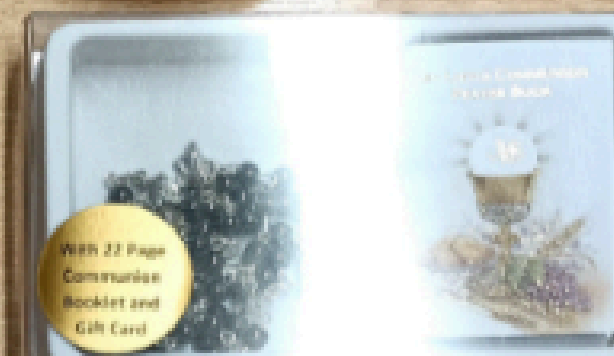
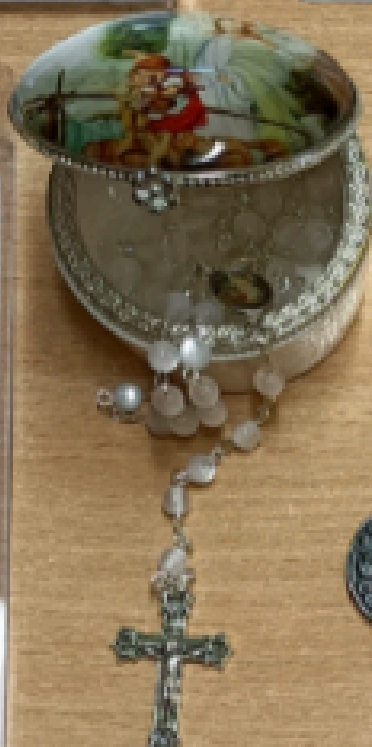
First Holy Communion plastic prayer card

Holy Communion son/daughter wish card

Gift shop

Mother of God and Guardian Angels church

**Gift shop opening times**  
**Monday-Friday 8:30am-9:30am**  
**Sundays 10.00am - 12.00pm**



**18TH**

**MAY AT  
2.15PM**

*Our next Parent  
and friends*  
**OF GUARDIAN ANGELS**

**MEETING**

Planning Summer school  
events, come and get  
involved!



**COME ALONG FOR  
A CUPPA AND LETS  
GET PLANNING!**

**SUMMER**

# Communication and Autism Team

## Parent Carer Workshop - Sensory Differences

**Summer Term 2026**

We would like to invite you to a CAT Parent carer workshop for parent carers who would like to increase their understanding of sensory differences and ways to support their child.

To support parent carers of children with a diagnosis of autism, or who are on the Neurodevelopmental Pathway for autism assessment.

**All Birmingham parent carers are welcome**

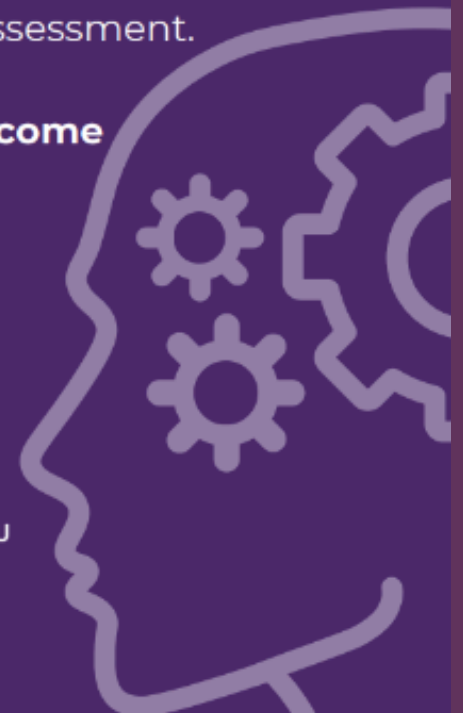
**Date:** Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> 6-7.30pm

Book via the following link:

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/cat-parent-carer-workshop-sensory-differences-via-microsoft-teams-tuesday-april-28th-2026-copy/>

Sessions will take place via Microsoft Teams - a link be sent to you prior to the session.

We look forward to seeing you there



# THE SEND REFORMS

## AN OPEN CONVERSATION

### CALLING SEND PARENT CARERS!

Join us at one of our upcoming online sessions to share your views on the new SEND Reforms published by the Department for Education.

Places are limited so please book in good time!

Based on what you know about the reforms so far, you will have the opportunity to:

- Say what you think is positive about the proposed reforms
- Highlight what in your view has been overlooked
- Discuss how we can work together to implement the reforms
- Raise concerns and ask questions

1



Tuesday 5th May



09:30 - 11:00

[BOOK NOW!](#)

2



Tuesday 5th May



18:00 - 19:30

[BOOK NOW!](#)

3



Thursday 7th May



12:30 - 14:00

[BOOK NOW!](#)



**Birmingham**  
City Council



Co-hosted with SEND Socials

Microsoft Teams links below for each meeting:

