



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

|                               |                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tues 29th Sept                | Year 3 Maths workshops - parents invited at 2:30pm                                                                 |
| Frid 2nd Oct                  | Guardian Angels Feast day - pupils may wear yellow                                                                 |
| Mon 5th Oct                   | EYFS eye test<br>(please call the office if you wish to opt-out)                                                   |
| Tues 6th Oct                  | Individual and sibling photos during school time - all pupils to dress smart in full uniform (NO PE for Y1 and Y3) |
| Tues 6th Oct                  | Year 2 Stay and Pray - parents invited at 2:30pm                                                                   |
| Frid 9th Oct                  | Star pupil and Virtue assembly at 9am, parents invited by text. Please check pg.8                                  |
| Tues 13th Oct                 | Year 6 Maths/SATs/Confirmation meeting and workshop for parents                                                    |
| Wed 14th Oct to Frid 16th Oct | Year 6 residential trip - please login to ParentPay - deadline for full payment is 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept           |

### Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

It has been wonderful to see our pupils demonstrating such excellent routines around school. The consistent display of our values—ready, respectful and safe—is evident in every classroom, corridor and playground. This positive behaviour creates an environment where learning can flourish and every child feels secure. Well done to all our pupils for their commitment to these important routines.

This week, we continue to celebrate the Season of Creation, which runs until 4th October. This is a special time for our Catholic community to reflect on God's creation and our responsibility as stewards of the Earth. Through our curriculum and daily activities, we are encouraging our children to appreciate the natural world and consider how we can care for it. It is a meaningful period that connects our faith with environmental awareness, and we encourage families to engage in these conversations at home.

Please note that we have Mass on Wednesday, and all members of our community are welcome to join us. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate our faith as a school family.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in nurturing our children's development.

# This Week's Gospel



**Today we hear about two sons who are both asked to help their father.**

**Matthew 21:28-32**

**Jesus said, "Now, what do you think? There was once a man who had two sons. He went to the elder one and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 'I don't want to,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. 'Yes, sir,' he answered, but he did not go. Which one of the two did what his father wanted?"**

**"The elder one," they answered.**

**So Jesus said to them, "I tell you: the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the Kingdom of God ahead of you. For John the Baptist came to you showing you the right path to take, and you would not believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. Even when you saw this, you did not later change your minds and believe him.**

# Important information



## Walk and Cycle to School

October is International Walk to School Month, and we encourage all pupils to walk to school whenever possible. Walking is a great way to promote healthy lifestyles, develop independence, and help reduce traffic around our school, making our local community safer and greener.

Cycle to School Week takes place from Monday 5th October to Friday 9th October. We are fortunate to have plenty of secure bike storage available, so we challenge as many pupils as possible to swap four wheels for two and cycle to school during the week. Cycling is a fun way to stay active, build confidence, and support a healthier environment.

Let's see how many families can take part and make a positive difference together!



## Guardian Angels Feast Day Celebration

On Friday 2nd October, we will come together as a school family to celebrate our Guardian Angels Feast Day. Throughout the day, children will take part in a range of special activities in their classes to mark this important occasion. Children are invited to bring a small party snack to enjoy during the celebrations. Please ensure that this is intended for your child only and not for sharing with the class.

At 6.00pm, families are warmly invited to return to church for a special parish Mass, followed by refreshments in the school hall. We would be delighted to see as many of our children and families as possible as we join together to celebrate this very special day in the life of our school and parish community.



# Other News



## Uniform

What a wonderful start to the academic year we've had at Guardian Angels! I've been delighted to see our children looking so smart and proud in their uniforms as they return to school. There's something special about that fresh beginning—the crisp uniforms, the eager faces, and the palpable sense of excitement throughout our corridors.

Our uniform is more than just clothing; it represents our school values and helps foster a real sense of community and belonging. Uniform expectations can be found on our website:

<https://www.grdangel.bham.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=46>

Pre-loved uniform is available in the school foyer, if you wish to access any items.

## Free Breakfast Club

**A Healthy Start to the Day: Join Our Morning Breakfast Club**

Early mornings just got a lot brighter! We are delighted to invite all children to our new Free Breakfast Club, running every morning from 8:00 AM.

The club is designed to give our students a calm, social space to start their day. It's a chance to sit down with friends and enjoy a nutritious breakfast of toast and a wide variety of cereals. To add a bit of morning magic, we'll also be serving random "surprise" treats throughout the month—so look out for breakfast bars and milkshakes! Starting the day with a full stomach and a chat with peers helps our pupils feel ready and refreshed for their morning lessons. We can't wait to see you there!

## Harvest Collection

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be launching our annual Harvest Collection on Monday 28th September. We are inviting families to donate non-perishable food items to support a local food bank and help those in need within our community.

Suggested donations include tins, pasta, rice, cereal, long-life milk, tea, coffee and other cupboard essentials. Every contribution, no matter how small, will make a difference to local families experiencing hardship.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping us live out our Catholic Social Teaching values of caring for those who are most vulnerable. Together, we can make a positive difference in our local community.



# This Week's Attendance



## Attendance Counts

| Year Group |       |
|------------|-------|
| EYFS       | 98.9% |
| Year 1     | 89.2% |
| Year 2     | 93.7% |
| Year 3     | 95.9% |
| Year 4     | 93.0% |
| Year 5     | 93.1% |
| Year 6     | 93.6% |

**Our school attendance target is 95%. The overall attendance for last week was 94.0%.**

**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. |



Guardian Angels  
Catholic Primary School

# ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

EVERY FRIDAY  
in October



Be in school every Friday  
in October and you'll be  
entered into our raffle!

★ WIN ★  
A VOUCHER!

The more Fridays you attend,  
the more chances you have to win!



## Safeguarding Tip of the Week




### Free Parenting Groups & Courses

Support for all parents and carers with children from pregnancy to 19 (25 with special educational needs & disabilities), both online and face-to-face.

- Are you expecting a baby?
- Have you recently had a baby?
- Do you want support to better understand your child or teenager's behaviour?



familyhubs@birmingham.gov.uk  
birmingham.gov.uk/familyhubs

Scan the QR code for details about what's on near you.



**Free Parenting Support for Families**

Did you know that Birmingham Family Hubs offer free parenting groups and courses for parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-19 (or up to 25 with SEND)? Available online and face-to-face, these sessions provide practical advice and support on parenting, child development, and understanding behaviour. Scan the QR code on the poster to find out more and see what is available in your area.

## E- Safety Tip

### ONLINE FAIR PLAY

#### The Dos and Don'ts of Online Conduct

Alongside individual skill, interactive teamwork and some truly epic matches, one of the most enjoyable things about this summer's European football championships has been the sense of sportsmanship and fair play. Players have competed fiercely, but they've (mostly) remembered that they're representing their country – and that good behaviour, courteous play or courteous conduct towards a fellow player is a long time after the match is over. The same is true of how we act online – one area of judgement or loss of control might only take a second, but can have results that are difficult to forget. Instead, just be the heroes of the forum, we should aim for people to see us and feel proud and inspired. So, to follow in the footsteps of the 'fair' and 'true' 'fair' and 'true' there are our top tips for playing, fair play.

#### FAIR PLAY

- 1. ORGANISE YOUR DEFENCE**  
Use strong passwords to protect your personal information, accounts and data. A trusted adult, like a parent or a teacher, can help you choose one that's easy for you to remember but hard for anyone else to guess.
- 2. KEEP POSSESSION**  
Only share personal information online with people you know well, like friends and family. A trusted adult will be able to help you change your online privacy settings so strangers can't find things that don't suit you.
- 3. USE TEAMWORK**  
Before you use a device for the first time or download a new app, always check with a trusted adult. They'll be able to check if it's safe for you to use and make sure the privacy settings are right for you.
- 4. BE RESPECTFUL**  
Treat people online like you would treat them in real life. Remember your username and the profile and kind to your posts, comments and messages.
- 5. CATCH ATTACKERS OFFSIDE!**  
If someone is trying to bully you online, a trusted adult can help you to go for evidence and report that person to the police. You should also tell a trusted adult if you see anything online that makes you feel worried, upset, frightened or sad.

#### FOUL PLAY

- 1. DON'T IGNORE POSSIBLE DANGER**  
Never accept a friend request from a stranger. If someone you don't know messages you, tell a trusted adult straight away.
- 2. DON'T LOSE CONTROL & RETALIATE**  
Although it can be tempting, it's best not to respond to someone's attempts to bully you online or send you hurtful messages. Tell a trusted adult what happened and then block the person from contacting you again in future.
- 3. DON'T HURT PEOPLE DELIBERATELY**  
It's important to behave online just like you would in real life. Don't post anything that can make you look like a bad person, because the things people online can say here for a long time.
- 4. DON'T CHEAT YOUR WAY TO VICTORY**  
Don't copy another person's work. That you found online or printed that it's yours. This is called plagiarism and can get you into trouble at school.
- 5. DON'T PLAY FOR EXTRA TIME**  
It can be easy to spend too much time online. Instead, take a break to go outside or exercise and work on your skills. Just before bed will help you get a good night's sleep so you can be fresh and focused the next day.

Wake Up Wednesday  
The National College  
@wakeup\_weds

This online safety guide focuses on online fair play. It highlights a range of potential risks such as online strangers, hurtful messages and spending too much time online.

# Last Week's Awards



## Virtues Award

EYFS - Myla  
Year 1 - Riley  
Year 2 - Amelia A  
Year 3 - Leilani  
Year 4 - Jaymin  
Year 5 - Anada  
Year 6 - Phoebe



## Reader of the Week

EYFS - Aaliyah-Rae  
Year 1 - Olly  
Year 2 - Arlo F  
Year 3 - Graciemae  
Year 4 - Aminah  
Year 5 - Millie Mae  
Year 6 - Delilah



## PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Jamiera  
Year 1 - Cavan  
Year 2 - Matilda  
Year 3 - Naemi  
Year 4 - Ava  
Year 5 - Joe  
Year 6 - Herani

## Star Pupils

**EYFS**

Raegan and Brodie S

**Year 1**

Soraya-Summer and Dolly-May

**Year 2**

Hudhayfah and Melody

**Year 6**

Jenson and Toby

**Year 3**

Lidya and Louie

**Year 4**

Qudamah and Layla-Mai

**Year 5**

Oscar and Scarlett

**RB**

N/A



## Birthday Celebrations

Koa (RB) Raegan (EYFS) Aryan (Year 1)  
Lucy (Year 2) Jaymin (Year 4)  
Aoife, Edie-Rose and Imogen (Year 5)



Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family

## Virtues this Half Term

### Compassionate and Loving



**Compassionate:** We are compassionate when we feel sympathy and concern for other people who are in difficulty, whether they are near to us or far away.

**Loving:** We are loving when we show our sympathy and concern for other people by our actions and by our words.



Generous God, we thank you for all you have given us. Help us to live as you ask us to and to work together with others to build a better world. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless

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

**FOOD  
FESTIVAL**  
in Ayr

# LUCKY PLATE

## Census Day

Thursday 1st October

### Beef Burger in a Bun

served with Jacket Potato Wedges

OR

### Cheese & Tomato Pizza

served with Jacket Potato Wedges

Dessert

## Ice-Cream

Also Available

Jacket Potato, Pasta & Sandwiches

Our ref: AA/CP/Year 6/Jul26

July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Apply online for your child's secondary school place – September 2027**

Your child is due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2027. All applications for maintained (non-fee paying) schools are coordinated by local authorities. This means you must apply to the local authority where you live (the one you pay council tax to), even if you are applying for schools in a different area.

If you live in Birmingham, you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) between 1 September and 31 October 2026. It is essential that your application is submitted by 31 October 2026. Applications received after this date will be considered late and processed after 1 March 2027, which may reduce your chances of securing a place at one of your preferred schools.

If you live outside Birmingham, please check your local authority's website for their application process. If you are unsure which local authority you should apply to, you can find your local council using this link:  
<https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

We understand this is an important time for you and your child. We strongly encourage you to find out as much information as you can about your preferred schools and understand how the admissions process works before applying, including finding out about any additional forms or paperwork you may need to provide to the school in order for your application to be considered under their oversubscription criteria, such as a Supplementary Information Form (SIF), or faith documentation. A lack of awareness of the correct procedures could affect the outcome of your application.

From 1 September 2026, detailed information about the application process for Birmingham residents will be available at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions). This includes:

- Types of schools and how to apply online.
- How school places are offered.
- Details of admissions arrangements for individual schools.
- What to do if you are not offered one of your preferred schools.

If you do not have internet access, your child's current school may be able to help you. You may also be able to access a computer via a friend or relative.

We also strongly recommend visiting the websites of your preferred schools for information about the school and details of any open days or evenings. It is important to consider how likely you are to be offered a place at one of your preferred schools, and find out more about the order in which places are offered

(oversubscription criteria) by reading the information on the schools you are interested in. Please note that before completing your online application you must confirm that you have read the admissions arrangements.

If you are applying for a school outside Birmingham, you should visit the website of the local authority where the school is located for information about their oversubscription criteria and open days/open sessions.

If you are applying for a school under the distance category, checking the last distances offered over the past three years will give an indication of whether you should consider including the school as one of your preferences.

To maximise your chances of getting a place at one of the schools you prefer, we strongly advise using all six preferences on your application.

You can amend your preferences on the online admissions form as many times as you like until the closing date of 31 October 2026. However, if you make any changes, you must resubmit your application for the latest changes to take effect by selecting "Submit" again. If you do not resubmit your application after going back in to make changes, your previous submission will remain active, and your changes will not be considered.

Your application will be processed using the address held by your child's current school. If the address on your application differs from the address held on our database, you must provide proof (e.g. your most recent council tax bill for 2026/2027) by 31 October 2026. Without this, your application will not be processed. For more details, please visit:

[www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions-proofofaddress](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions-proofofaddress)

You will receive an email confirming your child's school offer by the end of the day on 1 March 2027.

If you have any questions, please visit our website for guidance and support:  
[www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Yours sincerely

Mireia Mangual  
Head of School Admissions and Fair Access Service  
Children and Families Directorate  
Birmingham City Council  
PO Box 16513  
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Enc Information regarding deferred entry and children taught out of their normal year group.