



Guardian Angels
Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd February 2024

Newsletter No. 18



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

For National Storytelling Week, many of our classes led reading for pleasure workshops and invited parents along to learn more about reading at Guardian Angels. Thank you for all those parents who could attend and for all the positive feedback from these sessions. Other classes will be holding these session later in the year.

Guardian Angels will be marking **6th February** as Safer Internet Day! From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. Safer Internet Day 2024 celebrates young people's role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers. Ask your child how they can stay safe online!





Thank you to all the parents that completed our pupil safeguarding survey with their child. Please find below a summary of some of the key findings and comments to support with areas of development.

1. I feel happy at school

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

Yes 31
No 2



2. I know who I can talk to at school if I am worried about something

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

Yes 27
No 0
Not sure 5

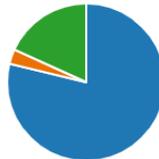


Children have a number of adults who they can talk to in school if they are worried about anything. At the start of each year, children select a 'trusted adult' who they feel they can talk any problems through with. Children also have the class teacher and support staff in their class to talk to or a DSL (Mr Spindlow, Mrs Milligan, Mrs Tennant, Miss Hickey, Mr Johnson, Mrs Potter, Miss Carr) if they have a safeguarding concern.

3. If I have a problem the staff in school will listen to me

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

Yes 26
No 1
Sometimes 6



Within our school structure we employ a pastoral manager who is highly trained in talking and listening to children. If children feel that they are not being listened to by an adult or a problem is not being sorted, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or phase leader. This almost always sorts the problem however additional sessions with the pastoral leader can be arranged for those who need them.

5. I feel safe in school

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

Yes 31
No 2

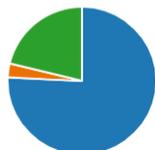


Safeguarding and safety are the golden threads that run through our school. We have robust policies and procedures in place with a culture of 'no concern is too small'. Our curriculum has been mapped to ensure that all the areas of safety and safeguarding are taught at Guardian Angels. [Please click here to see more about safeguarding and safety links within our curriculum.](#)

6. At school I learn how to stay safe at home and outside

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

Yes 25
No 1
Not sure 7



In school we teach our children how to stay safe throughout our entire curriculum but particularly throughout our PSHE curriculum. This focuses on staying safe online, keeping yourself safe and healthy and about healthy relationships. [Please click here to see more about our PSHE](#)



This Week's Gospel - Mark 1:29-39

Jesus and his disciples, including James and John, left the synagogue and went straight to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever, and as soon as Jesus arrived, he was told about her. He went to her, took her by the hand, and helped her up. The fever left her, and she began to wait on them.

After the sun had set and evening had come, people brought to Jesus all the sick and those who had demons. All the people of the town gathered in front of the house. Jesus healed many who were sick with all kinds of diseases and drove out many demons. He would not let the demons say anything, because they knew who he was.

Very early the next morning, long before daylight, Jesus got up and left the house. He went out of the town to a lonely place, where he prayed. But Simon and his companions went out searching for him, and when they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you."

But Jesus answered, "We must go on to the other villages round here. I have to preach in them also, because that is why I came."

So he travelled all over Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and driving out demons.

Mass Times:

Saturdays 5pm Guardian Angels School (Vigil Mass of the Sunday)

Sundays 11am Guardian Angels School

Sundays 9am St John the Baptist Church

Virtues Award

Year Group	Virtue Award
EYFS	Ethan
Year 1	Daniel
Year 2	Harry
Year 3	Delilah
Year 4	Maisie
Year 5	Ava-Tia
Year 6	Dylan

Virtues of the Half Term

Compassionate and Loving

Pupils at Guardian Angels are growing to be **compassionate** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by their just actions and forgiving words.





Reader of the Week

Each week, we award children in each class for remarkable Reading and their dedication to Accelerated Reader Quizzes

EYFS	Erin
Year 1	Jaymin
Year 2	Jax
Year 3	Summer
Year 4	Oliver
Year 5	Lexie
Year 6	Macie-Lou

PE Star of the Week

EYFS	Baby-Queenie
Year 1	Reuben
Year 2	Brianna
Year 3	Lacey-Maii
Year 4	Lexi F
Year 5	Francesca
Year 6	Aiden

Star Pupils

Year Group		
EYFS	Arlena	Koa
Year 1	Michael	Ava
Year 2	Ayanne	Millie-Mae
Year 3	Harry	Chae
Year 4	Joshua S	Joey
Year 5	Erin	Emily S
Year 6	Isobel	D'or



Dates For Your Calendar

Date	Event
Tues 6th Feb	Year 3 Viking workshop for pupils during school time - please pay on ParentPay
Wed 7th Feb	Mass - in the school hall at 9:05am - all welcome
Frid 9th Feb	School breaks up for the February half term
Mon 19th Feb	Inset Day - school closed for pupils
Tue 20th Feb	School open for all
Wed 28th Feb	Year 2 Shard End Library visit
Thurs 29th Feb	Shakespeare Workshop
Tues 5th March	EYFS Mother's Day parent workshop
Wed 6th March	Y4 Shard End Library visit
Thur 7th March	WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day



WORLD
BOOK
DAY

This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 7th March**. Throughout the day, children will immerse into the wonderful world of reading. They will continue the celebrations during the following week with a visit from West End in Schools 'bringing books to life' through dance.





Birthday Celebration This Week



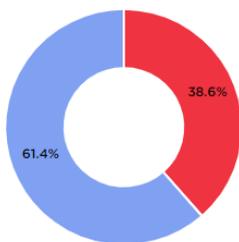
Lily and Elsie (Year 2)

Best wishes from your Guardian Angels family

VotesforSchools

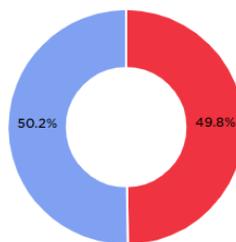
This weeks vote: Is it easy to talk about your feelings?

Your School



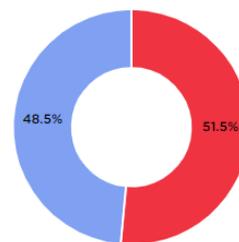
● No
● Yes

Regional (West Midlands)



● No
● Yes

National



● No
● Yes

Right of the Week



Article 19—Protection from violence, abuse and neglect

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Home Learning

Please remember that if your child is off school for any reason or would like to complete additional work to support their learning, we have a wealth of resources they can access.

KS1 Children can access,: Big Cat Phonics, NumBots,

KS2 Children can access: TimesTableRockstars, MyMaths, SPAG.com

All children also have access to a number of maths resources via their BGFL logins. If you require any passwords for these or have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.



ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Attendance Counts

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Year Group	Attendance %
EYFS	93.3
Year 1	93.4
Year 2	96.3
Year 3	94.8
Year 4	96.9
Year 5	92.0
Year 6	91.3

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 8 families following Birmingham City Council guidelines

If issued with a penalty notice, parents must pay £60 within 21 days or £120 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 parent.

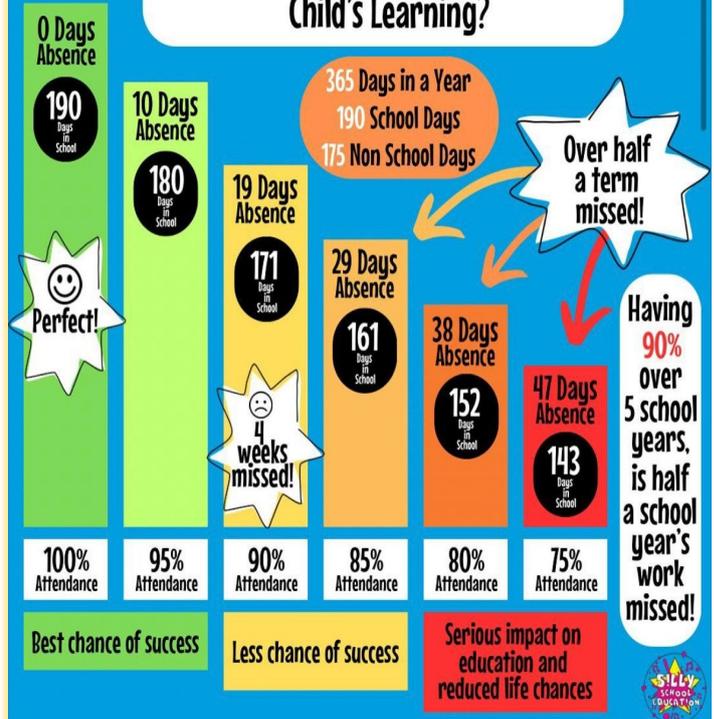
Attendance Support

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

Every Day Counts

Just before the holiday, all schools in England received a message from the Secretary of State for Education, outlining the concerns linked to attendance nationwide. Whilst our attendance has improved and the number of children below 90% attendance has decreased, there is still work to be done. Our teachers are providing an excellent education in every classroom, everyday - every day missed is a missed learning opportunity. Attendance will remain a huge focus for the whole school this year.

How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?





Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Family Hubs

What are Family Hubs?

Birmingham Family Hubs are part of a national programme. There will be ten physical Family Hub locations across Birmingham, by the end of 2025, where you will be able to go to get advice and practical support for you and your family. You can also find lots of help and support on our dedicated Family Hub web pages. You will find a range of topics with further information and links to dedicated organisations and charities who are working to help the people of Birmingham.

Who do Family Hubs help?

Family Hubs are aimed at helping families from a child's conception to age 19 and up to 25 for those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/FamilyHubs>



Weekly Prayer

God of love, help us all to follow Jesus' example of loving care, and to treat all those who are ill with kindness and tenderness. Amen.

E- Safety Tip

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

"Persuasive design" refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even in part of some online games. Persuasive design means that the content has been deliberately prepared in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and interested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION
In the digitalised generation, design can be used to create addictive products. You can get hooked on a game, a social media app or a website. This can lead to a loss of interest in other things, such as school or work, and can affect your mental health.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS
Spending too much time on social media or gaming can lead to mental health issues. This can include anxiety, depression, low self-esteem and eating disorders. Young people can get hooked on social media, leading to a loss of interest in other things.

PROLONGED SCROLLING
Social media apps often use a 'scrolling' feature to keep you engaged. This can lead to a loss of interest in other things, such as school or work, and can affect your mental health.

ESTABLISH LIMITS
Talk to your child about setting screen time limits. Be clear about when they can use their phone or tablet and when they can't. This can help them to manage their screen time and avoid getting hooked on it.

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS
Encourage your child to be mindful when they are using their phone or tablet. This means being aware of what they are doing and not getting distracted by notifications or ads.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS
Stop those text messages at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. This can help your child to manage their screen time and avoid getting hooked on it.

MAKE A CHECKLIST
Creating a list of screen time rules can be an effective way of helping children to manage their screen time. This can include rules about when they can use their phone or tablet, how long they can use it for, and what they can do while they are using it.

SENSORY OVERLOAD
Excessive scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can lead to sensory overload. This can cause a child to feel overwhelmed, stressed or anxious. It can also lead to a loss of interest in other things.

COSTLY ADDITIONS
Many games and apps are designed to encourage you to spend money. This can include in-app purchases, subscriptions and ads. This can lead to a loss of interest in other things.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES
Spending too much time on social media or gaming can lead to physical health issues. This can include eye strain, neck pain, headaches and a lack of exercise.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Meet Our Expert

The National College
NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonlinesafety | NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonlinesafety | @national_onlinesafety

Composer of the Week

Wk beg: 5.2.24

Ma Rainey

Pop – Blues



Born: 26 April 1886
Died: 22 December 1939
Nationality: American

Famous piece of music:
Runaway Blues

- Ma Rainey was an American singer who was known as the "mother of the blues" and who was recognized as the first great professional blues vocalist.
- She made her first public appearance about the age of 14 in a local talent show called "Bunch of Blackberries" at the Springer Opera House in Columbus.
- In 1902, in a small Missouri town, she first heard the sort of music that was to become known as the blues.
- In her travels she appeared with jazz and jug bands throughout the South.
- In 1923 Ma Rainey made her first phonograph recordings for the Paramount company. Over a five-year span she recorded some 92 songs for Paramount.
- She continued to sing in public into the 1930s.
- In 2007 a small museum opened in a house that she had built in Columbus for her mother; she lived there herself from 1935 until her death.
- Ma Rainey was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 1983 and into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.

God Bless and we hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Helen Milligan and Mr Spindlow





Science Vocabulary for this Half Term

Year 1

KEY VOCABULARY	
spring	the season, after winter , when the temperature begins to rise, plants begin to grow and animals come out from hibernation
summer	the warmest season, coming after spring , when the days are long because the sun rises earlier and sets later
autumn	the season, after summer, where the days get shorter , crops can be harvested and the leaves begin to fall from the trees
winter	the coldest season , trees are often bare and some animals hibernate; the days are shorter
rain gauge	a tool used to measure how much rain has fallen
thermometer	a tool used to measure the temperature
weather vane	a tool used to find out in which direction the wind is blowing
data	a collection of facts, often numbers , that can give us information
clouds	a cloud is a collection of tiny droplets of water in the sky ; when the droplets fall they become rain
flood	an overflow of water
hurricane	a powerful storm with strong winds
meteorologist	a scientist who studies the weather

Year 2

KEY VOCABULARY	
electricity	electricity is a form of energy that helps to make things work
electrical current	the flow of electricity
electric shock	if we allow electrical current to flow through our bodies it can hurt us
circuit	a path which electricity flows around
battery	a store of energy
light bulb	a piece of equipment that converts electrical energy to light energy
switch	a piece of equipment that can make or break an electrical circuit
wire	a thin piece of metal (usually covered in plastic) that allows electricity to flow through it
conductor	an electrical conductor allows electricity to flow through it
insulator	an electrical insulator does not allow electricity to travel through it

Year 3

KEY VOCABULARY	
light	a type of energy that makes it possible for us to see and helps to support life on earth
dark	the absence of light (it is hard for us to see in the dark)
light source	something that makes light ; these can be natural or artificial (made by people)
transparent	a property of a material that allows light to travel through it (we can see through transparent things)
opaque	a property of a material that does not allow light through it (we cannot see through opaque things)
reflect	when light bounces back from a surface
shadow	a dark area created by an object blocking a light source

Year 4

KEY VOCABULARY	
habitat	the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism
producer	a living thing, usually a plant, which produces its own food
consumer	a living thing, usually an animal, which feeds on plants or other animals
decomposer	a living thing, usually a bacterium or fungus, which breaks down the cells of dead plants and animals into simpler substances
ecosystem	a system formed by the interaction of organisms with their environment
pollution	the introduction of harmful substances or products into the environment (pollution can damage ecosystems)



Science Vocabulary for this Half Term

Year 5

KEY VOCABULARY	
life cycle	a series of changes in the life of a living thing , including reproduction
reproduction	the production of offspring by a living thing
interconnection	a connection between two or more things
mammal	a warm-blooded vertebrate that has live young and hair or fur
amphibian	a cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life underwater and develops the ability to breathe and live on land
metamorphosis	the process of transformation to adult form where a creature completely changes
hibernate	when a creature spends winter in a very deep sleep where they rest in a safe, often dark place, to survive the cold
incubate	when a creature sits on eggs to protect them and keep them warm before they hatch
larva (larvae)	very young insects or amphibians , before they transform into adults, e.g., caterpillar

Year 6

KEY VOCABULARY	
electricity	electricity is a form of energy ; we can control it and use it
electrical current	the flow of electricity
electric shock	when electricity flows through the human body causing a shock ; exposure to electrical energy can be dangerous, resulting in damage or death
circuit	a path which electricity flows around
battery	a store of energy , also known as a cell
light bulb	a component that converts electrical energy to light energy
switch	a component that can make or break an electrical circuit
wire	a thin piece of metal covered in plastic that conducts electricity
conductor	materials that allow electricity to pass through them are called conductors
insulator	materials that do not allow electricity to pass through are called insulators

Vocabulary is a strong indicator of reading success. We know from research that the size of a child's vocabulary is the best predictor of success on future tests. Children with a poor vocabulary at five are four times more likely to struggle with reading in adulthood.

At Guardian Angels, we also know that a good understanding of a wide range of vocabulary supports success across the whole national curriculum. Therefore pupils are regularly taught new vocabulary in all areas of the curriculum.

Please spend some time looking at this science subject specific vocabulary with your children.



Poster Competition

At Guardian Angels, we are all Scientists!
As part of Science Week, you have the opportunity to take part in the Science Week poster competition. This year's theme is 'Time'. You could create a poster showing how a certain type of technology has changed over time, or even the advancement of time-telling technology itself. Budding poster makers could also go futuristic and show how you think the world might look in years to come, or perhaps look at nature - lifecycles, lifespans, evolution and hibernation - nature is full of timely topics.

Create your poster at home and return to your teacher by **Friday 9th February 2024**.

Your posters will be entered into the Science Week's competition and could be chosen as a winner!
Good luck and have fun!