Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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TEL: 0121 458 2458
www.stjosb30.bham.sch.uk

This newsletter is available to view on our school website.

Prayer

Creation Care Prayer for the Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Taken from 'Laudato Si', 2015.

A Message from Mr Greavy

It has been lovely to welcome our families back to our celebration of Mass on Fridays. The children in Y6, Y5 and Y4 have led liturgy so confidently and sang beautifully. A reminder that families are welcome to join us each week (please see dates within newsletter).

Year 6 enjoyed taking part in Bikeability this week, learning essential cycling and road safety skills. As part of our commitment to keeping children safe, we strive to offer this valuable experience to all Upper Key Stage 2 pupils, helping them build confidence and make safe choices when travelling on the roads in the future.

We are celebrating and supporting 'Jeans for Genes' day at school today, raising awareness and funds for families and children suffering challenges due to genetic conditions. It is a wonderful charity that has directly helped families in our school Parish community, and it is a pleasure to support them. Thanks kindly for your donations (ParentPay option available) and for the children wearing their jeans today!

We are glad that all the children are settling into their new year groups so well. Thank you to parent/carers who joined your children's teachers at the class welcome meetings. All slides are now available via class pages on our website.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Greavy

Jesuit Value Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who have demonstrated the Virtues we are focussing on this half term

"Compassionate and Loving"

Class	Week ending Friday 11th September 2026	Class	Week ending Friday 18th September 2026
R	Mila	R	Thomas
1	Rhys	1	Ellian
2	Kylan	2	Freya
3	Henry	3	James
4	Harry H	4	Bertie
5	Carys K	5	Kelly
6	Ciara	6	Max

Well done to the following pupils who have been awarded **'Star of the Week'** for their hard work.

Class	Week ending Friday 11th September 2026	Class	Week ending Friday 18th September 2026
R	All of Reception	R	Noah
1	Esme	1	Sophia
2	Fíadh	2	Sonny
3	Jessie	3	Emma
4	George	4	Harry G
5	Leo	5	Hinki
6	Dorothy	6	Orlaith

Attendance and late marks for the period 7/9/2026 – 18/9/2026

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	99.00%	98.57%	**99.17%**	98.33%	97.50%	97.00%	97.17%
Late Marks	3	14	6	**1**	6	10	6

Congratulations to **Year 2** who are our attendance winners for this period. They have been awarded our attendance trophy. Congratulations to **Year 3** who had the lowest number of late marks for this period. They have been awarded our punctuality trophy.

Overall attendance since the beginning of the school year is **97.81%** our target is 97.5%.

Attendance

- **If your child is unwell and will not be attending school, please contact the school office before 9am.**
- After a case of vomiting and/or diarrhoea, your child MUST remain at home for 48 hours after the last episode.
- A Leave of Absence request should be completed for all planned absences from school.
- We would request where possible medical appointments are not arranged in the school day. If your child has a medical appointment, an appointment card/letter must be provided to enable us to authorise absence from school.

Apply online for your child to start Secondary School in September 2027

We would like to remind you that applications for secondary school places need to be submitted by **31st October 2026** at the latest via www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Birmingham Admissions treat any applications received after 31st October as late and you may not be offered one of your preferred schools.

Open Events for Reception 2027 intake

We are holding Open Events for prospective parents and new pupils to visit our school on;

- Monday 19th October at 9:30am
- Monday 2nd November at 5:30pm
- Thursday 5th November at 9:30am.

You will hear from our school Principal Mr Greavy and will also be offered a tour of our school. If you wish to attend any of the events, please complete the form to book a place; Open Events for Reception 2027 intake – Fill in form

Apply online for your child to start Reception class in September 2027

Applications for Reception class 2027 open on Thursday 1st October. Visit https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application by 15 January 2027 (the final closing date).

Online applications will receive an immediate email confirmation when the application is submitted. Those online applicants who have not provided an email address will not receive an acknowledgement, so it is very important that you include an email address. If you have not received an acknowledgement by 15 January 2027, then you should call Children's Services on 0121 303 1888 to confirm that your application has been received.

Online applicants that submit their application with a valid email address will be sent an offer by email on 16th April 2027. Parents/carers that submitted an online application without a valid email address will be sent an offer letter by first class post which will arrive after 16th April 2027.

If you do not have internet at home. You can apply online from any device with internet access or if you are able from a computer whilst at work.

If you have any questions about your child starting school, please do not hesitate to contact a member of Children's Services on 0121 303 1888 where staff will be pleased to offer assistance.

As well as applying online to Birmingham Admissions, where St Joseph's has been listed as a preference, we will also need our Supplementary Information Form to be completed and for a copy of the Baptism Certificate to be sent into school by 15th January 2027. A copy of the form is available on the school website or from the school office.

Coats

For the comfort and well-being of your child, could you please ensure your child brings/wears a waterproof coat to school every day. We are keen for outdoor sessions to take place in most weathers; however, we will risk assess against the forecast for the day.

Wellies & Spare Socks

If you have not done so already, can you please provide a pair of wellington boots to be left in school; these should have your child's name clearly written inside.

We aim for children to go outside at lunchtime in most weathers; even with wellies on, sometimes children's feet can get wet. **Can you please leave a spare pair of socks in your child's bag for them to change into if necessary.**

Jeans for Genes – Friday 18th September

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising event today. If you would still like to donate you can do so via ParentPay. So far we have raised;

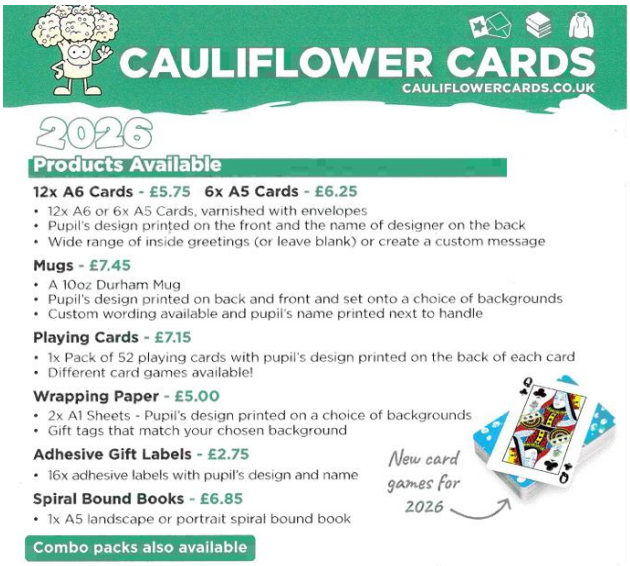
£147

Find out about our work and how your funds make a real difference https://www.jeansforgenes.org/funding-in-action

Christmas Project

Artwork has been sent home with pupils with details of how you can order Christmas Cards, gift tags, mugs, etc.

Once you have ordered and paid online, please ensure that you **return the artwork to school no later than midday on Monday 28th September** so that we can send it off for your order to be produced! This will ensure delivery in plenty of time for Christmas.



School Photographs

Academy Photographers will be in school on **Tuesday 29th September**. Under the GDPR Legislation we have to obtain consent to enable the children to be photographed by an outside organisation. The consent enables the children to have an individual photograph taken and to also appear on the class photographs. As we will be using Academy Photography again this year previous consents will still apply. Please support the school by returning the consent form promptly if you receive one for your child.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations – Thursday 1st October

The School Immunisation Team will be in school on Thursday 1st October to administer the nasal flu vaccination to pupils in all year groups who have parental/carer consent.

The Vaccination Team uses an electronic consent system for all year groups and vaccination programmes. Parents/carers will receive an email directly from the Vaccination Team next week containing a link to the online consent form.

Please look out for this email and check your junk/spam folder if you have not received it.

It is important that you complete the online consent form, even if you do not wish for your child to receive the vaccination.

Further information about the Flu (Influenza) Vaccination for Children can be found on the Vaccination UK website:
Flu (Influenza) Vaccine - Vaccination UK

World Mental Health Day

On Friday 9th October we are raising money for Young Minds. Pupils are invited to wear yellow / own clothes. Voluntary donations for YoungMinds can be made via ParentPay.

Further information about the charity can be found at; https://www.youngminds.org.uk/

This World Mental Health Day, wear yellow with thousands of others across the UK and raise money to show young people that they're not alone with their mental health. Because we stand brighter, together.

Year 3 and Year 6 Enrolment Mass – Sunday 18th October

Enrolment Mass for the Sacrament of Reconciliation & First Holy Communion will be held at 9am on Sunday 18th October at Ss. Joseph & Helen Church. Sacramental Preparation request forms have been sent been sent home; please return to the school office no later than Friday 9th October.

Pupils attending should wear their school uniform and meet their teachers in church at 8.45am to prepare for Mass.

Year 6 House Captains

We held our school elections for Year 6 House Captains last week. Well done to all the children who put themselves forward for election. We had such an array of excellent manifestos - they did St Joseph's proud with their eloquent speeches. Votes have been counted, and we are pleased to announce our elected House Captains.

	St Clare	St Francis	St Helen	St Peter
Captain	Ciara	Joseph K	Joseph B	Evelyn
Vice-Captain	Charles	Bea	Kayley	Edie

Maths at St Joseph's

As part of our commitment to making maths exciting and high profile in our school, we continue to offer our pupils Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS). We recommend pupils use them regularly to develop fluency and love of Maths.

Should you or your child have any questions, our teachers will be happy to assist.

Numbots – Year 1 & Year 2

From the innovators who bring you Times Tables Rock Stars, comes a highly engaging platform for learning to add and subtract… Numbots! NumBots is all about every child achieving the "triple win" of understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction, so that they move from counting to calculating.

Login details can be found in your child's reading diary.

Times Tables Rock Stars – Year 3 to Year 6

TTRS is an award-winning maths learning platform where children can practise their times tables like a rock star! The question-based games automatically adapt to each child's unique learning needs, helping them to recall their times tables in record speed.

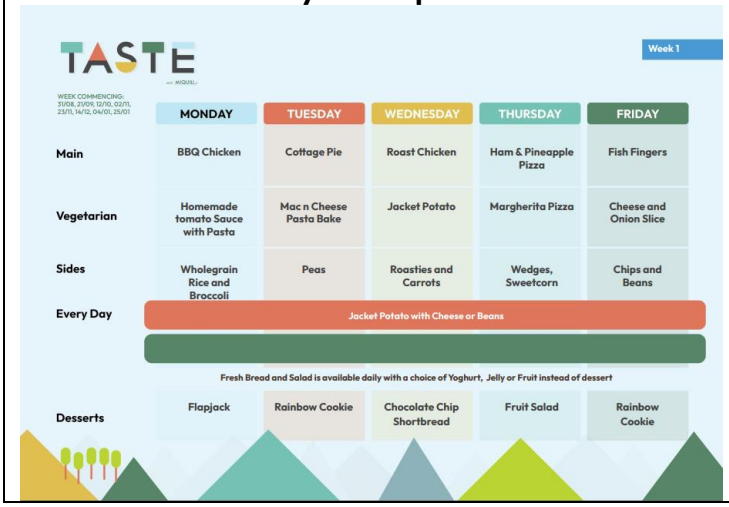
We would like to remind you to access Times Tables Rock Stars regularly at home to strengthen recall of times tables.

Please visit play.ttrockstars.com/reset to load the latest version in your device's browser or ensure the Times Tables Rock Stars app is updated on your device.

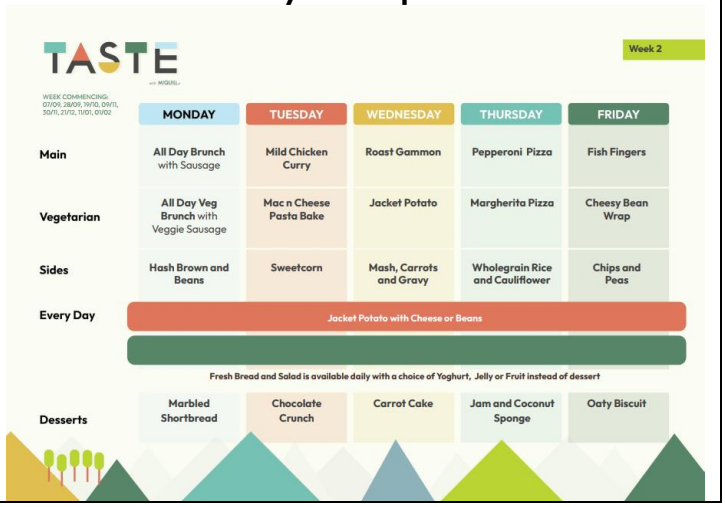
Login details can be found in your child's reading diary.

School Menu week commencing

Monday 21st September



Monday 28th September



SEND News

Birmingham Local Offer

You can find help, advice and information about the services available for your child or young person from birth to 25 years with a special educational need or disability (SEND).

Home - Local Offer Birmingham

Dyslexia Awareness Week 2026

Dyslexia Awareness Week takes place from 5th to 11th October 2026, and this year's national theme is "Dyslexia in Real Life: At Work."

The theme shines a spotlight on dyslexic children and adults and their experiences in school and the workplace, helping to raise awareness that dyslexia is a lifelong difference which can affect many aspects of everyday life, including communication, organisation, processing information and accessing workplace systems. It also celebrates the many strengths that dyslexic individuals bring, such as creativity, problem-solving, resilience and innovative thinking.

Throughout the week, pupils will take part in age-appropriate activities designed to develop understanding of dyslexia, celebrate different ways of learning and thinking, and explore how people with dyslexia can thrive in a wide range of careers. These activities will encourage children to recognise and value the unique strengths that everyone brings to our school community.

To support the week, we will also be holding a No Pens Day on Friday 9th October, giving pupils the opportunity to develop their speaking, listening, creative and collaborative skills through a range of engaging activities.

At St Joseph's, we are proud to celebrate neurodiversity and promote an inclusive environment where every child feels valued, supported and able to achieve their potential. We look forward to marking this important week together and celebrating the message that different ways of thinking make the world stronger.

Cygnet Autism Support Programme

Do you have an autistic child aged 5-18? The Cygnet Autism Support Programme offers parents and carers the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of autism, learn practical strategies to support their child, and connect with other families with shared experiences. The programme provides a friendly, supportive environment where parents can gain knowledge, share ideas, and build confidence in supporting their child's wellbeing and development.

https://barnardos-parenting.org.uk/

Communication and Autism Team

Parent Carer Workshops - Colebourne Primary School

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

Workshops will be held over six weeks with the following themes:

22nd September 9.15-11.15am - An overview of Autism
29th September 9.15-11.15am - Language and Communication
6th October 9.15-11.15am - Emotional Regulation
13th October 9.15-11.15am - Sensory Differences
20th October 9.15-11.15am - Sleep Routine
3rd November 9.15-11.15am - Developing independence with toileting

Sessions will take place at: Colebourne Primary School
B34 6AB
Book online via:
https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/cat-parent-carer-workshop-course-colebourne-primary-22nd-september/

Parents of all Birmingham schools are welcome

Communication and Autism Team

Male Parent Carer Workshop

Summer Term 2026

We would like to invite fathers, grandfathers and uncles of young people with a diagnosis of autism, or who are on the Neurodevelopmental Pathway for autism assessment to learn about how best to support your child or young person.

All Birmingham parent carers are welcome

Date: Tuesday 29th September 2026 - 6-7.30pm
Book via the following link:
https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/cat-male-parent-carer-workshop-via-microsoft-teams-tuesday-29th-september-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 - Matt Blackburn and Ansar Fazal

Other News

Congratulations to the following children for their various achievements:

Kaja Year 1 – received her IDTA Freestyle One Dance Yellow award - commended.

Rosie Year 1 – received her Stage 3 Learn to Swim certificate.

Carson Year 2 – received his brown belt for kickboxing.

Cillian Year 2 – attended football camp with Aston Villa over the summer break, where his team went on to win the World Cup.

Paighton Year 2 – received her Stage 2 Learn to Swim certificate and 5 metre distance award.

Dakksha Year 4 – received her Level 1 Bharatanatyam dance award with merit.

If you have any good news that you would like to share with the school and the community, please let us know and we'll put it in the newsletter.

FOSJ MEETING

Monday 21st September 3.40pm in school
Please join us to discuss ideas for the forthcoming year!

FRIENDS MEMBERS NEEDED

*We are seeking **NEW VOLUNTEERS** for this school year to help with events...*

Please do get in touch with us, even if you only have a few hours to spare or just some ideas to share - both are very valuable to us in helping the Friends of St Joseph's continue to support our children and the school with fundraising. Many of our volunteers do so on an ad hoc basis, with only a small commitment required.

No previous experience is necessary, and you will have the opportunity to shadow and learn from other members of the PTA.

If you would like to volunteer to help with our school fundraising efforts speak to Mrs Henderson in the school office who can pass your details onto the team.

Friends of St Joseph's (FOSJ)

Book Bags & Water Bottles

Book bags and water bottles with the school logo on, are available for sale from the school office. All profits go to the Friends of St. Joseph's School Fund.

- Basic bookbag **£6.00**
- Heavy duty bookbag (with strap) **£9.00**

Water Bottles **£3.50**

Hay Green Allotments

Autumn Fayre

Saturday 19th September

11.00 to 15.00

Cakes, Drinks, Food, Produce, Stalls
Juicing and our Beautiful Gardens

Entrances High Heath Close and
Woodlands Park

Please come by foot and bike if possible. Parking at
Row Heath: Please don't park on the Close

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

AUTUMN TERM 1 26/27	
Mondays	Year 4 woodland adventure every Monday in Autumn term 1.
Monday 21st September	**3.40pm FOSJ meeting in school – all welcome.**
Friday 25th September	9:15am KS1 & Y3 Mass led by Year 3.
Monday 28th September	**Deadline for Cauliflower Christmas card orders – midday.**
Tuesday 29th September	Families, Individual & sibling photographs.
Thursday 1st October	**Nasal flu vaccination – all pupils in Reception to Year 6 with consent.**
Friday 2nd October	9:15am Year 6 Class Mass.
Mon 5th October to Fri 9th Oct	**Year 5 swimming every day for 1 week.**
Friday 9th October	**World Mental Health Day – pupils can wear yellow / own clothes. Voluntary donations for YoungMinds via ParentPay.**
Monday 12th October	**3.45pm Phonics meeting in school for Reception Parent/carers.**
Mon 12th to Fri 16th October	**Booster swimming lessons for specified pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 every day for 1 week.**
Friday 16th October	9:15am Whole School Mass led by the Mission Team. **Paediatric eye service vision screening for Reception pupils.**
Sunday 18th October	**Y3 & Y6 Enrolment Mass in Church at 9am. Pupils should arrive at 8.45pm wearing school uniform.**
Monday 19th October	**9:30am Reception 2026 Open Morning – please complete form via link on the school website to confirm you are attending.**
Thursday 22nd October	Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
Friday 23rd October	Staff Inset Day, school closed to pupils.
Saturday 31st October	Closing date for secondary school applications.

AUTUMN TERM 2 26/27	
TBC	Year 3 woodland adventure once a week in Autumn term 2.
Monday 2nd November	Return to school. Registration 8:55am. (Breakfast club from 7:35am) **5:30pm Reception 2026 Open Evening – please complete form via link on the school website to confirm you are attending.**
Wednesday 4th November	**3:45pm Year 3 Reconciliation meeting for Parents/carers in school.**
Thursday 5th November	**9:30am Reception 2026 Open Morning – please complete form via link on the school website to confirm you are attending.**
Mon 9th – Fri 20th November	**Year 4 swimming every day for 2 weeks.**
Wednesday 11th November	**4:20-7pm Parents Evening.**
Tues 17th – Fri 20th November	**Scholastic Book fair in school.**
Thursday 19th November	**3:50-6:30pm Parents Evening.**
Wednesday 2nd December	**9:30am – Reception & KS1 Nativity for Parents/Carers – further information to follow.**
Thursday 3rd December	**9:30am – Reception & KS1 Nativity for Parents/Carers – further information to follow.**
Sunday 6th December	**1pm Year 3 Reconciliation at Ss. Joseph & Helen Church.**
Thursday 10th December	**Whole school theatre trip to see Cinderella at the Palace Theatre, Redditch.**
Friday 18th December	Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
SPRING TERM 1 26/27	
Monday 4th January	Staff Inset Day, school closed to pupils.
Tuesday 5th January	Return to school. Registration 8:55am. (Breakfast club from 7:35am)
Friday 15th January	**Closing date for Reception 2027 applications.**
Friday 12th February	Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
SPRING TERM 2 26/27	
TBC	Year 2 woodland adventure once a week in Spring term 2.
TBC	Year 1 woodland adventure once a week in Spring term 1
Monday 22nd February	Return to school. Registration 8:55am. (Breakfast club from 7:35am)
Monday 1st March	Secondary school offer day.
Mon 8th – Fri 19th March	**Year 3 swimming every day for 2 weeks.**
Thursday 25th March	Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
SUMMER TERM 1 26/27	
TBC	Year 5 woodland adventure once a week in Summer term 1.
Monday 12th April	Return to school. Registration 8:55am. (Breakfast club from 7:35am)
Tuesday 13th April	**Class groups, Year 6 leavers and Reception My School Journey photographs.**
Friday 16th April	**Reception 2027 offer day.**
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday, school closed to pupils.
Mon 10th – Thurs 13th May	Year 6 - KS2 SATs
Thursday 27th May	Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
Friday 28th May	Staff Inset Day, school closed to pupils.
SUMMER TERM 2 26/27	
TBC	Year 6 woodland adventure once a week in Summer term 2.
Monday 7th June	Staff Inset Day, school closed to pupils.
Tuesday 8th June	Return to school. Registration 8:55am. (Breakfast club from 7:35am)
Tues 8th – Fri 18th June	**Y4 Multiplication checks will take place on a date between 7/6/27-18/6/27**
Mon 14th – Fri 18th June	**Phonics screening will take place on a date between 14/6/27 – 18/6/27**
Weds 16th – Fri 18th June	Year 6 Residential – further details to follow.
Wednesday 7th July	Year 6 secondary school transition day.
Tuesday 13th July	**6pm Year 6 leavers Production for parent/carers.**
Thursday 15th July	**Year 6 trip to Boundless Outdoors Bell Heath– further information to follow.**
Monday 19th July	**KS2 Sports Day – further information to follow.**
Tuesday 20th July	**Year 6 Leavers Mass *Provisional Date*** Last day before half term holiday. School closes 3:30pm. (After school club at 5.30pm)
Wednesday 21st July	Staff Inset Day, school closed to pupils.