

St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



We will prepare the way by loving, living and
learning with the Lord

Friday 4th April 2025



As we approach the final week together before Easter, our school community turns its focus to the important practice of almsgiving. This emphasis aligns not only with our Lenten preparations but also with Pope Francis' call for prayer, charity, and social action during this jubilee year.

Our 'Pledge a Pound' initiative, benefiting Father Hudson's Caritas, continues to gather momentum. We aspire to raise a sum that reflects our school population—a minimum of £200. Your generous contributions will make a significant impact on this worthy cause. Tuesday will mark our Big Lent Walk. We kindly request that you utilise the provided QR code to make your donation and extend this opportunity to your family and friends. This way, we can maximise our collective contribution.

We are acutely aware of the financial challenges many face in these times. However, it is through our united efforts that we can effect meaningful change for others. Your participation, regardless of the amount, is invaluable in demonstrating our school's commitment to social responsibility and compassion.





Reflection

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The scribes and pharisees brought a woman to Jesus who has done something wrong. The law said that she should be punished, but the Pharisees asked Jesus what he would do.

Jesus said that the person who had done nothing wrong themselves, should be the person who threw the first stone at the woman.

Slowly, all the scribes and pharisees left, until just the woman and Jesus were left.

Jesus says that he would not punish her either, but that she should go away and try to do the right thing from now on.

Jesus knows that none of us are perfect. He forgives us for the things that we have done wrong and no matter what he always loves us. But he also asks us to change, to try our hardest not to do the wrong thing again.

Jesus also asks us not to judge people who have done something wrong, because we all do wrong things sometimes. Instead, we should try to forgive them, as God forgives us. But we should also try to help them see that they need to change, so that they no longer hurt others.

Let us try to forgive those who treat us unfairly and to follow Jesus' example of love for all people. But let's also try to make a change – to do what is right, and to help others to feel God's love in the way that we treat them.

Our Virtues

Attentive

and

Discerning



Catholic Social Teaching

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

It asserts that society must give special consideration to the poor and vulnerable, not as an act of charity, but as a matter of justice, recognising that their dignity and rights are often overlooked or denied in social, political, and economic systems.

Link Saint: St Mother Teresa of Calcutta



Established a religious community, Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor

Formed the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick and Suffering Co-Workers

Known for her spirit of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice and her apostolate of humble works of love

Our Pope's Prayer Intention

In April, we pray with Pope Francis that new technologies will not replace human relationships, but will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the challenges of our times.





Sports Events



SJB FC took part in their penultimate game of the league season on Tuesday, playing against a competitive Windy Arbour. There was great teamwork and encouragement between each other and some fabulous saves from Zac in goal. Unfortunately, we did not come away with the 3 points on this occasion, but we can take many positives away from the game! Another fab day with the sunshine brightening up our fixtures!





Social Action Team

New regulations for WASTE in schools from the 31st March 2025.

All schools in England must comply with the new regulations. From 31st March 2025, recycling and collection measures for all types of recyclable waste are required to be in place in your school, except garden waste and plastic film.

For schools, this includes:

- Food waste
- Glass (bottles, jars)
- Metal (aluminium and steel tins, cans, foil)
- Plastic (bottles, tubs, trays, containers)
- Paper (envelopes, magazines, copier paper, shredded paper)
- Cardboard (cardboard boxes, corrugated cardboard)

The legislation changes how food waste is collected and aims to stop food waste from going to landfill. Food waste can no longer be placed in general/non-recyclable waste bins or mixed with other recyclable materials. (Gov.org website)

To help towards the new regulations schools have to follow, we are asking that **all children that have home school lunches must keep their waste in their lunch bags and take home.** You can also monitor what your child eats.

St John the Baptist has always taken pride in how we recycle. We will be setting up a new recycling station in school, watch this space to check on updates.



Recycle  Read



Recycle to Read Batteries Collection

Our school is recycling batteries to protect the planet.

Recycle to Read Batteries Collection

Our school is recycling batteries to protect the planet (and for a chance to win book vouchers for the school).

We need your help - plus your child could win some fantastic eco-inspired prizes too!

How can you help?

1. Hunt out used batteries at home. We are collecting AA, AAA, C, D, 9V and button batteries.
2. Tape over the contacts of lithium (Li) and button batteries (see below).
3. Put them in a tied plastic bag (preferably reused)
4. Take them to the school's collection point.

Safety first:

Not only is storing and recycling batteries safely great for the environment, it can also help reduce risks associated with batteries:

- Batteries can cause serious injury or death if swallowed, please keep batteries out of reach of small children and pets.
- Lithium and button batteries need to be taped so their contacts don't touch, as they could short circuit if they do.

Use sticky tape over the contacts (top and bottom of batteries). Button batteries can be placed in a line between two sections of sticky tape. Lithium batteries can look like any battery, but they will have lithium (Li) written on them.

Many thanks for your support and happy battery hunting!

Recycle  Read



Social Action/ECO Team



Awards

Star of the Week

Our Star of the Week for Early Years and Key Stage One is
Rio- George M



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Ava D

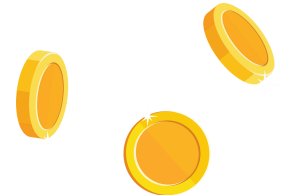


Virtues



Year 1	Frankie C
Year 2	Remi- May A
Year 3	Abi H
Year 4	Tady L
Year 5	Kayden C
Year 6	Freya Ms

Star Readers



Isabella J	Shay M-W
Ava D	Michael D
Charlie M	Alfie W
Elizabeth B	Oscar W





Celebrations



Birthdays

Zara R Year 3

Tady L Year 4

Lily B NN



We wish you a very happy birthday from everyone at St. John's!

Ready to Learn

Our most punctual class, this week, who were in everyday, on time and ready to learn is...

Year

3&4

Well Done

Attendance

The class with the highest attendance this week is...

Year

REC

97.6%





School/ Parish Links



On Tuesday 8th April at 1.30pm, children from St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, will be taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk.

We would love it if the parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church could come and join us on our walk.

You just need to walk 1km around our school field to help add to our total. Please meet us at our school entrance at 1.15pm



Join the Fun, Walk with Us!



School Parking enforcement

Please see the following message from the local Police:

‘In October 2024 I sent an email and information regarding school parking and the laws around it for you to disseminate to parents/careers. The team have seen little improvement and continue to get complaints from the local residents and the wider community. We have decided to take robust action and will no longer take a lenient approach by words of advice. All drivers committing a road traffic offence will receive a ticket through the post. Please pass this message onto parents/careers via the appropriate channels to avoid these fines’.



Ordering Meals on Blue Runner

A reminder to please continue to pre-order your child's meals on Blue Runner. Thank you to everyone that has already activated their account. If you do still need to activate your account and need help, please pop into/ or call the school office.

FOOD FESTIVAL
By Aspens

LUNCHTIME

WORLD
Week 2

Autumn Winter 2024-25:
9/9, 30/9, 21/10, 11/11, 2/12, 23/12, 13/1, 3/2, 24/2, 17/3, 7/4

	 THE MAIN EVENT	 MEAT-FREE MAGIC <small>Veggie Dish</small>	 RAINBOW ALLEY <small>Vegetables and Salads</small>	 BIG TOPPING <small>Filled Jackets</small>	 DESSERT TROLLEY
MONDAY	Cheesy Tomato Pizza Muffins	BBQ and Sweetcorn Pizza Slice	Wholegrain Pasta Salad and Green Salad	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Toffee Apple Sponge and Custard
TUESDAY	Chicken Chimichangas	Veggie Enchiladas	Rice and Sweetcorn	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Chocolate Sprinkle Iced Cake
WEDNESDAY	Roast Pork, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Cauliflower Cheese, Crispy Onion Topping & Roast Potatoes (You don't have to have the onions)!	Mixed Greens	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Orange Cookie
THURSDAY	Butter Chicken Wholegrain Pilaf Rice	Aloo Gobi Cauliflower Potato Curry	Peas	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Oaty Apple Crunch
FRIDAY	Battered Fish and Chips	Cheese and Tomato Toasted Wrap with Chips	Baked Beans	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Anzac Biscuits

DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT
AVAILABLE DAILY

DAILY SANDWICHES AVAILABLE

PASTA TWIRLER
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

Topped Pasta
Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato Sauce & Cheese

W1



FOOD
FESTIVAL

DELICIOUS DESSERTS

10th April

Main Meal Meat Option

Fajita Fiesta

Or

Main Meal Vegetarian Option

Veggie Mac & Cheese

Please with a side order of Peas

Apple Scrapple Sponge

Jelly Jive

Brookie-O Cookie

**Topped pasta, Jacket potato & sandwiches
also available**



Online Safety

**STAY SAFE
ONLINE!**



BE A GOOD COMMUNICATOR!

Remember your manners!
Don't say something in an email,
text or online conversation that you
wouldn't say in person.



Be in the circle of trust!

Agree with your friends not
to post photos or videos that
may embarrass you or them
now or in the future.



STAY SECURE!

Always keep your personal
information private. Don't share
your full name, address,
passwords, school, email
address or phone numbers with
anyone you don't know online.



MANAGE YOUR FRIENDS LIST!

Only accept people as
friends that you really know.
Remember you can always
unfriend anyone who is
inappropriate, rude or mean.



STAY SAFE!

Never meet up with an internet
friend without talking it through
with your parents or guardian.



BE BRAVE!

Listen to your feelings and act if
you feel uncomfortable. Always
speak to a trusted adult about
anything you see or hear online
that makes you feel sad,
scared or confused.



BE SMART!

At school only access sites that
support your learning. At
home have fun by choosing
sites and games that are
age appropriate.

**! IF ANYONE UPSETS YOU ONLINE KEEP THE MESSAGES AND
SHOW THEM TO A TRUSTED ADULT. !**



Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Term Ends: Friday 11 April 2025

End of Term Holiday: Monday 14 April 2025 to Friday 25 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28 April 2025

Half Term Holiday: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025

Term Ends: Friday 18 July 2025

INSET Day - Monday July 21st

Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th April - Big Lent Walk

Wednesday 9th April - Year 2 Inspire Workshop

Thursday 10th April - Easter Bonnet Parade/ Decorate an egg competition

Thursday 10th April - Year 4 Inspire Workshop

Thursday 10th April - Themed lunch 'Delicious Desserts'

Wednesday 7th May - Year 3 Inspire Workshop

Wednesday 26th May - Year 6 Inspire Workshop

Monday 12th May - Year 6 SATs Week

Saturday 14th June - 10.00am - First Holy Communion

Tuesday 24th June - Sports Afternoon



Solihull Family Hubs



Solihull Family Hubs



A Family Hub is a place where children, young people and families can go for services, advice and to meet other families. Raising a family, being a parent or carer, or navigating life as a young person can be a challenge so staff in the hubs can put you in touch with different services in the area.

There are 4 Family Hubs in Solihull

- Elmwood- Smiths Wood
- Evergreen- Kingshurst
- Riverside- Chelmsley Wood
- Hatchford Brook- Elmdon

Scan here for more information on the Family Hubs website



Family Hubs are open to everyone and there will always be a safe space available for you if you need it. You can get help with many things from:



- parenting support and social activities
- seeing a midwife or a health visitor
- activities for young people
- support for children and young people with additional needs

The Solihull Start for Life Offer is a guide for everyone involved in a child's life from pregnancy to 2 years old. It includes information, advice, services and places to go to keep healthy, happy and safe in the first 1,001 days.

Email us: familyhubs@solihull.gov.uk
Call: 0121 704 6017

Follow us on Facebook: Solihull Family Hubs

or Scan here for the Solihull Start for Life



Download the Solihull Family Hubs App, available on Apple Store and Google Play Store



Solihull
Family Hubs



Solihull Family Hubs



A Family Hub is a place where children, young people and families can go for services, advice and to meet other families. Raising a family, being a parent or carer, or navigating life as a young person can be a challenge so staff in the hubs can put you in touch with different services in the area.

Scan here for more information on the Family Hubs website or visit:
www.solihull.gov.uk/family-hubs

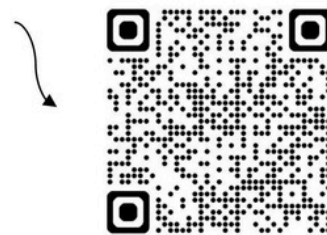


The Solihull Family Hubs app is available to download from the Apple Store and Google Play Store. It includes information on sessions at each of our hubs, online resources and much more. **Take a look today!**

Google Play



App Store





COMMUNITIES COUNTERING HATE



A **FREE**, unique, 90-minute workshop designed to inform, engage and empower young people & educators to build resilience against extremism & radicalisation.



The workshop features a diverse mix of interactive workshops, role-play, and multimedia presentations.

Delivered by experienced trainers specialising in far-right extremism and radicalisation, featuring up-to-date, case-based content.



TOPICS COVERED

Cultural Richness: Learn about the historical and cultural contributions of immigration to the UK.

Date: Wed 26th March

Time: 3:30pm- 5pm

Address: Elmwood Place, 37
Burtons Way, Smith's Wood,
B36 0UG

WHO IS THIS FOR?



- Young People (Ages 11-19)

For more info, contact: kanika@groundswell.world

**GROUNDSWELL
PROJECT**

Groundswellproject.org



Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Family Helpline

Early Help support for families
and professionals in Solihull

0121 788 4327

Live from 3 March 2025

Available Monday-Thursday 09:00-16:30,
Friday 09:00-16:00

Our dedicated team of duty workers support
with topics such as:

- Parenting and family guidance
- School attendance and support in coordinating Early Help assessments and plans
- Signposting to local services such as Solihull Family Hubs
- Child behavioural issues and social development
- Health and emotional wellbeing
- Referrals to Family Support Workers

For safeguarding concerns, such as if a child is at risk of being harmed, call the Solihull Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0121 788 4300



Working
for Children
and Families
in Solihull



Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Sensory Craft: sensory activities for parents with SEND children

Are you keen to help your child with learning?

Do you like sharing ideas and making things?

Would you like support for creating sensory activities?

Come and join our friendly family learning group at Elmwood Family Hub, 37 Burtons Way, Smiths Wood, B36 0UG on Tuesdays, 9.30am – 11.30am, starting 29th April 2025.

There will be lots of opportunities for discussion and making resources to use with your children. Best of all, this fabulous opportunity is completely FREE!

Activities include:

- Making sensory activities for use at home
- Messy play ideas.

To join us, please contact Elmwood Family Hub to sign up.

Please note: only people who have been resident in the UK (or another EU country) for at least 3 years are eligible for this government funded course.