

St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

Friday 11th April 2025



As we approach the Easter break, it is essential to reflect on the significance of Holy Week and the profound journey of Jesus Christ. This week, in preparation, our school community has come together to share in the Stations of the Cross, providing an opportunity for contemplation on Jesus' final path.

In celebration of the season, we have enjoyed a delightful display of creativity and enthusiasm from our pupils. The Early Years and Key Stage One Easter bonnet parade was a joyous occasion, showcasing the imaginative efforts of our younger learners. Equally impressive were the entries in our Key Stage Two 'decorate an egg' competition, which demonstrated great creativity and skill. Thank you to all participants for their outstanding contributions.

As we begin the school holidays, I encourage our school families to embrace the dual nature of Easter: a time for solemn reflection on the immense sacrifice made by Jesus, along with a celebration of new life and fresh beginnings. May this break offer you the opportunity to come together, to contemplate the profound meaning of this holy season, and to rejoice in the promise of renewal it brings.

I wish you all a happy and holy Easter, filled with moments of meaningful reflection and joyous celebration.



Reflection

Palm Sunday

In the first gospel reading, this Sunday, we hear how Jesus sent the disciples off to borrow a donkey, and to say that: "The Master needs it" if they were asked where they were taking it.

Then Jesus entered into Jerusalem on this donkey, while the people shouted their praises to God.

What would you do to welcome Jesus if he arrived here today?

Jesus is in all of us, so every time we meet someone and welcome them, we are welcoming Jesus. We are asked by God to treat all people as we would like to be treated.

So, this week how do you think we can make all the people we spend time with at home, at school and elsewhere feel welcome?

And because Jesus is part of every person, we need to also welcome people all over the world. We can hold all people in our hearts when we pray and do what we can to live our lives so that all people feel welcome.

And just like the disciples we need to live as Jesus asks us to. This might sometimes mean being a bit different to others, as we try to share God's love and make the world a fairer place for all people. But let's try to do our best. And if anyone asks us why we are doing this we can say "The Master needs it."

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 played their final game of the season yesterday against Coleshill, it was a fab game and the boys played their best football yet. Confident, skillful, encouragement and lots of communication on the pitch!! It's been a great league; we've tested some and been tested by others. Well done to everyone who has taken part and hopefully look forward to some more games on the field over the summer term!





Easter Competitions



Easter Bonnet Parade Winners

Nursery:	Rudy and Sienna
Reception:	Caleb and Minnie
Year One	Bella and Conor McS
Year Two	Remi and Ruairi



Decorate an Egg Competition Winners

Year Three	Isla-Mae and Harry
Year Four	Ava- Rose and Jax
Year Five	Scarlett and Zach
Year Six	Tiani and Alfie





Donating Easter Eggs to those in Need.

Thank you so much to Luna in Reception. Her Mum mentioned this event to the company she works for.

They kindly bought Easter Eggs and donated them to Fr Hudson's Tabour living.

A wonderful act of kindness to others.

Some of the Social Action Team will be delivering the Easter Eggs to Fr Hudson's Caritas at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.

Thank you to those who have donated Easter Eggs to show that we care and want to bring a little happiness and hope to others.

'Love one another as I have loved you' John

13:34





Thank you very much to our hardworking PTFA, who managed to enlist the help of the Easter Bunny to help them deliver an Easter egg to every child in our school today. The children were very excited to receive such a special visitor!





Awards

Star of the Week

Our Star of the Week for Early Years and Key Stage One is
Minnie W



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Riley T

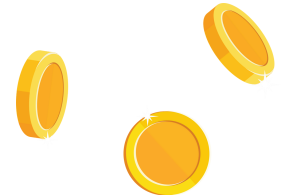


Virtues



Nursery	Lily b
Reception	Cali- Mae W
Year 1	Jed T
Year 2	Zoe M
Year 3	Pearl B
Year 4	Paisley McK
Year 5	Zach P
Year 6	Ryan M

Star Readers



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





Celebrations



Birthdays

Scarlett H Year 5

Precious O Year 2

Kane S Year 5

Emerald B NN

Isla E Year 2

Evie H Rec

Theo M Rec

Eloise M-S Year 6

Zoe M Year 2

Jenson-Jay N Year 4



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

Well Done

Attendance

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

Year

5

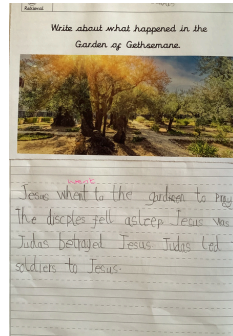
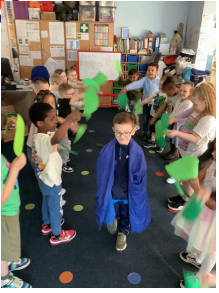
97.4%





Key Stage One

Year One



Year One have been learning more about Holy Week. Role playing Palm Sunday when Jesus arrives in Jerusalem, and when Jesus was condemned to death. They also learned more about what happened in the Garden of Gethsemane. Since we started Lent, Year One have been recording their 40 acts of kindness by colouring in 40 purple squares on a Cross. When visiting the twelve Stations of the Cross, Year One were respectful and finished with a prayer.



Year Two



Year Two Parent Workshop

Year Two enjoyed their parent workshop this week. The workshop was all about hope. We started off in the Church and listened to the Bible teachings about hope and offered prayers. We then took part in a 'procession of hope' back to school. Families discussed their hopes and dreams for when children are older and created illustrations on a candle of hope. These candles were taken home as a reminder of their hopes and dreams to reflect on each day.



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

	 THE MAIN EVENT <small>Meat Free</small>	 MEAT-FREE MAGIC <small>Veggie Dish</small>	 RAINBOW ALLEY <small>Vegetables and Salads</small>	 BIG TOPPING <small>Filled Jackets</small>	 DESSERT TROLLEY	 DAILY SANDWICHES AVAILABLE
<p>Spring Summer 2025 28/04/25, 19/05/25, 09/06/25, 30/06/25, 21/07/25, 11/08/25, 01/09/25, 22/09/25, 13/10/25</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Beef Bolognese Pasta</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Cheese and Potato Pie</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Sweetcorn and Peas</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Jam Sponge and Custard</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY</p>
<p>TUESDAY</p>	<p>Chicken Korma Curry with Rice</p>	<p>Vegetable Korma Curry with Rice</p>	<p>Sweetcorn</p>	<p>Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo</p>	<p>Banana Muffin</p>	<p>PASTA TWIRLER AVAILABLE EVERY DAY</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY</p>	<p>Roast Gammon, Skin on Roasties and Gravy</p>	<p>Maple Roasted Sweet Potato Filo Pie with Skin on Roasties</p>	<p>Mixed Greens</p>	<p>Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo</p>	<p>Oaty Cornflake Crunch Bar</p>	<p>Topped Pasta Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato Sauce & Cheese</p>
<p>THURSDAY</p>	<p>Chinese Style Chicken Noodles</p>	<p>Veggie Chinese Style Noodles</p>	<p>Carrots and Green Beans</p>	<p>Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo</p>	<p>Apple Sponge Pudding with Custard</p>	
<p>FRIDAY</p>	<p>Battered Fish and Chips</p>	<p>Cheese & Onion Burger and Chips</p>	<p>Baked Beans</p>	<p>Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo</p>	<p>Vanilla Cookie</p>	

W1



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

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



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



We are here to help, Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.
 The people working in the Family Hub will work in partnership with you and your community. They will help you find and get help from different services in the area and will be able to give you information, advice, and support. **Family Hubs are open to everyone.** You may need to book an appointment to access some services, but there will always be a safe space available for you if you need it.
 Call us on 0121 779 1700, pop in to see us at 37 Burton's Way, Smith's Wood, B36 0UG or email: elmwoodfh@solihull.gov.uk

Easter School Holiday

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Marvellous Makers Easter Session Monday 14th April 10.00am – 12.00pm</p> <p>Stay and play session, suitable from birth onwards. Come and join us for arts and crafts activities, use of the sensory room and lots of play. Come and join the fun and siblings welcome! Drop in and no booking required.</p>  <p>Women's Community Drop-in Monday 14th April 9.00am – 12.00pm</p> <p>Providing emotional and practical support.</p>	<p>Solihull Active – Easter Session Tuesday 15th April 11.00am – 12.00pm</p> <p>Join us for a Spring/Easter themed Scavenger Hunt. Followed by a food making activity with healthy Easter snacks. Booking essential via Elmwood Family Hub – Tel: 0121 779 1700</p> <p>Easter Storytime and Mobile Craft Activity Tuesday 15th April 2.30pm – 3.30pm</p> <p>Hoplit down for this session, suitable for 3-8-year olds. Booking essential via Elmwood Family Hub – Tel: 0121 779 1700</p> <p>Decorate an Easter Biscuit Tuesday 22nd April 1.30pm – 3.15pm</p> <p>Join us for a Spring/Easter themed biscuit decorating session Booking essential via Elmwood Family Hub – Tel: 0121 779 1700</p> <p>Family Support Drop-In Tuesday 15th & 22nd April 1.00pm - 4.00pm</p> <p>Confidential advice and support to help you make positive changes. Includes a range of advice and guidance about difficult relationships at home, parenting, behaviour management, routines, boundaries, child development, bed wetting, sleep problems, school issues, and more.</p>	<p>Litter Picking Walk Wednesday 16th April 10.00am – 11.00am</p> <p>Join Family Hub staff for a local litter picking walk, all welcome but children must have a supervising parent or carer.</p> <p>Easter Baking Session Wednesday 23rd April 10.00am – 11.30am</p> <p>Join us for a Spring/Easter themed baking session Booking essential via Elmwood Family Hub – Tel: 0121 779 1700</p> <p>Urban Heard Youth Group Wednesday 16th & 23rd April 3.30pm – 6pm</p> <p>Open youth group. Arts, crafts, games and activities for anyone between 10-16 years of age.</p> <p>Free and young people can drop in – no booking required. For more info please email Rowan@urbanheard.co.uk</p>	<p>Women's Mental Health Support Group (Adults) 9.00am – 11.00am</p> <p>Weekly anxiety support group open for anyone over the age of 18. Delivered by Reimagine Me CIC - for more information please email: info@reimaginemecic.org or contact Michelle: 07553 899373. A self-referral can be made via their website: https://www.reimaginemecic.co.uk/</p> <p>Musical Explorers - Early Years Session. Thursday 17th April 11.30am-12.00pm</p> <p>Running weekly - free, fun, music sessions for children aged 0-5 delivered by Solihull Music. Followed by a relaxed Stay and Play. Siblings welcome! Drop in.</p> <p>Easter Crafts Thursday 17th April 2.00pm – 3.30pm</p> <p>Pop in for some crafting and creativity! No need to book.</p> <p>Family Hub Cuppa & Chat Thursday 24th April 10.00am – 11.00am</p> <p>Pop in for a cuppa and a chat and to find out more about Family Hub sessions.</p>	<p>Smokefree Solihull clinic 11.00am – 1.00pm</p> <p>Stop smoking support and advice. By referral only.</p> 

Help with the cost of living

Family Hubs assist in accessing emergency food, fuel, and toiletries. Contact the Family Hub Team for support in obtaining help from the Council and specialist teams. You can also visit [Here2Help \(solihull.gov.uk\)](http://Here2Help.solihull.gov.uk) or call the Solihull Connect service 0121 704 8001.

Midwives	Health Visiting	Wellbeing & Advice Women's Aid	Mental Health Support
Please call your midwife using the number in your red book.	To speak to a Health Visitor, text Chat Health on 07507 332563 (9.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday). If your child is unwell, please see your GP, ring 111, or if it is a medical emergency, please ring 999.	If you or someone you know needs support, call 0808 800 0028. The helpline is open 7 days a week, 9.15am – 5.15pm	The Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust provide help, guidance, and reassurance to people of all ages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call 0800 915 9292 / 0121 262 3555

We also have a selection of pre-loved school uniform, available in reception at Elmwood daily.

Come and visit our sensory room at Elmwood Family Hub. This is a bookable space for parents/ carers to come with their children for up to 50 minutes – please book via Family Hub staff.

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



SUMMER TERM 2025
Open to all Solihull parents and carers



BEING A PARENT GROUPS

Led by trained parent volunteers, the groups provide you with the tools to help manage challenging behaviour, improve communication, and build a positive relationship with your child.

The Being a Parent groups start with a welcome session & then run weekly for a further 8 sessions:

TUESDAY	Virtual via Microsoft Teams	6pm – 7.30pm	6/5/25 – 8/7/25
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UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

Led by Solihull professionals, the group aims to help you to manage challenging behaviour and improve communication, as well as building and understanding your relationship with your child. The group target age is 4-11 years unless specified, delivered face-to-face for 10 sessions:



TUESDAY	Shirley Heath Outreach Hub (B90 3DS)	1pm – 3pm	29/4/25 – 8/7/25
WEDNESDAY	Three Trees Community Centre (B37 7TR)	5pm – 7pm	w/c 28/4/25 – 7/7/25

FIVE TO THRIVE

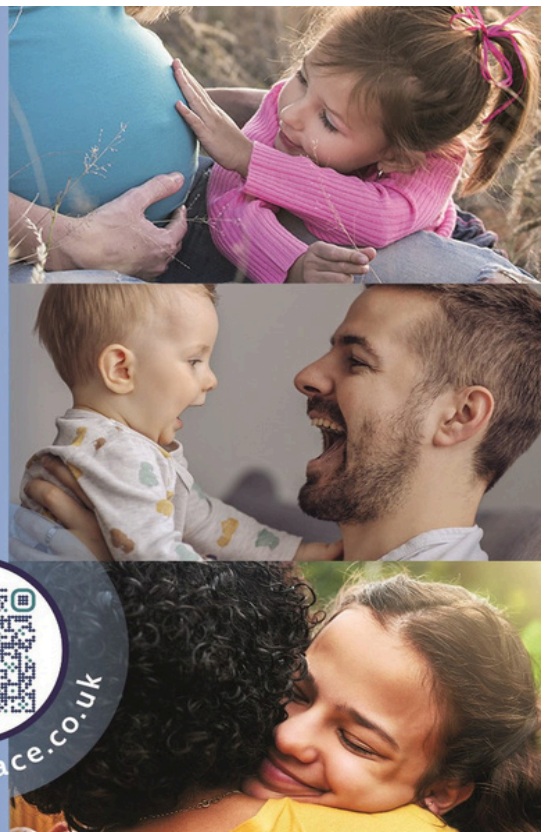
For parents with children aged up to 2 years, the FIVE TO THRIVE building blocks explore practical things you can do to enhance your child's brain development, increase confidence in parenting and meet local parents.



TUESDAY
The Bridge, Shirley (B90 3AG)
12.30pm – 2.30pm
7/1/25 – 11/2/25
25/2/25 – 1/4/25

Book your place now, or find out more by contacting Solihull Parenting Team at: bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net or book via the Eventbrite QR code below:





Supporting emotional health and wellbeing from 0-19+

Free online courses for all parents, carers, grandparents and teens

- Antenatal and postnatal baby bonding
- Understanding your child or young person
- Your child or young person with additional needs
- Teenager's feelings and brain development
- And lots more specialist courses

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



Residents of SOLIHULL

In paid partnership with:




Use Access Code
APPLEJACKS

SMITH'S WOOD


Community Drop-in

 Elmwood Family Hub
B36 0UG

 Tuesday 15th April
11:30 - 13:00

Liam
BYRNE MP

Pop by and have a chat! Let me know what needs sorting out in your area – or if you need help with anything.



CAN I HELP? LIAM BYRNE

In my time as an MP, my team and I have helped over 28,000 people with problems.

We handle 90% of issues over the phone or email. But if you need a personal appointment, please email liam.byrne.mp@parliament.uk or call 020 789 7207

DETAILS:

- WARD END**
 Ward End Fire Station, B8 2JF
- HODGE HILL**
 Liam's Office, B33 8DT
- NORTH SOLIHULL**
 Elmwood Family Hub, B36 0UG