

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

## Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025



As we prepare to commemorate Remembrance Sunday, we turn our thoughts and prayers to those who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom that we enjoy today. Their bravery and patriotism are characteristics that will always be remembered. We must also pray for those currently involved in wars, hoping that resolutions can be found to end these conflicts.

Sadly, today's wars are a sign that our world often fails to learn from history, but we pray that one day, our whole planet can live at peace. Considering this solemn reflection, we were privileged to host a series of meaningful remembrance workshops this week. A heartfelt thank you goes to Dexter's father and his colleague, who shared their experiences from the British Army with our pupils.

These workshops brought a profound sense of reality to our focus on remembering the past. Through their personal accounts, our pupils gained a deeper understanding of the sacrifices made by service personnel and the importance of remembrance. Their engagement and thoughtful responses demonstrated the significance of these educational opportunities in helping our young learners understand the complexities of historical events and the value of peace.



**Our Lady and All Saints**  
Catholic Multi Academy Company  
Strong in Faith



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM



# Reflection

Jesus arrived in Jerusalem for a feast called Passover and went to the Temple. There he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, which were used as offerings to God. There were also many moneychangers, so that pilgrims from different lands could change their money and buy the offerings.

The Temple was where people went to pray, but some people were buying and selling things instead. They were trying to make money from people's faith in God. They stopped the Temple being a quiet place where people could talk to God and turned it into a market.

Jesus drove the traders all out of the Temple. He was standing up for what he believed in. He saw something that he did not think was fair or right and so he acted to change the situation. He wanted the Temple to be a special place, where people could draw closer to God and get to know God better.

Just like Jesus stood up for what was right, when he saw something, he disagreed with in the Temple, we are called to do the same.

It is not always easy, but God is always with us we can pray to him for the strength to stand up for our convictions.

## Our Virtues

Learned  
and  
Wise

hopeful  
lovin  
attentive  
faith-filled  
generous  
eloquent  
intentional  
truthful  
learned  
prophetic  
compassionate  
active  
wise  
grateful  
discerning

## Catholic Social Teaching

### Dignity of the Human Person

Human dignity is the foundational principle of Catholic social teaching, holding that every person is sacred and worthy of respect because they are made in the image and likeness of God. This principle asserts that people are more important than things and that social institutions should be measured by whether they enhance or threaten human life and dignity.

## Our Pope's Prayer Intention

In November, we pray with Pope Leo that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts will find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

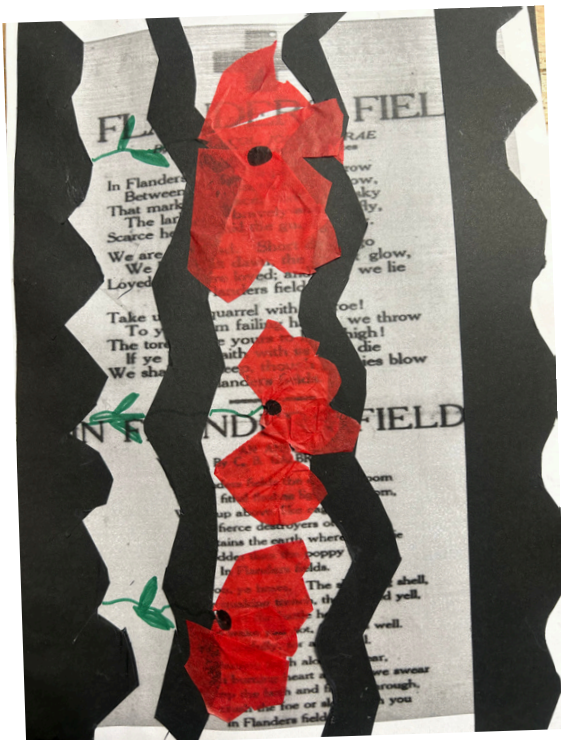




# Celebrating Learning

## Year 4

This week we were very fortunate to have some very special visitors to speak to us about the importance of Remembrance. We were able to ask questions about what it is like to be a soldier and what it would have been like during the war. We then made some pieces of artwork based around the image of a poppy and the poem 'In Flanders Fields'





# Awards

## Star of the Week

Our Star of the Week for Early Years and Key Stage One is  
Nathan O



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

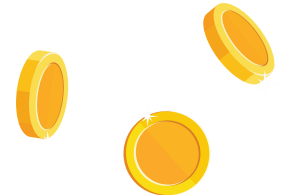


## Virtues



Nursery	Orla C
Reception	Keegan R
Year 1	Daniel- Julius O
Year 2	Gracie- Leigh A
Year 3	Isla E
Year 4	Zara R
Year 5	Tady L
Year 6	Harley D

## Star Readers



Adesewa RT	Evie Rose W
Jaidan B	Hunter W
Victoria N	Kyrie D
Lily- Rose H	





# Celebrations



## Birthdays

Haris A Year 2  
Pearl B Year 4  
Owen H Year 6  
Chimharida N Year 1  
Kayden C Year 6  
Erik K-D Year 6



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...

# Reception

# Well Done

## Attendance

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

# Nursery

# 100%





# Menu

## Ordering Meals on Cypad from 02.11.2025

Please pre-order your child's meals on Cypad by 8am at the latest each day.  
Please speak to the office staff if you need any support with meal ordering.  
Thank you.

### Weekly Menu: World Autumn Winter 25-26 week 2



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>
Macaroni cheese	Chicken Jambalaya	Roast Gammon	Spanish Chicken & Tomato	Fish Fingers
Sweetcorn Fritters	Vegetable Enchiladas	Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake	Spanish Omelette	Pizza Margherita
Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce
Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce
Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese
Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise
Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich
Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich
Tuna Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich	
<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Dessert</b>
Childs Choice Dessert	Childs Choice Dessert	Childs Choice Dessert	Childs Choice Dessert	Childs Choice Dessert

**Allergens**  
Macaroni cheese:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Sweetcorn Fritters:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs; Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce:Cereals containing gluten; Topped Pasta & Cheese:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese:Milk; Jacket Potato with Baked Beans:No allergens; Jacket Potato with Cheese:Milk; Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise:Eggs,Fish; Ham Sandwich:Cereals containing gluten,Soya; Cheese Sandwich:Cereals containing gluten,Milk,Soya; Tuna Sandwich:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Fish,Soya; Childs Choice Dessert:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Milk,Soya,Sulphur Dioxide; Chicken Jambalaya:No allergens; Vegetable Enchiladas:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Spanish Omelette:Eggs; Fish Fingers:Cereals containing gluten,Fish; Pizza Margherita:Cereals containing



## Cypad ordering system for school meals.

22nd October 2025.

New Lunch Ordering System, Cypad, from 2nd November 2025.

Dear Parents and carers,

We're pleased to let you know that from 2nd November, OLAAS, including St John the Baptist Catholic Primary school, will be introducing a simplified lunch ordering system Cypad, that will make life easier for families.


Currently, our process involves two separate logins, one for ordering meals and another for making payments. We understand this can be time consuming and confusing, so we're moving to a single login system via ParentPay. This means you'll be able to order and pay for school lunches all in one place, using the same secure platform you already use for other school payments.

What's Changing?

One login only - no need to juggle multiple accounts.

Order and pay in one step - faster and more convenient.

Streamlined experience - fewer errors, less admin, and more time saved.

 Please Wait Until Sunday 2nd November - we will send a text out to remind you.

To ensure a smooth transition, we kindly ask that no lunch orders are placed until the new system goes live on Sunday 2nd November. This will help us avoid any confusion and ensure all orders are processed correctly under the new setup.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. We're confident this change will make ordering lunches easier and more efficient for everyone.

Kind Regards,

Mr Gallagher.

Head Teacher.



## Parents FAQ'S

**Q: How many weeks can I order in advance?**

**A:** You can pre-order meals up to 6 weeks in advance through ParentPay.

**Q: What is the cut off time for me to order my child a lunch?**

**A:** You must place your child's meal order **before 8.00am** on the day your child is due to eat. Please note you have **two hours** to make payment otherwise the meal will be **cancelled**.

**Q: How do I cancel a meal if my child is off sick?**

**A:** If your child is absent, you must cancel your meal **before 8.00am** to avoid being charged. If you have missed this deadline you can contact the school directly before 9:00am to avoid charges, after this time charges will be applied.

**Q: What do I do if my child has free School Meals?**

**A:** You will **still** need to order your child's meal on ParentPay, but do not have to pay on ParentPay.

**Q: My child has a special dietary requirement, what do I do?**

**A:**

Please ensure you have completed an allergen form to keep the school office updated with dietary requirements.

Unsafe meals are automatically hidden from your view when selecting meals for your child. This prevents accidental selection of inappropriate options.

**Q: Will the menu's change on the system after I have ordered in advance?**

**A:** We aim for Special menu's and Themed days to be added in a timely Manner. However, occasionally our caterer may be required to change a menu when food items become unavailable from their suppliers. Where this is the case you may be required to re-order.

# Family Support



## Attendance Support

Chloe and Liz will be completing weekly drop in sessions in the north and south of Solihull. They will be offering attendance advice, support and guidance.

Drop in session details:

**Tuesday 12-1.30pm @ Elmwood Place**

**Wednesday 9.30-11.30am @ Monkspath Juniors and Infants School**

Located in the bungalow to the left of the school building.

There is no need to make an appointment. Just drop in during the drop in times above.

Does your child worry about going to school?

Do you feel you have tried everything to ensure your child attends school but nothing seems to be working?

Do you feel there has been a relationship breakdown with your child's school?

Do you have general questions around school attendance?

**Then please attend one of our drop in sessions for attendance support.**

Elmwood Place  
37 Burtons Way,  
Birmingham  
B36 0UG



Monkspath Juniors and Infants  
5 Farmhouse Way,  
Shirley,  
Solihull,

If you have any questions please email [attendanceenquiries@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:attendanceenquiries@solihull.gov.uk)

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## Children's tips and advice



Follow our tips and advice to stay safe on the road.

To stay safe on the road you should:

- Always use the [Green Cross Code](#) STOP, LOOK, LISTEN!
- Always hold an adult's hand when you are near the road
- Wear a seat belt when travelling in the car and use the [right child or booster seat](#)
- Make sure you are properly trained to ride your bike on the road
- Always wear a cycle helmet and bright reflective clothes when on your bike
- Be [bright and be seen](#) whenever you are near a road
- Put away your headphones or mobile phone when crossing the road
- Always walk on the pavement or footpath where there is one
- Know and understand the [school crossing signs](#)

### Learning the Green Cross Code

It's never too early to start teaching children the [Green Cross Code](#), encouraging children to stop, look, listen and think with you before crossing the road. It can be a fun activity to teach children while you're on the school run or a walk to the park. And your good habits crossing the road can soon become theirs.

But remember they still need your help. Younger children find it difficult to judge the speed and distance of traffic – so they don't know when it's safe to cross the road. And, they won't always remember road safety rules, especially if they're distracted or spot a friend across the road.

#### Think

Find the safest place to cross. Where possible use a pedestrian crossing.

Avoid crossing between parked cars, at bends in the road or close to the top of the hill to make sure drivers can see you.

#### Stop!

Stand on the pavement near the kerb and make sure you can clearly see the traffic.

Don't get too close to the traffic and give yourself lots of time to look around.

#### Look and listen

Look in every direction and be sure to listen carefully for things you can't yet see.

Sometimes you can hear dangers before you can see them.

#### Wait

Wait until it's safe to cross. If traffic is coming, let it pass. If you're not sure, don't cross.

Only cross when there is a safe gap and plenty of time to cross. Remember, traffic may seem far away but it may be moving quickly.

#### Look and listen again

When it is safe, walk straight across the road. Don't run. Keep looking and listening.

Look out for bicycles, scooters and motorcyclists travelling between lanes of traffic and do not cross diagonally.



## Digiduck says...

**'Be a good friend online.'**

**'Say kind things to others.'**

**'and make sensible choices.'**





# Diary Dates

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Anti- Bullying Week**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November- Year Six Confirmation Mass**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November - non- uniform day - donate gifts**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - non-uniform donate bottles**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - non-uniform- donate chocolate**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - non- uniform - donate cakes**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Fayre**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas jumper day**



# Term Dates

## Autumn Term 2025

**Term Ends: Friday 19th December 2025**

**End of Term Holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026**

## Spring Term 2026

**Term Starts: Monday 5th January 2026**

**Half Term Holiday: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026**

**Term Ends: Friday 27nd March 2026**

**End of Term Holiday: Monday 30th March 2026 to Friday 10th April 2026**

## Summer Term 2026

**Term Starts: Monday 13th April 2026**

**(May Day: Monday 4th May 2026)**

**Half Term Holiday: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026**

**Term Ends: Monday 20nd July 2026**

**End of Year Holiday Starts Tuesday 21st July 2026**

## Inset Days

**Monday 1st Sept**

**Friday 24th Oct**

**Monday 19th Jan**

**Monday 23rd Feb**

**Monday 15th June**

**Monday 20th July**



# Family Support

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.

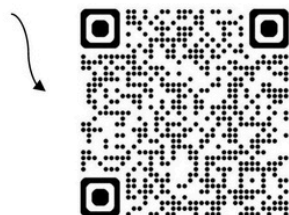
Scan here for more information on the Family Hubs website or visit:

[www.solihull.gov.uk/family-hubs](http://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





## Family Support

# 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



# **Full consultation for School Admission arrangements for the academic year 2027/2028.**

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is consulting on its admission arrangements for 2027-28 from 10th November 2025 to 22 December 2025. You can find a copy on our website. If you have any comments or views you should send them to Chair of Governors c/o s88svolante@sjb.solihull.sch.uk or to St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Arran Way, Smith's Wood, Birmingham. B36 0QE. by 5pm on 22 December 2025.