

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

## Friday 17th October 2025



As we reach the midpoint of October, the month dedicated to Our Lady, we continue to reflect on Mary's profound bravery and extraordinary capacity for care. Her unwavering compassion serves as a guiding light for our school community, inspiring us to embrace empathy and kindness in our daily interactions.

This past week has been particularly vibrant, marked by engaging extra-curricular activities that have enriched our pupils' learning experiences. The immersive biking and drone workshops provided innovative opportunities for our pupils to explore new skills and develop their curiosity beyond the classroom.

We were delighted to host our first Parents' and Carers' Evening of the academic year. The atmosphere was filled with smiles as we shared the positive progress of our pupils and how wonderfully they have settled into their new academic year. We are grateful to God for the diverse talents and potential each child brings to our school community.

As we look forward, we are committed to nurturing and supporting our pupils' talents throughout the remainder of this academic year, helping them grow academically, spiritually, and personally.



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



THE ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM



# Reflection

## Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus tells us a story about a bad judge and a woman who wants justice – she wants what is right and fair.

The woman was ignored by the judge, but she didn't give up. She just kept asking the judge to make things right. Eventually, just to get rid of her, he gave her what she wanted. Her prayers were finally answered.

The woman is like us. Just like she asked the judge; we call to God in our prayers to give us what we need and want.

If even the bad judge eventually did the right thing, how much more will God, who is all-powerful and good, do what is right? So, if we don't get what we pray for the first time, should we just give up?

Jesus says that God hears the cries of all who call out to him day and night. And God will certainly answer our prayers, even if it's not in the way that we expect.

This week think about how you can treat other people fairly and justly. Remember to keep praying and asking God to help you.

## Our Virtues

Eloquent  
And  
Truthful

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

## Catholic Social Teaching

### Family and Community

God made us to be part of communities, families, and countries, so all people can share and help each other. We are called to work for the good of each and of all. As humans we are not created to live alone, community is clearly linked in the history of humankind. One way for us to practise solidarity is to participate in pursuing the common good for a community. Every member of society has a duty to develop this common good and every member has a right to enjoy the benefits brought about by it.

## Our Pope's Prayer Intention

**For collaboration between different religious traditions**  
In October, let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.





# Celebrating Learning

## Early Years

Early Years have been exploring the season of Autumn.



We used cotton buds to add Autumn leaves to the trees.



We used Autumn objects to make faces.

We practised our cutting skills using patterned scissors to cut leaves.



Autumn Animal paintings.



Conker fun!

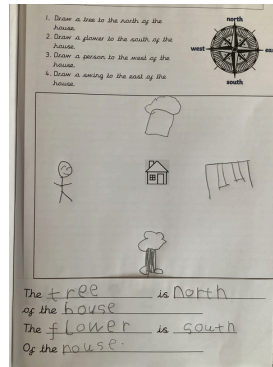
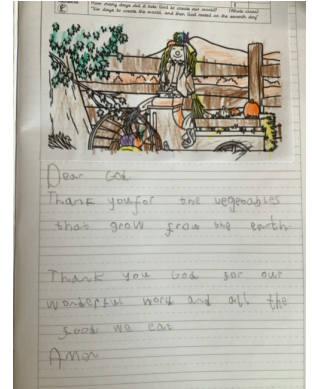




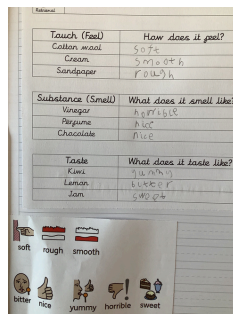
# Celebrating Learning

## Year 1

Year 1 made 'Creation Wheels' to share the story of 'Creation' with their families. The children also wrote Harvest thank you prayers.



In science, we used our senses to smell, feel and taste.



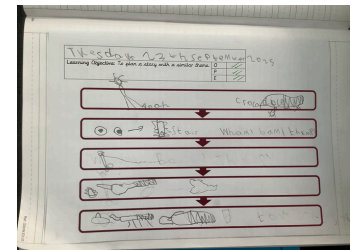
Geography - we are learning about 'Locations'



Year 1 joined in with the whole school learning about 'Restart a Heart'. A valuable life skills.

## Year 2

This week we have been thinking of special gifts and talents that God has given us to use, just like in the Bible story 'David and Goliath' - David's gift was strength and courage and he used this to defeat the giant.



We have also enjoyed planning and writing our own stories in English, using actions and pictures to help us retell the story orally.

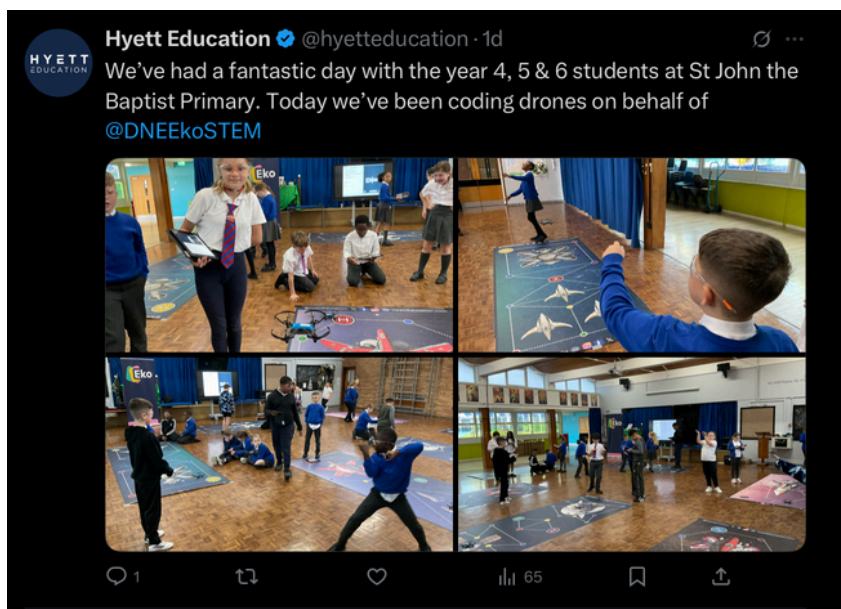
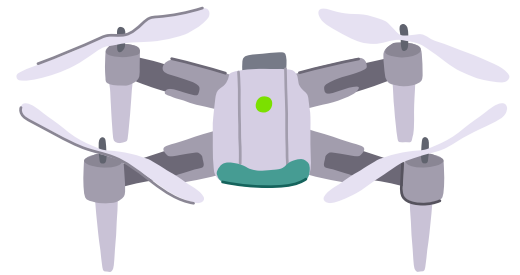




# Computing

## Eko Drone Workshop

Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in a Drone Workshop funded by EKO. All children involved had a fantastic time; proving to be very proficient at coding. A skill that was needed in order to fly their drones.





# Awards

## Star of the Week

Our Star of the Week for Early Years and Key Stage One is  
Jeydan N- J



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Daisie- Maye W

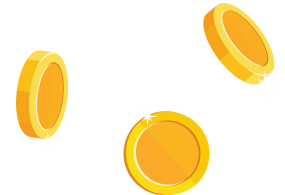


## Virtues



|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Nursery   | Lottie H      |
| Reception | Ellie- Rose T |
| Year 1    | Kaiden A      |
| Year 2    | Rubielee M    |
| Year 3    | Kyrie D       |
| Year 4    | Abigail M     |
| Year 5    | Ava- Rose B   |
| Year 6    | Taylor S      |

## Star Readers



|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| Victoria R- T | Bonnie B    |
| Oscar H       | Freddie E   |
| Minnie W      | Luna Q      |
| Cali- Mae W   | Kelsie K    |
| Jasper N- J   | Favour O    |
| Rian R        | Yaseer A- S |





# Celebrations



## Birthdays

Kelsey H Year 6

Jax R Year 5

Anna K-D Year 5

Kaiden A Year 1



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...

# Nursery

**Well Done**

## Attendance

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

# Nursery

# 100%












## Ordering Meals on Blue Runner

A reminder to please continue to pre-order your child's meals on Blue Runner until 23.10.2025 . Details of the new, simplified meal ordering system Cypad will follow. Meals are to be ordered on Cypad for after half term. Thank you

**FOOD FESTIVAL**  
By Aspens

# LUNCHTIME

WORLD  
Week 3

|   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
|   | <br><b>THE MAIN EVENT</b> | <br><b>MEAT-FREE MAGIC</b><br>Veggie Dish | <br><b>RAINBOW ALLEY</b><br>Vegetables and Salads | <br><b>BIG TOPPING</b><br>Filled Jackets | <br><b>DESSERT TROLLEY</b> | <br><b>DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT</b><br>AVAILABLE DAILY   |
| <b>Spring Summer 2025</b><br>05/05/25, 26/05/25, 16/06/25, 07/07/25, 28/07/25, 18/08/25, 08/09/25, 29/09/25, 20/10/25 |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| <b>MONDAY</b>   | BBQ Sweetcorn<br>Pizza Slice<br>with Wedges   | Macaroni<br>Cheese  | Green Salad   | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo  | Strawberry<br>Ice Cream  |  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>  | Mild Chilli Con<br>Carne with Rice  | Vegetable Bean<br>Chilli with Rice  | Sweetcorn   | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo  | Marble<br>Cookie   |  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>  | Roast Chicken,<br>Stuffing, Skin on<br>Roasties and Gravy   | Cheese and<br>Onion Slice<br>with Skin on<br>Roasties & Gravy   | Carrots<br>and Peas   | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo  | Sweet Potato<br>Brownie  |  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>   | Jerk Chicken Wrap<br>with Rice  | Sweet Potato<br>Coconut Bean Stew<br>with Rice  | Sweetcorn   | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo  | Apple<br>Flapjack  |  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>   | Golden Fish<br>Fingers<br>and Chips   | Vegetable Fingers<br>and Chips  | Baked<br>Beans  | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo  | Brookie<br>(Brownie &<br>Cookie Mix)   | <br><b>PASTA TWIRLER</b><br>AVAILABLE EVERY DAY<br><b>Topped Pasta</b><br>Hot Pasta topped with<br>Homemade<br>Tomato Sauce &<br>Cheese |

W1



## Theme Day 21.10.2025

**FOOD FESTIVAL**  
**JUNGLE FEST**

**21st October**

Crocodile Crunch Beef Chilli Nachos  
with Wedges  
and Sweetcorn

Or

Crocodile Crunch Veggie Chilli  
Nachos with Wedges and Sweetcorn

And

Monkey Fingers Banana Flapjacks

Illustrations of a zebra, elephant, lion, monkey, and giraffe are at the bottom.

7th October 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

Aspens Catering Services in our Schools

We are nearing the end of the current cycle of school meal menus as we approach half term, after which you will see a new, exciting set of 3 weekly cycle menus starting from 1st November 2025.

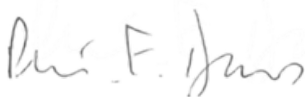
We have listened to the views of pupils and parents and have ensured the new menus consist of some of the old favourites, with a wider variety of desserts. We have simplified the meal names and widened the choice of meals to create more exciting menus. The vegetarian/non-meat meals will be more closely aligned to the main meals, so all pupils can enjoy school dinners. We will continue to offer pasta and jacket potatoes with a choice of toppings, home baked bread and unlimited salad. There will also be regular Theme Days throughout this academic year, featuring fun menus, so do look out for these, as I know the pupils really enjoy these days.

You will all know that the cost of living rises have meant that food costs generally have risen this year. It is a natural process for school meals to increase each year in line with these rising costs. However, this year we have held the increase to the very minimum that we could, with a price rise from 1st November of 5p, taking the paid meal price to £2.75 (from last year's £2.70). We have also delayed this price increase until 1st November, so pupils have benefitted from the £2.70 prices from September up to October half term.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please do ensure your pupil is registered for these, otherwise they are missing out. If you have any questions about Free School meals, please speak to your School Office staff who are happy to support you.

If your child generally brings in a packed lunch, please do share the new menu's with them and see if they would like to switch to school meals, where they will benefit from a hot meal each day, particularly as we are now entering into the colder Winter months.

Yours faithfully and God Bless



Peter Davis  
Catholic Senior Executive Leader and CEO  
Our Lady & All Saints Multi-Academy Company

# 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)

## 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.

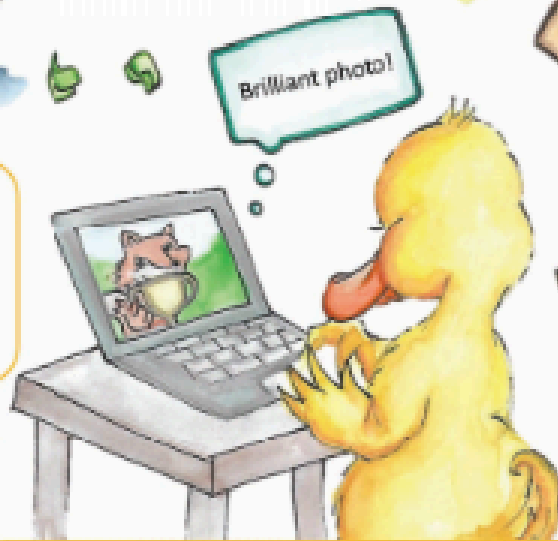


## Digiduck says...



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

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



**'and make sensible  
choices.'**





Starts WC 3<sup>rd</sup>  
November

# Wonderlicious

WIN A GOLDEN TICKET

**30 GOLDEN TICKETS**  
must be found

**£1.50** per  
chocolate bar

**Prizes Include:**

**Tickets to Christmas**

**Fayre, Wear own clothes  
to school, tuck shop**

**vouchers and many more  
prizes!**



Please send your child with their money in a named envelope and they will be sent home with a chocolate bar, any golden tickets must be given to Mrs Dixon for prizes to be claimed. 1 BAR PER CHILD (The PTA will then sell any left over bars at the tuck shop on the 7<sup>th</sup> November.)



Please join us for our

# Christmas Fayre

3:30pm-4:30pm

**Wednesday 10th December**

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary  
School, Arran Way, Birmingham, B36  
0QE.

50p entrance to include a raffle  
ticket.

**Stalls available for £10**



# 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

**Half Term Holiday: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 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

