

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025



As we approach the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday—named after the Latin word for 'rejoice'—we find ourselves in a moment of spiritual anticipation. Traditionally, we will light a rose-coloured candle, symbolising the transition from sombre preparation to joyful expectation of Jesus's arrival.

This Sunday's gospel presents the 'Good News' as Jesus confirms his identity: the long-awaited messenger whom St. John the Baptist has been preparing the world to receive. Such revelations invite us to reflect on hope and anticipation.

Within our school community, our preparations have similarly culminated in moments of genuine joy. Our Early Years Advent celebration exemplified our commitment to inclusivity, creating a meaningful experience where every child could share the Christmas spirit with a treasured family member.

Furthermore, our recent Christmas Fayre was a great success, demonstrating remarkable community engagement. The event not only fostered a sense of collective celebration but also raised crucial funds that will enable us to provide unique and enriching opportunities for our pupils throughout the forthcoming year.

As we continue our Advent journey, I eagerly anticipate the joy that awaits us in the coming week.



# Reflection

## Third Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist, who we heard about last week, wants to make sure that Jesus is really the special person that he has been waiting for, so he sends some friends to check.

Jesus answers them by telling them that he is the one who has come to heal those who are sick and bring good news to people who are poor. This answer tells John that Jesus really is the person for whom he has been waiting.

At the beginning of this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis asked us to be signs of hope to one another, especially to people in any kind of need.

Throughout the Jubilee Year so many people have been doing what they can to answer this call. They have been praying, walking, *fundraising*, and campaigning to try to build a better world. This is also really good news!

The Jubilee Year comes to an end soon, but the work of putting our faith into action and working together with all our sisters and brothers to create a fairer and more loving world will continue. We can all play our part in changing the world for the better.

How will you try to be like Jesus, helping others, being a sign of hope, and sharing the good news that God loves us all in the next week?

## 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

### For Christians in areas of conflict

In December, let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.





# Celebrating Learning

## EYFS



*Advent begins*

We lit our second candle, which represents 'Peace'.



We have been busy preparing our classroom for Advent.

We created our own Advent wreath.

Dear God,  
Help us to bring hope and joy to others during Advent. Help us to shine as Lights for Christ. Amen



# Celebrating Learning

## EYFS

# Christmas Craft and Sing-a-long



Families joined us for a morning of singing and Christmas crafts. Everyone had a magical time and we managed to raise money for 'The Children's Trust'.



## Parent Partnership

Thank you to all of our wonderful families for attending our Christmas event.



# Awards

## Star of the Week

Our Star of the Week for Early Years and Key Stage One is  
Conor McS



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Shay M

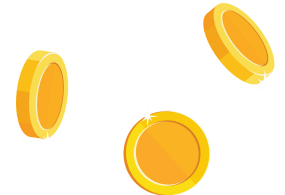


## Virtues



Nursery	Teddy W
Reception	Luca – James W
Year 1	Chimharida N
Year 2	Maura M
Year 3	Favour Julius O
Year 4	Daisie- Maye W
Year 5	Ashton B
Year 6	Chloe H

## Star Readers



Sophia M	Hunter W
Caleb A	Rio M
Abi H	Marley R
Thomas O	Michael N





# Celebrations



## Birthdays

Tiahnah B Year 6  
Shay M-W Year 4  
Paisley M Year 5



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 1

**Well Done**

## Attendance

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

# Year 1

# 98.7%





# 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.

**Christmas Dinner Day Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Roast Turkey or Roasted Vegetable, Cranberry and Cheese Pastry.**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>
Margherita Pizza	Sweet Chilli Chicken Noodles	Roast Chicken	Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce	Fish Fingers
BBQ Sweetcorn Pizza	Vegetable BBQ Wrap	Roasted Vegetable Strudle	Sweet Potato Casserole	Salmon Fish Fingers
Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce	Cheesy Bean Wrap
Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta Cheese & Tomato Sauce
Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped pasta & Tomato Sauce
Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese
Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise
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**  
 Margherita Pizza:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Milk,Soya; BBQ Sweetcorn Pizza:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Milk,Soya; 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; Sweet Chilli Chicken Noodles:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Soya; Vegetable BBQ Wrap:Cereals containing gluten,Milk; Roast Chicken:Cereals containing gluten; Roasted Vegetable Strudle:Cereals containing



## Family Support

# SEND coffee morning

This is a relaxed coffee morning ran by SEND parents for SEND parents.



If you have any accessibility needs to help you to attend please inform Mrs Drust so we can facilitate this

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**  
**8.45am-10.15am**

# Family Support

## 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.



## Top 5 online safety tips for kids

1

Set up your device to protect your information.

2

Explore safely & tell an adult if you see anything online that makes you feel yuck.

3

Limit who can contact you when you're playing games.

4

Stop all contact with anyone online who asks you to do anything you don't want to do. Report and block them.

5

Ask for help if anything online is bothering you.





# Diary Dates

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am- KS2 Christmas Performance**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December am - Early Years Christmas Party**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Christmas Party**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - KS1 Christmas Party**

**Friday 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

