

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

## Friday 16th January 2026



As we have now concluded the Year of Jubilee, I am delighted to share our school's meaningful journey of reflection and spiritual exploration. Inspired by Pope Francis's emphasis on pilgrimage, our entire school community within Our Lady and All Saints MAC has undertaken an Epiphany Pilgrimage that beautifully captures the essence of our faith.

Our staff have been instrumental in this journey, with several members visiting significant pilgrimage sites around the world, including the historic city of Rome. Here at St. John's, we extended this experience through a virtual pilgrimage to Rome and, most significantly, by creating our own shrine—a permanent space for local spiritual reflection.

This week's Epiphany Pilgrimage centred on the wise men's profound journey to find Jesus. Our pupils explored the wisdom of these travellers, contemplating the deeper meanings behind their gifts and reflecting on how we might spread wisdom in our own lives today. The narrative of the wise men seeking their King provided a powerful metaphor for our own spiritual searching.

It was a fitting and faith-filled conclusion to an extraordinary year, leaving us anticipating the next Year of Jubilee in 2033, which will mark 2000 years since the crucifixion of Christ.



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



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM



# Reflection

## Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

John tells us that he saw the Holy Spirit come down like a dove to rest on Jesus. Because of this, John believed that Jesus was the Son of God.

A dove is one way that the Holy Spirit shows itself, but most of the time the Spirit is invisible. We cannot see it.

One way to think about the Holy Spirit is like the wind. You cannot see the wind, but you can see the branches of a tree moving when the wind blows. The wind can be very strong. The wind can also be very helpful.

Like the wind, the Holy Spirit helps us. We receive the Holy Spirit when we are baptised and the Spirit stays with us all through our lives, helping us to do things that are difficult.

Jesus asks us to love other people, to care for people who are sick and to be signs of hope in our world, especially to people who are poor. This is not always easy, especially when people are *not near* to us. But when we do these things, other people can see the Holy Spirit working through us, just as we can see the wind in the trees.

The Holy Spirit can help us to be kind, generous, brave, and to work together with others to make the world a better place for everyone.

What could you do this week so that other people can see the Holy Spirit working through you?

## Our Virtues

Curious  
and  
Active

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

## Catholic Social Teaching

### Rights and Responsibilities

Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected, and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities — to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

## Our Pope's Prayer Intention

For January 2026, Pope Leo XIV's intention is for **prayer with the Word of God**, asking that scripture becomes nourishment and hope for lives, building a more fraternal Church; he encourages everyone to draw strength and guidance from God's Word, letting it lead to serving others and building bridges, as part of the new "Pray with the Pope" initiative.





## School Dinners

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>	<b>Main</b>
Pizza Margherita	Chicken Tikka Masala	Roast Chicken	Jerk Chicken Pasta	Fish Fingers
Cheese Swirls	Vegetable Korma	Carrot & Stuffing Puff Pastry Plait	Sweet Potato & Chickpea Balti	Vegetable fingers
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 & Tomato Sauce	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese
Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Topped Pasta & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with beans & Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise
Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Ham Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich
Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich
Tuna Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich	Cheese 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

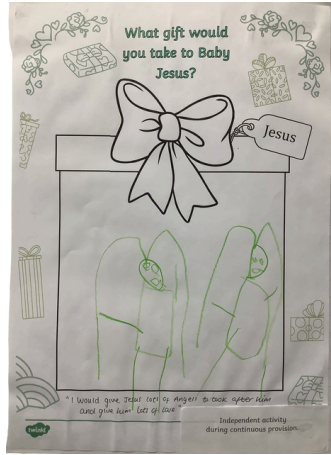
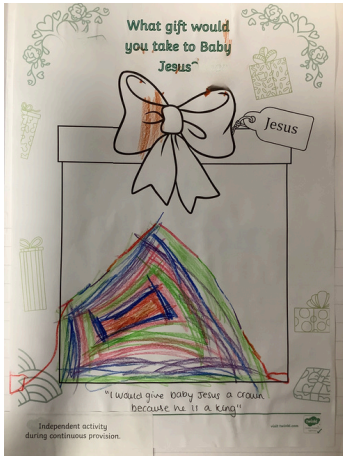
**Allergens**

Pizza Margherita:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Milk,Soya; Cheese Swirls:Cereals containing gluten,Eggs,Milk; 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 Tikka Masala:Milk; Roast Chicken:Cereals



## EYFS

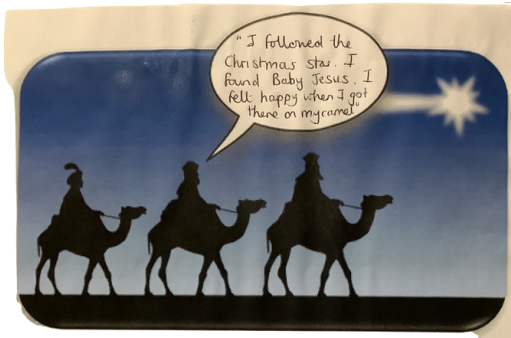
### Epiphany Pilgrimage



We thought about the gifts we would bring Baby Jesus..



We painted pictures of the Wise Men.



We thought about what we would have done on the journey the Wise Men took. .



We retold the story of the Wise Men visiting baby Jesus and thought about how we would feel if we were one of the Wise men. We then made bright shining stars like the one the Wise men followed.



# Celebrating Learning

## Year 1



Father Sean visited Year 1 on Thursday to say a prayer together.

Year 1 explained to Father Sean why we say, St Francis, pray for us, at the end of the day prayer.

St Francis is our class Saint.  
The Patron saint of the environment and animals.

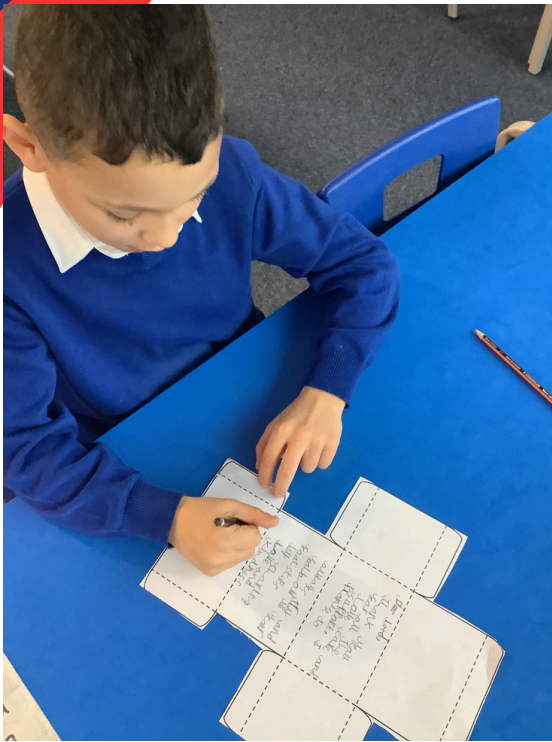
## Epiphany Pilgrimage



Year 1 marked the end of the Jubilee Year by creating crowns for the Kings, celebrating the Magi (the wise men who represented different nations) as seekers of truth. The children chose a virtue to write on the front of their crowns before decorating them. They also decorated bookmarks.



# Epiphany Pilgrimage



Year 3 marked the end of the Jubilee Year by looking at the symbolism of the gifts that were brought to Jesus by the Wise Men. They made their own gift boxes decorated with their own gift offerings to Jesus and wrote a prayer inside.



# Celebrating Learning

## Year 5

On their Epiphany Pilgrimage Year Five created symbolic gift bags for Jesus with drawings and prayers inside, representing gifts they could offer to Jesus e.g. love and kindness.





# Awards

## Star of the Week

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

M



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Faateh A

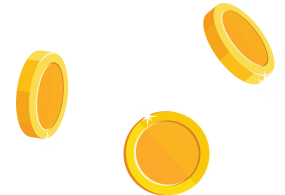


## Virtues



Nursery	Tobias H
Reception	Advait N
Year 1	Caleb A
Year 2	Mya W
Year 3	Rian R
Year 4	Noah W
Year 5	Jacob N
Year 6	Riley H

## Star Readers



Adesewa A	Jeydan N- J
Freddie E	Bonny B
Daniel- Julius O	Chimharida N
Kelsie K	Isabella J





# Celebrations



## Birthdays

Roy K-T Year 3  
Nathaniel O Year 1  
Kamal R 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%**



# 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.





# Term Dates

## Spring Term 2026

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

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

**Term Ends: Friday 27th 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 20th 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

