

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

## Friday 20th March 2026



This week has provided our pupils with remarkable opportunities to explore and appreciate the world around them in all its magnificence. Beyond our consideration of the natural beauty that surrounds us, we have ventured further afield—quite literally—to contemplate the wonders of outer space. The enthusiasm and engagement demonstrated by the children throughout our Borrow the Moon Project has been amazing, and it has been a privilege to witness their curiosity and wonder as they have engaged with this initiative.

As we progress through the fifth week of Lent, our focus shifts to one of our mission weeks, during which we are placing particular emphasis on the virtue of almsgiving. This week represents a meaningful and timely opportunity for our school community to reflect on the importance of charitable giving and service to others. Our pupils are engaging in a range of class-based activities designed to raise funds for Father Hudson's Caritas, an organisation whose work embodies the values we hold dear as a Catholic school. These activities provide our children with tangible ways in which to live out our mission and to demonstrate compassion and generosity towards those in need.

As we approach the conclusion of this Spring term, this mission week offers our community a purposeful and spiritually enriching focus, grounding our learning and development in the principles that define us as a school community.



# Reflection

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus hears that his friend Lazarus who lives in Bethany is sick. By the time Jesus gets there, Lazarus is dead and has been buried for four days.

Jesus goes to the tomb and asks them to roll away the stone which was blocking the entrance. He tells Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Lazarus walks out, covered in the cloths that he was buried in.

Unfortunately, sometimes, just like Lazarus in this Sunday's gospel, people do get sick. When this happens, they go to the hospital where doctors and nurses work hard to care for them and try to make them better.

It can be very sad and worrying when someone we love is sick or dies. Jesus knows how we feel. He cried for his friend Lazarus who he loved.

God gives life to us all. God created us and wants every single one of us to live a happy life, with all the things that we need to grow and be the best people we can be.

And Jesus came to show us how to live, how to treat others. This Lent we can look at our own lives and think about the changes that we can make so that everyone can live their lives to the full.

## Our Virtues

Intentional  
and  
Prophetic

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

## Catholic Social Teaching

### Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

The Option for the Poor and Vulnerable is a core Catholic Social Teaching principle, urging that the needs of the marginalized, oppressed, and poor be prioritised. Inspired by the Gospel, it demands actions —relief, defence, and liberation— to ensure dignity and justice for all, viewing society's greatness through how it treats the most vulnerable.

## Our Pope's Prayer Intention

For March 2026, Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention is to pray with him for 'disarmament and peace,' and praying that 'the nuclear threat may never again dictate the future of humanity.'





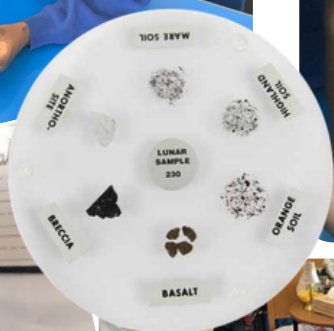
# Borrow The Moon!



This week, our young scientists were over the Moon—quite literally! We were privileged to have the rare opportunity to view **real lunar rocks collected during the Apollo missions**. Holding a piece of history (and space) in front of them sparked a sense of awe that’s hard to put into words.

Alongside these incredible samples, the children also explored a fascinating collection of meteorites, each with its own story from deep within our solar system. This hands-on experience opened the door to big questions, bold ideas, and plenty of excited discussion. What made this week truly special was watching the children’s investigative minds come alive. Their curiosity expanded with every observation, every question, and every “wow!” moment. Experiences like this remind us just how powerful real-world exploration can be in inspiring future scientists, engineers, and dreamers.

A truly unique and exciting opportunity—one we won’t forget anytime soon.





# Awards

## Star of the Week

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

Kupa N



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Abi H

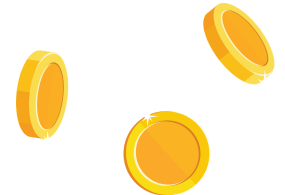


## Virtues



|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Nursery   | Tobias H           |
| Reception | Isabella- Joyce BB |
| Year 1    | Evie- Rose W       |
| Year 2    | Ayda - Grace C     |
| Year 3    | Precious O         |
| Year 4    | Abigail M          |
| Year 5    | Tommy K            |
| Year 6    | Owen H             |

## Star Readers



|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Emerald B    | Nathan O     |
| Jeydan N- J  | Kupa N       |
| Amla C       | Koby J       |
| Jerusha N- J | Jack L       |
| Marley R     | Crimson I- O |





# Celebrations



## Birthdays



### Theo B - Reception

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 2,3,5,6  
& Nursery**

**Well  
Done**

## Attendance

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

**Year 3  
98.6%**





# Easter Activities

## Easter Bonnet Parade

Our Easter Bonnet Parade will take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9.00am on our Key Stage One playground. This is for children in Nursery, Reception, Year One and Year Two.

Parents/ Carers are welcome to wait on the playground after you have dropped you child in to school.



## Decorate an Egg Competition

Key Stage Two children are invited to enter our decorate an egg competition. Please bring your entries in to school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. There will be two prizes per class.





# Breaktime Snacks

Please ensure that, if you choose to send your child with a morning breaktime snack, it is healthy, and inline with our Healthy Eating Policy.

We have seen a large increase in children bringing packets of crisps and chocolate bars for their snack.

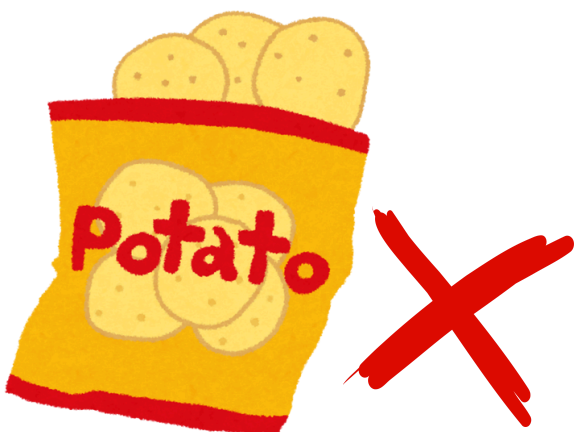
**This is not permitted.**

Morning snacks should ideally be fresh fruit, or dried fruit or fruit based bars. Any children with crisps or chocolate will be asked to return the item to their bag to take home.

**Please be reminded that we offer bagels and free fresh fruit to our children, each day, so there are always alternatives.**

Another problem which has resulted in the increase in unhealthy snacks, is an increase in litter on our school site. Where possible, we ask that snack choices avoid items that are contained in plastic bags or wrappers.

Thank you for your support in this matter.





# Lunch Menu

## FOOD FESTIVAL

By Aspens

**WEEK 3**  
Autumn Winter 2025/26  
15/09/25, 06/10/25, 27/10/25,  
17/11/25, 08/12/25, 29/12/25,  
19/01/26, 09/02/26, 02/03/26,  
23/03/26

# LUNCHTIME

PRIMARY  
WORLD



THE  
MAIN  
EVENT

|  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                               | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY              | FRIDAY                  |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|  | Cheese and Tomato<br>Pizza Slice<br>with Wedges | Mild Chicken Tikka<br>Masala and Rice | Roast Chicken,<br>Stuffing, Skin on<br>Roasties<br>and Gravy | Jerk Chicken<br>Pasta | Fish Fingers<br>& Chips |



MEAT-FREE  
MAGIC

Veggie Dish

|  |  |                              |   |   |                                 |
|--|--|------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|
|  | Cheese & Onion Puff<br>Pastry Slice with<br>Wedges | Vegetable Korma<br>with Rice | Carrot & Stuffing<br>Puff Pastry Plait,<br>Skin on Roasties<br>with Gravy | Sweet Potato &<br>Chickpea Balti<br>with Rice | Vegetable Fingers<br>with Chips |
|--|--|------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|



RAINBOW  
ALLEY

Vegetables and Salads

|  |                  |              |         |           |                     |
|--|------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|
|  | Carrots and Peas | Mixed Greens | Carrots | Sweetcorn | Baked Beans or Peas |
|--|------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|



BIG  
TOPPING

Filled Jackets

|  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo | Beans,<br>Cheese or<br>Tuna Mayo |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|



DESSERT  
TROLLEY

|  |                                      |              |                                  |             |                |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
|  | Sweet Potato<br>Chocolate<br>Brownie | Maple Cookie | Eve's Apple<br>Pudding & Custard | Muesli Bars | Vanilla Cookie |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|

What impact has your meal had on planet Earth today?

**A** Very Low **B** Low **C** Medium **D** High **E** Very High

AVAILABLE DAILY  
DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT

**PASTA TWIRLER**  
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY  
TOPPED PASTA  
HOT PASTA TOPPED WITH  
HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE  
& CHEESE



# Attendance



**St. John the Baptist  
Catholic Primary School**

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## Important Information About School Absence

Help us to avoid unauthorised absence, which can lead to future legal action.

### Reporting Absence

Parents must report absences by 9.00am on the first day.

### You must contact and leave a message via the school office

- Call: 0121 770 1892
- OPTION 1 – TO LEAVE A MESSAGE

**Do not send messages on Class Dojo. The school office will not see these messages.**

### Ongoing Absence

If your child is absent for more than 2 days, please keep in regular contact with the school. Parents must respond to text messages from school or CSAWS.

### Unauthorised Absence

If no message is received and the school has tried to contact you, the absence may be marked as unauthorised.

### Medical Appointments

Please share medical evidence for appointments so we can record the absence using a medical code.

We hope your child is happy and settled at school.  
Please let us know if you need our support – we are here to help.

# 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.



# Online Safety



TOP TEN TIPS TO



## STAY SAFE ONLINE

1

Don't share your personal information



2

Only talk to people that you know



3

Don't meet up with anyone you have only met online



4

Only accept friend requests from people you know personally



5

Always think carefully about what you post



6

Make use of the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts



7

Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are



8

Report inappropriate content immediately



9

Only share images that you'd be comfortable with your friends and family seeing



10

Never share your passwords





# Diary Dates

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - 9.00am Easter Bonnet Parade/ Decorate  
an egg**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - 9.15am - Mass led by Year 1**



# Term Dates

## Spring Term 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

