

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

**Friday 1st May 2026**



As we enter May, our school community joins the wider Catholic tradition in dedicating this month to Mary, Our Mother. This period holds particular significance within our faith calendar, representing a season of spring, renewal, and new life—a time that symbolises Mary's role in bringing Jesus into the world.

Throughout May, we engage in meaningful acts of devotion that deepen our spiritual connection and understanding. These include praying the rosary, establishing May altars within our classrooms and spaces, and participating in a traditional May procession. These practises provide our pupils with opportunities to express their faith and develop a greater appreciation for Mary's importance within our Catholic heritage.

I was delighted to see Year One begin these celebrations today, with the children welcoming parents and carers into school to mark both Mary and the commencement of this special month. The enthusiasm and joy demonstrated by our youngest pupils, alongside the engagement of their families, shows the celebratory spirit that characterises our school community. Such occasions remind us of the value of shared spiritual experiences and the importance of involving families in the life of our school.

As we progress through May, I encourage all members of our community to participate in these devotional practises and to reflect upon the themes of renewal and hope that this month represents.



# Reflection

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Right at the beginning of *this Sunday's* gospel, Jesus tells the disciples not to be worried and to believe in him. He is asking them to trust him.

Trusting someone means believing that they are always there for us, that they are always willing to help us, that they will comfort us when we are upset or frightened. When it comes to trusting someone, what they do is often more important than what they say.

Jesus also tells the disciples in this reading that if they find it hard to believe in his words, to believe in the things that he does.

Jesus did not only teach his disciples with words. Throughout his life he showed them (and us) how to love one another, to serve others and to care for and support people who were poor, sick or sad. He showed us how to make sure that we treated all people well, even those who are usually ignored, or who are not well-liked.

People are more likely to trust us if we are kind, if we listen to what they are saying, if we are willing to help and if we tell the truth.

We can also trust in God. We know that God is always there for us and wants what's best for us. God is always ready to listen.

And we can show our trust in God by listening to what Jesus asks of us and trying to follow him. By loving one another and by doing what is right, we are doing what God wants us to do.

## Our Virtues

Grateful  
and  
Generous

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

## Catholic Social Teaching

### The Dignity Of Work

The dignity of work has been a key principle of Catholic social teaching from the very beginning. Catholic Social Teaching believes that work is dignified, special and very important. Therefore, workers must always be respected – this includes fair wages and fair working conditions. Jesus himself was a worker. He became “like us in all things, devoted most of the years of his life on earth to manual work at the carpenter’s bench.”

## Our Pope’s Prayer Intention

For **May 2026** Pope Leo’s prayer intention is that **everyone might have food.**

Pope Leo XIV urges a shift toward a "culture of solidarity" to end food waste and ensure access to quality nutrition. Highlighting the scandal of widespread hunger amidst massive global food waste, the intention promotes concrete actions like supporting food banks and adopting simpler lifestyles.





# Well Done!



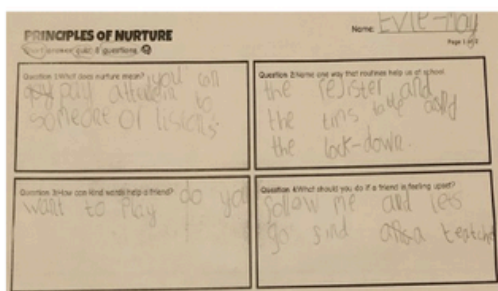
We are thrilled to share that St John's has achieved the National Nurturing Schools Award, from the charity Nurture UK. This shows that we have a whole school nurturing approach which focuses on improving pupil engagement, attendance and wellbeing by fostering social and emotional skills.

The application and assessment process was extremely rigorous and my thanks go to Mrs Drust and Mrs Blundell, in particular, who have worked incredibly hard to ensure our school processes met the high standards expected of this award.

Thank you also to our whole school staff, the group of parents/ carers and to our wonderful children who also helped us to achieve this very important award.



Principles of Nurture School Display



### The Six Principles of Nurture

#### Discussion Prompts for Pupils

#### Learning Happens at Different Speeds

- We all learn in different ways!

Discussion prompt: What helps YOU learn?

#### Nurture Helps Our Wellbeing

- Kindness helps us feel happy!

Discussion prompt: How can we show kindness today?

#### Behaviour Shows Feelings

- Actions show how we feel inside.

Discussion prompt: How do you show you are happy or sad?

#### Our Classroom is a Safe Base

- School should feel cosy and safe.

Discussion prompt: What makes you feel safe at school?

#### Language Helps Us Communicate

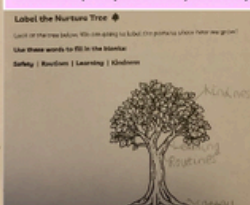
- Talking helps us understand each other.

Discussion prompt: Who can you talk to when you have big feelings?

#### Transitions Are Important

- Changes can be tricky and that's okay.

Discussion prompt: What helps you when something changes?



### Principle 1

**My Learning Journal**  
**We All Learn in Our Own Way**



**ST JOHN  
THE  
BAPTIST  
SCHOOL**

[www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk](http://www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk)



## **SEPTEMBER 2026 NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE**

### **WHERE LEARNING COMES TO LIFE!**

- We offer a high quality education for all children.
- We provide a nurturing, safe and vibrant learning environment.
- Our children feel loved, safe and happy.
- We provide fun, hands-on learning indoors and outdoors.
- We provide rich, meaningful first hand experiences in which children are encouraged to be curious, creative and active learners.

**We have a newly developed outdoor provision. Please arrange to come and have a look at our amazing provision.**



Scan the QR code to see our wonderful provision.

For more details or to arrange a visit contact the school office on 0121 770 1892 or email [office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk)

**15 & 30  
HOUR PLACES  
AVAILABLE FOR  
3 & 4 YEAR  
OLDS**



Year 1

## May the Month of Mary celebrations in year 1



Today we celebrated May the month of Mary with some of our families.

They created flowers, pictures and prayers for Mary's altar in Year 1.

We ended the session with singing and signing the Hail Mary prayer.





# Awards

## Star of the Week

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

Theo B



Our Star of the Week for Key Stage Two is Anna K- D

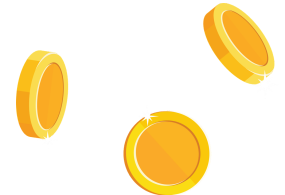


## Virtues



Nursery	Michael A
Reception	Xena W- Y
Year 1	Theo M
Year 2	Kupa N
Year 3	Kyrie D/ Dexter C
Year 4	Jack L
Year 5	Ameera I
Year 6	Kelyna K- T

## Star Readers



Hallie K	Bonnie B
Luna Q	Niamh W
Conor McS	Kupa N
Haris A	Roy K-T
Jack L	Luca M
Lily W	Jasmine Mc





# Celebrations



## Birthdays



Amla C Year 3  
Tommy K Year 5  
Isla-Mae M Year 4  
Lilly-Mae M Year 5  
Kingsley C Year 4

We wish you a very happy birthday from everyone at St.  
John's!

## Ready to Learn

Our most punctual classes, this week, who were in everyday, on time and ready to learn are...

Nursery

**Well Done**

## Attendance

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

Year 2 &  
Nursery

98.5%





# 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.

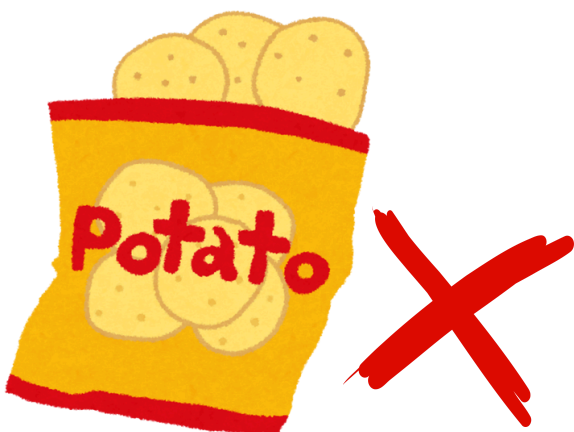
**This is not permitted.**

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.





## Inclusive ∞ coffee morning

Does your child or a child you care for have additional needs or disabilities?  
Do you feel your child or a child you care for may have an additional need?

Join us for our inclusive coffee mornings to chat to likeminded parents and carers.

We will be meeting on the following dates  
from 8.45-10.15

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Children you may have at home are more than welcome to attend

Please let us know if you have any access requirements or need any support to attend



# Lunch Menu

## FOOD FESTIVAL

By Aspens

### WEEK 1

Spring/Summer 2026

13/04/26, 04/05/26, 25/05/26,  
15/06/26, 06/07/26, 27/07/26,  
17/08/26, 07/09/26, 28/09/26,  
19/10/26



THE MAIN  
EVENT



MEAT-FREE  
MAGIC

Veggie Dish



RAINBOW  
ALLEY

Vegetables and Salads



BIG  
TOPPING

Filled Jackets



DESSERT  
TROLLEY

# LUNCHTIME

PRIMARY  
FUSION



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Macaroni Cheese	Butter Chicken Curry with Rice	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chilli Con Carne with Rice	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers and Chips	
BBQ Veggie Wrap with Rice	Vegetable Curry with Rice	Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese Bake, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Bean Chilli with Rice	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips	
Broccoli	Sweetcorn	Carrots and Peas	Mixed Greens	Baked Beans and Peas	
Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
Maple Oaty Cookie	Chocolate Concrete Cake	Carrot Cake and Custard	Chocolate Cinnamon Cake	Vanilla Shortbread	

What impact has your meal had on planet Earth today?

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

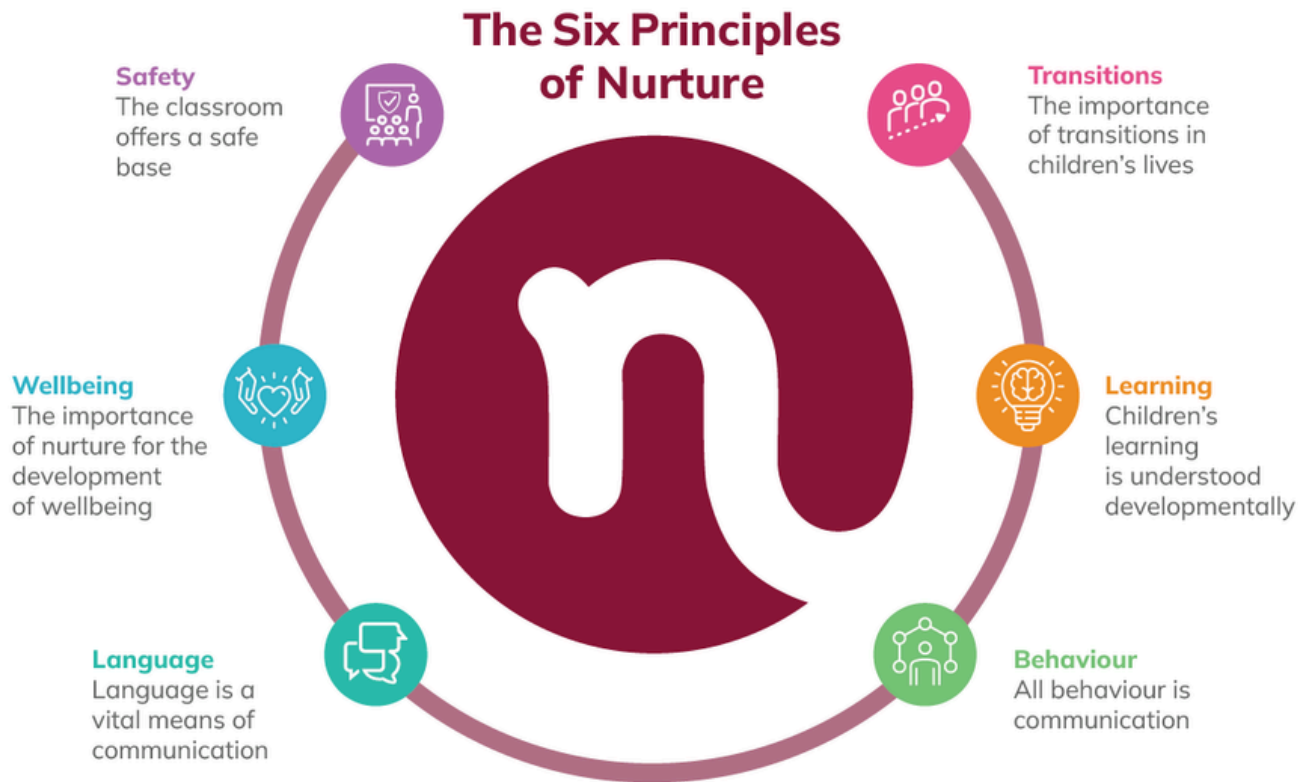
DAILY SANDWICHES AVAILABLE

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

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



# Principles of Nurture



Our school is proud to be working in partnership with Nurture UK to embed the Six Principles of Nurture across our whole community. Through this collaboration, we are strengthening our commitment to creating a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where every child feels valued, understood, and ready to learn. By implementing these principles in our daily practice, we aim to promote emotional wellbeing, positive relationships, and a nurturing culture that enables all pupils to thrive both academically and personally.



# 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



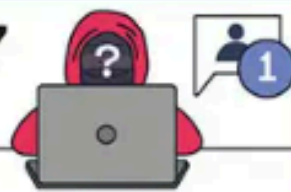
6

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



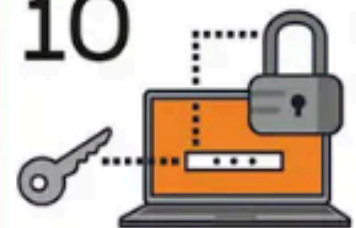
9

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



10

Never share your passwords





# Attendance



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

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



## 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.



# Term Dates

## 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

# 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





# 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

## 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.



# Parent Carer Support

## AFTER-SCHOOL ART & CRAFT CLUB

A Fun, Creative Space for Curious Young Minds






**Elmwood Family Hub**


**Every Thursday • 3:30 – 4:30 PM**

Starting Thursday 16th April for 10 weeks

**Let Creativity Come to Life!**

Looking for a fun, hands-on after-school activity where children can:

-  Explore their creativity
-  Build confidence
-  Make new friends

 **Who Can Join?**

Ages: Toddlers – 11 years  
All abilities welcome!



**What to Expect**

- Fun, guided craft projects
- Relaxed and friendly environment
- Social, creative play
- All materials provided  
*(no stress, just show up & enjoy!)*



**Limited Spaces Available**

To keep sessions engaging and personal, only a small number of spots are available each week.



Contact Elmwood Family Hub  
today for details and registration!

