

St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School



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

Friday 17th July 2026



As we reach the conclusion of another academic year, it is wonderful to reflect upon the considerable achievements and successes that our school community has accomplished. We give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received and for the remarkable children in our care, each of whom brings their own unique array of God-given skills and talents to our school.

This year has been particularly significant for our Year Six class, who leave us today. They represent a cohort of children who have demonstrated exceptional character and resilience throughout their time with us. Having been among those most affected by the disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic, missing substantial periods during their Reception and Year One years, they have been required to work with considerable dedication to address both academic and emotional gaps in their learning and development. Their determination during the recent SATs assessments and the evident confidence they displayed during their leavers' assembly and leavers' Mass have been a source of great pride. I am confident that as they embark upon the next chapter of their educational journey, they will do so as well-rounded, confident and adaptable young people, equipped to meet the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

So goodbye and good luck to our Year Six 2026!



Sorry You're Leaving

Goodbye and Good Luck Mrs Richmond



We say goodbye to Mrs Richmond as she moves on to a post at a new school. We thank her for the hard work, care dedication and fun that given to St John's over the last ten years

We really enjoyed watching Year Six's leavers assembly, this week. During the celebrations many awards and speeches were given:

Most likely to be a leader - Michael N and Owen

Most likely to be a comedian - Harrison and Maigan

Most likely to be a TikTok creator - Kelsey and Kayden

Most likely to be best buds for life - Kane and Liam

Winners of the inclusivity award - Riley and Marcus

Most likely to be an artist - Taylor

Winner of the spirit award - Erik

Most likely to bring the glam - Amelia

Most likely to become a sports star - Archie and Zach

Most likely to create an invention in gaming - Ire and Jacob

Most likely to care for animals - Kinda and Lily

Most likely to become a professional boxer - Harley

Most likely to become a dancer -Lena

Most likely to spread kindness - Zainab, Kelyna, Diyana and Jasmine

Most likely to become an actor - Tiahnah

Winners of the perseverance award - Michael D and Millie- Mai

Congratulations to everyone!



Reflection

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus tells a parable – a special story – about the Kingdom of heaven. He talks about a man who plants seeds of wheat in his field.

His enemy comes along and plants weeds in the field too. The man asks his workers to wait instead of pulling up the weeds straight away – he didn't want to lose any of his wheat. At harvest time though, it is easier to tell the wheat and the weeds apart and so the workers can burn the weeds and collect up all the wheat.

Jesus is a great teacher. He teaches people by telling stories. Stories keep people interested in what he has to say and help us to understand things that are complicated. Jesus wants us to learn from him so that we can know more about God.

And when people don't understand his stories, he explains them, so that we can all understand.

We learn from all sorts of people – teachers, friends, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, cousins and more! We thank God for the gift of teaching and for the skills and talents we have been given that enable us to learn new things every day.

At the end of this school year, let's give thanks to God for all the people we learn from. And let us try to learn more about Jesus and how he asks us to treat others.

Our Virtues

*Attentive
and
Discerning*

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

Catholic Social Teaching

Solidarity and the Common Good

In Catholic Social Teaching, Solidarity and the Common Good are interconnected principles that call for viewing humanity as a single global family. They urge us to look beyond individual interests and actively advocate for justice, peace, and the integral human development of every person, especially the most vulnerable.

Our Pope's Prayer Intention

July: For respect for human life

Pope Leo asks us to pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.





Important Reminders For September

When we return to school in September:

Please ensure that your child is wearing full and correct school uniform, including sensible black shoes (not black trainers). We will be returning to white shirts and school ties, so please don't send your child in wearing a polo shirt.

Please ensure your child is wearing a white t shirt and black or blue shorts for their PE kits. Once it gets cooler, children should only wear dark blue or black tracksuits – without logos or branding.

Please encourage your child to return to school with the mindset that they can be successful and to be ready to follow our simple school rules which are:

- Be respectful
- Be responsible
- Be ready to learn
- Act first time, every time.

Please consider your child's attendance from day 1. It only takes 7 days before a child's attendance becomes a 'cause for concern.'

Please ensure that your child arrives to school between 8.35am – 8.45am. Being late can cause upset, anxiety and a feeling that you have missed out.

Please consider the conduct of your whole family. If you have a concern or are unhappy about something, share this calmly and professionally with staff and we will do our very best to resolve your concerns. All school staff have your child's best interests at heart. If they have to share a difficult message with you, please remember that, although not always easy, this is done with good intentions.

We look forward to welcoming all our lovely school community back in September. Have a great summer holiday.



Celebrations



Birthdays



Cali-Mae W Year 1

Daniel J-O Year 1

Luca M Year 4

Olly S Year 5

**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...

Years 1

**Well
Done**

Attendance

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

Nursery

100%





Park and Stride



We are promoting the carpark at the Sports and Social club on Mull Croft as alternative parking away from school and are displaying railing banners showing the location of the alternative parking and suggested routes. Leaflets have been handed out to parents/ carers this week and more are available in school if needed. Thank you to those who have already shared that they are supporting this initiative as away of improving safety for our children.



Themed Menu





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

What impact has your meal
had on planet Earth today?



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 

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



Community Support

**CHILDCARE
SPACE
AVAILABLE**

**FUNDED SPACES
AVAILABLE
FROM 9 MONTHS OLD**

25-06-2026

TERM TIME ONLY

**FROM
SEPTEMBER 2026**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Tegan_3@hotmail.co.uk



**ST JOHN
THE
BAPTIST
SCHOOL**

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

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



Open Day

Chelmsley Wood Open Day

18th August 2026
11am-2pm

**Chelmsley Wood
Police Station,**



Ceolmund Crescent,
Birmingham, B37 5UB



- Police Puppies
- Streetwatch
- Crime prevention stand
- Firearms
- Displays
- Police Museum
- Cadets
- Forensics
- Recruitment
- Traffic
- and lots more!



Online Safety

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.

2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.

3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.

4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.

5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.

8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.

9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS

AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.

10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 29 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".



The National College

See full reference list on our website



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 05.05.2026



Parent Carer Support

www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk

21 July @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Online group for Parent/Carers of Autistic children & young people

Join us for our monthly online support group for parents and carers of autistic children and young people. This group is designed for families who may find it difficult to attend face-to-face sessions, offering a relaxed and supportive space to connect with others, share experiences, ask questions, and benefit from peer support. Grab a cuppa [...]

Free



11 August @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Autism and Girls – Online Training

Join us for an in-depth training session exploring Autism and Girls. During this webinar, we will cover: The internalised autistic profile Why girls often find it more difficult to obtain [...]



8 October @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Rising to the Challenge Solihull

Shirley, Solihull

A 6 week programme for parents and carers of autistic children The course will help attendees gain a more in depth knowledge of autism and how it impacts the person [...]

Free





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.

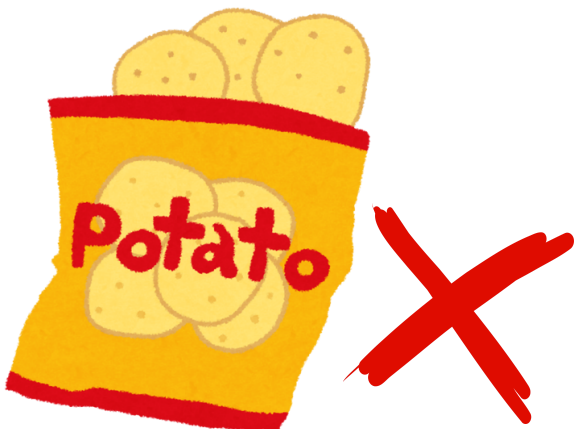
This is not permitted.

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.

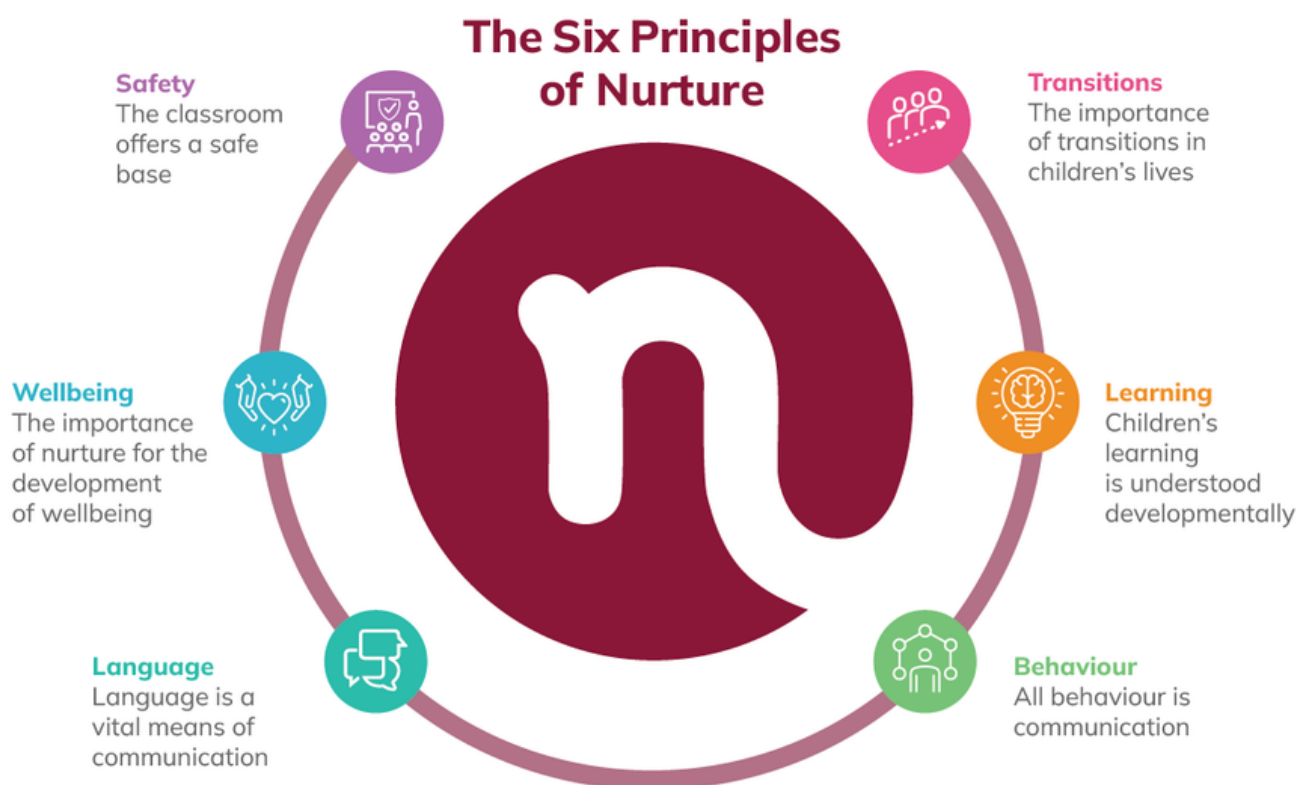
Another problem which has resulted in the increase in unhealthy snacks, is an increase in litter on our school site. Where possible, we ask that snack choices avoid items that are contained in plastic bags or wrappers.

Thank you for your support in this matter.





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.



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.