



# Saint John Wall Catholic School

## A Catholic School For All



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Friday 8 January 2021

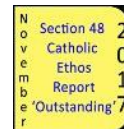
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## Weekly Information Bulletin

### Mission Statement

**'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'**



### Prayer

#### Termly theme: Hope

Dear God,  
Hope overcomes and heals. Hope restores and inspires.  
Hope conquers & frees us all. Hope is your gift to the world.  
Help us to remember this every day.  
Amen.

### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Thankyou for your support with the sudden lockdown and change to schooling arrangements this week. Since Wednesday teachers have been teaching live lessons using Teams to pupils in Years 10 and 11, with emailed work for other year groups. From Monday pupils in all year groups will receive live lessons. Lesson times are as follows:

8.55am – 9.10am	Form Tutor time
9.15am – 10.15am	Lesson 1
10.30am – 11.30am	Lesson 2
11.45am – 12.45pm	Lesson 3
1.30pm – 2.30pm	Lesson 4
2.45pm – 3.30pm	Year 11 catch-up/ Year 10 catch-up on alternate weeks.
5.00pm - 5.40pm	Evening masterclass - pupils will be informed in advance when to expect a masterclass for their year group

Year 10, 9, 8 and 7 pupils have all been issued with a yellow remote learning exercise book that they can use for their live lessons. The books contain square, lined and plain paper. They also have information reminding pupils how to access live lessons, the lesson expectations, how to gossip their work, and how to access development homework. We will also post out more yellow remote learning books later this half term as the first ones start to fill up. Additional books, pens and stationery are available for collection from school. Please telephone to arrange a collection date and time.

There are also some independent lesson resources available on the school website that pupils can complete outside their live lessons. These can be found in the development homework link on the website. The BBC is also dedicating 2 hours per day to secondary education broadcasts.

Please continue to ensure you check your child's email address regularly, and also refer to the school website and weekly bulletin for further updates.

By Miss Marston

### Stay Alert

Watch out for a fake text message claiming to be from the NHS claiming you are eligible to apply for the vaccine and will include a link 'to apply'. The link takes you to a fake NHS website and asks you for payment and other personal details.

Remember to remain vigilant and remember that the NHS will never ask for payment for the vaccine.

Do not respond to the text message or click on any links. Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to 7726. This free-of-charge short code enables your provider to investigate the origin of the text and take action, if found to be malicious.

If you have been a victim of fraud then please contact Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 or on their website at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk)

By Mrs Crooks - Assistant Principal  
(Personal Development, Safety, Behaviour & Attitudes - DSL & SPOC)

### Catholic Life

***"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."* Matthew 2:6**

This week we have celebrated as a Church, the Feast of the Epiphany. The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek word 'epiphainein', meaning 'to reveal'. The Feast day celebrates the first time, after his birth, that Jesus is revealed to the world. This revelation takes place when the Magi (Three Kings) visit the child Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. This feast day marks the end of the Christmas season. When the Three Magi set out on their arduous journey, they packed up their families, their caravans, their camel, and horses, and set out into the unknown. The journey took a long time, and they would have faced many difficulties, some of which we may be facing right now in today's world- feeling lost, overwhelmed, tired, lonely. On reaching the child Jesus, the Three Magi immediately knelt and worshipped him, humbling themselves before him. The Star of Bethlehem that had shone out to guide their way had led them to a beacon of hope and good will for all. Hope in the God who saves.

This term we turn our attention towards hope. Hope is the confident expectation of what God has promised. It's strength is in His faithfulness.

Pope Francis says that 'No one learns to hope alone'. Let us all pray to be faith-filled and hopeful over the coming weeks and months as we venture on and as always, look after each other and our neighbour.

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, Plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29:11

By Mrs Ellis

## Head of Year 10 Message

Hello Year 10, I hope you are all safe and well. As disappointing as it is not to be able to see all of your faces after the Christmas break, I want to remind you that we are still a team. Your teachers care, I care and if you need anything, we are available at the click of a button or the ring of a phone call.

### A reminder of the timings of the day:

8.55 – 9.10 Tutor time  
9.15 – 10.15 Lesson 1  
10.30 – 11.30 Lesson 2  
11.45 – 12.45 Lesson 3  
1.30 – 2.30 Lesson 4  
2.45 - 3.30 After school catch-up (alternate weeks)  
5.00 – 5.40 Masterclasses

It is important that you don't skip Tutor Time, as this is the right place to have discussions, share your worries and concerns and maintain contact with your peers and form tutor each day.

Maintaining established social connections will play a key role in maintaining good mental health during this period of lockdown.

Remember that you can also ask for extra support and encouragement by emailing: [wellbeing@sjw.bham.sch.uk](mailto:wellbeing@sjw.bham.sch.uk) email; emailing your form tutor; Head of Year or your teachers.

### Expectations

As well as attending tutor time, I would like to remind you that you are expected to attend all lessons on time, on Teams and muted. It is essential that you continue to learn and prepare for your GCSEs during this time. Although we don't know what we will be facing at this point next year, it is likely that any good work you do may be used by your teacher in the future to support your grade, so don't allow your study standards to slip.

Your masterclasses will still be happening on Teams, so make sure you are attending those too.

Remember that each lesson on Teams is recorded so any comments you make will be visible to parents, teachers and senior staff, so don't give into the temptation to be silly.

Many of you are using school computers or laptops at home. Please remember that, similarly, anything you type into a school computer is recorded, despite the fact that you are using the device at home. Please do not search for anything inappropriate as Mr Wieremiewicz and myself will be notified immediately! We do not want to have any awkward conversations with your parents, OR have to confiscate the equipment.

### Private Study

Despite most of you working from home, remember that you still have access to GCSE Pod. Please use the resources on there to enhance your private study, so that your time at home is being used as effectively as possible.

Your teachers may be setting you tasks on SENECA too, so remember to check in there.

Last but not least, a scripture to chew over in this tumultuous time: 2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we live by faith, not by sight."

Your parents may have gone through the Government guidance with you already, please stay at home and follow those guidelines if you have to leave the house.

Stay safe and speak soon.

By Miss Moyo

## Head of Year 9 Message

Hello Year 9, I hope you had a safe Christmas and have been well over the break. Since the Government announcement on Monday 4 January about schools moving to online learning, we have been working hard to ensure you all receive a good quality of education. As you will now know you will be expected to log onto Microsoft teams from Monday 11 January to be a part of your usual timetabled lessons, you will also be starting your day off as you would if you were in school by meeting on teams with your form group and teacher.

We understand that these times may be difficult for some, whether that be with internet access, sharing computers with family and finding a quiet place to work. If you are struggling with any of this, please contact your form teachers or the school and we will do our best to try and support you and your families through this difficult time.

### Expectations

At Saint John Wall we have very high expectations of all our pupils, this includes online learning too, below are some reminded as what is expected of all pupils.

- You are expected to log on to each lesson every day. If for any reason you cannot log on please let your teachers and school know, attendance is being monitored.
- You are to follow all rules set out at the start of each lesson. You will be reminded of the school expectations for online lessons at the start of each lesson.
- Please be respectful to teachers and your fellow pupils.
- Meetings will be recorded and are being monitored by Heads of Year along with other members of staff.

We will be dealing with pupils in line with school policies, the same way as if they were in school, if rules are breached.

### Well-being

We understand that this is a challenging time for all pupils. If you have any worries or concerns, we can still support you the best we can. You can email [wellbeing@sjw.bham.sch.uk](mailto:wellbeing@sjw.bham.sch.uk) if you are struggling with anything while at home, trained staff are on hand to support you. You can check in with form tutors and ask questions at the start of the day so please make the most of this at home. Some tips that I picked up from our first Lockdown:

- **Exercise** - try to get out and do your daily exercise as we know this is a key part of our wellbeing.
- **Routine** - this will mean when you have down time after school it will feel more special.
- **Sleep** - try to get to sleep early, treat it like a school day where you would attend school.
- **Relax** - find time at the end of the day to do something that you enjoy; read a book, draw, bake, play games, talk with family.

If you are using your yellow remote learning book and feel you need another, please contact school to arrange collecting.

Finally, I would like to thank you for showing your resilience in adapting to the new way of working. We are all in this together! Stay safe!

By Miss Reynolds

## Head of Year 11 Message

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

Welcome back to all Year 11 pupils (virtually). Hope you have all had a restful break. As you know Year 11 will now be required to work from home via Microsoft Teams until at least Half Term. Please make sure you are logging on following your normal timetable, this will include logging on during form time to receive any information that your form teacher may need to share with yourselves.

#### **A reminder of the timings of the day:**

8.55 – 9.10 Tutor time  
9.15 – 10.15 Lesson 1  
10.30 – 11.30 Lesson 2  
11.45 – 12.45 Lesson 3  
1.30 – 2.30 Lesson 4  
2.45 – 3.30 Year 11 catch-up/ Year 10 catch-up on alternate weeks.  
Year 11 catch-up starts 11/01/2021

Expectations will need to continue whilst you are on teams during lesson time. We need to ensure that pupils are displaying their best behaviour just as they would do in lesson when they are in school. It is an expectation that you log teams everyday as your attendance is still important.

Please continue to apply for further education place whether this is 6<sup>th</sup> form or Colleges. Our Careers Advisor Ms Smith will continue to contact pupils who have requested meetings regarding applications, this may be through phone calls home or your school emails. If there is any further information you require regarding your further education please let us know and we will try to support and guide you.

Catch-up classes will still continue starting Monday 11 January 2021, this will take place from 2pm – 3.30pm every day. This will be every 2 weeks as Year 10 will also be having after school catch-up.

Any issues or problems during teams meetings please contact school so we can sort out any issues.

As always please take care and stay safe.

**By Mrs Chand**

# Virtual Open Day



**Saturday 16th January 2021**

**10am – 2pm**

#### **Discover your future:**

- Vocational Courses
- Apprenticeships
- T Levels

**Register now**



SCAN ME



[dudleycol.ac.uk](http://dudleycol.ac.uk)



## Head of Year 8 Message

I hope you are all good, well and looking forward to the New Year with hope; and are curious for the new way of learning (remote learning) for the next few weeks. Our school (all members of staff) are and have been creating each of your lessons, to support your education so that you do not miss out on your education during these difficult times. It is very important that you log on each school day to Microsoft Teams for form time as well as your lessons. I am expecting you to be active and engaged in these activities so that you can continue to develop and learn, as this will support you now and in the future. I still have high expectations from you regarding your attitude and behaviour during the remote learning. Each lesson will be monitored to make sure every pupil is able to learn without any barriers. We are all on this faith-filled journey together and we wish each other well and let's be hopeful for the future when we can be back together again.

If you need any help with IT resources or books and stationary please email or telephone the school.

**By Mr Hussain**

## Head of Year 7 Message

Happy New Year to all our Year 7 pupils and your families. From Monday 11 January, all Year 7 pupils will log into Microsoft Teams and join their online lessons. These will be in line with your usual timetable for each day. Should you have any issues with logging into Teams on your device, or with connectivity please call the school and someone will be available to help you. You are expected to attend **ALL** lessons each day online as well as Form Time. The school will call home to speak to parents/carers if you have not accessed your learning. It is really important that you are in every lesson. Our usual rules apply, please do not use the chat function unless instructed to by your teacher, and ensure that you are using it appropriately.

Each Monday I will be sending out an email to each of you with some fun facts and tasks to complete should you wish. It would be great to hear from you when you have finished your learning for the day. We shall also be celebrating together during Collective Worship each Friday from 15 January this month, I am looking forward to seeing you all on Teams.

Keep yourselves safe during this lockdown. Ensure that you are getting enough exercise and eating well. We understand that for many families, this third lockdown may bring additional financial difficulties. Please reach out to us here at Saint John Wall if you need any support, we're here to help.

For those of you who have not tried yet, Kooth.com is an online service provided for **FREE** by Birmingham City Council for pupils aged 11+ to encourage good mental health and wellbeing. Once logged in you will be able to access additional support, speak to people your own age and chat to counsellors about how you are feeling. It's good to talk! Please follow the link and get registered: [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)



Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy, for in You my soul takes refuge. In the shadow of Your wings I will take shelter until the danger has passed. Psalm 57.

Finally, I would like to set each Year 7 a task to complete each week until we return to school.

*My goals for this week...*

Set yourself challenging but achievable goals. This could be a subject to learn about, a new skill to master, something to spend more time on... Write big goals for the week at the top of each box and smaller goals that will help you achieve it inside.

**Goal number 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

To help me achieve this, I will:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal number 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

To help me achieve this, I will:

7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal number 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

To help me achieve this, I will:

4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

How well did you do?

Take a few moments to think about your week and whether or not you achieved your goals. Remember, sometimes it's not possible to achieve everything you want to, but making an effort is the important part.

Give yourself a mark out of 10 for your achievements this week: \_\_\_\_/10

Now get some rest and think about your goals for next week!



## Remote learning Masterclass Timetable (January- February 2021)

**Timings:** Evening Microsoft Teams Masterclass: 5:00pm to 5:40pm

Saturday Teams Masterclass: 11:00am to 11:40am

**PLEASE NOTE:** All masterclasses will be taking place on Microsoft Teams until February half term 2021

Term 2	w/c	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday Assessment Week Master Class Prep.
January	11th Jan		Year 9 Evening CHILD DEVELOPMENT Masterclass Miss Reynolds			
				Year 10 Evening MATHS Masterclass Mr Pejatta (HIGHER)		
	18th Jan	Year 10 Evening BUSINESS Masterclass Mr Rathbone	Year 7 Evening RE Masterclass Miss Fox-Roberts	Year 8 Evening HISTORY Masterclass Mr John		Year 10 Saturday ENGLISH Masterclass Miss Flinn
	25th Jan	Year 10 Evening Media Masterclass Mr Rathbone			Year 7 Evening HISTORY Masterclass Mr McIntosh	Year 8 Saturday ENGLISH Masterclass Miss Moyo
		Year 8 Evening RE Masterclass Mrs Harms		Year 10 Evening RE Masterclass Miss Hanson		
February	1st Feb	Year 10 Evening HISTORY Masterclass Miss Lally			Year 7 Evening ENGLISH Masterclass Mrs Wieremiewicz	Year 10 Saturday SCIENCE Masterclass Mr Rahman
		Year 8 Evening SCIENCE Masterclass Ms Forbes		Year 10 Evening MATHS Masterclass Miss Allen (HIGHER)		
	8th Feb		Year 9 Evening Health and Social Care Mr Owen			
	15th Feb	End of term				

# Lifestyle Remote Learning - STEWARDSHIP

## **Research pet care**

Do you have a pet? Write about your pet. What has to happen to keep it healthy and happy? What are the good and bad things about having pets?

**Draw or email a photo of your pet.**



## **Research litter**

Look at the following website:

<https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/volunteer/become-care-project-volunteer>

How can we all as individuals help to solve our litter crisis? What things can you do at home and at school to help?

**You could create a poem, story or make a poster out of recycled packaging from your home.**



## **Garden scavenge/ bug hunt**

Look at the following websites for lots of crafty outdoor ideas to take part in at home.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/11/lockdown-activities-kids-autumn-winter/>

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/kids-nature-activities-self-isolation/>

There are lots of things you can choose to do outside, in your garden or in your local park or area.

Take your pick depending on how brave you are:

**Use some natural items from your garden to make an arty picture (stones, sticks, leaves etc.)**

**Be a Spring Spotter-hunt for the first signs of flowers (daffodils, snowdrops), baby buds on trees, new bugs and creatures in your garden (woodlice, beetles, slugs, snails, spiders)**

Bug Hunt



Good luck and if you wish to send me any lovely stories or photos I would love that!

[sclayton@sjw.bham.sch.uk](mailto:sclayton@sjw.bham.sch.uk)

# Do you need any support over lockdown?

## Food:

Food Parcels collections 5-6pm Daily  
Midland Langar Seva Society  
Dale End Bus Stops (Stall)  
Birmingham City Centre  
B4

Asian Resource Centre  
Villa Road  
0121 523 0580



Food Bank Centres  
New Life Weslyn Church  
Holyhead Road  
Handsworth  
Birmingham  
B21 0RA  
0121 507 0734  
(Thursdays 1-3pm)

Salma Food Bank  
Unit 8  
Ash Court  
Crystal Drive  
Smethwick  
B66 1Q  
07767164246

Aspire Housing Rookery Road  
308 Rookery Road  
Handsworth  
Birmingham  
B21 9QG  
1pm Mon/Wed/Fri

If you qualify for Free School Meals, please check your emails as you've been sent vouchers which you can use online to arrange food for your meals.

## Wellbeing & Mental Health:

Support with your mental health over this difficult time:

- Young Minds  
<https://youngminds.org.uk/>
- MIND  
<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/for-children-and-young-people/>
- Forward thinking Birmingham  
<https://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/>
- KOOTH  
<https://www.kooth.com/>

## Bereavement & Loss:

If you or anyone in your family suffers the loss of a family member or friend at this difficult time, there are some websites below that may help & comfort you:

Winston's Wish  
Website: <https://help2makesense.org/>  
Email: [ask@winstonswish.org](mailto:ask@winstonswish.org)

Cruse Bereavement Care  
Website: <https://www.hopeagain.org.uk/>  
Phone: 0808 808 1677

Childline  
Website: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)  
Phone: 0800 1111

Grief Encounter  
Website: <https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/young-people/>  
Phone: 0808 802 0111



## The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

# FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



### 1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

### 2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

### 3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

### 4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

### 5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

### 6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

### 7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

### 8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

### 9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

### 10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

### 11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

### 12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday







# BUILDING A BRIDGE

## BETWEEN PARENT CARERS & THEIR SERVICE PROVIDERS

We are a voluntary group of Birmingham Parent Carers whose purpose is to be the bridge between services and families and a collective voice representing all members and all disabilities.

We aim to build strong and sustainable links between our Local authority, Joint Clinical Commissioning Group and The Children's Trust.

[birminghampcf.org](http://birminghampcf.org)
[info@birminghampcf.org](mailto:info@birminghampcf.org)
[@birminghampcf](https://www.facebook.com/birminghampcf)
[@birminghampcf](https://twitter.com/birminghampcf)

# GET INVOLVED!

Would you like to help influence the development of services which matter the most to your children? We want to hear your ideas and views as your voice and experience is of value. It is the bringing together of these views which can offer the opportunity to effect change where it is needed.

**YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN VARIOUS WAYS:**

- Receiving email updates by becoming a forum member
- Taking part in surveys, consultations and workshops
- Attending Local Authority meetings to represent the forum

If you are a parent or carer of a child or young person (aged 0-25) with additional needs who lives in Birmingham and/or whose child uses Birmingham Education, Health or Social Care Services you can become a member of the forum. Get involved by completing a 'Join Us' form on our website or Facebook page, or by dropping us an email.

[birminghampcf.org](http://birminghampcf.org)
[info@birminghampcf.org](mailto:info@birminghampcf.org)
[@birminghampcf](https://www.facebook.com/birminghampcf)
[@birminghampcf](https://twitter.com/birminghampcf)