

Saint John Wall Catholic School

A Catholic School For All



Mission Statement

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



Issue 17

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 20 January 2023

Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'The Year of Sanctuary'.

Termly theme: Peace

Termly SJW Values – Eloquent and Truthful

This week in Weekly Worship... Pupils focused on Christian Unity and the importance of all individuals being united in our 'Catholic School For All'. They listened to two Gospel readings and thought about how they linked to unity and peace, which is our Catholic Social Teaching for the term. Pupils responded by thinking about the importance of standing in solidarity with all individuals who face discrimination. Pupils were then able to go forth and think about their own actions and how they can be an example of peace. In form time, pupils continued to write prayers about peace.

Lord, shine your grace upon us and remind us that in peace is love. May we unite together and forget our differences. Bring peace to this world so that we can be examples of peace. Let us find your grace and love even in sorrow and darkness. Amen."

By Kritika Basra 8GRE

This week in Afternoon Prayer... Pupils prayed for Christian Unity Week which is taking place this week. As well as this, pupils also prayed for World Religions Day which was celebrated on Sunday. Every month, Pope Francis releases a prayer Intention and this month was for Educators, so pupils also prayed for all educators. Martin Luther King Day was also celebrated at the beginning of the week, so this was a focus of one of our afternoon prayers.

"Something I like about our afternoon prayer is that we always pray for different things each day. Afternoon prayer also gives us the opportunity to be closer to God."

By Priya Chem 8PAW

NEU Teacher Strike Information for Parents

Teachers who are members of the National Education Union have voted to strike on the following dates:

Wednesday 1 February, Wednesday 1 March, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March.

The school has 31 teachers who are in the NEU. We do not expect all those teachers to strike, but we will need to make some changes to pupils' education on each of the strike days if they go ahead.

Draft plans for Wednesday 1 February:

- Pupils in Years 7, 9 and 11 should attend school as normal. Year 11 pupils should ensure they have revision materials with them including revision guides and examination homework booklets. Year 7 and Year 9 pupils should bring their PE kit.
- Year 8 pupils have assessment week. They should attend school between 8.50am and 12.30pm. They will be able to have lunch and then go home at 12.30pm to revise in the afternoon.
- Year 10 pupils also have assessment week. They should revise at home in the morning and then attend school between 12.00 midday and 3.10pm. Lunch will be available at 12.00 midday when pupils arrive in school.

I will confirm these arrangements in next Friday's newsletter, once I have more information about the numbers of teachers who will definitely strike. I will at all times try to minimise the impact of this strike action on the education of your children. If you have any queries, please contact me using the enquiry@sjw.bham.sch.uk email address.

By Miss Marston



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Important Dates to Note

- **Values@Day 2**
Tuesday 24 January 2023
- **Year 8 and Year 10 Assessment Week**
Monday 30 January 2023
- **Year 7 Transition Trip – Nechells Wellbeing Centre (10 Pupils)**
Tuesday 7 February 2023 - 9am to 12.30pm
- **Year 7 and 8 Girls Football Festival – King Edward Aston**
Wednesday 8 February 2023 – 9am to 1pm
- **Year 9 Retreat to Soli House (30 Pupils)**
Wednesday 15 February to Friday 17 February 2023
(Leaving at 2pm arriving back at school at 4pm on Friday)
- **Year 10 Parents' Afternoon + Invited Year 7, 8 & 9**
Thursday 16 February 2023 – 1.30pm to 3.30pm
- **Half Term**
Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February 2023
- **Year 11 Mock 2**
Week commencing 27 February 2023



St Mary's Coffee Morning

Pupils have been using their maths skills at St Mary's this morning helping visitors with their bingo cards as well as serving tea and coffee. Time flew by so quickly and once the washing up had been completed and all the bingo dabbers collected, it was time to set out back to school. One of the regular coffee morning visitors Maggie commented on how grateful she was to have help with her bingo card. Well done to pupils for their hard work this morning.

By Mrs Clayton



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Year 8 & Year 10 Assessment Week

Period	Monday 30 January	Tuesday 31January	Wednesday 01 February		Thursday 02 February	Friday 03 February	Monday 06 February
1 9:15 Start	Spanish Reading f/h 45 Mins French Reading f/h 45 Mins Polish Listening 1 Hour	RE 1 Hour	P1 (Year 8) 9:15 - 10:15	Year 8 Science 1 hour calculators	PE 1 Hour Sport 1 hour Music 1 hour 15 mins	History 1 Hour 15 mins	Art Assessment All Day
Break			Break				
2 10:50 Start	Maths (Higher Only) 45 Mins	Geography 1 hour10 mins	P2 (Year 8) 10:50 - 12: 00	Year 8 RE 1 hour	Science Combined 1 hr Calculators F/H SEPARATE Biology P2 1 Hour 45 Mins	Performing Arts 1 hour 15 mins Spanish Writing f/h 1 Hour 15 mins French Writing f/h 1 hour 15 mins	
			12:00 - 12:30 Lunch Year 8 and 10				
Period 3 12:05	Hosp. and Catering 2 hours 30 mins T1	IT 1 Hour	P3 (Year 10) 12:30 - 13:30	English Lit 1 Hour		Health and SC 1 Hour Computer Science 2 Hours	
12:35	Year 8 Maths F/H 45 Mins						
Lunch			13:30 - 13:45 Break		Lunch		
4 13:45 Start	Hosp. and Catering 2 hours 30 mins T1 Design Technology 1 hour 15 mins	Business 1 Hour	P4 (Year 10) 13:45 - 15:15	Maths 1 hour 30 Mins NON Calculator	Year 8 English 45m	Computer Science 2 Hours	



Extra-Curricular Timetable – Physical Education



	After School 3:10 – 4:00	
Monday	Football [Year 8 boys] - Mr Brooks Dance Club [KS3, girls] - Miss Young CNAT Y9 & 10 Basketball [Open to all] - Mr Patel	Fixtures to happen on day of training.
Tuesday	Department Meeting / Fixtures	
Wednesday	Football [KS4, girls] - Miss Reynolds Year 7 & 9 Boys Football Mr Ahmed/Mr Patel Rebounding [All years, girls, HALL] – Miss Young Basketball [All years, girls] – Mr Bakshi	
Thursday	Basketball [KS3, BOYS] - Mr Bakshi	
Friday		



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Balancing screen time

internet
matters.org



5 top tips to support children and young people

1

Lead by example

Just like anything, **children copy their parents' actions and behaviour**. If you set boundaries for your own screen, it will be easier for your kids to do the same.

2

Set boundaries WITH your kids

Get them involved in the process of setting age appropriate limits on how long they can spend online, at what times and on which platforms. Set up screen-free times or rooms where screens are out of sight and therefore more likely to be out of mind. Review these as they get older and give them the space to take greater responsibility for their screen use.



3

Ensure a healthy mix of screen activity

Make sure they have a good balance of **screen activities** that encourage creativity, learning & education, connecting with family & friends, as well as using devices for passively engaging with content.



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4

Avoid using screen time as a reward

This will elevate the status of screen time above other activities and like using food as a reward **may encourage children to simply want more.**



5

Physical activity & sleep are really important

Make sure screens are not displacing these things by keeping screens out of bedrooms at bed time and that you are creating opportunities for your children to be active each day.




Creating a balanced digital diet

Like a healthy meal, a healthy digital diet can help children **to develop good online habits**. Use our **digital diet tips** to help children prioritise screen time activities in a balanced way.



Visit internetmatters.org/screentime for more advice

 InternetMatters

 internetmatters

 @im_org

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A message to parents and carers

Why are teachers going on strike?

TEACHERS WHO ARE members of the National Education Union (NEU) will be taking national strike action on Wednesday 1st February.

We do not want to strike, but the government have given us no choice. We are striking for education and we hope you will support us, despite the inconvenience it will cause.

We are taking strike action because we are concerned that cuts to teachers' pay, and lack of funding for schools, are causing a crisis in education.

- *The value of teachers and support staff pay has fallen by 20% since 2010.*

- *This has caused a crisis in recruitment and retention.*

- *More teachers, and school leaders, than ever are leaving their jobs and*

the government cannot recruit enough teachers to replace them.

- *Funding for schools has not kept in line with rising costs.*

- *This means that:*

- *many schools face difficulties finding the teachers they need;*

- *SEND children are not getting the support they need;*

- *Schools are spending less on important equipment and resources;*

- *schools are cutting back on extra-curricular clubs and classes.*

This cannot go on, for the sake of education the government must change its policy on pay and funding.

We have tried talking to the government - we have provided evidence about this crisis to them year after year, but they have ignored our warnings.

That is why we have reluctantly made the decision to take strike action.

We are calling on the government to increase pay for teachers and support staff, but they must also increase funding for schools.

We are asking parents and carers to:

- **support** our strike action and our campaign to boost funding for education.

- **talk** to teachers at your child's school to find out more about our campaign and how you can support us.

- **contact** your MP and local councillors and tell them that you support NEU members taking strike action.



Campaigning for children and education

For more information visit www.neu.org.uk



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