

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 19

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 30 January 2026



Catholic Life Annual Theme:

Termly Catholic Social Teaching:

Termly SJW Values:

Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers

Solidarity

Attentive and Discerning

This week in Celebration of the Word...

"We focused on Holocaust Memorial Day. We listened to a piece of scripture from the Gospel of Matthew that taught us that Jesus brings us **hope** and direction and allows us to change and grow to become better people. It is important to have a Celebration of the Word about Holocaust Memorial Day so we can remember those who were killed. It allows us to come together to learn about the past and to build a better future. I like Celebration of the Word as it is an opportunity for us to learn about key events and to be with God."

By Gradi Pembele 8RES

This week in Afternoon Prayer...

"We prayed for the people who were killed during the Holocaust. As part of this prayer, we reflected on the theme of 'Bridging Generations.' This is so we don't forget the horrors Jews faced. We should all show **compassion** and **love** when listening and learning about the Holocaust so we can carry lessons forward into the next generation. We also prayed our school prayer, asking that we **hear and respond to what God is calling us to be**. I like Afternoon Prayer as it is a nice way to end the day and allows us to think about what is happening in the world."

By Jaspreet Sheemar 8BRK

Important Dates to Note

- **Alton Castle Residential – 20 Key Stage 3 Pupils**
Monday 9 February 2026 to Wednesday 11 February 2026
Leaving at 2pm – Arriving back at 4pm approx.
- **University of Birmingham Trip – 12 Year 9 Pupils**
Monday 9 February 2026 – 8.55am to 3.05pm
- **Year 10 Parents' Evening**
Wednesday 11 February 2026 – 4pm to 6pm
- **CBSO at Symphony Hall Trip – Year 7 (All Pupils)**
Friday 13 February 2026 – 12pm to 3.45pm approx.
- **Half Term**
Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026
- **Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations**
Monday 23 February 2026 to Friday 6 March 2026

Important Revision Notice

There will be no Year 11 Maths Revision on Tuesday 3 February. This will take place on Wednesday 11 February.

By Miss Lally



Oxhill Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



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Catholic Life

Visit to St Mary's Coffee Club

Today pupils have been helping out with fundraising for coffee club. They have organised the book stall and chatted to guests. We have raised over £60 which will be useful for trips and activities in the future.

By Mrs Clayton



Class Mass

This month, we have continued our weekly visits to St Augustine's Catholic Church to celebrate Class Mass with Fr George. Fr George has been very **generous** in giving up his time at the end of each Mass to talk to the pupils in the class. Each week, Fr George gives our pupils the opportunity to ask any questions they may have about the Mass or the Church. There have been lots of questions around the candles, the Stations of the Cross and the different statues in the Church. We are **grateful** to Fr George for this. Thank you also to the parishioners who continue to make St John Wall feel so welcome each week!

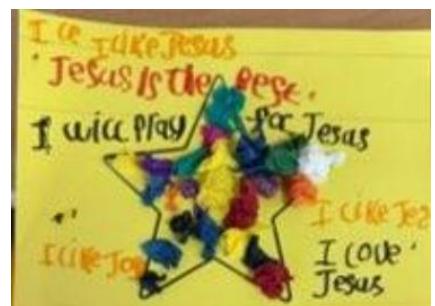
Christmas Crafts

Throughout the season of Advent, the Chapel was open during lunch times for pupils to create their own Christmas Crafts. This was very popular and was enjoyed by many of our pupils. Pupils were **curious and active** and made lots of different crafts including snowmen! Thank you to Mrs Ellis for helping with this activity. There will be some more crafts available throughout Lent.



St Patrick and St Edmund's Primary School

Myself and Mrs Ellis have continued to visit St Patrick and St Edmunds Primary School each week to support with RE and Chaplaincy. Last week, we began to think about the New Year and the goals we have. The Chapel is now a lovely space full of display boards of all the wonderful work the pupils have completed since Advent. A big well done to all the pupils for being so **attentive** and for all their hard work. Thank you to Mrs Breslin and the staff for making us feel so welcome each week!



Advent Appeal Launch

Throughout Advent, pupils at St John Wall were bringing in items for their different charities. The charities we supported were - St Chad's Sanctuary, Fr Hudson's Caritas and Birmingham Crisis Centre. A big thank you and well done to all our pupils and their families who were **loving and compassionate** by donating over 470 items to these charities. When we returned after Christmas, I dropped off the last of our donations to St Chad's Sanctuary who were very **grateful** for our support.



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Lifestyle

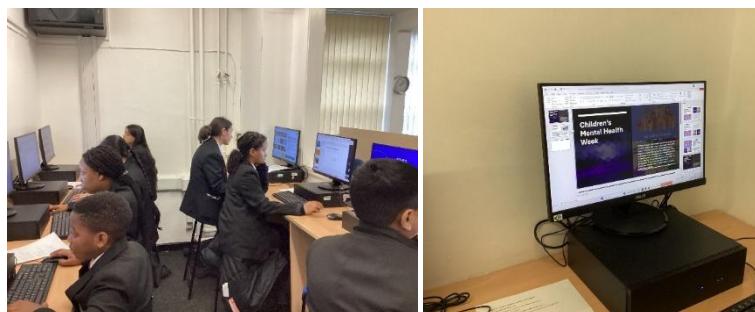
Novices

We have been delighted to work with Martin and Joseph throughout this academic year. Martin and Joseph are Jesuit Novices and are in their initial two-year formation stage of joining the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Martin and Joseph have been helping to lead on our Catholic Social Teaching Lifestyle lessons, working with pupils on the topic of Asylum Seekers and Refugees and the link to Catholic Social Teaching. As well as this, Martin and Joseph have been taking an **active** part in other aspects of the school, visiting other lessons and getting involved during break and lunch times. We are **grateful** for their support!



Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

This week in Lifestyle, some pupils in Year 7 helped to plan a Celebration of the Word on Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. The theme this year is "This is my Place". Pupils have been helping by researching this topic and by finding out more about what we can do to look after our Mental Health. Well done to all the pupils for being so **active** in helping to put this Celebration of the Word together.



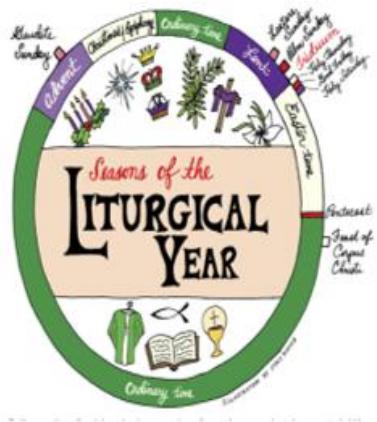
Liturgical Season

After celebrating the Baptism of the Lord in January, we have now entered Ordinary Time. This is a season focused on Jesus' three-year teaching and preaching. This time symbolises hope, life and anticipation. We will continue to be in Ordinary Time until February when Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

Our Liturgical Colours

GREEN is used during 'Ordinary time', a season focused on Jesus' three-year teaching & preaching.

Symbolises: hope, life, anticipation



By Mr Lysaght



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Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



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Head of Year News

Year 7

Welcome back

Welcome back to the new term. I hope all pupils and families had a restful winter break. I would like to congratulate our Year 7 pupils on their excellent behaviour and strong attendance since returning this term, which reflects the high standards we value as a school community. As the weather has turned colder this month, please ensure pupils come to school with a suitable coat each day. Parents and carers are reminded to check their MCAS accounts regularly for important notices and updates, and to ensure that lunch accounts are topped up so pupils can access meals without disruption. Finally, we ask families to continue supporting the school's expectations around mobile phones by keeping an eye on their appropriate use, pupils under the age of 13 should not be on social media platforms. We look forward to another positive and productive term ahead.

Year 7 Parents Afternoon

Thank you to all parents/carers who were able to attend our Parents Afternoon this month. It was a fabulous opportunity to meet with staff and to discuss the recent assessment results, as well as how well each pupil is growing to hear and respond to what God calls them to be. All reports have now been sent home, these include the assessment results and class charts logs that give more detail in regards to pupil behaviour.

Year 7 Trip

On Friday 13 February, Year 7 will visit Symphony Hall for an orchestra performance. Please check the MCAS app to ensure you have all the up to date details of the trip. If you have not yet downloaded the app, please call the school office. As always, attendance for trips relies on pupils following our St. John Wall values, as well as having good attendance and punctuality to school.

By Mrs Ellis

Year 8

Year 8 have made an excellent start to the new term. Pupils approached assessment week with maturity and focus, and teachers are now completing the marking process. Results will be shared with pupils and families in due course.

This term, we are continuing to emphasise the importance of Class Charts, particularly around behaviour expectations and positive engagement. It has been encouraging to see so many pupils demonstrating consistent cooperation and commitment to their learning.

We would also like to remind pupils to leave the playground promptly at the end of break and lunch. Arriving to lessons on time and entering the building in a calm, orderly manner helps everyone settle quickly and supports a positive learning environment.

We are delighted that 14 Year 8 pupils have begun the Scholars Programme, and their start has been incredibly strong. Their enthusiasm and dedication reflect the high aspirations within the year group.

In addition, a group of Year 8 pupils visited the University of Birmingham to take part in the *Making Materials Matter* programme, a collaborative initiative involving both the University of Birmingham and the University of Oxford. This was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to experience university life, engage with hands-on activities, and deepen their understanding of materials science.

Attendance remains a key priority. We are grateful to those who maintain strong attendance habits and encourage all pupils to aim for full participation and 100% cooperation. Regular attendance plays a vital role in academic progress and helps pupils feel fully connected to school life.

Thank you to families for your ongoing support. We look forward to a productive and successful term ahead for all our Year 8 pupils.

By Mr Hussain



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Head of Year News

Year 9

Welcome Back and Ready for New Challenges!

As we begin a brand-new year, we are excited to welcome our Year 9 pupils back and ready to take on new challenges. This term is a fantastic opportunity to continue *building bridges and breaking barriers*—both in your learning and in the way you support one another as a year group.

Year 9 is a crucial stage where you are becoming leaders within our school community. Your behaviour in and around the school sets the tone for others, especially our younger pupils who look up to you every day. The way you move through the corridors, the attitude you bring to lessons, and the choices you make at social times all help shape a positive, respectful environment for everyone.

This term, we are placing a strong emphasis on **kindness, respect, and positive communication**. Treating each other with patience and understanding—whether in lessons, friendship groups, or during busy transitions—helps build a community where everyone feels safe and valued.

Remember: sometimes the smallest interactions, like a greeting or a helpful gesture, can make a huge difference.

We know Year 9 has the potential to be incredible role models. Let's work together to show what being part of this year group truly means: aiming high, supporting each other, and creating a school community we are all proud of.

Here's to a great term ahead—let's make it one to remember.

By Mrs Chand

Year 10

Firstly, a huge well done to you all for completing Assessment Week 2. These weeks can be challenging, and it has been great to see many of you approach your assessments with focus, maturity, and effort. You should be proud of what you achieved. Now is the time to reflect honestly on how you prepared and how you can improve before the June assessments. Ask yourself:

- Did I revise little and often, or leave things too late?
- Which subjects went well, and why?
- What do I need to change next time to get better results?

Remember, examination homework is there to help you, not to add pressure. Completing it properly, using feedback to improve, and asking questions when you are unsure will build your confidence and help you perform at your best.

A reminder that Parents' Evening takes place on **Tuesday 11 February**. This is your opportunity to share your progress, celebrate what is going well, and agree clear next steps with your teachers and family.

Work Experience (WEX) is a key responsibility for Year 10. You should now be securing your placement as soon as possible. If you do not arrange a placement by the deadline, one will be allocated for you. Taking ownership of this process is an important step towards independence and preparing for life beyond school. It has been great hearing about where pupils are already going for Work Experience.

Please also ensure you are meeting uniform expectations every day. Uniform checks will continue, and flared trousers are not permitted. Arriving in correct uniform helps create a calm, focused learning environment for everyone.

Looking ahead, the Year 10 Prefect launch is coming up. This is a great opportunity to step forward, show leadership, and make a positive contribution to the school community. More details on how to apply will be shared soon.

Finally, well done for the mature way you have adapted to the new lunchtime line-up system. Your calm and respectful behaviour has been noticed—keep it up.

As we move through the term, good attendance, punctuality, and positive behaviour will be key to your **success**.

By Miss Cummings



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Head of Year News

Year 11

Welcome Back After Christmas

We would like to warmly welcome all Year 11 pupils back to school following the Christmas break. We hope everyone enjoyed a well-earned rest and has managed to return refreshed after what often feels like a **very long January**. As we move into a critical half term, it is time to refocus, re-establish routines, and **Rise Up** to the expectations of the final stages of Year 11.

Mock Examinations – February

Pupils will sit their **second set of mock examinations starting on Monday 23 February**. These examinations are extremely important, as the results will be shared with **colleges and Post-16 providers** as part of application and placement decisions. Students must take these mocks seriously and approach them with the same commitment they would their final GCSEs.

Strong preparation is essential at this stage of the year— after the launch of Mock 2 during the middle of January the key message to take away is **revision is temporary, results are forever!**

Examination Homework Booklets

A key priority for this half term is the completion of **Examination Homework Booklets**. These booklets play a vital role in exam preparation and support structured study at home. Pupils who fail to complete their examination homework will be required to attend **Friday Homework Club**, where work must be completed. This ensures that all pupils remain supported and on track during this crucial period.

Maintaining consistent habits now will make a significant difference—**revision is temporary, results are forever!**

Post-16 Applications and Interviews

It has been extremely positive to see so many Year 11 pupils attending **college and sixth-form interviews**. These experiences are invaluable, helping pupils build confidence, develop communication skills, and better understand the expectations of further education.

We strongly encourage all pupils to continue **exploring options, attending interviews, and submitting applications**. Even if you already hold a conditional offer, it is important to keep your options open and ensure you have choices available. This proactive approach will support a smooth transition into

Post-16 education.

Rewards Trip – Alton Towers

Following the completion of the February mock examinations, pupils will have the opportunity to attend a **Rewards Trip to Alton Towers**. Attendance on this trip will be based on pupils demonstrating **excellence across the year**, including:

- Positive behaviour and ClassCharts positives
- Strong attendance and punctuality
- A positive attitude to learning
- Commitment to revision sessions

This trip is a reward for those who consistently **Rise Up** to expectations and show commitment to their learning and personal development. This trip will only be paid for via MCAS—please ensure you have access to this in order to pay.

Staying Focused

As the pressure increases, it is important that pupils remain focused, organised, and motivated. Regular study, good attendance, and positive attitudes will ensure pupils are fully prepared for their next steps. Remember—**revision is temporary, results are forever!**

Year 11, this half term is about determination, responsibility, and resilience. Continue to **Rise Up**, stay focused, and give yourselves the best possible chance of success.

By Miss Reynolds



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Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations

Monday 23 February 2026 to Monday 9 March 2026

Period	Monday 23 February	Tuesday 24 February	Wednesday 25 February	Thursday 26 February	Friday 27 February
Form and Period 1 9:00 Start	English Lit 1 hour	Maths 1 Non Calculator 1h 30m	RE 1 1h 30m	Geography 1 Physical 1h 30m	Maths 2 Calculator 1h 30m
Break	Break				
Period 2 and 3 10:50 Start	History 1 1h 30m	Computer Science 1h 30m	Comb Science - Biology 1h 10m	English Language 1h 45m	Comb Science - Chemistry 1h 10m
		Catering & Hosp 1h 20m	SScience Biology Y10 1h 45m		SScience Chemistry 1h 45m
		Punjabi Writing F 1h 10m H 1h 15m			
Lunch	Lunch				
4 13:50 Start	French Reading F 45 mins H 1 hour	Sport 1h 15m	History 2 55m	Bus Enterprise 1h 15m	Spanish Listening F 40 mins H 50 mins
	Italian Reading F 45 mins H 1 hour	GCSE PE 1 1 Hour		Extended Maths 1h 15m	Italian Listening F 40 mins H 50 mins
	Spanish Reading F 45 mins H 1 hour				



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Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations

Monday 23 February 2026 to Monday 9 March 2026

Period	Monday 02 March	Tuesday 03 March	Wednesday 04 March	Thursday 05 March	Friday 06 March	Monday 09 March
Form and Period 1 9:00 Start	RE 2 1h 30m	Maths 3 Calculator 1h 30m	French Writing F 1h 10m H 1h 15m	Drama/Music	ART	PE Practical
			Italian Writing F 1h 10m H 1h 15m			
			Spanish Writing F 1h 10m H 1h 15m			
Break	Break					
Period 2 and 3 10:50 Start	Comb Science Physics 1h 10m	IT 1h 30m	Geography 2 Human 1h 30m			
	Science Physics 1h 45m	Engineering 1h 15m	GCSE Statistics Y10 1h 30m			
Lunch	Lunch					
4 13:50 Start	GCSE PE 2 1 Hour	French Listening F 40 mins H 50 mins	Polish Writing F 1h 10m H 1h 15m			
	Health and Social Care 1h 15m					



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Stars of the Month

English

Nigel Mthinsi 11JON - Consistently completing Exam Homework to a high standard.

Ahmed Ahmedzai 11BRT - Working to a high standard every lesson.

Mateusz Teterycz 11KIY - Frequently seeking feedback to improve.

Maria Tibuleac 11JON - Kindness and helpful attitude every day.

Janna Bargil 10RAH - Effort and kindness every lesson.

Rachel Buamaa Owusu 10ESM - Resilience and effort each lesson.

By Miss Jones

Patryk Kardel 7ARD - Patryk has achieved excellent assessment results and consistently demonstrates an outstanding attitude towards English. He is a positive role model within the classroom.

Seth Holder 9AHM - Seth has produced excellent assessment results and consistently completes his Bedrock homework to a very high standard. He demonstrates a positive attitude to learning and is an enthusiastic and confident reader.

Alexandru Sultana 10ILY - Alexandru has made excellent progress in English and consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, high levels of engagement, and an excellent attitude in every lesson. He is a clear role model for his peers.

Darling Dikoko 11MUH - Darling achieved excellent results in the previous mock examinations and consistently demonstrates strong engagement and an excellent attitude to learning.

By Mrs Wieremiewicz

Jacob Boahene 11JON - For always giving his best effort and participation in English lessons.

Natnael Desta 10ESM - For his excellent enthusiasm in all English lessons and Julia Kaza for presenting her work to a consistent high standard in every lesson.

Synai Smith 7ANT - For making a brilliant start and an excellent first impression in his English lessons.

By Miss Flinn

Music

Alex Adesola 7 BAI - For hard work and progress in music.

Gurjot Singh 8BRK - For focus and attainment in music.

Cherubim Tabien 9BRS - For continued effort in music.

Ernesto Breton Johnson 10CAL - For his progress in using music technology.

Africa Beauty Garcia George 11JON - For her consistent effort in music.

By Miss Antonucci



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Stars of the Month

Science

Year 7

Alice Brevitt Nicholas Briceag Mohammed Zain Briana Drapac Temitope Ilori Harleen Kaur
Alex Krupsa Joshua Lewis-Nyendwa Jan Ondo Arsalan Rezaei Nadia Winczura.

For consistently demonstrating excellent effort and impressive progress across all areas of Science.

Year 8

Andria Ashly Marwa Safeer Awan Saghir Amrit Bhopal Georgiana Cantaragiu Masuma Fatema
Rayyan Hussain Amarachi Isife Happiness Matondo Zion Matondo Akram Morisho Sara Musat
Roberto Nguyen Rosa Opoku Deeya Powar Angelica Sibanda Mankirat Singh Bwar Twana

For consistently demonstrating scientific eloquence and a strong, well-reasoned understanding of key concepts in Science.

Year 9

Umar Islam Amritpreet Malhi Zuzanna Gruszczynska Abtin Hamidi Zuzanna Gruszczynska

For striving to perform at their best in all areas of Science, showing strong independence in practical and written tasks, and exhibiting exemplary behaviour and a consistently positive attitude towards learning.

Year 10

Nagina Amdad Harjot Singh Isaac Masamuna

For continually putting in their best effort, showing strong independence, and maintaining excellent behaviour and a positive attitude in every lesson.

By Mrs Habibullah

Monica Agyemang 7BAI - For always being proactive with participation in science lessons.

Omar Ahmed 7ANT - For always being proactive with participation in science lessons.

Kara Williams 8HAS - For an excellent standard of work in lessons and for great effort with homework booklets.

Chloe Magala 8BRK - For sharing valuable insight into healthy eating.

Nadia Adams 9JAS - For excellent effort in lessons.

Christian Adjei 9AHM - For an excellent attitude to learning since the WSA.

Makda Abraha 10CAL - For being proactive to learning and to examination homework.

Valentina Opoku 11GUE - For always being kind and polite and for excellent effort in everything she does.

Khushdeep Nagra 11GUE - For great effort and focus in all lessons.

Aqsa Nawaz 11GUE - For starting the term with a really positive attitude.

By Mrs Ilyas



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Stars of the Month

PE

David Kadzik 9BRS - An excellent role model who displays exemplary behaviour and leadership. He consistently puts in high levels of effort and is always aiming to improve and be the best version of himself.

Ethan Mthinsi 10ESM - A model pupil who consistently demonstrates excellent behaviour and strong leadership within the group. He shows outstanding effort at all times and is always striving to achieve his best.

Marlon Richards 10ESM - Did really well in Assessment 2 paper!

By Mr Ahmed

Monica Agyemang 7BAI - Great effort in the indoor athletics event and superb effort in our topic this block.

Kacper Skomski 10CAL - Model pupil in terms of behaviour and leadership of the group. Excellent effort as always and always striving to be the best he can.

Ranveer Gill 11JON - Top of the class in the recent topic test and has also contributed to class discussions well.

By Mr Arshad

Sandra Lutrzykowska 11JON - Putting in effort and enjoying PE lessons.

Mobina Alipour 9AHM - Trying hard and engaging well in lessons.

By Miss Reynolds

Aftanna Bargil 8BRK - Quietly gets on with all tasks trying her absolute best.

Sarah Omenma 9HAB - Quietly gets on with all tasks trying her absolute best.

Antoni Kozlowski 10ILY - Increasing confidence to contribute more in class discussions.

Chinomso Isife 9AHM - Excellent work ethic in lesson.

By Mrs Padmore

Adria Ashly 8PHA - Fantastic effort in badminton this activity block! Really listened to advice on how to improve and acted upon it. Seen a big growth in her confidence.

Arjan Badhan 11MUH - For always giving 100% in lessons. Stiving to improve in both theory exam and coursework. Currently scoring the highest in the group and still wanting to make improvements to score higher! Fantastic attitude towards his studies!

By Mrs Ratcliffe

Health & Social Care

Chisom Nwaichi 11MUH - Health and Social- working hard to implement corrections on coursework.

Lilly-may Harrison 10RAH - Wanting to improve coursework and working hard to catch up.

Georgia Goring 9PAD - Listening to feedback given at parents evening and implementing it in lessons.

By Miss Reynolds



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Stars of the Month

RE

Arjun Singh 11KIY - For demonstrating a mature attitude towards his learning and making sure he catches up with any missed work in our lessons.

Armanpreet Singh 10BRO - For preparing thoroughly for his assessment and making a genuine effort to answer each question to the best of his ability.

Zuzanna Gruszczynska 9HAB - For making sure all of her work is presented neatly and for always being attentive in our RE lessons.

Meera Badhan 8RES - For being a pleasure in the classroom and always trying to understand the different topics we are focusing on in RE.

By Mrs Begum

Brian Usman 8YS - For being more ambitious in his learning and taking an active part in class discussion.

Vincent Nguyen 7XS - For completing additional development homework, furthering his retrieval practice and forming good routines in school and at home.

Vanessa Adjei 7YJ - for taking detailed notes, excellent work completed in her book, and for her impressive revision that has culminated in a brilliant assessment result.

By Mrs Ellis

Divya Dhariwal 8MAV & Zara Sheikh 8MAV

James Doyle, Janna Bargil, Rachel Owusu, Tia Mattis - 10Y2

Alex Sultana, Wendy Thompson, Favour Basil and Shayaan Miah - 10X2

By Ms Hanson

History

Rupinder Ram Rani 9HAB - Continued excellent work and effort and in History.

Cherubim Tabien 9BRS - Continued excellent work and effort and in History.

Taniqua Carter 8BRK - Being conscientious in effort and work in History.

By Miss Lally

Owes Imadonmwinyi 11JON - Great effort with examination homework.

Rana Hassan 10RAH - Excellent effort with examination homework.

Nathanael Byfield 10ESM - Learned and wise in preparation for assessment week.

By Miss Guest

Temi Ilori 7WIO - Excellent understanding and explanation about William the Conqueror.

Tobias Kroszen 9HAB - Excellent source work in History.

Ri'kiyah McCann 9BRS - Excellent work on exam questions.

By Ms Thomas



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Stars of the Month

Arjan Badhan 11MUH - For taking pride in your work and always striving to try your hardest.

Makda Abraha 10CAL - For submitting a wonderfully detailed and eloquent set of answers to your Geography assessment homework.

Alan Adamkowski 10CAL - Superb levels of concentration, organisation and understanding in class work and homework.

By Mr Brayshaw

Deeya Powar 8HAS - Excellent participation in class and extended sentences, up to GCSE level.

Akram Morisho 8HAS - excellent participation in class and extended sentences, up to GCSE level.

Tyler Jackson-Smith 8RES - excellent participation in class and extended sentences, up to GCSE level.

Chevonne Oluwadamilola Jolayemi 8BRK - Excellent participation in class and extended sentences, up to GCSE level.

By Mrs Bigongiari

Rose Kielczwska 8HAS - Excellent effort and enthusiasm shown in Spanish lesson.

Tanzeela Miah 8PHA - Excellent effort and enthusiasm shown in Spanish lesson.

Adam Sharafpiani 7THO - Excellent effort and enthusiasm shown in Spanish lesson.

Brian Usman 8BRK - Excellent effort and enthusiasm shown in Spanish lesson.

By Miss Kaur

Nadia Winczura 7WIO - For offering thoughtful insights and providing detailed, well-developed answers about the Middle Ages.

Tankirat Syan 7ANT - For consistently putting forth her best effort in everything she undertakes in our History lessons.

By Mrs Begum

Mohamed Elsdiig 8RES - Excellent contribution in all his lessons. Completing work to an exceptional standard.

Mohammed Al-Shammari 7ARD - For having an amazing attitude towards his learning and fantastic effort in all his lessons, particularly in English.

STAC

Maths

Samadhi Fernando 8MAV - Great attitude and work ethic.

Zuzanna Gruszczynska 9HAB - Perfect work and team player.

By Mr Hussain

Monica Agyemang 7BAI - Excellent classwork and verbal contributions.

Amrita Uppal 8HAS - Great focus and independent work.

Alin-Andrei Constantinescu 9AHM - Focused work and verbal contributions.

Nagina Amdad 10BRO - Curious and active and perfect sparc record.

By Miss Pham



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Stars of the Month

Madihah Miah 7THO - Brilliant contribution to lessons.

Azaan Arshad 8BRK - Excellent behaviour in every lesson.

Myles Curtis 9JAS - Settled in very well with exemplary behaviour and contribution to lesson.

Ameera Arogundade 10BRO - Excellent effort every lesson.

Emmanuel Umogbai 11KIY - Excellent behaviour in every lesson.

By Mr Jasat

Yakob Binyam 11JON - Excellent spark record.

Elaine Mensah 10CAL - Excellent test result.

Jayda Corbett-Brooks 8PHA - Excellent lesson participation.

By Miss Allen

Tia Mattis 10ESM - Excellent improvement in assessment score.

Hussein Muhumed 9JAS - Excellent verbal contributions in lesson.

Luka Leleviciute 8MAV - Excellent focus and effort in lessons.

Nazakat Hussain 7ANT - Excellent resilience on challenging problems.

By Mr Greedy



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Outreach Visit

A group of our Year 8 pupils visited the University of Birmingham to take part in a fantastic programme delivered in partnership with both the University of Birmingham and the University of Oxford.

We are grateful to our external partners and to the staff members who supported the visit. Most importantly, we are incredibly proud of our pupils, who represented the school with enthusiasm and aspiration throughout the day.

One of the pupils who attended has written a reflection on the experience, which you can read below.

By Mr Hussain

HAPS Ambassador

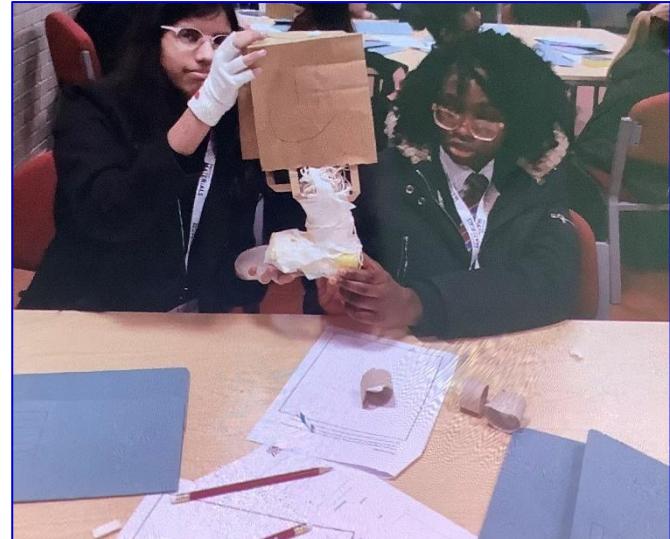
"On Tuesday, I went on a trip to the University of Birmingham for the Making Materials Matter programme. I really enjoyed the day, especially meeting pupils from different schools.

One of our challenges was to protect an egg from breaking when dropped from the top of a staircase. We were judged on how good it looked, how well it protected the egg, and how sustainable our design was.

We also learnt about the materials needed to build jet engines, which links directly to our research project. Later, we made batteries using lemons and even created a giant lemon battery that lit up an LED bulb.

I was the spokesperson for my group and presented what our research project is about, which was a great experience."

By Liyah Rani 8RES



Basketball Match

KEGS 61 - 37 SJW

The boys played some truly amazing basketball. When we arrived, they were clearly intimidated — the other team showed up in full kit and were all much taller.

Despite that, once the game started, our boys stepped up. We even went into halftime with a two-point lead.

Nathaniel Byfield led the scoring with 18 points. Ananiya Ayele and Mernell Reid were outstanding on defence and fully deserved recognition as our defensive players of the game. Ethan Mthinsi was MVP for his incredible all-round performance, contributing brilliantly on both offense and defence.

By Mr Adedeji



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Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8HH



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School Games

January 2026 Newsletter



KS2 Indoor Athletics Competition

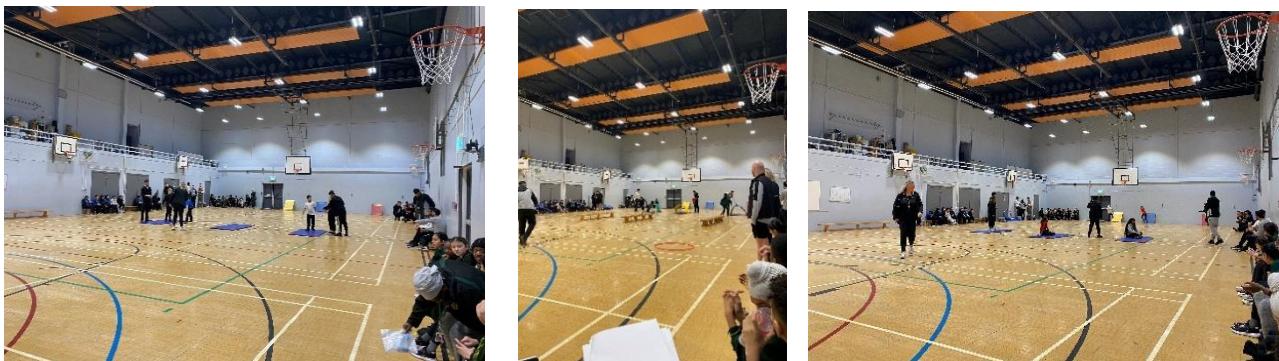
Yr5+6 Indoor Athletics competition was held at Holyhead school Friday 16th January 2026. This was a competitive event and students who won made it through to the level 3 School Games competition to compete against other schools in Birmingham. Students showed some amazing talent! Competing in different throw, jumping and track events – both short and long distance.

A massive thank you to Holyhead for hosting and providing fantastic leaders!

Teams attended:

1. Cherry Orchard Primary
2. Nelson Junior School
3. Oasis Boulton
4. Oasis Foundry
5. St James CoE Primary
6. St Patricks/St Edmunds

Teams qualified for Level 3 – Cherry Orchard & Oasis Foundry 😊



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Indoor Athletics Competition



On Tuesday 20 January, 12 year 7 pupils represented SJW and the Sports hall Athletics Competition. During the event they took part in a variety of running and field events including, sprinting, relay, shot put, speed bounce and obstacle races. The pupils showed incredible behaviour throughout the day. Every pupil demonstrated huge levels of support to their team cheering each other on and congratulating them at the end of the race. They gave it their all and showed some amazing talent. A huge well done to the following pupils for having the motivation and courage to represent the school in an unfamiliar and new environment.

Events Included:

Indoor Shot Put	Indoor Javelin	Triple Jump	Standing long jump
Vertical jump 4 lap	Speed Bounce 2 lap	8 Lap Relay	6 Lap

A massive well done to the other schools within the partnership who qualified for the Level 3 Secondary Event

Year 7 Boys
1st - King Edward Aston (Q)
2nd - Heartlands
3rd - Yardleys (Q)
4th - Holte
5th - Hamstead Hall (Q)
6th - Washwood Heath (Q)
7th - St John Wall
8th - Holy Trinity
9th - Broadway
10th - Kings Heath
11th - Hall Green

Year 8 Boys
1st - Hamstead Hall (Q)
2nd - Holte (Q)
3rd - King Edward Aston
4th - Heartlands
5th - Broadway
6th - Washwood Heath (Q)
7th - Aston Manor
8th - Kings Heath (Q)
9th - Holy Trinity
10th - Yardleys
11th - Hall Green

Year 7 Girls
1st - Holte (Q)
2nd - King Edward
Handsworth Girls
3rd - Hamstead Hall (Q)
4th - Broadway
5th - Aston Manor
6th - King Edward
Handsworth Wood Girls
7th - Heartlands
8th - St John Wall
9th - Yardleys (Q)
10th - Hall Green

Year 8 Girls
1st - King Edward
Handsworth Girls (Q)
2nd - Holte
3rd - King Edward
Handsworth Wood Girls (Q)
4th - Broadway
5th - Heartlands
6th - Kings Heath (Q)
7th - Yardleys (Q)
11th - Kings Heath (Q)

A big thanks once again for attending!



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Billesley SEND Event

I had the pleasure of supporting a KS2 SEND event at Billsey, inviting primaries from the St John Partnership, King Edwards Partnership and Hall Green Partnership.

Events were differentiated to suit the abilities and different needs of the students.

Students gave 100% effort in all events, and really pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone.

There was no overall winner, however feedback from the day was that students had an amazing time, and staff accompanying them requested more specific SEND events to help encourage inclusivity.

KS2 Badminton Festival

It was wonderful to see the children playing together, developing their skills, and showing such enthusiasm throughout the event.

A huge thank you also to our leaders for their fantastic support. They made every child feel welcome and confident when playing against or alongside them. They were an absolute credit to the school!

All students demonstrated clear **School Games Values**, including:

- **Passion**
- **Self-Belief**
- **Respect**
- **Honesty**
- **Determination**
- **Teamwork**

Thank you so much King Edwards Handsworth Wood Girls School for hosting and supporting the KS2 students.



Thank you Oasis Foundry & St Clares for attending!



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Up and coming events – Spring T1/T2 2026

Primary

- 10.02.2026 Sport Birmingham Event – Selected Schools
- 02.03.2026 KS2 Cross Country
- 03.03.2026 Yonex Badminton Event
- 10.03.2026 KS2 Gymnastics Festival at St John Wall
- 16.03.2026 KS2 Handball Festival at Hamstead Hall *** New
- 17.03.2026 Astons Got Talent at St John Wall
- 23.03.2026 KS2 LTA Tennis Leaders **New
- 24.03.2026 Qulaified L3 Indoor Athletics Competition
- 25.03.2026 KS2 LTA Tennis Leaders ** New

Secondary

- 04.02.2026 Girls Go Lead Event at Alexander Stadium
- 05.02.2026 King Edwards Handsworth Grammer school for Boys – KS3/4 Table Tennis
- 12.02.2026 King Edwards Handsworth Grammer for Boys – Boys KS3/ Badminton
- 03.03.2026 Girls Biggest Football Event – Trinity Rd
- 12.03.2026 Yr7/8 Girls Netball Tournament at St Pauls
- 17.03.2026 Astons Got Talent at St John Wall
- 24.03.2026 Qulaified L3 Indoor Athletics Competition
- 26.03.2026 Yr9/10 Netball Tournament at St Pauls





NEA Success: Plagiarism, AI & Referencing Guide

"Plagiarism is the failure to acknowledge sources properly and/or the submission of another person's work as if it were the candidate's own." - (JCQ)

🚫 Examples of Plagiarism

- Submitting work that isn't your own.
- Changing a few words and claiming it's original.
- Letting others access your coursework (SharePoint, email).
- Helping another pupil produce their work.
- Using books, websites, or AI without referencing them.
- Using AI tools to generate work without declaring them.



🔍 Plagiarism Detection & Punishment

- Teachers monitor your progress and check if you understand your work.
- Work is compared to earlier work for changes in tone, vocab, grammar, etc.
- AI signs such as mixed UK/US spelling, overly formal or vague writing.
- Unusual fonts or formatting that changes may raise flags.
- Work is scanned using tools like 'Turnitin'.
- Everyone must sign a no-plagiarism declaration NEA form.
- Consequences include: 0 marks for the work and disqualification from the NEA or subject. In serious cases, disqualification from all subjects and being barred from re-entering exams for a period.

〃 Referencing work

- Referencing means giving credit to the original source of any material you did not create yourself.
- Use quotation marks “ ” for anything copied, you then will need to explain it and show understanding to earn marks.

Books: (Author, Year, Page)
(JK Rowling, 1997, p.63)

Websites: (Date, URL)
(5/2/2025, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubeus_Hagrid)

AI Tools:

- Name of the AI tool and website URL.
- Date used.
- Screenshot of the prompt.
- Brief explanation of how it was used.

💡 Using AI in Coursework

- Pupils must not use AI to generate work that isn't solely their own ideas.
- If AI is used, it must be referenced.
- Using AI without acknowledgement is classed as plagiarism.
- Pupils are expected to sign a declaration confirming this.



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Receptionist and Office Assistant

St. Thomas & Edmund of Canterbury, Erdington Abbey
Part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Terms: Permanent/part-time-8 hours per week

Salary: £13.75 per hour

Location: parish office

About us:

We are a busy and diverse parish and community administration office, at Erdington Abbey, dealing with our Parish, School, Shop, Graveyard and funeral enquiries, and the public.

About the role:

Receptionist and Office Assistant in a busy parish office, with varied responsibilities.

Responsibilities:

We require someone to look after our office reception, dealing with the public on a variety of issues, including things concerning the church, masses, finance and enquiries connected to our graveyard and contacting funeral directors. The Hall and parish centre is used constantly by groups; there are enquiries about hall use.

There will be office clerical work to be attended to as well, keeping Registers up to date, other issues with Baptisms and funerals. Assistance will be needed to complete the weekly newsletter for the Church.

Training will be given on all the above.

Working for a parish within the Archdiocese, you will meet many people from different walks of life. We welcome applications from all faith/non-faith backgrounds creating a culture of respect, openness, and a commitment to embracing the diocesan vision and building positive relationships regardless of your faith/non-faith background.

Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the Parish Priest at Erdington Abbey fr.kieran.brady@rcaob.org.uk by 5th February 2026.

Shortlisting: 5th/6th February 2026

Interviews: 2nd week in February 2026



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Parent/Carer Workshops

Join our free Parent/Carer Workshops for practical tips, simple strategies and up-to-date guidance to help your child thrive.

These friendly, expert-led sessions cover key topics such as online safety and emotional regulation, giving you the tools to feel informed, confident and supported.



Online Safety

Learn about digital safety for kids including impact of screen time, apps, gaming, AI risks, cyberbullying and gain practical tips to create a safer digital environment at home

Date: Wednesday 25th February 2026
Time: 9:30-11:30am

Emotional Regulation

This workshop covers emotional regulation in children, causes and signs of dysregulation, the nervous system's role, and practical strategies to support healthy skills.

Date: Wednesday 4th March 2026
Time: 9:30-11:30am

Managing Worries/Anxiety

This workshop covers understanding anxiety in children, its causes and signs, and offers practical tips and strategies to help manage worries effectively.

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2026
Time: 9:30-11:30am

Register for the workshops here:

Scan me



Stay Connected!



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Are you an RE teacher with questions about Judaism?

A chance to ask anything you like...

Open to primary and secondary teachers who teach Judaism

Why don't all...

What's the difference between...

I don't understand which...



Tues 20th Jan 2026, 3.45-4.45pm

Any question answered



by Anna Silver,
Education Officer

Monthly informal drop in session

(for monthly dates and zoom links email
anna.silver@bod.org.uk)

For Zoom link see attached text



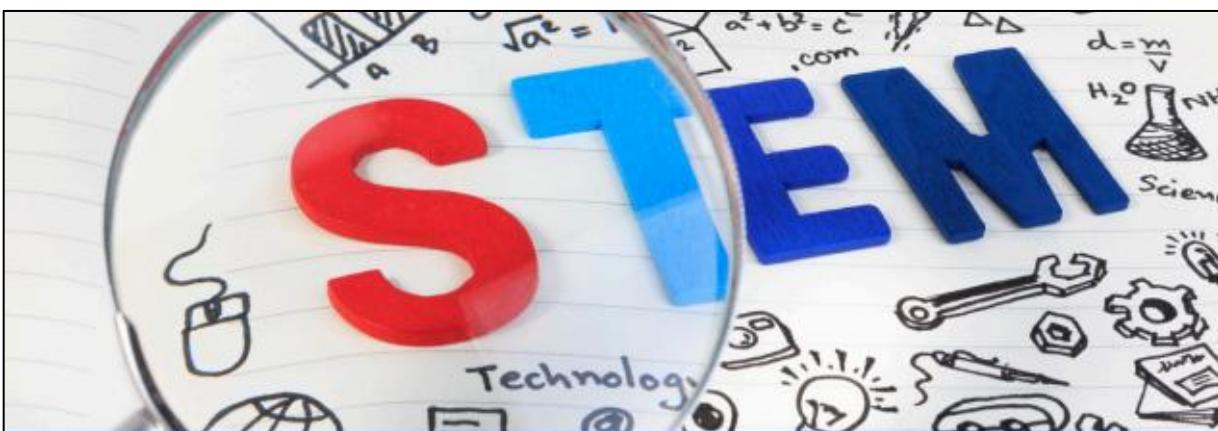
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THE FUTURE SKILLS PROGRAMME: CAREERS IN STEM

For Yr 9 &
Yr 10/S3
and S4



Explore STEM careers in four key pathways during February half term!



What is involved?

- A comprehensive experience **delivered virtually in February**.
- **Live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals** in Net Zero futures, Digital AI futures, Health and Life Sciences, Engineering & Infrastructure and Manufacturing futures.
- **CV, applications and interview support.**
- Interactive panel **Q&A sessions with universities & apprentices.**
- Learn how to succeed in the workplace, including **how to ask questions, network and write professional emails.**
- Achieve the **Bronze Industrial Cadet Award.**

Dates

- 20 hours of study to complete flexibly over 5 days in February.
- Monday 16th – Friday 21st February.

Cost/Funding

- £50 (bursaries available, click [here](#) for bursary criteria and availability).

How to register or find out more

To register, please visit our website [here](#) or scan the QR code!



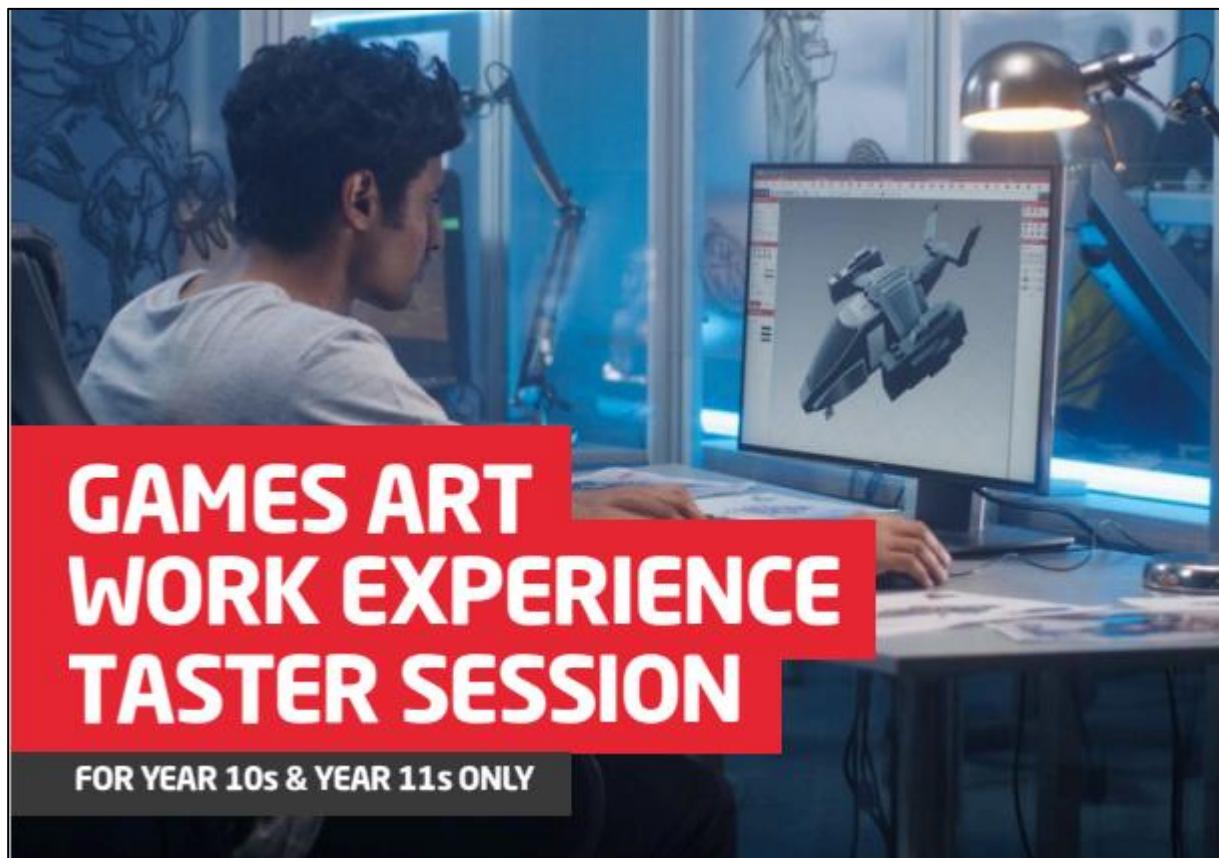
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GAMES ART WORK EXPERIENCE TASTER SESSION

FOR YEAR 10s & YEAR 11s ONLY

**MONDAY 17
FEBRUARY 2026**

10AM - 11.30AM

**WALSALL COLLEGE
WISEMORE CAMPUS**

- Explore the basics of digital painting & concept art
- Learn how professional artists bring characters & environments to life
- Experiment with industry-standard software & tools
- Creatively build on your work experience hours

INTERESTED?

Scan to reserve your place - only 16 spots available!



Bringing talent to life...

 Walsall College



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