

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 3

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 19 September 2025



Catholic Life Annual Theme:
Termly Catholic Social Teaching:
Termly SJW Values:

Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers
Dignity
Loving and Compassionate

This week in Celebration of the Word...

"We focused on excellence. We reflected on a piece of scripture which inspired us to be excellent in all we do. We were introduced to some people who have done excellent things. For example, Malala Yousafzai, who took a bullet to the head whilst fighting and protesting for all girls to have an education. One way to show excellence is by making sure we are kind to everyone no matter what."

By Simranpreet Kaur 8RES

This week in Afternoon Prayer...

*"We prayed for National Day of Respect. This is important as it ensures that everyone is kind and respectful to their neighbour. It is also important to show **hope** and **dignity** to all. We can show respect by opening the doors and helping those in need. We also prayed for Creation. We all need to **Care for Creation**, respect all creatures and keep the earth clean. We can do this by litter picking and by using cars less."*

By Princela Manu 10RAH



SJW Values

Important Dates to Note

- **Open Evening – Pupils will be dismissed at 1.30pm to allow staff to prepare for open evening**
Tuesday 23 September 2025 - 4.30pm – 6.00pm
- **Open Morning**
Wednesday 24 September 2025 - 9.30am – 12.00pm
- **Open Morning**
Thursday 25 September 2025 - 9.30am – 12.00pm
- **Year 10 Assessment Week**
Monday 29 September 2025 – Friday 3 October 2025

Open Evening & Mornings

Next week, we are proud to host our annual Open Evening and Open Days.

Open Evening will offer a valuable insight into our school, giving parents and children the opportunity to explore our learning environment, engage in a variety of departmental activities, and speak directly with members of staff.

During our Open Mornings, you will have the opportunity to experience a typical school day in action.

Visitors will be able to see our facilities through guided tours, and gain a genuine feel for the daily life and learning at our school.

You can register to attend by scanning the QR code on the flyer at the end of this newsletter.



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Visit to St Mary's Coffee Club

Pupils have made a great start to the new term at St Mary's, bravely taking part in a Tai Chi session. They enjoyed serving some well-earned tea and coffee during the break. Next week is Macmillan Coffee Morning so pupils will be busy helping out with stalls.

By Mrs Clayton



Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass

On Thursday, I accompanied six of our Year 8 pupils to the Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass at St Chad's Sanctuary in Birmingham City Centre. Last academic year, these pupils volunteered to become part of our school's Chaplaincy Team, and this Mass was an official welcome into their role. This was a really special Mass as many other Chaplaincy Teams from primary and secondary schools from across the Archdiocese of Birmingham also joined.

Thank you to Meera Badhan 8RES, Amrit Bhopal 8RES, Liyah Nadeem Rani 8RES, Kirandeep Taal 8BRK, Favour Ifeosame 8PHA and Chevonne Oluwadamilola Jolayemi 8BRK for representing the school so well during the Mass.

A special well done and thank you to Liyah who read the first reading in front of the whole Cathedral! At the end of the Mass, we were able to meet Bishop Timothy Menezes who celebrated Mass for us. Well done to our Chaplaincy Team for their first event of the year!

By Mr Lysaght





Year 10 Assessment Week Timetable

Period	Monday 29 September	Tuesday 30 September	Wednesday 1 October	Thursday 2 October	Friday 3 October
1 9:15 Start	English Lit	Maths	IT	RE	Music/Drama P1 & P2
	45 Minutes	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	
		Non Calculator			
Break	Break				
2 and 3 10:50 Start	Science Combined Biology	History	Hosp & Catering	Health and SC	
	1h 10m	1h 20m	1 hour	1h 15m	
	Calculators		Spanish Reading F=45m H=1 hour	Engineering Design 1h 15m	
Lunch	Lunch				
4 13:50 Start	GCSE Business	Computer Science	Science Combined Chemistry	Geography	
	1 hour	1 hour	1h 10m	1h 10m	
		GCSE Drama 1 hour	Calculators		



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OPEN

Mornings & Evening



Take part in activities



Scan the QR Code to register or visit
www.sjw.bham.sch.uk

SAINT JOHN WALL CATHOLIC SCHOOL A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR ALL

Open Evening

Tuesday 23 September 2025

Come and see our school in action

4.30pm - 6.00pm

Opportunity to talk to pupils

Open Mornings

Wednesday 24 September 2025

&

Thursday 25 September 2025

9.30am - 12.00pm

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GOOD ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Every school day counts



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Why is regular school attendance and good punctuality so important for my child?

Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education and improve their chances in adult life. School can also help your child's social skills such as making and developing friendships.

The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a child is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Good punctuality is important. For example, if a child arrives 15 minutes late at school each day, they lose almost 2 weeks of education over the year. Good punctuality also helps your child get into good habits for when they enter the world of work.

Lateness can cause your child embarrassment and, in some circumstances, can count as unauthorised absence.



How can I help my child enjoy school and attend regularly?

Be organised, have a plan, be consistent and involve your child!

You should:

- ensure they have an appropriate bedtime routine
- create good routines for mornings at home so that your child can arrive punctually and are properly equipped;
- avoid absence from school wherever possible – try to make doctors and dental appointments out of school hours
- make time to encourage and show interest in school work, friendships etc.
- attend school open evenings and functions
- Create a calm space for them to do homework, check they understand the homework and that it has been completed.
- share any education concerns your child or you may have with the school staff as soon as possible
- set realistic boundaries

Holidays/Leave in term time

Holidays in term time are not allowed. Parents/carers must apply for the authorisation of any leave prior to travel or their children could be reported to the council as missing in education.

Leave for other circumstances such as bereavement or family illness abroad may also not be authorised. Informing the school does not mean the leave is agreed. In the event of a genuine family emergency, parents should avoid requesting more than 5 school days absence. Leave due to weddings is unlikely to be authorised.

Two weeks unauthorised holiday/leave means at least 50 lessons missed that will never be repeated.



What does the law say I must do as a parent/carer?

Once your child is registered at a school, you are legally responsible for making sure they attend regularly. This means your child should not have any unauthorised absence as this would constitute an offence in law.

When attendance doesn't improve after support or, when a minimum of 5 days unauthorised holiday/leave is taken, legal action can be taken.

Courts can fine parents/carers up to £1,000 per child and for repeat offences the court can fine parents/carers up to £2,500 per child or impose a prison sentence of up to 3 months.

In many cases, but not all, parents/carers can discharge an offence by paying a penalty notice of £160 for each parent per child, discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days. For a family of two parents/carers with 3 children that would be at least £480.

Where can I get help and advice?

If you need support in relation to your child's attendance, help is available. Please make an appointment with the school to discuss your concerns.

Most difficulties can be resolved informally, but the staff can also arrange an early help assessment or make a request for support to Birmingham Children's Trust if necessary, with your consent.

School nurses can also be helpful if your child has a medical condition or has a lot of time off due to illness.

Parents/carers are strongly advised to work in partnership with the school to address any difficulties impacting school attendance. For more information about school attendance or if you need help or support, please use these links:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/saap

www.birmingham.gov.uk/love



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