

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 1

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 11 September 2026



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

Kind Hearts
Peace
Loving and Compassionate

A Prayer for the New School Year

Loving God,
we thank you for the summer that has passed -
for times of rest and enjoyment,
for family and friends,
and for the memories we have made.

As we begin a new school year,
we give thanks for our whole school community:
for our pupils, our staff, our families,
and all those who help our school to grow and flourish.

Help us all to begin this year with **kind hearts**.
May we be **loving and compassionate** towards one another,
ready to listen, to understand, to encourage and to help.

Help us to choose **peace** in our words and actions,
to treat every person with **dignity** and respect,
and to make our school a place where everyone feels
welcomed, valued and included.

May our school community grow stronger together,
and may each of us play our part in creating a community
where kindness, **compassion** and **peace** can flourish.

Guide us throughout the year
and help us to be a source of hope and kindness to one
another.

Amen

Dates to Note

- **Open Evening**
Tuesday 29 September 2026 – 4.30pm to 6.00pm
(Register by visiting our website)
- **Open Morning**
Wednesday 30 September 2026 – 9.30am to 12.00pm
- **Open Morning**
Thursday 1 October 2026 - 9.30am to 12.00pm

Welcome Back

I hope that you and your families have had an enjoyable and restful six-week break and that you are looking forward to the new academic year.

I am delighted to share the record-breaking results achieved by our **Leavers 2026** in their summer examinations –

Attainment 8 Score	5.02
9 – 4	63.9%
9 – 5	51.3%

Miss Lally will discuss the significance of these amazing results in coming weeks!!



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These outstanding results are a testament to the hard work, commitment and determination of our pupils, alongside the dedication of our staff and the continued support of parents and carers. I am incredibly proud of what our pupils have achieved.

I have also been really impressed with how well our new **Year 7 pupils** have settled into life at Saint John Wall Catholic School. They have embraced the challenges and opportunities that come with moving to secondary school and have made a very positive start to their journey with us. Thank you to parents and carers for the support you have provided, to our form tutors for the care they have shown, and to Miss Reynolds for her leadership and support of the year group.

I had the pleasure of delivering our first **Celebration of the Word** to pupils, where I introduced our mission for the year:

“Walking together with Christ to love, learn and serve.”

During the autumn term, we will focus particularly on **having kind hearts**, linking this to our SJW values of **compassion and love for others**, alongside the Catholic Social Teaching principle of **peace**.

Having a kind heart is much more than simply being nice. It is about recognising the dignity and worth of every person and choosing to act with compassion, even when it may not be easy. It is about noticing when someone needs our help, making sure that others feel valued and included, and being willing to put the needs of others before our own. As a Catholic community, we are called not simply to talk about kindness, but to live it through the way we treat one another each day.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for your ongoing support when collecting pupils at the end of the school day. Please continue to help us show consideration for our local residents by parking responsibly. **Please do not obstruct residents' driveways or park on yellow lines**, particularly where this can obstruct pupils' visibility when crossing the road. Keeping our community safe is a shared responsibility, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

By Mr Holder

We've had a fantastic first full week across all year groups. A particular well done to our new Year 7 pupils, who have made an excellent start and shown a mature attitude towards our high standards and expectations.

This week alone, pupils have received **over 14,000 positives** – a brilliant reflection of the strong start to the year. Special congratulations to **7HEW, 7HEA, 9HAS and 9BRK**, who achieved an impressive **99% ratio!**

A few important reminders

As we head into another week, we ask parents and pupils to focus on two simple but important areas:

Punctuality

The school day begins at **8.45am**, and pupils should be through the side gate by this time. Pupils who arrive late will receive a negative and be placed in our breaktime detention. If your child has received a punctuality negative this week, please take a few minutes to review their morning routine and journey to school so they are ready and on time next week.

Equipment

Equipment is checked at the start of each day and lesson. Pupils should bring two pens, a pencil, ruler, eraser, purple pen and highlighter, as well as a reading book for Years 7 and 8.

Our equipment shop is open every morning before school, with items available for 20p each.

Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils maintain such a positive start to the year.

Uniform

We expect all pupils to arrive at school in the correct uniform and in line with our uniform policy. This helps us maintain high standards and ensures the focus remains where it belongs – on learning. May I take this opportunity to remind you that we expect pupils to be in a black pair of school shoes. Trainer like shoes are not allowed. The following are **not** appropriate school shoes:



If you have any concerns regarding uniform, the school has a selection of pre-loved uniform available. Please contact your child's head of year if you need support. Similarly, if you have any pre-loved uniform to donate, please bring it to the school reception.

By Mr Price



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MCAS (My Child at School)

MCAS enables parents/carers to view important information such as their timetable, school dinner money, the payment of trips, your child's attendance, behaviour and much more. You will also receive important information like the Weekly Bulletin/Monthly Newsletter.

Please follow the guidance on our website to ensure you have made an account [Saint John Wall Catholic School - MCAS \(sjw.bham.sch.uk\)](http://sjw.bham.sch.uk). The guide is designed to give you a sense of how the website works, as well as some basic information about how to use the messaging service on the app. If you download either the Apple or the Android app, it is important that you **enable your notifications**.

Welcome to Members of Staff

As we begin a new academic year, we are delighted to welcome a number of new colleagues to Saint John Wall Catholic School.

Each brings a wealth of experience, talent and enthusiasm, and we are confident they will make a valuable contribution to the life of our school community. Their dedication to supporting young people in their learning, faith and personal development reflects the values that are at the heart of Saint John Wall.

We extend a warm Saint John Wall welcome to our new staff members and look forward to the many ways in which they will enrich our school. We know that parents, carers and pupils will join us in wishing them every success as they begin this exciting new chapter with us.

Miss McKenzie - Deputy Headteacher

"My name is Miss McKenzie and I am absolutely delighted to be the new Deputy Headteacher here at SJW and extremely proud to be part of such a special school community. It is very exciting to be working alongside such passionate and supportive colleagues, and I cannot wait to meet all of the pupils and their parents/carers.

I lead on a number of very significant areas including Curriculum and Teaching, Inclusion and most importantly will be stepping into the role of SENDCO. Supporting and inspiring pupils throughout their education means the world to me. I want to encourage and motivate all pupils to be the best that they can be, dream big, be highly ambitious and never give up no matter how difficult the journey might seem. I look forward to helping the school continue to grow and continue to achieve great things."

Mr Dawkins – Assistant Headteacher

"Hello everyone! My name is Mr Dawkins, and I am excited to join SJW as Assistant Headteacher. I am truly passionate about education and deeply committed to giving back to the community where I was raised. I look forward to contributing to the growth and success of our pupils while building strong connections with families. My hope is to support each child in reaching their full potential and to be a positive influence within this wonderful community. I can't wait to embark on this journey with you all!"

Miss Farooq – Trainee Teacher

"My name is Miss Farooq. I'm a trainee teacher in Health & Social Care. I'm very excited to start my teacher training journey in Saint John Wall Catholic School. My aim is to support and educate pupils to their full potential. In addition to embedding the school values within my teaching. I can't wait to meet you all."

Miss Chauhan – Pupil Coach

"My name is Miss Chauhan, and I am the Temporary Pupil Coach at Saint John Wall Catholic School. I am very pleased to be returning to SJW, having previously worked here as a Pupil Coach. I am looking forward to reconnecting with staff and pupils and continuing to support pupils in their learning and development. I hope to build positive relationships with the pupils, help them overcome challenges, and encourage them to feel confident and supported throughout their time at school."

Mr Chmura – Pupil Coach

"My name is Mr Chmura and I will be fulfilling the role of a pupil coach starting in September. As a former pupil I am looking forward to giving back to the school that helped me develop as a young adult. I hope to be a positive influence for pupils going into their GCSE's and to learn a lot about working with young adults for my future goals of entering the heritage industry."



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Welcome Mass

On Friday, pupils from Year 8 to Year 11 celebrated their return back to school with their Welcome Masses. We are very **grateful** to Fr George for coming to celebrate our Mass with us. Our Mass introduction, as well as Fr George's homily, focused on our theme for this term, '**Kind Hearts.**' Pupils reflected on the importance of having **Kind Hearts** and of being **loving and compassionate** to all those in our school community. Fr George was very impressed with the reverence of all our pupils.

Thank you to all pupils for their respect during this time. A big thank you to all those pupils in Year 8-11 who read - Sara Antony, Khaleel Cunningham, Seth Holder, Liyah Nadeem Rani and Ivone Antonemilianuspillai. Thank you also to Arielle Elise Njike Yomi for her help during the Mass and with the offertory.

Thank you especially to Mr Lloyd-Price, Mr Holder, Mr Rathbone, Miss McKenzie, Mr Holden, Miss Lally, Miss Antonucci and Mrs Ellis for their help during the Masses and to all staff for their support as well.

By Mr Lysaght



Examination Homework – Year 11

Our Year 11 theme for this academic year is **#Fortitude**, encouraging pupils to show courage, resilience and determination when facing challenges. Our chosen Year 11 song is Elton John's *I'm Still Standing*, performed by Taron Egerton. Its positive message reminds pupils that setbacks do not define them and that they can continue moving forward with confidence. Throughout this important year, we will encourage every pupil to demonstrate fortitude by working hard, overcoming difficulties and remaining focused on achieving their full potential.

Year 11 pupils will receive their examination homework booklets from today. These booklets are compulsory and have been designed to prepare pupils for their assessments, strengthen their knowledge and support their progress towards their GCSEs. Mock Examination 1 will take place from **2–11 November**. Pupils who repeatedly receive negative points for incomplete examination homework will be required to attend an after-school detention each Friday. We appreciate parents' and carers' support in ensuring that all homework is completed on time and to the expected standard. **#Fortitude**

By Miss Cummings



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Well-being and Mental Health

Looking after our mental health and wellbeing is just as important as looking after our physical health. To help support our pupils, we have added a fantastic new collection of books focused on wellbeing, mental health, resilience, friendships, confidence, and managing emotions. These books provide helpful advice, inspiring stories, and practical tips for dealing with the challenges that young people may face.

All of the books are available in the library and can be enjoyed by any pupil in a quiet and welcoming space. Whether you are looking for support, reassurance, or simply want to learn more about wellbeing, we encourage you to explore the collection and discover a book that interests you. Remember, reading can be a great way to relax, reflect, and take positive steps towards looking after yourself.

By Mr Mull





You are warmly invited to join our

OPEN EVENTS

— A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR ALL —



OPEN EVENTS DATES



TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2026
4.30pm - 6.00pm



WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2026
9.30am - 12.00pm



THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2026
9.30am - 12.00pm



**SAINT JOHN WALL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

— **+** —
A Catholic School for All



Come and see our
school in action



Opportunity to talk
to pupils and staff



A welcoming Catholic
community where
all flourish



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



**RECORD BREAKING
KS4 RESULTS**

= 2025/26 =



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Year 11...
Your Next Step Starts Here!

COLLEGE & SIXTH FORM OPEN DAYS

2026/2027

Explore • Visit • Plan Your Future



MEET THE TEAMS



EXPLORE COURSES



SEE THE FACILITIES



GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Your future matters!



Events need to be booked online in advance.



Please check the website or social media for any changes.

Plan ahead
- be informed
- be ready!

COLLEGES & SIXTH FORMS

Birmingham Metropolitan College

Campuses at Matthew Boulton, Sutton Coldfield, James Watt at Great Barr and Erdington Skills Centre. Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.

Sat 17 Oct 2026 | Further dates TBC
www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events/enrolment/october-open-events/

Cadbury College Sixth Form College (A Levels)
Thu 8 Oct 2026 (5-7pm) | Sat 10 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm)
Further dates TBC www.cadcol.ac.uk/opendays

Central Saint Michaels 6th Form College West Bromwich (A Levels)

Thu 8 Oct 2026 (5-7pm) | Sat 10 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm)
Further dates TBC <https://centralstmichaels.ac.uk/opendays/>

Dudley College

Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.
Sat 10 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm) | Sat 16 Jan 2027 (10am-2pm)
Wed 9 Jun 2027 (4pm-7pm) www.dudleycol.ac.uk

Dudley 6th (A Levels)

Sat 10 Oct 2026 | Sat 16 Jan 2027 | Wed 9 Jun 2027
www.dudleysixth.co.uk

Halesowen College

Sat 10 Oct 2026 | Wed 4 Nov 2026 | Sat 16 Jan 2027
Tue 27 Apr 2027 www.halesowen.ac.uk

Heart of Worcestershire College

(Bromsgrove, Redditch and Worcester)

Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.
Wed 18 Nov 2026 (5-8pm) | Sat 27 Feb 2027 (9.30am-12.30pm)
www.howcollege.ac.uk/about/open-events

Joseph Chamberlain 6th Form College (A Levels)

Sat 17 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm) www.jcc.ac.uk/open-events

King Edwards VI College Stourbridge

Thu 15 Oct 2026 (5-9pm) | Sat 17 Oct 2026 (10am-3pm)
www.kedst.ac.uk/applicants/visit-us/open-events/

Pershore College (and other WCG Campuses)

Sat 17 Oct 2026 | Sat 16 Jan 2027 | Wed 17 Mar 2027
Wed 23 Jun 2027 www.wcg.ac.uk/openevents

Sandwell College

Thu 8 Oct 2026 (5-7pm) | Sat 10 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm)
www.sandwell.ac.uk/opendays/

Solihull Sixth Form College

Open Day: Sat 17 Oct 2026 (9.30am-3.30pm)

Open Evenings: Wed 25 Nov 2026 (5-8pm),

Thu 21 Jan 2027 (5-8pm)

Spring Talks & Tours: Thu 4 Mar 2027 (5-7pm)

www.ssf.ac.uk

Solihull College

Blossomfield and Woodlands Campus
Sat 28 Nov 2026 (10am-2pm) | Tue 23 Mar 2027 (5-7.30pm)

Wed 24 Mar 2027 (5-7.30pm) www.solihull.ac.uk

South and City College Birmingham

Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.

14 Oct 2026 (4-7pm) | 26 Nov 2026 (4-7pm)

Further dates TBC www.sccb.ac.uk/about-us/open-days

South Staffordshire College

Rodbaston, Cannock, Tamworth, Lichfield and Torc.

Check campus for your course (e.g. Rodbaston for Animal Care).

Sat 7 Nov 2026 | Sat 30 Jan 2027 | Sat 17 Apr 2027 | Sat 19 Jun 2027

www.southstaffs.ac.uk/open-days/

University College Birmingham

College and Sixth Form Centre

Sat 17 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm) www.ucb.ac.uk/open-days/

Walsall College

Thu 8 Oct 2026 (4.40-7.30pm) | Sat 17 Oct 2026 (10am-2pm)

Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.

www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/events/

Wolverhampton College

Check which campus offers the course you're interested in.

Open Event: TBC www.wolvcoll.ac.uk/events/

SPECIALIST PERFORMING ARTS / MUSIC / MEDIA PROVISION

Access Creative College

Sat 17 Oct 2026 (11am-2pm) | Other events & taster sessions TBC
www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events

Birmingham Ormiston Academy (BOA)

Thu 15 Oct 2026 (5.30-8.30pm)

Deadline for receipt of applications for a place is

31st January 2026.

www.boa-academy.co.uk/admissions/open-events

UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Aston University Engineering Academy (AUEA)

Open Event: TBC www.auea.co.uk/apply/sixth-form-application

Thomas Telford UTC

Thu 8 Oct 2026 (4.30-6.30pm) www.thomastelfordutc.com

Shireland Biomedical UTC (previously Health Futures)

Sat 19 Sep 2026 (10am-1pm) | Sat 24 Oct 2026 (10am-12pm)

Check website for updates www.sbmutc.org.uk

WMG Young Engineers Academy Solihull

Open Evening: 24 Sep 2026 (5-8pm)

Deadline for receipt of applications for a place is

31st January 2026.

<https://solihull.wmgacademy.org.uk/>

SIXTH FORM SCHOOLS

Bishop Challoner School

Wed 7 Oct 2026 (5.30-7.30pm) Check website for details.

Colmers School 6th Form

Thu 24 Sep 2026 (7-8.30pm)

Hagley RC High School

Date TBC

Hamstead Hall Academy

Thu 12 Nov 2026 (5-7.30pm)

Handsworth Grammar for Boys

Thu 22 Oct 2026 (4.30-6.30pm)

Hillcrest School & 6th Form Centre

Dates TBC Check website for details.

SIXTH FORM SCHOOLS (CONT.)

Holyhead School

Thu 1 Oct 2026 (5.30-7.30pm)

KESH Academy

TBC Check website.

King Edwards Five Ways

See website for times.

Last date to register interest TBC.

King Edwards Camp Hill (boys)

Check website for date.

King Edwards Camp Hill (girls)

Thu 19 Nov 2026 (5.30-8pm)

Kings Norton Girls Sixth Form

24 Sep 2026 (5-8pm) | 25 Sep & 1 Oct 2026 (9-11am)

Register for morning event.

Lordwood Sixth Form Centre

Wed 18 Nov 2026 (from 5pm) Check website.

Nishkam High School Birmingham

Thu 5 Nov 2026 (5-7pm)

Sandwell Academy

6th form open events: TBC

St Pauls Girls School

26 Nov 2026 (from 5pm)

St Thomas Aquinas

Mon 19 Oct 2026 (5-7pm)

Uni of Bham School

Thu 12 Nov 2026 (5-7.30pm)

Register on website.

Windsor School and Sixth

Wed 21 Oct 2026 (5.30-7.30pm)

SIXTH FORM SCHOOLS (CONT.)

(more opportunities)

Pershore College

(already listed above)

King Edwards Camp Hill (boys)

Check website.

King Edwards Camp Hill (girls)

(already listed above)

Kings Norton Girls Sixth Form

(already listed above)

Lordwood Sixth Form Centre

(already listed above)

Nishkam High School Birmingham

(already listed above)

Sandwell Academy

(already listed above)

St Pauls Girls School

(already listed above)

St Thomas Aquinas

(already listed above)

Uni of Bham School

(already listed above)

Windsor School and Sixth

(already listed above)

*Remember -
check each school/college's website
for the latest updates!*

WHY GO TO AN OPEN DAY?

- ✓ See the facilities and get a feel for the environment
- ✓ Meet teachers, students and support staff
- ✓ Find out more about your chosen courses
- ✓ Ask questions and get advice
- ✓ Make a confident decision about your next step

*Be curious.
Be proactive.
Be future ready.*

For more information and advice,
speak to your Careers Adviser
or visit the school website.



College
Sixth Form
Apprenticeships
Traineeships
University



*Your future
is bigger
than you think...
Make it happen!*



*Year 11
- it's time to
explore your options!*



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