



Together with Christ, we love, live & learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US

E: enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk

T: 0121 355 2649

W: www.stnicholassutton.org.uk

Executive Principal: Mr N. Porter

Head of School: Mrs C. Noble-Barton

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 9th October 2026

Reflection – October: Growing Closer to Jesus Through Mary

October is the Month of the Rosary, a special time to reflect on the life of Jesus through the eyes of His mother, Mary. Throughout the month, pupils will be learning about the Mysteries of the Rosary through prayer, reflection and acts of kindness.

We encourage families to join us in helping children grow closer to Jesus and discover God's love in their daily lives.

If you would like to pray the Rosary at home with your child, CAFOD and The Catholic Kid both offer simple family-friendly guides, and there are several excellent child-friendly Rosary videos available on YouTube.

[Pray the rosary](#)

[How to Pray the Rosary for Kids - TheCatholicKid.com](#)



Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Do you know a child starting school in September 2027?

If so, please encourage them to come along to one of our Prospective Parents' Sessions to hear about the admissions process and tour the school. There is a flyer attached to this email containing dates and other information.

PFA Dates for your diary!

🎄 Christmas Wreath-Making Workshop Saturday 28th November, 4pm to 6pm Get into the festive spirit and create a beautiful Christmas wreath to take home.

🍷 Christmas Fayre Saturday 5th December, 2pm to 4pm Join us for an afternoon of festive fun, games and seasonal treats.

Further information, including ticket details, will be shared via class WhatsApp groups and future school newsletters.

Gifts from God Assemblies

Our remaining *Gifts from God* assembly for the Autumn Term will take place on Friday 16th October 2026.

Autumn 2 dates will be as follows: Friday 6th November, Friday 20th November & Friday 27th November & Friday 11th December.

INSET Day - Friday 23rd October 2026

As we continue to race towards the end of a busy and successful Autumn 1, we would like to remind families that children finish school on Thursday 22nd October. **Friday 23rd October is an INSET Day, so school will be closed to pupils.**

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 2nd November at 8.50am.

Thank you for your continued support during what has been a fantastic start to the school year.



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Keeping Our Pupils Safe Online

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding, we are continually reviewing how we share children's achievements and experiences online. **In response to the changing digital landscape and the rapid development of AI technology, we have recently adjusted the way we photograph pupils for our school X feed. Rather than focusing on children's faces, our photographs will increasingly focus on the learning, work and experiences taking place.** Where pupils are visible, images will usually be taken from behind or from angles that do not show full facial features. For children whose parents have not given consent for images to be used, no identifiable images, including side profiles, will be shared. You will notice this approach reflected in recent posts on our X feed, where the focus is firmly on the children's learning whilst still capturing the excitement and quality of the experiences they are enjoying in school and on educational visits. We believe this approach allows us to celebrate learning whilst providing an additional layer of protection for our children and families.

Photography at assemblies, nativities and other events

We would also like to remind parents and carers that photography and short video recordings are permitted during assemblies, nativities and

other school performances. **These images and recordings are for personal and family use only and should not be shared on social media or other online platforms where children other than your own may be identifiable.**

The school reserves the right to restrict or withdraw permission for photography and filming where this is necessary to safeguard children. This is not an automatic entitlement and remains under regular review as we respond to evolving safeguarding guidance, research and emerging technologies. Our aim is to continue allowing families to capture these special moments, but this will only remain possible if images and recordings are used responsibly and in line with school expectations.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to keep all members of our school community safe, both in school and online.

Parents' Evenings

Our Parents' Evenings will take place on Wednesday 21st October and Thursday 22nd October.

Appointment times are:

- Wednesday 21st October: 3.30pm to 6.00pm
- Thursday 22nd October: 4.30pm to 7.00pm

We deliberately include a later session on Thursday to support parents and carers who are unable to attend earlier due to work commitments. If you are able to attend one of the earlier appointments, we would be grateful if you could leave the later slots available for those who need them.

Don't forget
parents'
evening!





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Please note that Parents' Evening is not an event for pupils. Children are not permitted in the hall, as discussions about pupils may be overheard, and we do not have sufficient staff available to supervise children in the office area whilst appointments are taking place.

Lighthouse wraparound is an option until 6pm. Where alternative childcare is not available, parents may wish to consider one parent attending whilst the other remains with the children. We are aware that some families require separate appointments and these arrangements will, of course, be accommodated. Except in these circumstances, we ask that all parents attend on either 21st or 22nd October.

Appointments with teachers are strictly limited to 10 minutes. At this early stage of the school year, discussions will focus on how your child has settled into their new class and the progress they have made so far, particularly in the core curriculum areas. Classrooms will be open for you to look through your child's books (or Learning Journey in EYFS) and to see the learning environment in which they work each day.

We look forward to welcoming you to Parents' Evening and to sharing your child's successes with you.

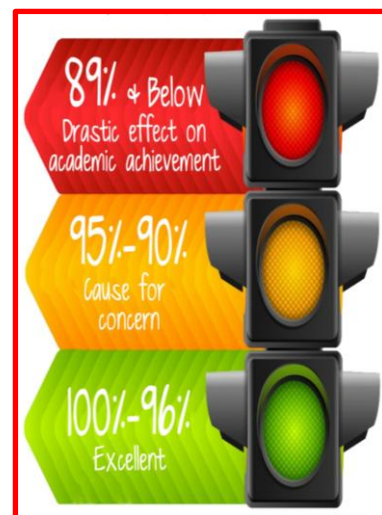
**Appointments will be booked through the MCAS app and booking will open at 7.00pm on Monday 12th October. We have chosen this time to give all families an equal opportunity to access the system and select an appointment slot that works for them.*

Attendance

Let's see which class had the highest attendance this week...

Super attendance across the school this week - three classes on 100%!

Year group	Attendance for w/c 5/10/26
EYFS	100% Winners!
Year 1	98.33%
Year 2	100% Winners!
Year 3	100% Winners!
Year 4	99.67%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	98.97%
Well done to this week's winners...EYFS, Year 2 and Year 3! You can negotiate a reward with your class teachers next week.	





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Lighthouse Preschool

Where little minds shine!

At Lighthouse Preschool, we provide a warm, caring and stimulating environment where children can learn, play and grow. Our dedicated team helps every child build confidence, make friends and develop a love of learning.

Places Available Now!

Free Funded Hours Available for Eligible Children

Fun learning • Caring staff • Happy children

Contact Lighthouse Preschool today to find out more and secure your child's place!

E: lighthousechildcare2023@outlook.com

M: 07590 411 118

Dates for the diary

Please continue to check this section frequently as it is subject to change.

New academic year - 2026/27	
W/c 5th October & W/c 12th October URGENT - LAST PUSH!	Harvest Collection across the school - please be generous as we will be supporting a local foodbank!
Monday 12th October THIS WEEK	9am - Year 3 Curriculum Workshop in school hall - all parents invited (can you send a grandparent or other relative if you're not available? A great chance to work with your child and experience the teaching techniques used in class.)
Thursday 15th October THIS WEEK	9am - EYFS Curriculum Workshop in school hall - all parents invited (can you send a grandparent or other relative if you're not available? A great chance to work



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	with your child and experience the teaching techniques used in class.)
Friday 16th October THIS WEEK	2.45pm Gifts from God assembly - you will get an email on Wednesday 16/9 if your child is receiving a school certificate.
Monday 19th October	2.15pm Whole school Harvest Mass in church - parents & grandparents welcome
Tuesday 20th October PHOTO DAY	Families, siblings and individual photographs - all pupils having their photo taken, sibling groups in school taken, those with pre-school children or children who don't attend St Nicholas will be invited to come in at 8.30am if they want a photograph. All photos available to purchase afterwards.
Wednesday 21st October	Parents' Evening in school hall (bookings will open closer to the time).
Thursday 22nd October	Parents' Evening in school hall (bookings will open closer to the time).
Friday 23rd October	INSET day - school closed to children. End of Autumn 1. Break up for half term.
October half term - school closed to children during w/c 26/10/26	
Monday 2nd November	School reopens at 8.50am - Autumn Term 2
Monday 2nd November	11am Prospective Parents' Sessions for EYFS 2027
Wednesday 4th November	2pm Prospective Parents' Sessions for EYFS 2027
Friday 6th November	9.15am Prospective Parents' Sessions for EYFS 2027
Tuesday 10th November	Flu Vaccinations - consent will be sent out beforehand and only where consent has been provided will pupils be vaccinated.
Tuesday 10th November	**Y5 parents** Alton Castle information meeting at 5:15pm - via Zoom



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	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79314558741?pwd=wbEBAbQ4WQfjda4bkW73jh9PXyzNPF.1
Thursday 12th November	Compass coffee morning - 9am in the school hall An opportunity to access free support and resources to support your child's mental health and emotional wellbeing.
Friday 13th November PHOTO DAY	Class Photographs
Tuesday 24th November	**Y6 parents** Blackwell information meeting at 5:15pm - via Zoom https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73722566420?pwd=Xndlkbz1hjY4Pv7v3igNsbnEt3oUJg.1
Saturday 28th November	4pm-6pm PFA Christmas Wreath making workshop - school hall <i>We apologise, but there will be no parking available on the school site for this event.</i>
Thursday 3rd December	4pm Centrestage Recital - in the school hall
Saturday 5th December	2pm to 4pm PFA Christmas Fair - school hall
Tuesday 15th December	EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Play in the school hall @ 9.15am - ticket information TBC
Wednesday 16th December	EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Play in the school hall @ 9.15am - ticket information TBC

INSET Days 2026/27

The remaining scheduled INSET Days for the 2026/27 academic year are:

Friday 23rd October 2026

Monday 4th January 2027

Monday 22nd February 2027

Monday 12th April 2027

Friday 2nd July 2027

St John Paul II Multi Academy Schools - Term Dates 2026/27

Our MAC term dates follow Birmingham City Council (BCC) dates.



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Autumn Term 2026

- Term starts: Tuesday 1 September 2026
- Half-term: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026
- Term ends: Friday 18 December 2026

Spring Term 2027

- Term starts: Monday 4 January 2027
- Half-term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027
- Term ends: Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer Term 2027

- Term starts: Monday 12 April 2027
- Half-term: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027
- Term ends: Wednesday 21 July 2027

God bless,

Mr Porter

Mrs Noble-Barton

Miss Smith

Executive Principal

Head of School

Assistant Head