



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 11th September 2026



Reflection: Education Sunday

This Sunday we celebrate Education Sunday, a special opportunity to recognise and give thanks for everyone involved in Catholic education. Catholic educators do much more than teach subjects and support learning. They help young people grow in confidence, character, compassion and faith, creating communities where every child is valued and encouraged to flourish.

In his letter to the Philippians, St Paul writes: *"Shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life."* **Philippians 2:15-16**

These words remind us that education is about more than academic success. Through kindness, encouragement, service and care, Catholic educators help to shine a light for the young people

entrusted to them each day.

As we mark Education Sunday, we thank all those who work at St Nicholas and all who support them. Together, parents, carers, staff and parish communities play an important part in helping our children grow in wisdom, faith and love.

May this day be an opportunity to celebrate the dedication, commitment and positive influence of Catholic educators in the lives of our children and families.

Wednesday Word

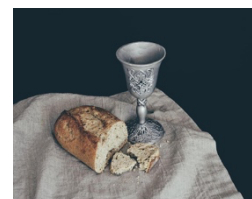
Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Year 5 and Year 6 Mass - Wednesday 16th September @ 2.30pm

Years 5 and 6 will be attending Mass, celebrated by Father Allen, in the church at 2:30pm on Wednesday afternoon. This is a valuable opportunity for the children to come together in prayer and worship as part of their faith journey.

Parents, families and parishioners are warmly welcome to join us.



Role of the School Office

Our school office plays a vital role in the smooth running of the school and is often the first point of contact for parents and visitors. Whether you visit the office hatch, telephone, or email, we are always happy to help wherever we can.

Before contacting the office, we kindly ask parents to check the weekly newsletter and the school website, as many common questions regarding events, dates, procedures and school information can often be answered there. This helps to reduce delays and allows office staff to focus on enquiries that require individual support.

We would also ask for your patience during particularly busy times, especially at morning drop-off and afternoon collection, when the office is managing a high volume of visitors, phone calls and messages.

Mrs Sotgiu does a fantastic job supporting our school community, but as a one-person office there may be occasions when she is unable to answer a query immediately. Some enquiries require information from teaching staff or school leaders, and in these cases she will ensure that the appropriate person responds as soon as possible.

We would also be grateful if parents could help children to develop good organisational habits by ensuring they come to school with the items they need for the day, such as reading records, musical instruments and equipment for after-school clubs. We regularly have pupils asking Mrs Sotgiu to telephone home for forgotten items. Whilst there may occasionally be exceptional circumstances, arranging forgotten belongings is not part of the office's role and can be very disruptive during an already busy school day.

Thank you for your understanding, patience and cooperation. By working together, we can ensure that the office remains an efficient and welcoming resource for everyone in our school community.



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Do you know a child starting school in September 2022?

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.

Secondary School Applications – Important Information for Year 6 Parents

A reminder to all Year 6 families that you must complete the online Birmingham City Council application form for secondary school places by 31st October. This is a statutory deadline, and late applications are processed after all on-time submissions.

You are required to list six school choices, so it is a very good idea to visit any schools you may be interested in. Below are some upcoming open evenings to support your decision-making:

- Bishop Walsh – Wednesday 23rd September
- Cardinal Wiseman – Monday 14th September
- St Edmund Campion – Tuesday 15th September

Please note that faith schools require a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to be completed and returned directly to the school, along with proof of Catholic Baptism. If you complete the council form but do not submit the SIF, your child will be ranked as non-Catholic, which may affect their priority for a place.

Mrs Noble-Barton is happy to offer advice at any time, we are here to support you as you prepare for this next step in your child's journey.

Smartphone Ban Parent Workshop – THIS THURSDAY!

As we move into the new term, a reminder that our Parent Workshop on the recently announced Smartphone Ban is this week. This session is designed to empower and support parents of children of all ages, helping you understand the proposed national changes, how they may affect young people, and how to approach conversations at home with confidence.

The workshop will take place on Thursday 17th September at 6.30pm in the school hall.

It is open to all families from EYFS to Year 6, and we hope many of you will join us for this important and informative session.

Phonics Information Evening - Tuesday

We invite all EYFS and Year 1 parents to the school hall on **Tuesday 15th September at 5.45pm** for our Phonics Information Evening, a chance to learn how phonics is taught in school and discover ways to support your child's reading at home.

THE DIGITAL PARENTING TOOLKIT

Practical tools to help you protect, prepare and support your child in a changing digital world.

PARENT WORKSHOP

Your toolkit will include:

1. Understand the social media ban and what it means for your family
2. Start positive conversations about social media and online life
3. Set realistic boundaries that work
4. Recognise online risks and know how to respond
5. Support your child to manage change

Delivered by Susie Dunigan
The Enlightened Parent

Thursday 17th September
6.30pm
In school -
St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham. B44 9AG.

E: enquiry@sjp2.net | T: 0121 827 8664 | W: johnpaulii.co.uk

Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter

Company House Registered No. 08706247



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PFA Dates for your diary!

Newcomers' Disco: Friday 25th September, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

A great opportunity for new families to meet and make friends. Children should attend with a parent or carer.

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. (Date to be confirmed.)

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

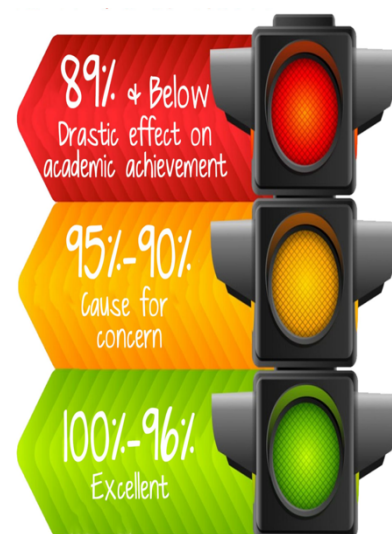
Gifts from God Assemblies

Our **Gifts from God** assemblies for the Autumn Term will take place on **Friday 18th September 2026, Friday 2nd October 2026, and Friday 16th October 2026**. If your child is receiving a certificate from school, you will receive an MCAS message from Mrs Noble-Barton on the Wednesday before the assembly. If you are sending in a medal, trophy or certificate from outside of school that your child would like to have presented, please bring it to the school office by Thursday morning at the latest, ensuring it is in a clearly named bag or container. All Gifts from God assemblies begin at 2.45pm. Due to space restrictions, we kindly ask that families only attend if their child is receiving an award. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Attendance

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

Year group	Attendance for w/c 7/9/26
EYFS	99.33%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	99.64%
Year 3	96.55%
Year 4	99.33%
Year 5	98.67%
Year 6	100% Winners!
Well done to this week's winners...Year 6! You can negotiate a reward with Mr McNicholas next week.	





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Dates for the diary

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

New academic year - 2026/27	
Tuesday 15th September	5.45pm Phonics Information Evening - for parents of pupils in EYFS & Year 1. In the school hall.
Wednesday 16th September	2.30pm - Years 5 & 6 to Mass in church - parents/grandparents welcome
Thursday 17th September	Parent Workshop on the Smartphone Ban –6.30pm, School Hall.
Friday 18th September	2.45pm Gifts from God assembly - you will get an email on Wednesday 16/9 if your child is receiving a school certificate.
Monday 21st September	9am - Year 6 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.)
Wednesday 23rd September	9am - Year 1 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.)
Wednesday 23rd September	2.30pm - Years 3 & 4 to Mass in church - parents/grandparents welcome
Friday 25th September	5.30pm to 7.30pm - PFA New Starters' Disco - the only disco of the year where parents can stay, meet each other and have a boogie! Tickets will be on sale from the PFA shortly.
Monday 28th September	9am - Year 4 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.)
Friday 2nd October	9am - Year 5 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.)
Friday 2nd October	2.45pm Gifts from God assembly - you will get an email on Wednesday 16/9 if your child is receiving a school certificate.
W/c 5th October & W/c 12th October	Harvest Collection across the school - please be generous as we will be supporting a local foodbank!
Tuesday 6th October	Year 6 class trip to Oscott College for 'Laudato Sii - Care for Creation Workshop' - walking there & back, packed lunch needed, consent form will be sent closer to time.





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Wednesday 7th October	9am - Year 2 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.)
Monday 12th October	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	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 with your child and experience the teaching techniques used in class.)
Friday 16th October	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





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Tuesday 10th November	Flu Vaccinations - consent will be sent out beforehand and only where consent has been provided will pupils be vaccinated.
Friday 13th November PHOTO DAY	Class Photographs
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>
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 scheduled INSET Days for the 2026/27 academic year are:

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

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.

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

Mr Porter
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton
Head of School

Miss Smith
Assistant Head



St. John Paul II Multi Academy

Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham. B44 9AG.

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