



**Together with Christ we
love, live & learn.**

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Head of School: Mrs C Noble-Barton

Dear Parents & Carers,

Wednesday 18th February 2026

Walking Into Lent With Hope

I write this on Ash Wednesday, as we begin our six-week Lenten journey towards the joy of Easter. Over the coming weeks, our school will be taking part in a range of activities rooted in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Yet at the heart of it all is a simple, powerful message for our pupils and for our whole community: *Lent invites us to find small, meaningful ways to make ourselves more worthy of the sacrifice our Lord made for us on the cross.*

These weeks are a chance to pause, to grow, and to walk more closely with Christ.

We look forward to journeying through Lent with you, supporting one another as we prepare our hearts for Easter.



Putting Weekend Mass at the Heart of Lent

One meaningful extra step we can take during Lent is to make a promise to ourselves and our families that weekend Mass becomes a non-negotiable. Lent invites us to deepen our faith in small, steady ways, and committing to regular Mass is a powerful part of that journey.

Below you will find the regular weekend Mass times for some of our local parishes, to help you plan ahead and make this work within your busy family weekends.

Parish	Weekend Mass Times
St Nicholas	Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 9am & 11am
Holy Trinity	Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 9am, 11am & 6pm
Holy Cross	Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 8.30am & 10.30am
Abbey	Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 8am, 9.15am, 10.30am, Midday & 6pm
Christ the King	Saturday: 12.30pm (fulfills Sunday obligation) Sunday: 10am
Maryvale	Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 11.30am
St Chad's Cathedral	Saturday: 4.30pm Sunday: 9.30am & 11.30am

Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:
[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)



Thank You for Supporting NSPCC Number Day

Thank you to everyone who supported NSPCC Number Day on 6th February. Together, we raised £158 for the NSPCC. Your generosity helps the charity continue its vital work keeping children safe. Thank you for your kindness and enthusiasm.



Message from Emma Samuel (COO of the St John Paul II MAC)

We would like to inform parents and carers that we are currently in a formal consultation phase regarding the proposal for St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary school, Tamworth, St Gabriels Catholic Primary School, Tamworth and Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Primary school, Lichfield to join St John Paul II Multi Academy. This consultation is taking place in line with the Archdiocese of Birmingham's vision for Catholic education, which encourages schools to work together to strengthen Catholic life, leadership and long-term sustainability. This is a consultation, not a

decision, and we welcome the views of staff, parents and the wider community during this period. If you would like to offer your thoughts on these proposals, please email enquiry@sjp2.net by 28th February 2026. Thank you.

Ensuring Safe Collection at the End of the School Day

All staff are responsible for ensuring a safe and careful dismissal at the end of the school day and at school events such as discos. This means staff must always know exactly who each child is being dismissed to. The safety of our pupils will always come before speed.

No adult collecting a child, whether a parent, grandparent, sibling, aunt, uncle or family friend, should ever feel offended if a member of staff asks who they are or needs to clarify their identity before releasing a child. This is a normal and necessary part of our safeguarding practice and adults should certainly not become confrontational when staff carry out these checks.

We recognise that the dismissal areas, particularly in the KS1 playground, are tight and busy spaces. This makes it even more important that staff take their time and ensure they get it right. **Dismissal is a task to be completed safely, not a race.**

Parents can support us by making sure that grandparents and other relatives understand these expectations. You can also help by ensuring that any changes to collection arrangements are communicated in good time (i.e. before lunchtime on that day).

I'm sure you would not want your child to attend a school where due care and consideration were not taken. Thank you for working with us to safeguard all children.

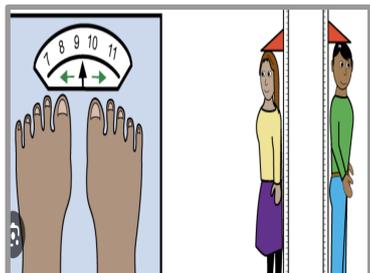


PE Kit Schedule for Spring 2 (until Easter)

EYFS	Tuesday & Wednesday
Y1	Monday & Thursday
Y2	Tuesday & Friday
Y3	Thursday & Friday
Y4	Monday & Tuesday
Y5	Wednesday & Thursday
Y6	Wednesday & Friday



EYFS & Year 6 Height and Weight Checks - Reminder



A reminder that the NHS Height and Weight Team will be in school on Thursday 26th February to carry out routine height and weight measurements for all pupils in EYFS and Year 6. This information has been shared in the newsletter for some time.

Please note that this is an opt-out programme rather than a consent-based one. If you do not want your child to take part, please email enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk with HEIGHT AND WEIGHT CHECK in the subject line. Please do this before Tuesday 24th February.

If we do not hear from you, your child's data will be taken as part of the programme.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Lighthouse Preschool - PLACES AVAILABLE

Lighthouse Preschool, run by Mrs Carole Baird, offers a high-quality, nurturing early years provision for 3 and 4 year olds, helping children grow in confidence and prepare for school life.

Parents are welcome to get in touch for an informal chat or visit:

☎ 07590 411118

✉ Lighthousechildcare2023@outlook.com

PFA General Meeting

All parents and carers are warmly invited to our next *PFA General Meeting on Saturday 7th March at 4.00pm in the school hall.*

This is a great opportunity to hear about recent PFA activities, plans for upcoming events (including the Summer Fair), and to share ideas as we begin thinking ahead to 2026-2027. Whether you're a regular attendee or completely new to the PFA, we would love you to join us.

The PFA plays an important role in building our school community and supporting opportunities for our children: every voice and idea really does make a difference.

We hope to see you there.



Coffee Morning with The Pioneer Group - Monday 2nd March, 9am

We are pleased to invite parents and carers to a friendly coffee morning on Monday 2nd March at 9am in the school hall, where representatives from The Pioneer Group will be joining us. The Pioneer Group offers a wide range of support for families and the local community, including housing advice, wellbeing support, community programmes and help accessing services.

This is an informal opportunity to meet the team, ask questions and find out what support might be available to you or someone you know. We hope many of you will be able to join us for a warm drink, a chat and some helpful information.



World Book Day - Thursday 12th March 2026

THE BOOK IN A BOX COMPETITION IS BACK!

To celebrate World Book Day, pupils are invited to make their favourite book into a box! We have had some incredible entries over the past few years and can't wait to see what the pupils create this year! It's really simple to take part! All you need is a cereal or shoe box to get started and the aim is to design the inside of your box in the most creative way possible to display your favourite book! Your entries need to be submitted by **Thursday 12th March**. The Reading Ambassadors will decide on a winner and two runners up! These lucky children will receive a reading related prize.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be outside the front of school each evening from Monday 9th-Friday 13th March 2026, where pupils can spend their £1 book tokens.

NB - we are celebrating the week after World Book Day to ensure that our Y5 pupils can take part after they have been to Alton Castle.

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, the Scholastic Book Fair will be open to families outside the front of school from Monday 9th-Friday 13th March 2026. Pupils are able to use their World Book Day tokens to receive £1 towards their chosen book. All funds raised will help support school to purchase new books for our classroom libraries!



Gifts from God Assemblies These assemblies are a special time to celebrate our pupils' gifts and achievements. Gifts from God assemblies during Spring 2 will be on: **Friday 27th February, Friday 6th March & Friday 20th March.**

Attendance

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

Year group	Attendance for w/c 9/2/26
EYFS	99% WINNERS!
Year 1	92.33%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	98.67%
Year 4	95.67%
Year 5	93.24%
Year 6	94.67%
Well done to this week's winners....EYFS! You can choose your reward with Mrs Bowen next week.	

Dates for the diary

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

Week commencing 23rd February	Children's Mental Health Week celebrations in school
Monday 23rd February	Whole school experience safer internet assemblies and workshops - paid for by PFA
Thursday 26th February	EYFS & Year 6 height & weight checks (school nurse) - please email enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk if you wish to opt out your child
Friday 27th February	Gifts from God Assembly @ 2.45pm
Saturday 28th February	Swimming Gala @ Wyndley Leisure Centre
Monday 2nd March	9am Early Help Coffee Morning - signposting parents to local neighbourhood support
Wednesday 4th - Friday 6th March	Year 5 residential trip to Alton Castle
Thursday 5th March	Virtual session for Y1 parents & carers on the Phonics Screening Check (statutory assessment) - 5pm start time Topic: Phonics Screening Check - Virtual session for

	<p>parents Time: Mar 5, 2026 05:00 PM London Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74693020424?pwd=QFpQWehaPO0ALfS1RubFyaCTwb3oNJ.1 Meeting ID: 746 9302 0424 Passcode: s6Yjv2</p>
Saturday 7th March	PFA General Meeting - 4pm in school hall
March 3rd - April 28th	St Nicholas Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation
Friday 13th March	PFA Mothers' Day Tea 3.30pm to 5pm
Monday 16th March	Year 6 full day retreat to enrich preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation - in school
Thursday 19th March	<p>Virtual session for Y4 parents & carers on the Multiplication Screening Check (statutory assessment) - 5pm start time</p> <p>Topic: Multiplication Tables Check - Virtual Parent Information session Time: Mar 19, 2026 05:00 PM London Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72580240981?pwd=UINeV2YlpcZgI4zK8bQMMjKX7lulS4.1 Meeting ID: 725 8024 0981 Passcode: CMiw2j</p>
Monday 23rd March	2pm - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Tuesday 24th March	9.15am - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March	<p>Parents' Evenings Weds: 3.45pm to 6.15pm Thurs: 4.40pm to 7pm</p>
Friday 27th March	Visiting theatre company to perform 'Alice in Wonderland' to the whole school
Friday 27th March	Last Day of Spring Term - break up for Easter
EASTER HOLIDAYS - School closed to children W/c 30th March W/c 6th April INSET Day - Monday 13th April	
Tuesday 14th April 2026	First day of Summer Term Summer Uniform permitted
Weekends of: 9th/10th May 16th/17th May 23rd/24th May	St Nicholas Parish First Holy Communion Masses

Friday 22nd May 2026	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass @ 7pm in church
Friday 3rd July 2026	INSET Day - school closed to children

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

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

INSET days will be published separately before the start of the 2026/27 school year.

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

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