



Together with Christ we
love, live & learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 10th January 2025

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back for the start of the Spring Term this week. Happy New Year to everyone in our school community! As we step into 2025 together, let us pray for a year filled with peace, health, and happiness for all.

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of a new year. Bless us with peace, health, and happiness in 2025. Guide our hearts with kindness and our actions with love, as we work together to bring hope and light to those around us.

Amen.

Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a special year of grace and celebration in the Catholic Church. Jubilee Years traditionally occur every 25 years and are a time for renewal, forgiveness, and pilgrimage. The theme for this Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope", encouraging all to journey in faith, trust in God's mercy, and share hope with the world.

Watch this space for more details about St Nicholas' response to the Jubilee Year. The whole school will be involved in a launch day for the Jubilee on Friday 24th January.



Fundraising 'own clothes day' on Friday 17th January

Our Common Good Council has teamed up with Orla and Beau from Year 5 to organise a non-uniform day on **Friday 17th January**. This will raise funds for **St Giles Hospice** (a cause close to Beau's heart) and the **MND Association** (a cause dear to Orla).

Please send £1 (or more) with your child. Pupils are invited to wear their own clothes, but please ensure these are appropriate for school and suitable for the weather.

Thank you for your support.

Wednesday Word

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Prayer Bags

Miss Godfrey has updated the Prayer Bags to reflect the new liturgical season. When your child brings home the Prayer Bag, please encourage them to lead a short liturgy with your family. If possible, take a photograph and email it to **enquiry@**. If you prefer not to share it on Twitter, that's absolutely fine—it can instead be included in your child's class learning journal.

We kindly ask that all members of your household treat the Prayer Bag with respect and ensure all items are returned in one piece. Thank you for your support in making this a meaningful experience for the children.

Year 6 Saint Project Exhibition - Important Information

Please find attached a flyer about the Year 6 Saint Project Exhibition, which will take place on Thursday 27th February at 2:45pm in the school hall. The flyer includes details about the project, Miss Gamlen's expectations, and tips on how you can support your child at home.

If your child is not Catholic or is not receiving Confirmation, they are still welcome to take part in the project. They can choose a saint they admire and create a project around them.

We are excited to see these wonderful saint projects and to hear about why our Confirmandi have chosen their saints.

INSET Days

An INSET day is a staff training day when teachers and school staff take part in professional development. Children do not attend school on these days. All SJP2 academy schools have a set number of INSET days per academic year the dates of which are mostly set by the individual schools with one or two INSET dates being set centrally by the Academy.

There are three INSET days left this academic year:

Monday 2nd June (the Monday after May half term)

Monday 21st July (pupils will break up for the summer holidays on Friday 18th)

And

One additional day, with the date yet to be confirmed by the academy, is likely to fall in the Summer Term. We will let you know the date as soon as it is finalised.

Parents' Evening Dates

A date for your diary - Spring Term Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th April 2025**. Appointments will go live a few weeks in advance.

*****Parents of pupils in Year 3 only ***** - We are pleased to announce that the Year 3 Spring Term parents' meetings will take place via **Zoom on Monday 3rd February from 3:00pm to 5:30pm, and Tuesday 4th February from 1:30pm to 4:00pm.**

This earlier meeting provides an opportunity to speak with Mrs. Minchin before she begins her maternity leave. Details on how to book a Zoom slot will be sent out soon.

Y3 parents, please note that your child's books will be available in the classroom for you to view on 8th and 9th April should you wish. You are welcome to pop in at any time on these dates. Year 3 parents, if you have children in other year groups, their parents' meetings will still take place on 8th and 9th April.

Details of teaching arrangements for Y3 when Mrs Minchin leaves to have her baby are just being finalised and we should be in a position to write to you about this soon.

Stay and Pray- coming back for round two!

Thank you for your feedback on the new 'Stay and Pray' initiative. The feedback was positive, with some excellent 'even better if' suggestions. Please refer to the diary dates section of the newsletter for new dates in the second half of the Spring Term, where there will be more Stay and Pray opportunities for you and your child/grandchild to participate in.

Young Voices Tickets

These have now been sent out to all parents who ordered them via email. Please check that you have received these as soon as possible. The e-mail will prompt you to download the AXS tickets app, which you will need to accept the tickets and present the barcode on the night of the concert

(Friday 31st January 2025). If you have any problems or haven't received your tickets, please contact Miss Smith via the enquiry email address.

Attendance

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

Year group	Attendance for w/c 6th January
EYFS	94.61%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	97.67%
Year 3	98.33% Winners!
Year 4	96.45%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	92.67%
Well done to this week's winners...Year 3! You can negotiate a reward with Mrs Minchin next week.	

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 15th January	Diocesan Climate Change Workshop for 10 Upper KS2 pupils at Oscott College.
Friday 17th January	Non-uniform day
Friday 24th January	Launch of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 - whole school involved - details TBC
Friday 28th January	Year 6 trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Friday 31st January	Young Voices concert at Resorts World, Birmingham
Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th February	Year 3 Parent Consultations with Mrs Minchin via Zoom
Tuesday 11th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th February	Last day of Spring 1 - break up for half term
Half Term School closed w/c 17th February 2025 All pupils back in school on Monday 24th February	

Monday 24th February	First day of Spring 2
Thursday 27th February	Year 6 Saints Project Exhibition - school hall at 2.45pm
Friday 28th February	EYFS 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Saturday 1st March	Swimming gala at Wyndley Leisure Centre - details TBC
Thursday 6th March	PFA Meeting 6pm in school
Friday 7th March	Year 5 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
W/c 10th March & W/c 17th March	Year 3 swimming at Wyndley Leisure Centre
Friday 14th March	Year 2 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Friday 21st March	Year 6 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Tuesday 25th March	Y3 & 4 Pyjama Stories - 5pm
Thursday 27th March	PFA Mothers' Day Tea - 3.30pm to 5pm
Friday 28th March	Year 4 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Monday 31st March	2pm - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Tuesday 1st April	9.15am - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Wednesday 2nd April to Friday 4th April	Year 5 residential to Alton Castle
Friday 4th April	Year 1 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th April	Parents' Evenings (Y3 book look)
Thursday 10th April	Year 2 trip to Twycross Zoo
Friday 11th April	Year 3 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Friday 11th April	Last day of Spring Term. School breaks up for Easter.
Easter Holidays School closed weeks commencing 14th April and 21st April 2025 All pupils back in school on Monday 28th April	
Monday 5th May	'May Day' bank holiday - school closed
Thursday 8th May	Y1 trip to Botanical Gardens

Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May inclusive	Key Stage 2 SATs tests administered
Friday 16th May	Year 3 trip to Blists Hill Victorian Town
Friday 16th May	Official photographers to take Y6 leavers' photos
Friday 16th May	Sacrament of Confirmation for Y6 confirmandi celebrated by Bishop David Evans - 7pm
Friday 23rd May	Last day of Summer 1 - break up for half term
May half term School closed during week commencing 26th May 2025	
Monday 2nd June	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June	Multiplication Tables Check administered to Y4 pupils
W/c Monday 9th June	Phonics Screening Check administered to Year 1
W/c Monday 9th June	Year 6 swimming week at Wyndley each afternoon
Sunday 22nd June Time TBC	All Year 3 pupils who have received their Holy Communion are invited to attend the 'Going Forth' Mass at 11am wearing their FHC clothes - official p/graphers in school beforehand.
Wednesday 2nd July	Transition Day - Year 6 to their new secondary schools
Monday 7th July	Sports' Day at Braemar Fields (a reserve date of 14/7 has been booked in case of inclement weather on 7th)
Saturday 12th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass in church at 6pm
Wednesday 16th July	9.10am - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Friday 18th July	9.15am - Whole School end of year Mass in church
Friday 18th July	End of academic year 2024-25 for pupils

God bless

Mr Porter

Mrs Noble-Barton

Miss Smith

Executive Principal

Head of School

Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

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