



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 29th November 2024

The Year of Prayer is Ending

As we approach Christmas Eve, we come to the conclusion of the Year of Prayer designated by Pope Francis in preparation for the upcoming Jubilee Year. This special time of reflection and spiritual growth has guided us closer to God, and we are grateful for the blessings it has brought to our school community.

Looking Ahead to the Jubilee Year

We are excited to announce that our school will take part in marking the Jubilee Year with the theme: "Pilgrims of Hope." A detailed plan of activities and events will be shared in the New Year. Until then, we continue to emphasise the Lord's Prayer, as Pope Francis has encouraged, helping us deepen our relationship with God and each other during this sacred time.

Advent 2024

This Sunday marks the 1st Sunday of Advent, a beautiful season of hope, reflection, and preparation as we ready our hearts for the coming of Christ's light into the world. At school, we'll be celebrating this important time with **special liturgies and events** to help us reflect on the meaning of Advent and journey together in faith.

Let's embrace this season as a time of joy and anticipation, preparing ourselves spiritually for Christmas. Why not share this prayer with your family during the first week of Advent:



Loving God,

**Thank you for this season of Advent,
 a time to wait and prepare for the gift of Jesus.
 Help us to open our hearts to Your love,
 to be kind and patient with others,
 and to share joy with those around us.
 As we light the first Advent candle,
 we remember the hope that Jesus brings to the world.
 Fill our hearts with hope,
 and guide us to live as Your children of light.
 Amen.**

Wednesday Word

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Friday 6th December - Feast of St. Nicholas

On Friday 6th December, we will celebrate the feast of our patron, St. Nicholas. The whole school will gather for **Mass at 9:15am in church**, and we warmly invite you to join us.

Throughout the day, classes will participate in activities related to St. Nicholas, reflecting on why our school is named after him.

Year 6 will have a special prayerful morning, starting with their Stay and Pray session before Mass. Year 6 parents, carers, and grandparents are invited to come into the classroom immediately after drop-off to take part in some prayerful activities—a wonderful way to prepare for our Mass celebration. We look forward to celebrating this special day together.

Sad News - Passing of Mrs. Sue Gill

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Mrs. Sue Gill, one of our beloved St. Nicholas school governors. Mrs. Gill passed away this morning, with her devoted husband and daughters by her side.

Mrs. Gill had been a valued member of our school community for many years. She was a parent of our school, she served as our SEND link governor, and was also a dedicated member of the SEND staff team at Bishop Walsh School. She was a true St. Nicholas parishioner with a strong and steadfast faith.

At this difficult time, we send our love and deepest condolences to her family. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this time of loss.

PFA Advent Fair - Saturday 30th November

Don't forget—the PFA Advent Fair is happening tomorrow, Saturday 30th, from 12pm to 3pm!

There will be lots of fun activities, great Christmas gifts to buy, and something for everyone to enjoy. 🎄

Parking Update:

A big thank you to Father Allen, who has kindly allowed us to use the parish car park. Please note that it may get quite busy, so walking is encouraged if you're able.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Guitar Concert - Thursday, 5th December, at 4pm.

- Who's Performing?
All of Year 4 and any pupils in Years 5 and 6 who take school guitar lessons will be performing a short selection of their hits!
🎸
- Key Details:
 - No need to pick up at 3:30pm—Mr. Noble will keep the children for a quick rehearsal before the concert.
 - The performance starts at 4pm, and we'd love to see as many pupils and families there as possible!

If your child cannot take part, please email us at enquiry@.

Looking forward to seeing you for a fun and musical afternoon!

Nativity Play - EYFS, Year 1, and Year 2 Parents

Parents and carers of children in **EYFS, Year 1, and Year 2**, look out for a **ParentMail** early next week with details about this year's **Nativity play**.

The performances will take place on:

- **Tuesday, 17th December at 9:15am**
- **Wednesday, 18th December at 9:15am**

Please note, there will be a strict allocation of **TWO spaces per family**. You can choose:

- Two spaces for Tuesday
- Two spaces for Wednesday

- Or one space for each performance

We won't be sending out physical tickets this year. Instead, we'll ask you to complete a **ParentMail form** to let us know which performance you will be attending.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Office lunch break

A quick reminder that our office staff take their lunch break from **1:15pm to 1:45pm** each day. During this time:

- The main phone line will be on **answerphone**.
- There will be no one available to answer queries at the office hatch.

Thank you for planning your communication around this! We appreciate your understanding.

Gifts from God Assemblies Autumn 2

Please see below the dates of our 'Gifts of God' assemblies which take place on alternate Fridays at 2.45pm. Please note that the last two assemblies of the term are on consecutive weeks.

A polite reminder to only attend Gifts from God assembly if your child is receiving an award, space is at a premium in the school hall!

Friday 6th December

Friday 13th December (Final Gifts from God Assembly of the Autumn Term)

Stay and Pray - 9am **Dates for your diary******

Over the course of the Autumn Term, each class will hold a 'Stay and Pray' session. During these sessions, parents, carers & grandparents are encouraged to drop their children at school and then make their way into the classroom for a short prayer session with their child/grandchild.

Each session will start at 9am and run for approximately 20 minutes. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in prayer with your child and their class. Everyone is invited, regardless of faith. Dates are below:

Friday 6/12: Year 6

Friday 13/12: Year 5

PFA News

PFA Lottery

Do you fancy winning a pot of cash whilst contributing to St Nicholas PFA and just in time for Christmas....

Then have a go on the new St Nicholas lottery!

A 50/50 prize fund capped at

1st - £500

2nd - £250

3rd - £100

Tickets are £5 each

Draw will take place on 13/12/24 during the last school assembly.

(The prize fund is dependant on sales so we really need your help and support with this340 tickets need to be sold to reach this target)

Please follow the link for online purchases or catch Rosemarie O'Connor (reception/year 1) or Maria Kilbride (year 4/6) on the school run/at assemblies for a cash purchase.

<https://tinyurl.com/stnickslotto>

Best of luck and remember - you need to be in it to win it!

Do you shop at Asda either in store or online? PLEASE SIGN UP

We're pleased to announce that St Nicholas School PFA has joined the ASDA Cash programme, so families can now earn money for the school while doing their shopping - <https://www.asda.com/cashpottforschools>

Advent Fayre: Sat 30th Nov, 12pm-3pm - message from the organising committee

The St Nicholas Advent Fayre is just around the corner! This is our official school event and we can't wait to welcome you all for a day filled with festive fun and activities, including craft stalls and creative activities for the whole family, festive games, raffles, and prizes to be won!

[St Nicholas School PFA - link for tickets to Advent Fair 30/11/24](#)

Christmas After School Disco: Tues 17th Dec, 3:30-5pm (children only)

CHRISTMAS DISCO! Tickets for the disco are now on sale [HERE](#). The children only Christmas Disco is taking place on December 17th. Your child will be taken straight from class to the disco and you can collect them from the hall at 5pm. The £5 ticket price includes sweets and drinks from the tuck shop, nail painting, face painting and tattoos – so no extra pocket money needed! All funds raised will go to the PFA. No need to send a change of clothes, this is Christmas jumper day so your child will already be wearing their festive top with their uniform.

[Link for Christmas Disco tickets 17.12.24](#)

Dates for the diary

Saturday 30th November	12pm-3pm PFA Advent Fair
Thursday 5th December	4pm - Guitar Concert - all of Y4 and any other pupils who participate in school guitar lessons
Friday 6th December	Year 6 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 6th December	Whole School Mass for Feast of St Nicholas - 9.15am in church
Friday 6th December	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Monday 9th December	Rudolph Run - whole school fundraiser for Birmingham Hospice
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS & KS1 trip to Midlands Art Centre to see Little Angel Theatre: Finding Santa
Thursday 12th December	KS2 trip to Lichfield Garrick to see Jack and the Beanstalk
Friday 13th December	Year 5 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 13th December	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Monday 16th to Wednesday 17th December	Y5 Bikeability extra sessions
Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December	9.15am - EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play performance - tickets only
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Jumper Day PFA Christmas Disco 3.30pm to 5pm
Friday 20th December	Last day of the Autumn Term - pupils break up for Christmas
Christmas Holidays	
Monday 6th January	First day of the Spring Term - all pupils back in school at 8.50am
Friday 31st January 2025	Young Voices concert at Resorts World, Birmingham

God bless,

Mr Porter

Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton

Head of School

Miss Smith

Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

Registered Office: c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Earlsbury Gardens, Birmingham, B20 3AE

E: enquiry@sjp2.net | T: 0121 354 6270 | W: johnpaulii.co.uk

CEO: Miss T. Cotter Company House Registered No. 08706247