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

Together with Christ, we love, live & learn.

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 23rd October 2026



Reflection: Celebrating the Feast of St John Paul II

This week, we were delighted to celebrate the Feast Day of St John Paul II, the patron saint of our Multi Academy Company. St John Paul II was a man of deep faith, great courage and unwavering hope. Throughout his life, he showed extraordinary love for God and inspired people across the world to recognise their dignity as children of God.

As the patron of our family of schools, St John Paul II reminds us of the virtues of faith, compassion, perseverance and service to others. He encouraged young people and families to place Christ at the centre of their lives and to live with joy and confidence in God's love.

One of his most inspiring messages was:

"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ." - St John Paul II

As parents, carers and staff, we are inspired by St John Paul II to be courageous witnesses to our faith, to nurture our children in the love of Christ and to create homes and schools where prayer, kindness and Gospel values flourish. May his example continue to guide us as we work together to help our children grow in faith, wisdom and love.

St John Paul II, pray for us.

Wednesday Word

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

Click HERE for the Wednesday Word



Goodbye and Good luck Mrs Bowen!

Today we said a fond farewell to Mrs Bowen as she begins her maternity leave. We send her our very best wishes for health and happiness as she prepares to welcome the newest addition to her family.

Mrs Walsham will be stepping into the role of Year 3 class teacher from Monday 2nd November. We know she will continue to provide a caring, supportive and engaging learning experience for the children, and we look forward to welcoming her to the class.

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.

St. John Paul II Multi Academy
Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham.
E: enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 827 8664 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter
Company House Registered No. 08706247

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

November Remembrance Board

During the month of November, we will be displaying our annual November Remembrance Board in the school hall. This is a special opportunity for our school community to remember and pray for loved ones who have died.

If you would like a loved one to be remembered on our board throughout the month, please send a photograph or funeral order of service into school, clearly labelled with the person's name. We will keep them in our prayers and remember them with love during this special month of remembrance.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

Changes to the school timetable

Following careful consideration, it has been decided that, from Monday 2nd November, we will be reducing our lunchtime break from 60 minutes to 45 minutes. This change is designed primarily to maximise learning opportunities and increase the time available for high-quality teaching and learning, bringing St Nicholas in line with the practice of many other local schools.

We know that children need time to eat well, play, socialise and recharge; our revised lunchtime will continue to provide ample opportunity for all of these. Every child will have sufficient time to enjoy their lunch and get outside, enjoy some fresh air, let off steam and return to the classroom ready to learn. We also know that, at present, some disagreements and other behavioural issues tend to arise later in the lunch period. A shorter, more focused lunchtime will help us to reduce these occurrences and support a positive start to afternoon learning. However, our overriding reason for making this change is to maximise the time our children spend learning in the classroom.

We are confident that this adjustment will benefit our pupils by making the most of every school day. Thank you for your support as we continue to make decisions that put learning and the best interests of our children first.

A Reminder About Punctuality

We would also like to remind all parents and carers that key lessons begin promptly at 9.00am. We are seeing an increase in the number of pupils arriving late and this is a concern. Even arriving just two minutes late each day adds up to 10 minutes of lost learning every week. Over a school year, this represents a significant amount of missed teaching, learning and valuable classroom time.

Our school gates open at 8.50am, giving children time to arrive, settle in and prepare for the day ahead. All children should be in their seats and ready to learn by 9.00am. Please ensure that your child arrives promptly so that they can begin each day positively and benefit from every minute of learning.

Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring that every child makes the very best use of their time at school.

St. John Paul II Multi Academy
Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham.
E: enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 827 8664 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter Company House Registered No. 08706247

Winter Uniform - Compulsory from Autumn 2

Following the Autumn half-term break, all children should return to school wearing their winter school uniform, which should be worn until the start of the Summer Term after Easter. According to our school uniform policy, winter uniform consists of grey trousers or a grey skirt/pinafore, a gold polo shirt, a blue school jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo, and dark socks or tights.

As the weather has now turned colder and wetter, please ensure that your child comes to school each day with a warm, waterproof coat with a hood. This will help keep children comfortable during break times, lunchtime and when moving around the school site.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children take pride in their appearance and represent our school so smartly.

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

Gifts from God assemblies in Autumn 2 will take place as follows: Friday 6th November, Friday 20th November, Friday 27th November & Friday 11th December.

Nasal Flu Vaccination

The Nasal Flu Vaccination will take place in school on 6th November 2026.

Parents and carers should complete the online consent form, whether they do or do not wish their child to receive the vaccine. Please note that the consent form will close promptly at 9.00am on Wednesday 4th November and late consents cannot be accepted.

Further information about the vaccine can be found on the NHS website.

If you have any questions, please contact the school via our enquiries email address. Whilst we are happy to help where we can, school staff are not medically trained and cannot provide medical advice. Questions regarding eligibility, allergies, medical conditions or suitability for vaccination should be directed to your GP or practice nurse.

Nasal Flu Vaccine Consent Form - Deadline 4th November

Head Lice (Nits)

We have had some cases of head lice in school recently. Please check your child's hair regularly and begin treatment promptly if you find evidence of head lice. For advice on checking for and treating head lice, please visit the NHS website: Head lice and nits – NHS.

Thank you for your support in helping us manage this in school.

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

Together with Christ, we love, live & learn.

Attendance

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



Year group	Attendance for w/c 19/10/26
EYFS	97.5%
Year 1	97.5%
Year 2	99.14%
Year 3	100% WINNERS!
Year 4	100% WINNERS!
Year 5	98.75%
Year 6	98.74%
Well done to this week's joint winners…Year 3 and Year 4! You can negotiate your reward with Mrs Walsham and Mr Reid after half term.	

Dates for the diary

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

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
Friday 6th November	Flu Vaccinations - Consent form to be filled in by 4th November please.
Tuesday 10th November	**Y5 parents**

St. John Paul II Multi Academy
Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham.
E: enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 827 8664 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter
Company House Registered No. 08706247

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

	Alton Castle information meeting at 5:15pm - via Zoom 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=XndIkbz1hjY4Pv7v3igNsbnEt3oUJg.1
Saturday 28th November	4pm-6pm PFA Christmas Wreath making workshop - school hall *We apologise, but there will be no parking available on the school site for this event.*
Thursday 3rd December	4pm Centrestage Recital - in the school hall
Saturday 5th December	2pm to 4pm PFA Christmas Fair - school hall
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Dinner for pupils in dining room
Tuesday 15th December	EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Play in the school hall @ 9.15am - ticket information TBC
Thursday 17th December	4.15pm Guitar Concert in the school hall - all of Y4 and any pupils who do elective guitar lessons in school
Wednesday 16th December	EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Play in the school hall @ 9.15am - ticket information TBC

St. John Paul II Multi Academy
Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham.
E: enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 827 8664 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter
Company House Registered No. 08706247

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

Together with Christ, we love, live & learn.

INSET Days 2026/27

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

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

Have a lovely half term break,

Mr Porter	Mrs Noble-Barton	Miss Smith
Executive Principal	Head of School	Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy
Registered Office: c/o Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham.
E: enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 827 8664 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Ms T. Cotter
Company House Registered No. 08706247