



**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 8th May 2026



Reflection: A year of Pope Leo's Papacy

Today we mark one year of Pope Leo XIV's papacy. In his first year, he has encouraged the Church to be people of peace, prayer, and kindness. He has reminded us that small acts of love can change the world.

As we enter May, the month of Mary, we are invited to see how Mary's quiet faith and trust in God continue to guide us. Just as Pope Leo has placed his ministry under her care, we too can look to Mary as a model of patience, courage, and



hope.

May we follow her example this month, opening our hearts to God and to one another.

Wednesday Word

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Easter Garden Trail

We are delighted to invite you to visit our Easter Prayer Gardens on Wednesday 20th May from 3:00-4:00pm.

This special event is being hosted by our Social Action Group as a fundraiser in support of Father Hudson's Caritas, all donations will go towards helping those with disabilities.

All children across the school are invited to take part by creating their own Prayer Garden. Using a shoebox, plant pot or other container. Pupils can design a small reflective scene inspired by the Easter story. This can be as simple or as detailed as they wish. Ideas might include:

- The empty tomb
- A stone rolled away
- Flowers
- Messages such as 'Jesus is alive'

SEE EXAMPLES BELOW.

We encourage pupils to use their creativity and faith to make their garden a meaningful and reflective piece.

Please bring completed prayer gardens into school on Friday 15th May.

On the day, families are invited to walk around and explore the beautiful prayer gardens created by the children, taking time to reflect on their messages as we come towards the end of the Easter season. Children are of course welcome to join you after collection at 3:30pm.

There will also be a **cake sale** hosted by the pupils, so please bring a few coins if you can. All proceeds from the event will go towards this very worthwhile cause. If there are any keen bakers that would like to contribute, please let Mrs Bowen know via the enquiry email.





A message for our wonderful Year 6 pupils

As you head into your SATs next week, we want you to know one simple truth: you are perfect creations of the Lord, wonderfully made and deeply valued. Your test scores do not define you; not now, not ever.

This weekend, take time to get out in the fresh air, enjoy some good food, and make sure you get plenty of restful sleep. Looking after your body and mind matters far more than any exam.

All we ask of you is your best and your best is already more than enough for us. You've got this, and we are cheering you on every step of the way.

Well done, Year 3 Swimmers

A big well done to our Year 3 pupils, who have spent the last two weeks swimming and walking to and from the pool each day. You've behaved beautifully and made great progress. Thank you to the staff who supported the sessions, and a special thank you to one of our parents, Ms Trueman, who kindly walked with the children every day.

The future of St Nicholas PFA - a message from outgoing chair

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our PFA is essential in providing the "extras" that enrich our children's education, from new equipment to teacher training and classroom/outdoor resources. However, we have reached a critical juncture.

To continue into the next academic year, we urgently need volunteers for three specific leadership roles. Our primary need is for a PFA Chair, supported by a Treasurer and Secretary.



What is at stake?

I must be transparent: if these roles are not filled, the PFA charity may be forced to close. This would mean an immediate end to the funding that provides our indoor/outdoor play equipment and vital school materials. The wonderful community events we all know and love are at stake.

Support is available

You won't be doing this alone. The current team will provide a full handover and support you through to the new year elections. We also strongly welcome co-roles (e.g., Co-Chair) if you'd like to share the responsibility with a friend.

Action Required by 31 May

To ensure we have enough time for a smooth handover, **please step forward by Friday, 5 June.**

If you can help, either in a formal role or as an ad-hoc volunteer, please:

- **Message Matteo or Louise directly (stnicholasschoolpfa@gmail.com)**
- **Speak with your Year Rep.**
- **Contact Mrs Noble-Barton via the School Office.**

Thank you for helping us keep our school community vibrant and well-resourced.

Matteo Belardi

Outgoing PFA Chairperson

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

Gifts from God Assembly Dates There is one remaining Gifts from God assemblies for Summer 1 on **Friday 15th May.**

Holiday Water Safety - A Quick Reminder for Families

As we head towards half term & the summer, it's important for families to stay mindful of **water safety** when travelling. The Royal Life Saving Society UK offers clear, practical guidance to help keep children safe around pools, beaches, and open water while on holiday.

You can read their full advice here:

RLSS UK - Water Safety on Holiday

[Water Safety on Holiday | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)



Smartphone Free Childhood Movement

If you haven't already, school and the SFC parent movement would be grateful if you would fill in a short anonymous parent survey to help us understand views across our school community which can be found here: <https://forms.gle/H1p7auQJni2vZBbn9> Your feedback will help shape how we continue to support families and keep children safe.

Thank you for taking part and for supporting this whole-community conversation.



Attendance

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

Year group	Attendance for w/c 4/5/26
EYFS	99.58% Winners!
Year 1	94.17%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	93.33%
Year 4	96.67%
Year 5	93.33%
Year 6	99.17%
Well done to this week's winners...EYFS! You can choose a reward with Mrs Bowen next week.	

Dates for the diary

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

Weekends of: 9th/10th May 16th/17th May 23rd/24th May	St Nicholas Parish First Holy Communion Masses
W/c 11th May 2026	KS2 SATs Week (Y6)
Thursday 14th May	2.15pm Whole School Mass - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord - in church
Friday 15th May	Year 4 trip to Ironbridge 'Enginuity' Museum

Friday 15th May	Academy Photography to shoot Y6 leavers' photos
Friday 15th May	Gifts from God Assembly - 2.45pm in the school hall
Tuesday 19th May	May Procession & Crowning of Our Lady for the whole school - pupils can bring flowers to adorn our Lady if they wish.
Thursday 21st May 2026	Year 3 to visit Blists Hill Victorian Town
Friday 22nd May 2026	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass @ 7pm in church
MAY HALF TERM Week commencing 25th May 2026 School closed to children	
Monday 1st June 2026	TT Rockstars Day - Y4 only
Friday 5th June 2026	Year 1 trip to Birmingham Botanical Gardens
Monday 8th June 2026	Phonics Day - Y1 only
Wednesday 10th to Friday 12th June	Y6 to Blackwell Adventure
Friday 26th June	Year 3's 'Going Forth' Celebration 8.30am - Photographs 9.15am - Mass in church
Friday 3rd July 2026	INSET Day - school closed to children
Friday 10th July 2026	***Sports' Day*** first choice date
Wednesday 15th July 2026	***Sports' Day*** back up date in case of rain on 10/7.
Friday 17th July 2026	2pm - Leavers' Assembly

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