



Christ our light
Christ our light, your love burns in our hearts
and builds in us a thirst for justice.
Jesus, light of the world, you taught us how to
reach out to others, open our ears
to the stories that beg to be heard.
You who are light and warmth, banish the
darkness and bring us hope.
Jesus, light of life, enfold us all with your love
and incline our hearts to the leading of your
healing spirit. Amen

Message from Mr G Hetherton, Senior Vice Principal Friday 4th April 2025

Last week marked the beginning of the astronomical season of spring – a time of new beginnings, longer days, rejuvenation, and an enthusiasm for what comes next. This coincides with the season of Lent which is a period of great significance for Christians throughout the world and a time that provides us all with opportunities for reflection, prayer, and renewal. In observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians attempt to replicate Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days and his ultimate sacrifice for us all on the Cross.

But sacrifice is relative. How does any Lenten sacrifice that we might undertake compare to Christ's sacrifice or to the sacrifices currently being made by the people of Ukraine, Sudan, or Gaza? Nonetheless, the opportunity to reflect during Lent offers us a chance to consider how we can serve others and how we can offer some support and solidarity to people in real need.

Quite often we may see this six-week period as a time to fret over, where the significance of Lent can become somewhat distorted by focusing on the 'what have I given up' or 'how long can I live without whatever it is I have given up'. Instead of becoming consumed by the fretful

feelings that the season of Lent can sometimes place upon us, could we perhaps think of Lent not so much about giving something up but by giving something back? Sister Joan Chittister, an American Benedictine nun, theologian, and author, describes Lent as:

A call to renew a commitment grown dull, perhaps, by a life consumed more by routine than by reflection.

Reflecting on how we can serve others and how we can give something back to our community, rather than dwelling on what we have given up, or should have given up but didn't manage to, would seem to me to be a very focused and a more positive way of viewing this important period of preparation before the Easter season.

Adopting a more reflective approach to the way we live our lives, and thinking about the way Sister Chittister describes the season of Lent, has the potential for all of us to put to one side the routines of life and to develop a deeper meaning and understanding of Lent. This is a considerable challenge for us all but one that over the next three weeks of new beginnings and rejuvenation is worthy of careful consideration.

Uniform Standards Update

Blazers are compulsory and **MUST** be worn.

Jumpers are an optional item of school uniform and should not be worn instead of a blazer.

From Monday 7th April students not wearing a blazer but wearing any other outer garment will have the garment taken from them and be asked to put their blazer on. The garment will be available to collect from student services at the end of the school day, or at the discretion of senior staff.

Piercings in any other place than the lobe of both ears are **NOT** allowed.

Necklaces **must not** be worn.

Sanctions, in line with the school behaviour policy for non-compliance will be put in place if and when required.

Persistent non-compliance will result in an escalation of sanctions.

TESCO Stronger Starts Tokens

Last year we were fortunate enough to receive £1,000 from TESCO for Breakfast Club. This provides some of our most vulnerable students with a complimentary bagel and bottle of water each morning. Please remember to add blue tokens and vote at the following stores after making a purchase to enable us to potentially receive up to £1,500:

Solihull 2344 Hall Green Strtfd Exp Small unit B28 8AB
Solihull 2624 Hall Green Large unit B90 3LU
Solihull 5498 Kings Heath Birm Exp Small unit B14 6EB
Solihull 5656 Robin Hood Brmham Exp Small unit B28 0LG
Solihull 6685 Birmingham Alcstr Exp Small unit B47 5PN

Voting will commence in store from the first week in **April 2025 until the end of June 2025**. Every little helps!

Risks to Young People from Online Communities

Please follow the link below to a very informative blog from the Mental Health Foundation containing several useful links for parents/carers supporting young people in staying safe online.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/explore-mental-health/blogs/advice-parents-worried-about-issues-raised-netflixs-show-adolescence>

Attendance Champions League

League Table

Week ending Friday 4th April

Position	Club	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	Points
1	7SEB	25	20	0	5	60
2	7BOS	25	19	0	6	57
3	7TER	25	18	0	7	54
4	9BER	25	17	0	8	51
5	7LUK	25	17	0	8	51
6	9LUK	25	16	0	9	48
7	8BOS	25	16	0	9	48
8	11CEC	25	15	0	10	45
9	11BOS	25	15	0	10	45
10	7CEC	25	15	0	10	45
11	10BOS	25	14	0	11	42
12	9SEB	25	14	0	11	42
13	11SEB	25	13	0	12	39
14	10CEC	25	13	0	12	39
15	9CEC	25	13	0	12	39
16	8SEB	25	13	0	12	39
17	8LUK	25	13	0	12	39
18	8BER	25	13	0	12	39
19	9TER	25	12	0	13	36
20	11LUK	25	11	0	14	33
21	10TER	25	11	0	14	33
22	9BOS	25	11	0	14	33
23	8TER	25	11	0	14	33
24	7BER	25	10	0	15	30
25	10LUK	25	9	0	16	27
26	10SEB	25	8	0	17	24
27	8CEC	25	7	0	18	21
28	11BER	25	5	0	20	15
29	10BER	25	5	0	20	15
30	11TER	25	1	0	24	3

Results

Week ending Friday 4th April

7BER	94.55	VS	95.31	7TER
8BER	95.45	VS	94.55	7SEB
8BOS	92.94	VS	94.41	7LUK
8CEC	88.86	VS	87.27	7CEC
8LUK	95.43	VS	95.59	7BOS
8SEB	93.75	VS	91.38	11TER
8TER	96.67	VS	94.44	11SEB
9BER	92.58	VS	95.42	11LUK
9BOS	94.41	VS	90.32	11CEC
9CEC	89.35	VS	88.67	11BOS
9LUK	93.82	VS	92.19	11BER
9SEB	96.25	VS	94.84	10TER
9TER	91.94	VS	88.00	10SEB
10BER	92.33	VS	91.29	10LUK
10BOS	88.67	VS	90.61	10CEC

Fixtures

Week beginning Monday 7th April

7SEB	VS	7BER
7LUK	VS	7TER
7CEC	VS	8BER
7BOS	VS	8BOS
11TER	VS	8CEC
11SEB	VS	8LUK
11LUK	VS	8SEB
11CEC	VS	8TER
11BOS	VS	9BER
11BER	VS	9BOS
10TER	VS	9CEC
10SEB	VS	9LUK
10LUK	VS	9SEB
10CEC	VS	9TER
10BOS	VS	10BER

Uniform Standards

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black pleated school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black and boots of any kind are not allowed.

Our uniform requirements are complemented by a smart appearance and as such, hair styles that should not have a distinct contrast in length. Hair that is dyed must be of a natural hair colour and may not contain more than one colour. To avoid a health and safety risk, long hair must not impede vision or cover the face, except for a fringe which must not cover the eyes. Long hair must be tied up for practical lessons. Religious head coverings must be black and securely tied for practical lessons. Hair bands or accessories must be for functional use to secure the hair. Where hairbands are worn they must be black. Headwear that has religious or cultural purpose should be black. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of plain stud earrings which may be worn in the lobe of the ear.

Students found to be wearing an inappropriate item of uniform may be asked to change this or in some cases parents/carers will be contacted and requested to bring replacement uniform to school.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.

Eco Club

In their role as Active Travel Ambassadors, Eco Club are launching their campaign to get everyone travelling more actively.

We recently found out that student commutes make up 16% of an average Secondary School's Carbon Footprint – the second biggest contributor! Transport also has a massive effect on air quality, contributing 83% of nitrogen dioxide.

Walking is also good for your physical and mental health (especially in the sunshine!) and it's great to do with friends or family. It's definitely less stressful than trying to drive in Kings Heath's traffic at the moment because of the roadworks!

We're running a competition to design a banner promoting walking and not dropping students right outside of school. Winning designs will not only be included on the banner but will earn their creators queue jump passes for the canteen.

To enter, year 7,8 and 9 pupils need to submit their designs on ClassCharts by Monday 28th April.

In form time, we'll also be asking students to make pledges to travel more actively to school. Use the map to see how long it should take you to walk to school from different places. If you normally travel in the car, the yellow areas are where there are public car parks.

Year 11 Easter Intervention Sessions

Please follow the link below for details of Easter holiday intervention sessions being facilitated by staff.

<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/news/2025-04-04-year-11-easter-intervention>

Please ensure that your child attends any additional support sessions, that apply to them, in preparation for their forthcoming GCSE public examinations. The time given by staff is voluntary and we expect students to make the most of it, ultimately to assist them in achieving their full potential.

Students are to enter and exit via main reception, they will not be permitted to leave the site once here so please ensure they bring food and drink with them, fizzy drinks are not allowed.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sport

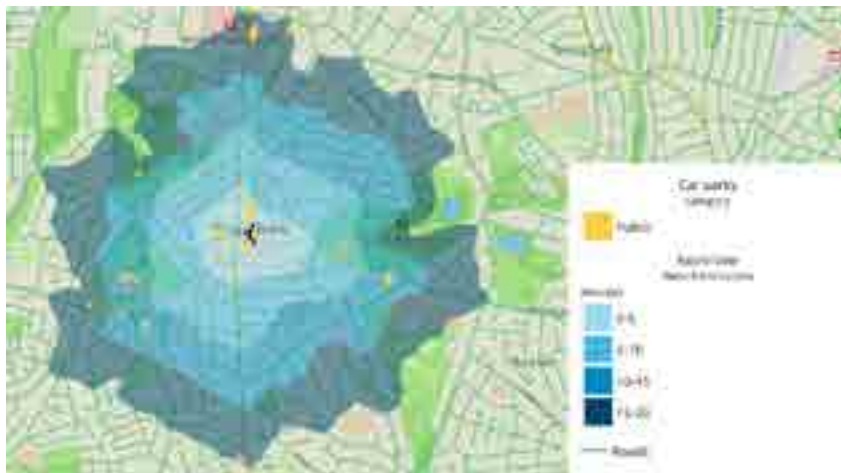
Latest Results

Sixth Form Football

Year 12 & 13 girls won the West Midlands Cup on Wednesday V King Edwards - This is the first ever U18 girls West Midlands Cup and we won on penalties. Antonia J the player of the match.

Swimming

Year 7 & 8 boys competed in the Catholic Partnership Swimming competition on Wednesday 2nd April, they won the competition with all boys contributing to an outstanding performance. Well done!



We're supporting



**World Autism
Acceptance Month**

April 2025

Only

30%



of autistic people are in
any type of employment.

Only

26%



of autistic pupils
feel happy at school.

8/10

of autistic people
experience mental
health issues.



Faith formation in the family

Below is a list that reminds us of when and where Mass is celebrated in our local parishes.

You may wish to consider using this information to help direct your family to participate frequently in the celebration of Mass throughout the year.

Church	Postcode	Parish Priest	Sunday Mass Times	Saturday Vigil Mass Time
St. Dunstan's	B14 7JN	Fr John Peyton	11.30am 5.30pm	4pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	10am	-
Our Lady Of Lourdes	B13 0EU	Canon Sean Grady	9am 11.30am	6pm
St Catherine Of Sienna	B5 7BE	Fr. Jagadishmario Kurapati (Fr. Mario)	11am	5.30pm
St Edward's	B29 7DB	Fr Denis McGillicuddy	10.15am	6pm
St Mary's	B17 0DN	Fr John Reid	11am 5pm	6pm
Sacred Heart and Holy Souls	B27 6RG	Canon Jonathan Veasey	8.30am 10am 12noon	5pm
English Martyrs	B11 3JN	Fr Robert Murphy	8.15am 10.30am	6pm
St Chads Cathedral,	B4 6EX	Bishop Tim Menezes	9.30am 11.30am	4.30pm
Our Lady And St Brigid	B31 5AD	Fr Cecil Rogerson	10am 5.30pm	5pm
Our Lady Of Fatima	B32 1LL	Fr Philip Long Nguyen	11am	6pm
St Ambrose Barlow	B28 8QU	Fr Paul Johnson	10am 5.30pm	5.30pm
The Oratory Of Saint Philip Neri	B16 8UE	Fr Anton Guziel	7.30am 8.30am 10.30am 12.15pm 5.30pm	5.30pm
St Peters	B32 3QG	Fr Gary Buckby	8.45am	-
Our Lady And St Rose Of Lima	B29 5DY	Fr Gary Buckby	11.30am	-
St John and Martin's	B12 9RG	Fr Baburao Pureti	9.30am	4pm

Prayer and Worship

Each Monday morning we begin our school day with a reflection on the Gospel shared in Mass on Sunday.

We would strongly encourage parents/carers to engage in developing their children's faith by sharing this reflection together as a family. As a family you can discuss the message of the Gospel say the prayer together and share what personal messages we can take from this going forward.

Reporting Student Absence

All students are required to attend school/college on time every day. If for any reason your child is unable to attend, please ensure that the school attendance policy is followed, and their absence is reported before the START of the school day (8.40am) and on each day of absence. Please provide a reason for their absence and the likely length of absence, if known.

To report an absence please call the main school number 0121 444 4161 and select the correct option for your child's year group.

If you receive a text message or phone call from school/college because you have not reported your child's absence, please contact us on the most appropriate number as detailed above as soon as you can.

Thank you for your co-operation.

School Reminders

Contacting School

Communication between home and school is very important, in the event that you need to contact school please be reminded of the following procedures.

School telephone number- 0121 444 4161

Option 1- To report an absence

Option 2- Head of Year/Pastoral concerns/enquiries

Option 3- Sixth Form enquiries

Head of Year Contact

All Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year have teaching commitments; therefore any Head of Year/Pastoral enquiries should be directed through Option 2 for students in Year 7-11 or option 3 for students in Year 12 or 13.

If student services staff are not available to answer your call in person, please leave a message with the nature of your enquiry/concern and you will get a call back from the most appropriate member of staff at their earliest convenience. We aim to respond to all contact by the end of the next working day.

Senior Staff Contact

Contact with Head of Year and/or Head of Department is expected to have been made before issues are escalated to Senior staff. Should you need to speak to a Senior member of staff, please contact school by phone and select Option 2 or 3, depending on the year group of your child and request a call and the most appropriate Senior member of staff will contact you at their earliest convenience.

Meeting Staff

Any requests for a face to face meeting with staff should be made using the same contact details as above. Please ensure that the purpose of any meeting request is made clear. A member of staff may contact you before a meeting is arranged if more information is required.

Please do not attend school without an appointment unless there is a safeguarding emergency.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact school and ask to speak to a DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Mrs Peckover is the Senior DSL.

First Aid Information and Procedures

Medication; All medication should be handed into first aid and not carried by the students. Exception EpiPen, Asthma inhalers, insulin. Tranexamic acid in special circumstances.

Please make sure we have the correct medical information and emergency contact details, if you have changed your phone number or there is any change in medical conditions or concerns, please contact first aid using the enquiries email or the main school phone number.

Please send children into school with a water bottle they can re-fill at our water stations provided or they can purchase a drink from the school canteen.

Students with Asthma must carry with them their own personal inhalers. This includes offsite activities and school trips to ensure they can participate safely.

Parents/Carers of students with a known allergy must provide school first aid with antihistamine; this also applies to those with anaphylaxis in addition to their EpiPen.

We do not provide liquid paracetamol such as Calpol. If your child cannot take tablets and you would prefer them to have liquid Calpol please send this in to the school first aider with your child's name on it, this will be kept safe in first aid for your child only.

First Aid and Mobile Phones

Students should not be contacting parents/carers when they feel unwell and requesting to be collected from school. If a student is unwell, they **MUST** go to the First Aider who will deal with them. If a student is not well enough to stay in school, the First Aider will contact parents/carers to arrange collection.

Students who contact their parents/carer directly and do not follow the procedures in place will be sanctioned, this may result in their mobile phone having to be handed in to the student services office each day. The use of anyone else's mobile phone risks that person being sanctioned also.

Please do not arrive at school to collect your child unless school have contacted you to do so. We do not have school staff readily available to collect children. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Any questions or concerns please email them using the main enquiry email for the attention of first aid or call to speak with first aid on the main school number 0121 444 4161.

Spring Term 2	
Every Tuesday	Rosary
Every Thursday	Community Mass 11.30am
Sunday 6th April - Tuesday 8th April	Year 10 and 12 Silver DofE Practice
Tuesday 8th April	Bishop's Got Talent Year 11 & Sixth Form Reconciliation
Wednesday 9th April	Spring Soiree Year 12 Easter Fair
Thursday 10th April	Bake off Competition History trip to Alexander Theatre
Friday 11th April	Easter Hamper
Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April	School Closed - Easter Holiday
Monday 28th April	School Open

Assembly and Form Resource Focus

Last week in our assemblies across the school, we looked at what it means to be a Pilgrim of Hope and how this ties in with the themes of Almsgiving and Sacrifice during Lent. Each year group had a team of volunteers who came together to create their own presentation and they also delivered these assemblies in front of their year groups! It was wonderful to see the confidence and wisdom of the students as they presented their ideas on food poverty and biblical role models alongside modern day role models. A huge well done to our student ambassadors for their courage and precision. This week, the focus has been on Equality, with a special acknowledgement for Stephen Lawrence Day. Students have looked at the significance of Stephen's death and the subsequent police inquiry.

This was made relative to how we always show respect in school as we live out our Faithful Virtues.

Our Form Resource programme celebrated St Patrick's Day two weeks ago and students learnt fun and interesting facts around his story and heritage, before engaging in an interactive quiz and creative shamrock task. This week, as we entered into April, the focus was on Autism Awareness month. Using some fantastic resources from the Communication and Autism Team, students have been made more aware of what we mean by neuro diversity and how we celebrate that we all see the world, uniquely. Thank you to the SEN department who helped with creating this wonderful resource for all of our students to engage in.







Thank you for reading **Hall Green** and **Selly Oak** Early Help Teams monthly newsletter!
Please read on to see what our localities have on offer this month.

'Early Help' is a city-wide approach which aims to connect families with local community support services. This is a partnership of Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Children's Trust, NHS organisations, West Midlands Police, and BVSC on behalf of the voluntary sector.

The Early Help Partnership support hundreds of local families with a wide range of challenges. Read on to discover what's on in the local area, including activities for children and young people and provisions for families.

If you would like to feature on next month's newsletter, please email either
hallgreen.families@greensquareaccord.co.uk
OR
sellyoak.families@greensquareaccord.co.uk

- Follow our social media -





@hallgreenfam
@sellyoakfam

**April
2025**

Click Image to view Newsletter

Life Teen Summer Camp

Bookings are now live for the Life Teen Summer Camp at Alton Castle from Sunday 20th – Thursday 24th July! Are you ready for an unforgettable summer filled with adventure, faith, and friendship? Summer Camp 2025 is here, and we can't wait to welcome you!

This year, we're bringing even more exciting activities, powerful moments of reflection, and opportunities to grow in your faith. It's your chance to step away from the everyday, connect with others, and discover how God is working in your life.

From messy games to bold challenges, from deep conversations to moments of pure joy, Summer Camp 2025 is packed with everything you need to make memories that will last a lifetime.

The full cost of this camp is £275 staying in a Castle Dormitory, or £195 for those wanting to Camp (including transport). We would like to subsidise this cost from some fundraising at the end of March. 12 places have been provisionally booked with priority for young people from the Parish this week before our launch at Bishop Challoner - to secure your place could you book via the Parish Office with a name, contact number and a £50 deposit per person ASAP.

2024-2025 Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Term ends: Friday 11 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28 April 2025

Half-term: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025

Term ends: Friday 18th July 2024

INSET Days

Monday 21st July 2025



Comhaltas
Ceoltóirí Éireann
Birmingham Branch

Traditional Irish Music Classes

at Bishop Challoner School,
Institute Road, Kings Heath B14 7EG
Thursday evenings at 7.00pm
from 12th September 2024

All ages and all instruments welcome.

Contact:

Branch Sec. belindahutchings@yahoo.com
Branch Chair, Marian Dwyer, Text 07939 094797

Irish Music SESSION

on the second Sunday of the
month at Norton's, Digbeth, B5 5LS
from 3.00pm onwards.

Everyone Welcome

Regional Fleadh, Newman University, 6th April 2025



Craobh Birmingham
Conradh na Gaeilge



COMHALTAS

POP UP
Gaeltacht

Second Sunday of the month

At Nortons Digbeth 1pm-3pm

Come along and listen or join in with a cúpla focal
Everyone is welcome to this monthly event.



Craobh Birmingham
Conradh na Gaeilge

LEARN IRISH NOW

Irish language course for beginners starting
October 24. In-person classes once a month
with online and printed resources to study at
your own pace at home.

www.gaeilge.uk