



Friday 11th November 2022

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn Term 2022				Fri 16 th Dec (2pm)
Spring Term 2023	Tues 3 rd Jan – Staff Training Day School Closed Wed 4 th Jan – Children Return	Mon 20 th – Fri 24 th Feb	Mon 27 th Feb	Fri 31 st Mar (2pm)
Summer Term 2023	Mon 17 th Apr	Mon 29 th May – Fri 2 nd Jun	Mon 5 th Jun	Fri 21 st July (2pm) (Staff Training Mon 24 th & Tues 25 th July)

Staff Training Days 2022 - 2023 – Tuesday 3rd Jan, Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July

Catholic Life

Class Mass

The next Class Mass is Thursday 17th Nov – Year 5 (St Cecilia – 22nd Nov) and Thursday 24th Nov – Year 4 (St Andrew the Apostle- 30th Nov). Parents of the class leading the Mass are most welcome.

Wednesday Word

Please find the link for this week's Wednesday Word, which shares Sundays Gospel with parents and families:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/home/index.htm>

Parish of SS John and Martin

Please click on the following to access Mass times and the current SS John and Martin parish newsletter:

<http://www.ssjohnandmartin.org.uk/newsletter.htm>

TenTen Parent Newsletter

Please click on the following link for November Parent's Newsletter: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Live Simply Award

SS John and Monica School are working towards achieving this important award. The **Live Simply** award is earned by schools and school communities who can show how they have been living:

- simply
- in solidarity with people in poverty
- sustainably with creation.



The award celebrates what we have already done as a school community and inspires us to do more. It helps our school community to live, not just more simply, but also more fully. SS John and Monica School are delighted to say that our completed action plan has been accepted and we have received our certificate of registration, to show we are working towards becoming a LiveSimply school. We will be organising sustainable initiatives over the coming year, which we will encourage you to be part of.

Parent View

Thank you to those parents/carers who have taken the time to complete the Parent View questionnaire. We are most grateful. If you have yet to do this, the link is found at:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views/survey/2619>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.



Parliament Week

UK Parliament Week (UKPW) is a celebration of people power. This year we started UKPW with an interactive assembly for the whole school. The children were informed about UK Parliament and about how they can take action and make an impact on the issues they care about.

After the assembly, children completed a variety of activities in their classrooms, some included creating petitions, campaigning for change, debating issues, holding votes and taking part in quizzes and lively debates.

We then held a feedback assembly, where children showcased the exciting activities they had completed during the week. Year 6 wrote letters to their local MP, Year 5 debated the voting age, Year 4 held a debate just like in the house of commons, Year 3 designed posters about something they are passionate about, Year 2 searched for historical facts about Parliament and Year 1 used patterns to redesign the Houses of Parliament and also spoke about the importance of our British Value; respect.

Last year, almost 1 million people took part in every region of the UK, and our school was amongst those 1 million people, so we were so excited to be involved again this year!



Miss Geoghegan.

Reception and Year 1 Phonics and Reading Workshop

We will be holding two important Phonics and Reading workshops for Reception and Year 1 parents and children. The details are as follows:

- Reception - Tuesday 15th November 9.15am (School Hall)
- Year 1 - Wednesday 16th November 9.15am (School Hall)

These workshops will give you an opportunity to learn about our new Essential Letters and Sounds Phonics and Reading scheme and work with your child one-to-one, supporting them with phonics and reading activities. All children MUST have an adult who can support them on this morning. We look forward to seeing you next week.

Odd Socks Day – Anti-Bullying Week 14th-18th Nov

Next week, marks the start of Anti-bullying week. The theme this year is 'Reach Out'. There will be a whole school assembly on Monday, follow-up work around this important subject and then a feedback assembly on Friday.

We will be holding an Odd Socks day on Mon 14th Nov, to launch the week. We ask our children to come into school wearing odd socks! So look for most the brightest, colourful or even patterned socks you can find!



If you would like to know more visit: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week>

Reading Rewards and House Points

The following children have been chosen by their class teachers for reading lots of books on MyOn or elsewhere. Well done!

Class	Name
Rec	Saif
Year 1	Ajeet & Alizah
Year 2	Myroslav
Year 3	Wisam
Year 4	Ojaswithaa
Year 5	Rabia
Year 6	Aayan



Well done to **St David's** House for having the highest house point total over the last two weeks!

1st St David – 1160 2nd St Andrew - 1158
3rd St George – 1095 4th St Patrick - 1072

HOUSE POINTS

Cars Idling

I am sorry to say that I have had complaints again from local residents and parents regarding car engines left idling, while parents wait to collect their children. Recent research shows that some 27% of parents and guardians leave engines running outside schools despite car emissions being known to increase the risk of health issues. Vehicle emissions are closely linked to respiratory and other health issues and can carry fines of up to £80. We have done some work in school with the children about this important subject and highlighted the impact it has in our school and local environment.

These powerful videos help us understand the impact if we leave our engines running:

<https://www.bristol247.com/culture/film/short-film-shows-the-dangers-of-cars-idling-near-schools/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWDOC-QyHrM>



We ask all our parents to turn engines off while their cars are stationary. Thank you.

Punctuality and Attendance

Lateness

Pupil lateness is reported to the Department for Education. To improve our school punctuality, all parents/carers who drop their children off to school after 8.55am (school start); will be required to sign the late book.

Unauthorised Absence

Please do not book trips away for your child during school term time. Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and will not be authorised. Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies, which are being dealt with by adult family members. Notifying the school of leave due to a family emergency does not mean it will be authorised.

Please note that where parents fail to ensure their child attends school regularly, legal action, including penalty notices, may be considered by the Local Authority.



**Attendance for 31st Oct to 4th Nov – Well done to Year 4 – 97.1%
7th to 11th Nov – Well done to Years 3 & 4 - 100%**

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	93.3%	91.7%	88.9%	96.3%	98.4%	96.4%	93.3%
Lates	13	12	14	10	12	14	13
Whole School Attendance so far this year				94.8%	School Target		97%

Reception Admissions – September 2023

Online admissions opened on 1st October 2022 for Reception admissions for September 2023. Applications can be made online through the [Birmingham City Council website](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) until the final deadline of 15th January 2023. Please note as 16th April 2023 is a Sunday, offers will be sent on Monday 17th April.

Please note if your application is late, it is less likely you will be offered one of your preferred schools. All the information parents need to support with making their preferences is available on the website:

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> More advice and support is also available from Children's Services on **0121 303 1888**.

The following children have been chosen for exceptional work and behaviour. Well done to everyone!

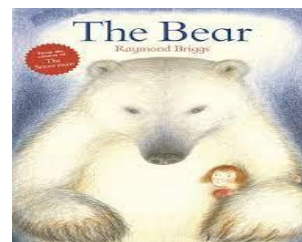
Reception: Mrs. Riches, Mrs. Deacon & Miss Smith	Saif & Zidaan
Year 1: Miss Geoghegan & Mrs. Griffiths	Eleisha & Jana
Year 2: Miss Millar & Mrs. Tutt	Paul & Keyaan
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs. Ali	Iris & Seema
Year 4: Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Catling & Mrs. Ali	Ayden & Whole Class
Year 5: Mr Walsh & Mrs Reed	Mahmood & Hlib
Year 6: Mrs. Gray & Miss Hill	Amaad & Khaydan
Mr. Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Max – Y3 , Jeremie, Mo & Aisha – Y5
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Taim – Y1 & Ayyana – Y3

Christmas

Please find attached the Christmas Raffle flyer from our School Fundraising Committee. Tickets have already been sent home. Please spread the word and sell to friends and family. If you need more booklets, please pop into the school office. Last year a lot of money was raised for additional resources for the children and we are sure that this year will be as successful! **Ticket stubs to be returned Monday 28th November.**

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 8th December

Please email the school office if you would like to book a Christmas lunch for your child: enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk, Payments to be made online <https://eduspot.co.uk/>



Rec/KS1 Christmas Theatre Trip – Friday 2nd December

Rec/KS1 visit to the Midlands Arts Centre to see their Christmas Production 'The Bear' by Raymond Briggs will take place on Fri 2nd Dec. The cost of the trip is £11.00 and can be paid via <https://eduspot.co.uk/> along with consent for the trip.

Book Swap (Live Simply Action)

We are organising a book swap on our Christmas Fair day 1st Dec. If you have any unwanted books in relatively good condition, please bring them into school. Children/adults will have an opportunity to swap/choose a book for no charge at the Christmas Fair. This is a great way to share good books in our school community, without any extra cost to families.

Good Quality Used Uniform (Live Simply Action)

If you have some relatively good quality, used uniform that you no longer need, please send it into school. This will be available on a stall during our Christmas Fair.

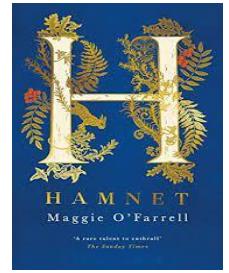
- Christmas Jumper Day – 1st Dec (£1.00)
- Christmas Cupcake Competition – 1st Dec
- Christmas Fair – 1st Dec 3.15-5.15pm
- Christmas Raffle – 1st Dec
- KS1 Disco – 1st Dec - 3.15-4.15pm (£2.00)
- KS2 Disco – 1st Dec - 4.15-5.15pm (£2.00)
- Online Bingo – 7th Dec (£3.00)



All monies for the above payable via <https://eduspot.co.uk/>

Staff Book Review – Mrs Litchfield

I love reading and I have found it very hard to pick my favourite book as it frequently changes! In the end, today, I have chosen 'Hamnet' written Maggie O'Farrell who is one of my go-to authors and was first introduced to me by Mrs Catling – we often swap book recommendations.



This heart-stopping novel is set in the 1580s in the time of Shakespeare and imagines a poignant backstory to his play 'Hamlet' but you don't need to know anything about Shakespeare or the play to enjoy the story. The little-known home life of the famous playwright, his wife Anne (in this book known as Agnes) and their children including their only son Hamnet is so beautifully and vividly written that you can almost imagine yourself there with them. It is a story of twins, family, marriage and the plague.

As a history lover too, an added bonus is that the book is set in the Warwickshire countryside around of Stratford-upon-Avon where you can visit Shakespeare's house, Anne Hathaway's house and walk the routes so evocatively described in the novel. It's a great read!

**Don't forget to visit our Library After School to read and borrow some books!
Mondays and Wednesdays 3.15pm-3.45pm**

Mrs. M. Elliott - Head Teacher

Quote of the Day

'The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched –they must be felt with the heart.....' – Hellen Keller.

Mission Statement



**At SS John & Monica's, we learn through the example of
Respect, Understand and Value each other**