



Friday 13th November 2020

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn 2020				Fri 18 th Dec – 2pm
Spring 2020	Mon 4 th Jan Training Day – School Closed. School Opens Tues 5 th Jan	Fri 12 th Feb	Mon 22 nd Feb	Thurs 1 st April – 2pm
Summer 2020	Mon 19 th April Training day – School Closed. School opens Tues 20 th April	Fri 28 th May Training Day School Closed	Mon 7 th June	Wed 21 st July – 2pm

Covid-19 Update

7 Covid Free Weeks

We are relieved that over the past seven weeks our school has had no notification from Public Health England or parents of positive test results of children in our school. We still have children and families who are awaiting test results and self-isolating and thank parents for keeping us fully informed. It is clear that we are all working very hard to keep ourselves and each other safe in extremely difficult circumstances.

Blocking Gate

Can we remind parents of the following outside the school gates:

- To stand aside from the main school gates, not blocking them, to allow children from each class 'Bubble' to enter the school premises safely.
- To arrive as near to the set class time as possible, to avoid congestion on both the road and pavement outside school
- To be courteous and step to the side on the pavement outside school if you are waiting, to give children and families to space to pass

Thank you for supporting our school in keeping everyone safe.

National Education Union Covid-19 Website

The National Education Union website, which presents an accurate, accessible and up-to-date information about the Covid-19 rate in the locality of every school in England <https://www.schoolcovidmap.org.uk/> shows that local rates around our school are rising and above the Birmingham Average. This means that we need to be extra careful and vigilant when moving around the Moseley and Balsall Heath areas.

From Birmingham With Love

Please see the attached flyer from the Birmingham Children's Partnership regarding a range of supportive services, that can help families during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Catholic Life

Catholic Schools Pupil Profile - Virtues

This term we are focusing on the virtues to be Intentional and Prophetic. We become intentional in the way we live and use the earth's resources, guided by conscience: and prophetic in the example we set to others.

Mass in School

Unfortunately, due to national lockdown restrictions and guidelines for acts of worship, Mass will not be able to take place in school until these restrictions are lifted.

Wednesday Word

Please see the link for this week's *Wednesday Word* below: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&v=4.4>

Reception Intake September 2021 Virtual Open Day

Unfortunately, our new Reception Open Day will take place virtually this year. There is a section on the home page of our school website entitled 'New Reception Online Open Day', which has all the documentation and a virtual tour of Reception by myself.

<https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/school-life/new-reception-online-open-day>

Please spread this message to any family and friends you may know, who are applying for a Reception place for 2021.



Admissions

We also have the following places available should you know any family who is looking for a place in our school:

Current Reception class: 2 places

Year 3: 1 Place

Year 6: 1 Place

Please contact the School Office for further details.

Teaching and Learning

Barvember

November is here, which means it's Barvember time!

Barvember is organised to encourage the use of bar modelling in Maths, as a visual approach to solving problems. In each, class we are solving at least one Barvember problem each week, in order to develop the children's competence in bar modelling. Please visit the Maths page on our school website at:

<https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/curriculum/subject-areas/maths> for further details about the maths curriculum at school, including the Key Instant Recall Facts, which children should be learning at home.

Reading

Please encourage your child to read regularly, little and often is best. Reading IS the most important subject on the curriculum and if you have little time for anything else, you must encourage your child to READ, READ, READ! Please complete reading diaries to support with the Home/School reading process.

Homework

Please encourage your child to complete their homework on a regular basis. If you have any questions about homework, please email the school and this will be passed on to your child's Class teacher.

Anti-Bullying

Anti-Bullying Week: 16th-20th November – Odd Socks Day

During National Anti-Bullying Week 16th-20th Nov, we will be doing a range of work around this important theme. Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By talking about this, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Indeed, it takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying. **To recognise this week, we are asking pupils to wear odd socks on Monday 16th November as a stand against Bullying.** We are excited for this campaign as we want to create empowering, positive messages addressing the fact that when it comes to bullying *CHANGE STARTS WITH US!* Please go on line via School Money to make a contribution, which go will to the Anti-Bullying Alliance.



Charity Work

We have been doing lots of charity fundraising over the last couple of weeks. Thank you for your contribution to 'Wear Yellow for World Mental Health day' – a total of £101.00 was raised for Young Minds Charity.

Thank you for all your contributions to the Royal British Legion for Remembrance Day. You can still go online to make a contribution via School Money.



Rewards Corner

Head Teacher Postcard

Well done to the following children who all received a 'Postcard from the Head Teacher' sent to their home! Rec - Daniyal, Y1 – Fariyah, Y2 – Emilia, Y3 – Areeba, Y4 – Felicity, Y5 – Leena, Y6 – Shaniya and Haniyah.

Reading Eggs/Express

Well done to Baeen - Y1 and Hibba - Y4 for regularly accessing Reading Eggs/Express and working hard through the programme!

Mathletics

Well done to Ambar - Rec and Hawwa - Y4 for regularly accessing Mathletics and working hard through the programme!

House Points

Well done to St Andrews who are in the lead with 263 House Points. Followed by St George 251, St Patrick 206 and St David 172. Keep up the good work children!

Punctuality and Attendance

Punctuality

- We thank you for adhering to new start/finish times put in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, we still have some children arriving later than their start time. If your child arrives late, DO NOT leave them at the gate, but bring them to the front entrance. A member of staff will then need to escort them to class. If this is persistent, it will be treated as a safeguarding concern.
- For those parents late collecting their child, our Late Collection Policy will be followed, including set charges. This policy has been attached to for your attention.

Attendance

We are pleased to see that our attendance is steadily rising, particularly being that we are working in such difficult circumstances. We are some way off our end of year target, but thank you for working hard to ensure your child is in school every day.

Attendance for: Week 2nd to 6th Nov - Well done to Year 1 & 2 - 100%
Week 9th to 13th Nov - Well done to Year 1 - 99%

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	98.7%	99.6%	99.3%	92.6%	98.8%	97.1%	96.3%
Lates	2	1	0	1	4	1	0
Whole School Attendance so far this year				94.9%	School Target		97%

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

Reception: Mrs. Riches & Mrs Hodges	Daniyal & Damian
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs Reed	Maxwell & Ethan
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Preet & Ayden
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs Ali	Ibrahim & Elijah
Year 4: Mrs Litchfield, Mrs Catling & Mrs Ali	Amaad & Medina
Year 5: Miss McEvoy & Miss Hill	Mark & Lucas
Year 6: Mrs Gray & Miss Hill	Seraj & Eve
Mr Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Mae – Year 3 & Jesse-John – Year 6
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Umar – Year 1 & Jemima – Year 6

Christmas Events

Although we are aware that things will be very different in school this Christmas, we are determined to plan as many positive activities and events as possible, to make the season as special as we can for all our children.

The following gives you some information about events that are planned:

Christmas Lunch – Reception to Year 6

This will take place on Thursday 10th Dec (see attached flyer). Years 3 to 6 – if you wish your child to have a Christmas Lunch please email the school office. (Reception to Year 2 no need to contact the office as your child is entitled to Free School Meals).



Christmas Jumper Day

This will take place on Thursday 10th Dec (proceeds to go to School Fund).

Christmas Parties

Class Christmas parties will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 16th December. To ensure that we are Covid compliant, we would ask you to send **any** of the following in a small plastic bag for your individual child: packet of crisps, chocolate bar, biscuits, cake. School will provide a carton of juice. Thank you.

Christmas Montages

Due to Covid- 19 and class Bubble restrictions, unfortunately, there will be no KS1 Nativity or KS2 Carol Concert. Instead, each class will produce a Christmas Montage, which will involve video and pictures. These will be shared via Seesaw.

Christmas Creative Activities

In light of the fact that we are not able to produce a Nativity or Carol Concert, we are going to devote extra time to planning and organising creative Christmas art and design activities.

Advent Fundraiser for CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

As a Catholic school, we organise an annual Advent fundraising event, as part of our charitable and social justice work. This year, we will be organising a Movie Afternoon on Thursday 17th Dec, which will be held in each class. We invite you to make a small voluntary contribution via School Money, which will be sent to CAFOD.

Home School Association Christmas Activities

These will be confirmed at a later date and flyers will be send out.

Diwali 14th November 2020

We would like to wish our Sikh and Hindu community a Happy Diwali!



Mrs M. Elliott – Head Teacher

Mission Statement



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