



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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

### Covid-19 Update

#### Track and Trace – Positive Cases until 23<sup>rd</sup> December

The DfE has announced that schools, rather than Public Health England, are required to be on call until 23<sup>rd</sup> December to manage Track and Trace for each school.

- If your child has COVID symptoms you need to book a COVID test for the child and inform school of the results up until 23<sup>rd</sup> December
- While you are waiting for test results your family MUST self-isolate completely
- Please email results to [enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk) to allow us to start the process of informing contacts
- All parents must make sure they check text alerts and emails from school, which may alert you that your child has been a contact with a positive case and must self-isolate

#### Free School Meal Children - Vouchers

If you receive Free School Meals please check your emails (including Junk) as vouchers from Edenred to cover the cost of lunches during school closure over the Christmas period have been sent out. Please remember that one voucher is issued per family and the value of that voucher varies depending on the number of children that you have. This amount is to make provision for children over the two-week period that school is closed.

#### When the children return on 5<sup>th</sup> January can we remind parents again of the following:

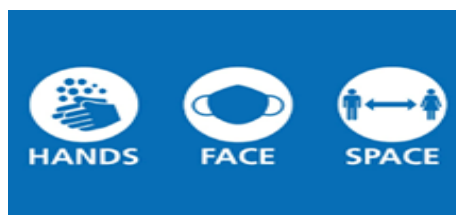
- To inform school via email you are exempt from wearing a mask (so that staff are aware and do not keep asking you)
- **To stand aside from the main school gates, not blocking them, to allow children from each class 'Bubble' to enter the school premises safely.**
- To arrive as near to the set class 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
- Adhere to the following staggered times:

8.45am – 2.55pm – Year 2 & Year 6

8.55am - 3.05pm – Year 1 & Year 5

9.05am - 3.15pm – Year 3 & Year 4

9.15am – 2.45pm – Reception



Thank you to all parents/carers for adhering to our school Covid restriction measures, put in place this term, to keep our community safe.

*'At SS John and Monica's, we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'*

## Catholic Life

### 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>

### Advent

As we continue on our Advent journey, we recognise that this Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec is the last Sunday of this important liturgical season. On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our lord. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolises peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men". For more Advent visit: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/advent-2020>.

For Archbishop Bernard's Christmas message to school children visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYVku9cYa38&feature=youtu.be>

### SS John and Martin Parish Christmas Masses

Please see the attached newsletter with information regarding Christmas Masses and further notices from Fr Mario and the parish.



### Christmas Class Montages

We were disappointed that we were not able to organise our usual Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert this year. However, the children and staff worked extremely hard in producing an exciting and creative Christmas Montage. These were uploaded to our online digital platform, Seesaw, for all to enjoy. I am sure you will agree; each montage was wonderful to watch and a credit to each class!

### A Big Thank you!

A huge 'thank you' to our Fundraising Committee for organising our Christmas Decoration competition and Bingo events! A special thank you to Serena's (Y3) mum for organising the Christmas Decoration competition – **a total of £411.80 was raised**. The following children were winners in the Christmas Decoration competition: Rec - Ubaid, Year 1- Deyana, Year 2 - Preet, Year 3 - Mayla, Y4 – Chitrani, Year 5 – Mark & Mohiudeen, Year 6 - Umamah

Thanks also goes to Ivo's (Y3) dad for organising Bingo – **a total of £169.00 was raised**. The following children were Bingo winners Zac - Y2, Serena - Y3, Alayna - Y3, Pedro - Y3, Caleb - Year 4

If you would like to support our Fundraising Committee, please contact Mrs Santra (parent of Serena) or the school office. We welcome and urge new parents from Reception class and others new to the school to get involved.



### Advent Fundraiser for CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

Thank you to all those who contributed to our CAFOD Advent fundraiser. The children thoroughly enjoyed their movie afternoon and a total of **£121.70** was raised. Thank you again.



## SS John and Monica Governors

We welcome the following who have been appointed as Foundation Governors to SS John and Monica School:  
Mrs Bridie Rooney, Mr Kieran Reel and Mrs Kayla Brown.

Foundation governors in a Catholic School are responsible for working as a team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all staff, to uphold the Catholic character of the school and the Catholic nature of the education provided, as set out in its mission statement.

Please visit the following link on our school website for details of our school governors

<https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/about-us/governors/governing-body>

## Parents Code of Conduct

This term, we have had to spend time dealing with several incidents regarding parents code of conduct. This has taken staff and senior leadership away from the vital day-to-day work of teaching and learning and moving our school forward. Recent incidents have involved parents reprimanding other parent's children outside the school gates and parents having disagreements outside school and bringing parental issues into school via their children. This is not acceptable and goes against our parent's code of conduct.

- If a parent has a concern about an incident that has taken place **in school hours**, then they must speak to the class teacher in the first instance for the incident to be investigated and dealt with. Parents should not take it upon themselves to either confront another parent or reprimand their child outside school.
- Any personal disagreements between parents should be resolved outside school. Staff and leadership cannot be responsible for resolving any ongoing disagreements between parents. Neither should they be expected to mediate between parents while such issues are ongoing. Parents also need to be mindful about the effect this has on children coming to school.

We are all here to work together for the best outcomes for our children. Thank you for your support and understanding in this matter.



### Rewards

#### House Points

Well done to St Andrew who are in the lead with 1763 House Points, followed by St George - 1681, St Patrick - 1658 and St David - 1327. Keep up the good work children!

#### Reading Eggs

Well done to Zachary Y2 and Areeba Y3 for regularly accessing Reading Eggs/Express and working hard through the programme!

#### Mathletics

Well done to Yoel Rec and Amat Y6 for regularly accessing Mathletics and working hard through the programme!

## Attendance Focus Week

The following children's names were drawn for 100% Attendance Focus (wk beg 7<sup>th</sup> Dec): REC – Yoel, Y1 – Mia, Y2 – Samuel, Y3 – Sarah, Y4 – Hawwa, Y5 - Kai Y6 – Mariatou. Each child received a special attendance certificate and book.

This has been a challenging term with regards to attendance. We thank all parents for bringing their children to school, on time, each day. Punctuality, however, still remains an issue with some families, both before and after school. This must improve in the spring term. Unfortunately, punctuality notices and late collection fines have had to be issued to deter families from ignoring school start and finish times. Will hope that this will improve next term.



Attendance for: 30<sup>th</sup> Nov to 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Well done to Year 2 - 100%  
 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – Well done to Rec - 100%  
 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Dec – Well done to Year 1 & 5 – 98.7 %

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	96.9%	98.2%	98.3%	94.9%	97.5%	98%	94.6%
Lates	5	8	1	13	8	9	7
Whole School Attendance so far this year				96.8%	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	Eden, Whole Class & Rumaisa
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs Reed	Sukhmani, Mohammed Zain & Baeen
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Arlo, Rosa & Safaa
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs Ali	Jeremie, Nafisah & Mayla
Year 4: Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Catling & Mrs Ali	Maisie, Ranell & Yanet
Year 5: Miss McEvoy & Miss Hill	Khio, Jeremiah , Zosia , Aleen & Talisha
Year 6: Mrs. Gray & Miss Hill	Adam, Rio & Haniyah
Mr. Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Benjamin , Umamah & Jack – Y6
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Maria – Y6, Eyob – Y1 & Mark – Y5

#### Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> January	School Closed Staff Training	
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> January	School Re-opens	See Staggered times
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Attendance Focus Week	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Forest School to start	Y3 am, Y4 pm
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	History Theme Day – Details to follow	

#### PE Kit

Whilst we have made lots of allowances for uniform during this term, going forward, we are asking parents to do the best they can to adhere to our school uniform policy. This is especially so regarding footwear. Trainers are only allowed to be worn on PE day. We also ask that pumps are sent in with every child and kept in school. This is because many classes do dance and gymnastics as part of their PE curriculum and for health and safety reasons, trainers are not allowed to be worn in these lessons. Thank you.



#### Extreme Weather Conditions

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In the event of heavy snowfall, **we will send out a text message to confirm that the school is closed.** Please listen to local radio stations to hear if the school has had to close or not (Heart FM, Radio WM, Free Radio and 1296am Radio XL). DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SCHOOL OFFICE. **Please ensure that the office has up to date mobile contact and email information.**

#### Reception Intake September 2021 Virtual Open Day

The Reception Open Day virtual tour is accessed via the following link:

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

Applications need to be completed online by 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021 at the following:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school\\_admissions/1786/apply\\_for\\_reception\\_primary\\_school/4](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1786/apply_for_reception_primary_school/4)

#### Admissions

We 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.



## Community Corner #youvebeenmissed

New resources have been uploaded to the #youvebeenmissed website at <https://bwc.nhs.uk/parents-and-carers>. These include Lesson plans, films and worksheets, which are all available.

## Hall Green Families

Please see attached flyers from Hall Green Families community support.

## Online Safety

Access to new tech over the winter period can provide new opportunities for children and young people but also present risks. The following guide for parents looks at how you support your child to be safer online this season by focusing on 3 key areas: viewing, sharing, chatting and friending: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/parents-guide-being-social-online/>

## Mental Health

For urgent mental health help line: ring 0121 262 3555 for advice and support. This line is available 24 hours, 7 days a week and can be used whether you are known to the service or not.

## Foodbanks

For citywide Food banks go to:

[https://www.findfoodbanksbrum.org.uk/project\\_category/food-bank](https://www.findfoodbanksbrum.org.uk/project_category/food-bank)

## Domestic Violence

For support go to Birmingham & Solihull Women's Aid <https://bswaid.org/>  
Helpline: 0808 800 0028. Open 7 days a week 9.15am – 5.15pm (closed bank holidays)



## A Happy and Holy Christmas to our Whole School Community

### Thank you Staff

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of SS John and Monica School for their hard work and dedication to the children this term. They have been truly magnificent, under extremely difficult and challenging circumstances. I know that staff would also like to pass on their many thanks for the kind and generous Christmas gifts parents have sent into school to say thank you.

### Thank you Parents/Carers

Finally, thank you to our parents/carers and whole school community for the support they have shown to myself and the staff this term. We are very grateful for this.

**The staff, governors and myself wish everyone a happy, safe and Holy Christmas. May the Lord grant you and your loved one's peace and joy during this season and the coming year.**



Mrs M. Elliott – Head Teacher

## Mission Statement



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