



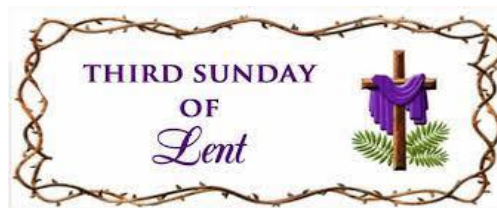
Friday 18th March 2022

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Spring Term 2022			Mon 28 th Feb	Fri 8 th Apr 2.00pm
Summer Term 2022	(Mon 25 th April Training Day School Closed.) School re-opens Tues 26 th April	Mon 30 th May	Mon 6 th June	Thurs 21 st July 2.00pm

Catholic Life

Lent

As we move towards the Third Sunday of Lent, we continue to ask God for his guidance in our own repentance and spiritual growth.



Class Mass

The next Class Mass is Thurs 24th March – Year 2 (3rd Sunday of Lent- Annunciation of Our Lord and Thurs 31st March – Year 1 (4th Sunday of Lent) Please contact the school office, if you would like to book a place (limit of 10 places)

Whole School Lenten Retreat Day

We are delighted to be welcoming back Dan and Emily to lead us on our Whole School Lenten Retreat Day. The theme of the day will be 'No Greater Love' and reflection will cover the lead up to Easter and how Jesus gave his life for us. The day will include activities, worship and songs. Keep an eye on our school Twitter, to find out more on the day!

Parental Consultation Relationship and Health Education

The parental survey for Relationship and Health Education provision at SS John and Monica's was sent out several weeks ago. The closing date for the survey is **Friday 25th March**. Following this, responses will be analysed by the governors of SS John and Monica School and feedback given to parents with regards to next steps.

A reminder if you wish to take part in the consultation, please do the following:

- Access the Parent Consultation Tool here: www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-consultation-primary
- You will need the following login credentials for our school:
Username: ss-john-monica-13
Password: saints-13
- Undertake the Parent Consultation course provided.
- Complete the following questionnaire: <https://forms.office.com/r/QGT66bcGkF>

Please note: this must be completed **AFTER** the Parent Consultation Course has been watched).

Wednesday Word

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

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&v=4.4>

Ten Parent Newsletter

The following link takes you to the Parents newsletter for March

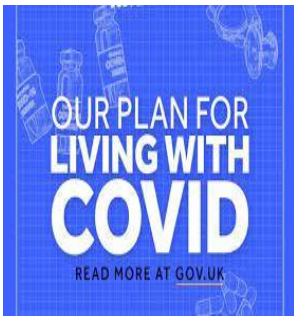
<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/parents/>



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>



Covid-19 Update

Cases

Both Birmingham and local Covid-19 rates have increased recently and we are still having positive cases within our school community. Staffing and cover for staff illness, at times, can be a challenge and we thank you for your patience and understanding if staff do not get back to you straight away.

Although most restrictions have now been removed from school settings (depending on the number of positive cases), we are still vigilant with regards to rigorous handwashing, cleaning schedule and social distancing where possible.

Science Week - 11th - 20th March 2022

On Monday, we launched our science week with a whole school assembly. Mrs Riches spoke about the skills we need as young scientists and how these can be developed and used in future careers. On Wednesday all pupils were involved in our exciting round robin science day. The day was a huge success with children enjoying a variety of activities throughout the day. Our Science Selfie Competition is currently being held and entries will be accepted until Sunday 20th March. For a chance to win a prize, the children need to post their selfies on SeeSaw, winners will be announced next week!



Y3 Parents Meeting – Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion

There is a Y3 parent's meeting on **Wednesday 23rd March at 2.30pm at SS John and Monica School**, which all parents, whose children are receiving the Sacraments, should attend. Miss Treacy will be leading the meeting and will be informing parents of the sacramental programme and how you can support your child.



Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place face to face on **Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th April**. The link to sign up for these has been sent out. You will receive your child's termly report on Friday 1st April, prior to this meeting.

Your child's attendance will also be covered in the meeting.

A reminder that children should NOT attend the Consultation and only one adult per child. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Standard Assessment Tests (SAT's)

Please note the following:

- Year 6 SATs take place **Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May**
- Year 2 SATs take place during the month of **May**
- Year 4 Times Tables Check **from 6th June (3 week period)**
- Year 1 Phonics Screen Check takes place Week Beginning **from 6th June (3 week period)**



Please do not book holidays for any of the above dates. Further details will be given out nearer the time.

Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase either KS1 (Y2) or KS2 (Y6) **SATS** revision Booklets

Attendance and Punctuality - Important

Good attendance, after the disruptions of the last two years, continues to be a school and government priority. Our whole school attendance figures remain lower than nationally and pre-covid times. Over the coming months, as a school, we are going to be focusing heavily analysing, monitoring and improving attendance.

This week you should receive a hard copy of our attendance leaflet, informing you about the importance of attendance and the impact of poor attendance and high absence.

During Parent consultations, staff will be giving out your child's attendance this term and discussing any concerns. Remember below 95% is a concern and below 90% is classed as persistent absence.

Improving Whole School Attendance and Punctuality

Going forward, we are moving to a text system, where there are attendance concerns, to keep you updated with regards to days missed from school since the start of the academic year.

Remember, if you have any problems with regards to getting your child to school or you are struggling to improve your child's attendance, please speak to Mrs Elliott or Mr Ullah. Our school policy with regards to attendance is to support you and improve pupil attendance.

Attendance for: Week 7th to 11th March – Well done to Year 3 – 100%
Week 14th to 18th March – Well done to Year 5 – 98.3%

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	89.7%	94.1%	94.2%	98.7%	94.1%	98.8%	97.3%
Lates	8	4	3	9	5	5	11
Whole School Attendance so far this year				94.9%	School Target		97%

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

Rec: Mrs. Riches, Mrs. Deacon & Miss Smith	Ajeet & Madalena
Year 1: Miss Geoghegan & Mrs. Shaheen	Rumaisa & Arvinder
Year 2: Miss Millar & Mrs. Tutt	Zain & Bobby
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs. Ali	Kyrese & Whole Class
Year 4: Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Catling & Mrs. Ali	Whole Class & Mo
Year 5: Miss McEvoy & Miss Hill	Ali & Ilsam
Year 6: Mrs. Gray & Miss Hill	Ikra & Aymen
Mr. Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Maisie, Yunis, Ibrahim, Keevanyah, Amadou, Poppy, Mark & Jess
Mrs. Elliott: Head teacher	Johanna, Amanda, Lucas, Kai – Year 6 & Ali – Year 5



Swedish Head Teachers Visit

The school has a longstanding history of welcoming Head Teachers from other countries, as part of the Catholic Primary Partnership exchange scheme. In recent years, two Swedish Head Teachers have shadowed myself for the week, to learn about the education system we have in place in the UK. During the week of 4th - 8th April, we will be welcoming Head Teachers again, as part of this exchange programme. This will also be an opportunity for the children to learn about Swedish Schools and compare and contrast them with our own school.

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Rewards

World Book Day Winners

The following children were World Book Day Winners! Each had to spot which adults were dressed up around school and which book character they were dressed up as. Year 1 – Anna and Ambar, Year 2 – Iris, Aria and Isabella, Year 3 – Safaa, Oji, Ayden, Year 4 – Khadija, Maggie, Year 6 – Nimra and Dayyan. Well done!

The following children have been chosen by their class teachers for regularly accessing the following educational programmes:

Name	MyOn	Reading Eggspress
Year 1	Aisha	Rafael
Year 2	Mia	Abbas
Year 3	Arlo	Arisha
Year 4	Jeremie	Aisha
Year 5	Yanet	Miya
Year 6	Aahil	Mohiudeen



Well done to St Andrew's House for having the highest house point total!

1st St Andrew's 2530 2nd St George's 2040
3rd St David's 1837 4th St Patrick's 1745

The words 'HOUSE POINTS' are written in large, bold, multi-colored capital letters. 'H' is blue, 'O' is green, 'U' is red, 'S' is yellow, 'E' is blue, 'P' is red, 'O' is yellow, 'I' is blue, 'N' is red, 'T' is yellow, 'S' is blue.

Bishop Challoner Malympics

This year's Malympics at Bishop Challoner school was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by the children who attended. A fantastic day was planned, allowing pupils to solve maths problems through practical activities. Well done to the following children who represented our school so well! Maisie, Yunis, Ibrahim, Keevanyah, Amadou and Poppy!



Birmingham Irish Association St Brigid's Day Session 2022

Huge congratulations and well done to Ali from Y5, who participated in the Birmingham Irish Association St Brigid's Day Session, playing the mandolin. Mr Sullivan, our peripatetic music teacher, has been teaching a group of Y5 pupils how to play some string instruments. The children were invited to take part in the concert, which was recorded, with other pupils from Birmingham Catholic schools. Follow the link to see a recording of the concert: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_vpjx66ffk

Well done Ali! We are very proud of you!

Head Teacher Postcards

I have been sending out Head Teacher postcards to chosen children from each class for working hard! Names to be featured in the next newsletter!

Communication Procedures

A reminder with regards our procedures when regards to teaching/class/friendship related issues. In the first instance, please speak to your child's class teacher face-to-face. That way any concerns/issues can be explained clearly and dealt with promptly. Emails should only be sent if parents cannot collect their child from school. May I remind parents that staff do not answer emails at unsociable hours and due to their teaching commitment, may not be able to respond to the email on that day. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

Fundraising

Lenten Fundraising

As a Catholic School, almsgiving is an important part of our Lenten journey. The care for those less fortunate than ourselves and raising monies for those in most need is at the core of our Catholic values. We thank you for your support in this.

Lenten Fundraising Fr Hudson's Care

Father Hudson's Care are a Birmingham based charity. They provide a range of services for people who are disadvantaged, marginalised or experiencing need. They work with people from all walks of life, offering friendship, care and support. Each Lent, school children all over the Archdiocese raise money for Father Hudson's Care. The Good Shepherd Appeal is one of their oldest most vital fundraising campaigns! Rec and KS1 usually get involved in this fundraising initiative, details of which have been sent out.



Class Lenten Charity Events

This year, the following Class Lenten Charity Events will be taking place. We recommend a **£3.00 donation** for each child to participate in all events. This can be paid online via School Money <https://eduspot.co.uk/>

Class	Lenten Charity Event	Date
Rec	Colouring Competition	Thurs 7 th April
Year 1	Pyjama Day	Tues 5 th April
Year 2	Movie Afternoon	Fri 8 th April
Year 3	Easter Card Competition	Thurs 7 th April
Year 4	Non-Uniform	Fri 8 th April
Year 5	Name the Easter Bunny	Thurs 7 th April
Year 6	Easter Egg Hunt	Thurs 7 th April

A whole school Easter bonnet/Easter Garden parade will take place on Tuesday 5th April. This annual event is a tradition, which hasn't been able to take place for the last two years. If older children do not want to take part in the parade, they can make an Easter garden, as in previous years.



Easter Events – Parents Fundraising Committee

Thank you to our Parent's Fundraising Committee, who have organised some Easter events this year as follows:

- Easter Egg Hunt – Thurs 24th March
- Online Bingo - Wed 30th March (5.30pm)
- Non-Uniform Day Fri 8th Apr

Please see attached flyer.



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PESSPA - physical education, school sport and physical activity

Big Walk and Wheel – Monday 21st March – Friday 1st April

We are taking part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel this year. This is the UK's largest inter- school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. During the week, we ask you to encourage your children to walk, scoot or cycle to school, on as many days as possible, during the event. This is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine, which is important in their physical health and mental wellbeing. Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. There are great prizes to be won, so do get involved!

Y1/Y2 Multi-Skills

Y1 and Y2 will be attending a Multi-Skills Festival at Billesley Tennis Centre – Y1 Wed 30th March, Y2 Thurs 31st March. The visit will take place within normal school hours and the children will need to wear full SS John and Monica PE Kit.

Common Wealth Games

As you are aware the Birmingham Commonwealth Games is being held between 28th July -8th Aug
<https://www.birmingham2022.com/>

As a city we have been preparing for this event for several years and in the run up to the games, more and more events are being planned.

As a school, we will be holding a Common Wealth Games week 20-24th June, culminating in Sports Day, which will be held at Moseley Pool and Park (24th June). We currently planning a range of exciting activities for the week, which will include physical activity and active learning through cross subjects. More details to follow.

In mean time, if you wish to find out more about planned events in the run up to the games go to:

<https://www.birmingham2022.com/festival/creative-city>
<https://www.birmingham2022.com/>



Mrs. M. Elliott - Head Teacher

Mission Statement



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