

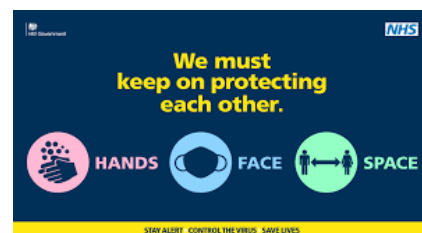


Friday 19th March 2021

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Spring 2021				Thurs 1 st April – 2pm
Summer 2021	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

- Thank you to those parents who are keeping us fully informed regarding any family members who are showing symptoms of the Coronavirus and are taking their children for tests. Like everyone, we are delighted that the local rates have fallen and we are all working very hard to beat this virus together. Our latest updated Covid-19 Risk Assessment is available on our website for your attention.
- As the season of Ramadan is approaching the British Islamic Medical Association has announced that taking PCR or lateral flow tests does not invalidate the fast during Ramadan. Go to: <https://britishima.org/operation-vaccination/hub/statements/> for further information
- Thank you to all our parents/visitors who continue to wear masks while in our school grounds. We also have an increasing number of pupils in KS2 who are opting to wear face coverings. This we continuing to encourage.



Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place via telephone on 22nd and 23rd March. You will receive your child's termly report today Friday 19th March prior to this meeting. The focus of the meeting will be: How your child has settled back into school and their progress since the last parent consultation back in October. This will include learning completed remotely during lockdown. We ask you to respectfully keep to you ten minutes, to ensure that appointments can kept on time for all parents. Thank you.

British Science Week

British annual Science week took place on 5th - 14th March. To give our children time to settle back into school, we are marking this week next week with a variety of class based activities. Opportunities will be given for children to develop their investigation skills through practical experiments and have fun at the same time! Follow the school twitter account: <https://twitter.com/SSJohnMonicas> to see what activities we have been up to.

Don't forget to respond to our tweets with a like or even better a comment! Thank you.



Catholic Life

Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" until 8th December 2021. St. Joseph may not have been Jesus' actual father but he was a father in every other sense of the word. He was entrusted by God to care for His Son on Earth and would have taught his son to read the sacred scriptures as well as to learn the skills of the carpentry trade. This year we are invited to follow St. Joseph's example, pray with him and entrust our work to him as the patron saint of workers.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for March

The Pope's Prayer Intention for March is the Sacrament of Reconciliation: Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to revel in the infinite mercy of God. The video to accompany this can be found here <https://clicktopray.org/>

Traditional Prayer Focus

As a school, we have been focusing on Traditional Prayers for each year band. Lent is a time to become closer to God and we can do this through prayer and reflection. To see the specific traditional prayers for each year band please go to <https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/catholic-life/collective-worship>

Wednesday Word

Please find the link for this week's *Wednesday Word*

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

TenTen Newsletter

Please see the TENTEN Catholic Life Newsletter for the month of March attached for your information. This resource is a wonderful Lenten resource for our families to use during this special season.



Lenten Charity Fundraising

As part of our Lenten journey and almsgiving, we raise money for those less fortunate than ourselves. Each class decides on a local or national charity and we also send a donation to (CAFOD) Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. Even small amounts can make a difference to people's lives locally, nationally and internationally. The chosen Charities this year are as follows:

Class	Fundraising Event	Chosen Charity
Reception	Easter Egg Hunt	Birmingham Children's Hospital
Year 1	Colouring Competition	Anawim (Birmingham Centre for Woman)
Year 2	Easter Card Competition	Water Aid
Year 3	Guess the Name of the Stuffed Toy	Mind
Year 4	Non - Uniform and food donation	Sparkhill Food Bank
Year 5	Virtual in-school 'Dance Off'	Guide Dogs for the Blind
Year 6	Easter Egg Hunt	Birmingham Children's Hospital

- Please go to <https://login.eduspot.co.uk/> to make your **£2.00 donation to cover all events.**
- For Year 4 Charity, a **whole school non-uniformed day is planned for Tuesday 30th March.** Please bring a tin or packet in on the day for Sparkhill Foodbank. Thank you for your support.

First Holy Communion - Y3 Parents Meeting

Our sacramental programme resumes for our Y4 pupils, who were due to make this important sacrament last year and for our Y3 pupils this year. All parents should have received a letter regarding this year's programme and expectations. There is a Y3 parent's meeting on 25th March at 2.30pm at SS John and Monica School, when we will talk to you about the programme.





BBC Bitesize

The BBC will continue providing learning support for pupils into the summer months. A three-hour Bitesize Learning Zone will be launched on CBBC and BBC iPlayer on school days, including new episodes of Bitesize Daily. This means that the Bitesize Learning Zone will continue to be on TV for those without internet access. From June, it will include new episodes of Bitesize Daily Primary, focusing on maths and English, offering primary school children detailed catch-up lessons in these subjects:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Eco - Corner

We are so blessed that our school is set in such a wonderful environmental setting and we are continually trying hard to maintain our school grounds and keep them beautiful!

Littering

I have noticed since the children have returned to school, so has littering in our school grounds. We have purchased several new bins which are located around our school. Please encourage your children to use these after school if they are disposing of litter. Thank you.



Keeping to Paths around School

We ask parents to encourage their children to stick to our school paths. The grass at the front of the school is being steadily eroded away due to people wading on it. This is making the soil muddy and the grassy areas unsightly (including the area around the large tree). By keeping to the paths, it will give the grass time to grow back, thus improving our school environment.

Birmingham Clean Air Zone

From June 2021 a 'Clean Air Zone' is being introduced in Birmingham City Centre to improve air quality, in particular by discouraging the most polluting vehicles from entering the zone. No vehicle is banned in the zone, but those which do not have clean enough engines will have to pay a daily charge if they travel within the area. This will improve the air quality for our children and families. The attached power point provides a clearer idea of the city councils 'Clean Air Zone' strategy, which I would encourage you to read.

Cars Idling

I am sorry to say that I have had complaints again from local residents regarding car engines left idling while parents wait to collect their children. Recent research showed 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 ask all our parents to turn engines off while their cars are stationary. Thank you.

Illegal Parking

Unfortunately, our local school residents are still having problems with parents parking illegally across their driveways when dropping/collecting children to/from school. We have reminded parents before about parking respectfully around our school and do so again. Advice to residents is to take the vehicle registrations and a photo report it to the police. I have also been in touch with the police to request more regular patrols outside school to prevent this from happening. Thank you to vast majority of our school community who are considerate and park respectfully.



Uniform

Thank you to all those parents who are trying very hard to send their children into school in full school uniform – we know how difficult it has been to source uniform and school shoes. For health and safety purposes, please make sure that footwear is sensible and safe. Please also make sure that children come into school in PE kit on the correct day. Finally, all those pupils with hair longer than shoulder length, should have it tied back. This is for health reasons and to prevent hair getting in eyes during lessons and PE. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Rewards

World Book Day Winners

Well done to the following children who received certificates and chocolate for being World Book Day Winners! These were for a range of activities - masked reader, WBD song, craft and individual activities set by teachers.

Ubaid, Aisha, Alyssia, Eli, Kushagra, Abbas, Isabelle, Maxwell, Emi, Zac, Sofia, Sakina, Sam, Laiq, Maisie, Caleb, Aleks, Felicity, Aisha, Alfie, Shaniya, Rio and Maria.

Reading Eggs

Well done to **Musa** - Year 2 and **Ava** - Year 2 who are regularly accessing Reading Eggs/Express and working hard through the programme!

Mathletics

Well done to **Tegh** - Year 4 and **Aayan** - Year 4 for regularly accessing Mathletics and working hard through the programme!

WE ♥ 2 READ ON



MyOn

Well done to the following children who have made fantastic efforts reading lots of books on MyOn: **Jessica** - Year 5 and **Pavandeep** - Year 4.

Punctuality

We still have a number of children who are coming to school later than their allocated time. This is very disruptive, as a member of staff has to come out of class to escort children through the school safely, so as not to cross bubbles. It is also lost learning time, which quickly adds up. We recognise that there have been some recent roadworks and accidents, but ask that children are dropped and collected on time.

Attendance

Thank you for those parents who are making sure that their child/ren are in school every day. We have had a number of families, who for one reason or another, are visiting family abroad. Whilst there may be the occasional exceptional circumstance, visits abroad should **NOT** be booked in school time and will be classed as unauthorised. Holidays, plus quarantine afterwards, means that children miss so much education, it can be very difficult to catch up when they return.

Attendance for: 8th to 12th March – Well done to Year 6 - 97.9%
15th to 19th March – Well done to Year 5 - 96.3%

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	93.2%	96.3%	96.3%	94.1%	91.7%	96.5%	95.9%
Lates	5	3	1	4	1	2	10
Whole School Attendance so far this year			96.2%		School Target		97%

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

Reception: Mrs. Sparrow & Mrs. Hodges	Damian & Rafael
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs. Reed	Baeen & Hafsa
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Muawiyah & Arlo
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs. Ali	Amin & Maurice
Year 4: Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Catling & Mrs. Ali	Taio & Ono
Year 5: Miss McEvoy & Miss Hill	Aymen & Ekrama
Year 6: Mrs. Gray & Miss Hill	Whole Class, Eve, Haniyah & Jack
Mr. Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Jemima – Year 6 & Ivo – Year 3
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Leo – Reception, Mariyah & Hibba – Year 4

House Points

A huge well done to St Andrews House for having the highest house point total for this week! Well done!

St George 296

St Andrew 408

St Patrick 264

St David 329



Community

Mental Health and Well-Being

Attached are some useful tips advice from Kooth <https://www.kooth.com/> to support your child returning to school after lockdown

Hall Green Families

Please find attached the latest Hall Green Families newsletter.

West Midlands Police

Please find attached West Midlands Police Covid-19 newsletter for March.



Please note the school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 24th March to take the following photographs: Individuals, siblings, Reception Class and Y6 Class. Please ensure children are in full school uniform. Thank you.

**Stay well and Keep Safe -
Mrs. M. Elliott - Head Teacher**



Mission Statement



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