



Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Summer 2021		Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> May Training Day School Closed	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> July – 2pm
Autumn Term 2021	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> /Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept School Closed for Training Days. School re-opens for children Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec

## COVID-19

### Variants of Covid

Firstly, I want to thank you for all your help in keeping our children, staff safe and school community during this term. Your efforts have been very much appreciated. Although the cases of Covid-19 have thankfully reduced, with variants of Covid a concern, we need your support and help to further ensure the safety of our school community. If your child has any symptoms of Covid-19 and you are asked to take them for a PCR test by school, it is extremely important that you comply with this request. Unlike the rapid home tests, PCR tests will also detect new variants and it's critical that we identify these to stop any spread very rapidly. Equally, if you are instructed to isolate, you must comply with this request to ensure the safety of others. If you or someone in your family has Covid-19 symptoms, please get a PCR test by booking online at [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). You can order Lateral Flow Tests for anyone in your household at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

It is also very important that, when you or a relative are offered a Covid-19 vaccination, please do have one. If you have any concerns about having the vaccine, accurate information and advice is available at [www.birminghamandsolihullcovidvaccine.nhs.uk/what-you-need-to-know/](http://www.birminghamandsolihullcovidvaccine.nhs.uk/what-you-need-to-know/)

**Please inform us over half-term until 30.05.21 if your child tests positive to Covid-19 for Track and Trace purposes.**

Thank you for everything you and all our schools/settings are doing to help tackle Covid-19.

### School Meal Vouchers

The government has announced an Extension of COVID Winter Grant Scheme up to 20th June. Birmingham City Council will be using this funding to provide a week of free school meal vouchers for the May half-term.



### Online Safety

As our children are engaging with digital technology now more than ever, it is important that we as a community at SS John and Monica promote online safety both within school and in the home. Internet Matters.org provides fantastic age-specific guides for families about safety settings for devices; helpful information about apps, social media and gaming; and gives support for how to talk to children about online safety. If you as a parent or guardian ever have concerns about your child and online safety, please contact your child's class teacher.

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

## Catholic Life

### Parish of SS John and Martin

The parish of SS John and Martin are currently reviewing Covid measures in line with new guidance. Starting in June, there will be a weekday Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning at 9.30 am and Friday at 5.00pm. Saturday Children's and family Mass will recommence on 29 May at 4.00pm. We encourage all our Catholic children, especially our children making their First Holy Communion, to attend these Saturday Masses.

### Fr Mario

It was lovely to welcome Fr Mario back into our school to talk to our Y3 and Y4 children about receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation. The children then received this important sacrament for the first time on Tuesday at SS John and Martin Church. It was a lovely reflective service and the children were very prayerful. Thank you to parents for supporting your child in receiving this special sacrament.

### First Holy Communion Programme

Our First Holy Communion Programme is as follows:

Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Final Preparations Parent's Meeting
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sacrament of Holy Communion



Please pray for our children and families as they continue on their journey of faith.

### 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>

### Staff Retreat Day

Our training day tomorrow is a spiritual retreat day at Alton Castle Catholic Retreat Centre. As a Catholic school, we aim to dedicate one staff training day a year to give staff the opportunity to reflect and develop spiritually in their faith. This retreat was postponed from last year and will give staff time together, through the Mass, to pray for our children and school community.

## Rewards

### Skills Builder

This term we have been focusing on two specific skills - Teamwork and Staying Positive. We are giving the children opportunities and encouraging them to use and develop these two skills across all curriculum areas.

The following children have been awarded certificates for demonstrating these important like skills:

**Staying Positive: Rec - Eliana, Y1 – Umar, Y2 - Kyrese, Y3 – Michaela, Y4 – Miya, Shakeel – Y5 & Foz – Y6.**

**Teamwork: Rec - Luca, Y1 – Jonah, Y2 - Inaya, Y3 – Khadija, Y4 – Jacob, Y5 – Dayyan & Y6 – Adam.**

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

Year group	MyOn	Mathletics	Reading
Year 1	Ethan	Bobby	Fariyah
Year 2	Oji	Azaan	Safaa
Year 3	Mayla	Alayna	Milaan
Year 4	Caleb	Tegh	Miya
Year 5	Jessica	Mariam	Shakeel
Year 6	Ryan	Alima	Adam

We need eight essential skills to succeed in education, work and life



Download the Skills Builder Universal Framework at [www.skillsbuilder.org](http://www.skillsbuilder.org)



#skillsweneed



## Environmental Corner

### G7 Climate Change Conference – The eyes of the world are on us - CAFOD.

The eyes of the world are on us this year as Britain hosts world leaders for the United Nations' climate change talks – COP26. They will make important decisions that will shape the future of our global family. Our whole school assembly this week has focused on CAFOD's campaign to call on the Prime Minister to support the world's poorest communities affected by the climate crisis. Our children learned about people in countries in most need affected by climate change and how it is important to come together, look after one another and tackle the climate emergency with even more urgency. To raise our voices and support the government in using this historic moment to build a more sustainable world we also talked about how we can play our part including the following:

- Walking, scooting or cycling to school
- Turning engines off when cars are parked
- Turning chargers off when we are not using them
- Turning lights off
- Cutting our use of plastic
- Tackling food waste



All our children also made an 'Eyes of the World' mask to remind us of this even and to show the world the eyes of the world are watching....and so are we! Go to [twitter@SSJohnMonicas](https://twitter.com/SSJohnMonicas) to see the children's creations.

### Clean Air Zone Birmingham

A reminder that Birmingham is on a journey to cleaner air!

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. With the Commonwealth Games to look forward to in 2022, we want to ensure that our city is ready with improved air quality for our community and visitors. For more information go to:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20076/pollution/1763/a\\_clean\\_air\\_zone\\_for\\_birmingham](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20076/pollution/1763/a_clean_air_zone_for_birmingham)

### Walk to School

Last week, SS John and Monica's took part in the WOW Walk to School Week. The children created their own walking superheroes and even superhero capes for their shoes! Did you know that by walking to school, instead of driving we reduce our carbon emissions? High levels of carbon emissions are responsible for warming the earth, which results in melting ice caps, rising sea levels, changes in the weather and damage to habitats.



Furthermore, the children have also taken part in a competition for living streets, where they were asked to design a badge. The design focus this year was animals and natural habitats all over the world, as they are the most affected by climate change. I am happy to announce the three chosen designs which will be entered into the National competition will be, **Azaan (Year 2)**, **Zofia (Year 4)** and **Oji (Year 2)**. Thank you to everyone else who took part, there were many outstanding designs! Good luck to the three chosen pupils! – Miss Geoghegan PSHE Lead

### Litter Picking in School

A big 'Thank you' to our current school 'Litter Pickers' who have done a marvellous job keeping our school grounds clean and tidy!

Thank you to: **Serena and Vincent – Y3**, **Maisie and Ranell – Y4**, **Oliver – Y5**, **Davinder & Ariana – Y6**.

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

## Royal Mail Stamp Competition

For more than 50 years Royal Mail's Special Stamp programme has commemorated British history and achievement. Stamps have also been issued to honour the achievements of many British people. Since the coronavirus pandemic began, there have been many people who have done great things. Many of them are not famous, but they have done extraordinary work. These are the people who have helped us all through a really difficult time. Some are frontline workers in healthcare, others look after elderly or vulnerable people.



As a school we have entered the Heroes Stamp Competition, designing Stamps to honour the heroes of the pandemic. Our children have created colourful designs and these have been entered into the competition. Maybe the Queen will see some of ours! – Mrs Catling – Art and Design Lead

## Polite Reminders

- A reminder to use your class email (email for example [y1@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk](mailto:y1@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk)) for any class related queries. Please only email [enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk) if it is an administration related query e.g., School Money. By this procedure, class queries can be dealt with more quickly. Thank you.
- Please ensure that all monies owed via School Money are paid up-to-date. If school dinner money arrears go over £20.00, then children will be requested to go onto sandwiches until the balance is paid.
- At the end of the day, while you are waiting to collect your children from the playground, we ask that you:
  - Supervise your child at all times
  - Remind them if they are playing in the tyre park, not to stand/swing on the fence or stand on the benches
  - Trim Trail is for KS2 use only. This outdoor equipment is for age 8 onwards and not appropriate for younger children

We thank you for your co-operation with the above matters.

## School Meals/Breakfast Club/Break time Toast

### School Meals

There are many advantages to having a school meal including the following:

- Our school meals are required to meet nutritional standards which children need for health and growth
- Children have an opportunity to try foods that they might not necessarily try at home and therefore become less picky eaters and have a more varied diet
- School meals impact positively on children health in terms of correct portion sizes intake and a reduction in obesity
- Meeting children's nutritional needs impacts on physical and mental health and leads to increased learning capacity



Our school meal cost is £2.40 per day, which includes a meal and a dessert. If you would like your child to book your child in to a school meal, please contact the school office on 0121 464 5868 or email [enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stjonmon.bham.sch.uk)

Click on the following link to see the current school meal menu: <https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/parents/school-meals>

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

### Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club welcomes children from 8.00am to have a balanced, nutritional breakfast of cereals, toast, fruit, yoghurts and juices for a daily cost of £2.75. A variety of activities are planned for the children, including physical activities and arts and crafts. Numbers are limited, but we do currently have spaces available. If you would like for your child to attend breakfast Club on any day, please contact the school office.



### Break Time Toast

**KS2 – (Year 3 to 6 only)** pupils may purchase hot, buttered toast at break time at a cost of **£6.60** for next term starting **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July (20p per day)**. Children already having toast will be added onto next terms register, unless parents call to say they do not wish to continue. If you wish for your child to have this toast option, please contact the school office. All payments to be made online via School Money by **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June** to enable us to inform the kitchen.. Thank you..

### Attendance

Our overall whole school attendance has dropped slightly and we are some way off achieving our end of year target. Thank you to those who ensure that your child/ren are in school, on time, every day. We will all continue to work hard with punctuality and attendance, in order to strive to achieve our end-of-year target.

### Attendance Focus Week

Well done to all children who have been in school every day this week. The following have been chosen in a draw to receive a book and attendance certificate, Well done to: **Rec – Rafael, Year 1 – Abbas, Year 2 – Preet, Year 3 – Milaan, Year 4 – Hibba, Year 5 – Amanda & Year 6 – Rio.**

Attendance for: **Week 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May – Well done to Year 6 – 98.9%**  
**Week 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May – Well done to Year 6 – 99.1%**

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
% Attendance	95.2%	97.4%	96.1%	92.7%	96%	97.8%	99%	
Lates	8	2	11	4	4	6	4	
Whole School Attendance so far this year				95.6%		School Target		97%

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

Reception: Mrs. Sparrow & Mrs. Hodges	Eliana & Arvinder
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs. Reed	Sami & Mohammed Zain
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Danish & Elena
Year 3: Miss Treacy & Mrs. Ali	Areeba & Ibrahim
Year 4: Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Catling & Mrs. Ali	Imarni & Ali
Year 5: Miss McEvoy & Miss Hill	Oliver & Mohiudeen
Year 6: Mrs. Gray & Miss Hill	Adam & Ariana
Mr. Ullah: Deputy Head Teacher	Jesse-John – Year 6 & Eyob – Year 1
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Whole Class – Year 4 & Mayla – Year 3

Please note the school will be closed to all pupils tomorrow Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May due to Staff Training. It will reopen again to pupils, after half term, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Stay well and Keep Safe over Half-term.

Mrs. M. Elliott - Head Teacher



## **Mission Statement**



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