



Friday 4th October 2019

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn 2019		Fri 25 th Oct Training Day School Closed	Mon 4 th Nov	Fri 20 th Dec – 2pm
Spring 2020	Mon 6 th Jan Training Day – School Closed. School Opens Tues 7 th Jan	Mon 17 th Feb	Mon 24 th Feb	Fri 3 rd April – 2pm
Summer 2019	Mon 20 th April Training day – School Closed. School opens Tues 21 st April	Mon 25 th May	Mon 1 st June	Fri 17 th July – 2pm Mon 20 th July Training Day – School Closed.

Class Service of the Word

We will be holding an In-school 'Service of the Word' each week lead by different classes, until our new priest Fr Thomas arrives. We will keep you informed as to when our Mass schedule will resume.

Special Sunday Service

Well done to Eve (Y5) and Maggie (Y2) who both presented flowers to Cardinal Cleemis and Fr Thomas whom we had the privilege of meeting for the first time on Sunday. We are looking forward to welcoming Fr Thomas to our parish permanently towards the end of the term. Please keep Fr Dominic in your prayers and thoughts. We are still collecting for his retirement and will keep you updated when we have purchased his present.



School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Monday 14th October to take individual and family photographs. If you would like a family photograph please arrive at school no later than 8.30am. Thank you.

School Fund Target

Our school fund monies this year will be going towards the following:

- New small apparatus playground equipment
- New KS1 playground wall target boards
- A plaque to commemorate 50 Years as a school

School Building Fund Projects

Our school fund contribution towards the school building will go towards the following:

- Painting of remaining KS2 classrooms

In these difficult financial times, we would like to thank you all for your contributions whether it be to school fund or by supporting all our fundraising activities.



Parents Consultations

Parents Consultations will take place on Tues 22nd and Wed 23rd Oct 3.30-6.30pm. You will receive details of how you can log on to book an appointment. You will be given a termly report update with where your child is in terms of age related standards and targets to work on. Appointments will be 10 minutes long and we ask you to respect this and keep to your 10 minute allotted time. Thank you.

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

Secondary School Applications

If your child is due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2020 you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions between 2nd Sept and 31st Oct 2019.

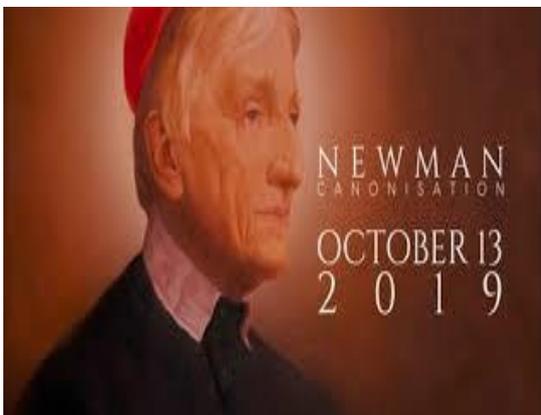


Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)

Every child has been sent home with a list of key mathematical instant recall facts to develop their fluency in maths. Please support your child in learning these key mathematical facts. The key is to learn these facts 'little and often'. Our ultimate aim is that all pupils can recall these facts instantly.

Harvest Donations

Thank you to all those who have so far contributed to our Harvest Food Donation Appeal. There is still plenty of time to contribute. If you wish to make a food donation such as packet food, tinned food, tea, coffee, biscuits etc please send these into school with your child by 18th October. All donations will then be taken to Sparkhill Foodbank for those in need.



John Henry Newman Canonisation

We are delighted that Pope Francis will canonise Blessed John Henry Newman in St Peter's Square on Sunday 13 October 2019. This will make Cardinal Newman the first English person who has lived since the 17th century officially recognised as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. John Henry Newman (1801-1890) was ordained as a Church of England priest and soon became the leader of the Oxford Movement but converted to Catholicism in 1845. He founded the Oratory in England and was later made a cardinal. John Henry Newman is known for many great qualities, but we remember him particularly for the kindness and compassion of his ministry to the people of Birmingham. At his death at the age of 89 people turned out in their thousands to salute a much loved priest on his funeral procession through the streets of Birmingham.

As a school we shall be celebrating this occasion in many ways, including a Whole School Assembly, work in class about the Life of Blessed John Henry Newman and feedback assembly.

Important – Nut Free School

Please refrain from sending into school any food products which contain nuts.

This includes boxes of

'Celebrations/Quality Street' etc. This is because we have children in school with known nut allergies. While we recognise that these chocolates are sent into school with the best intentions, birthdays etc, we have to ensure that our children with allergies are not exposed to such foods. If you are sending in a treat for your child's birthday, may we suggest plain chocolate (no cake/sweets) so that they can be shared. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Reception Parents Lunch

It was wonderful to see so many Reception Parents supporting their children at our recent 'Reception Parents Lunch'. Our Reception children have settled so well into their lunchtime routines and it was a lovely occasion for parents and children to spend some quality time over a meal!



Sacrament of Confirmation Y5/Y6

Our Catholic pupils in Y5 and Y6 will be receiving the **Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 19th November at 7.00pm**. The preparation Masses for this Sacrament are as follows:

- Sunday 6th Oct
- Sunday 20th Oct
- Sunday 10th Nov

All pupils receiving the sacrament must attend all preparation Masses and arrive at the church at 9.45am. If you cannot make one of the preparation Masses you must speak to Deacon Michael at the St John and Martin's Church. Our wider school community is invited to all Masses.



Attendance

Well done to all those who have made a great start to the academic year by being in school on time, every day. Well done, in particular to Year 1 who achieved the highest class attendance percentage for the month of September with 99.2%.

Can we politely remind you that holidays must not be booked in term time. Unfortunately, we had notification recently, from Birmingham City Council, that one of our families was prosecuted for doing so.

Attendance for Week 23rd - 27th Sept – Well done to Year 6 – 100%

30th - 4th Oct – Well done to Year 4 – 100%

Average Attendance for the last 2 weeks

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	95.5%	99.3%	98.9%	94.7%	96.7%	98.9%	98.7%
Lates	1	1	5	1	2	1	3
Whole School Attendance so far this year			97.9%		School Target		97%

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

Reception: Mrs. Riches	Iris & Yusuf
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs Hodges	Sakina & Musa
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Elijah & Mae
Year 3: Mrs. Flaherty, Mrs Jena & Mrs Ali	Bailey & Alfie
Year 4: Miss McEvoy & Miss Ali	Vladislava & Aleen
Year 5: Mrs. Goddard, Mrs Catling & Miss Hill	Jesse-John & Aisha
Year 6: Mr. Ullah, Mrs Gray & Miss Hill	Rayyan & Hamaad
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Fariyah & Lina – Reception Class

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Preparation Mass – Confirmation 6 th /20 th Oct & 10 th Nov	St John and Martin's Church Balsall Heath	9.45am
Mon 7 th – Fri 11 th Oct	Y5 Swimming – Full Swimming Kit needed	am
Mon 7 th Oct	Y2 Library Visit	pm
Tues 8 th Oct	KS2 Internal Assembly - Theme 'Black History Month'	pm
Thurs 10 th Oct	Y4 Service of the Word	am
Thurs 10 th Oct	Y1/Y4 Forest School	am/pm
Fri 11 th Oct	Active Curriculum Day	All day

Aldi Kit for Schools

We are participating in Aldi's campaign to win £20,000 worth of free sports equipment for schools. Please collect the stickers when shopping at Aldi and send them into school. Thank you.



Open Morning

We are holding our school 'Open Morning' on Thursday 7th Nov, to give prospective parents an opportunity to visit our school. We will be open from 9.30-11.30am, with the Head Teachers' address beginning at 9.45am. Please spread the message. Thank you.

Mrs M. Elliott – Head Teacher

Quote of the Day

'To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often.'

- John Henry Newman