



**Together with Christ we love,  
live & learn.**

**St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School**

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### **Year of Prayer**

Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year for the Catholic Church. Jubilee years are very special and will unite the church around the theme of 'Hope'. In order to prepare for this Jubilee, Pope Francis has declared 2024 a Year of Prayer. Pope Francis has asked Catholics to get 'back to basics' during this year by focusing on The Lord's Prayer.

Throughout this year various prayer activities based around The Lord's Prayer will be taking place in school. **Why not make The Lord's Prayer part of your home prayer life?**

***We continue to look at the Lord's prayer in different languages... this week in Afrikaans:***

Onse Vader wat in die hemele is, laat u Naam geheilig word.

Laat u koninkryk kom. Laat u wil geskied,

Soos in die hemel net so ook op die aarde.

Gee ons vandag ons daaglikse brood,

En vergeef ons ons skulde, soos ons ook ons skuldenaars vergewe.

Lei ons nie in versoeking nie, maar verlos ons van die Bose.

[Want aan U behoort die koninkryk en die krag en die heerlikheid, tot in ewigheid.]

Amen.



### **Wednesday Word**

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

### **Harvest Appeal**

Thank you for the generous harvest donations shared by our school community. At our recent Harvest Mass, pupils and staff came together to thank God for the food we enjoy and to pray for fair distribution to those in need around the world. The Bethany Food Bank was very grateful for your kindness and support, which will make a real difference. Their minibus was full, in fact they could hardly shut the doors! Thank you.

### **Cake Sale**

Well done to our wonderful group of Year 2 pupils who organised a cake sale in school this week to fundraise for Acorns Children's Hospice. They raised £136.16 for this brilliant cause.

### **Happy News**

We're pleased to share that Mrs Minchin is expecting a baby! We send Mr and Mrs Minchin our congratulations. Mrs Minchin will be taking maternity leave during the Spring Term, and we're actively working to ensure a smooth transition for Year 3. Arrangements will be communicated to Year 3 parents in due course. We appreciate your support during this exciting time.

### **Contacting Staff**

Thank you for the excellent attendance at Parents' Evenings this week. It's essential for parents to receive feedback on their children's learning to support progress at home. St Nicholas School is blessed to have parents who want to be involved in their children's educational career. A reminder that any contact with school staff, should go through [enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk). A response will be provided within 48 hours. For urgent

safeguarding matters, please reach out directly to a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for immediate assistance. Our DSLs are: Mr Porter, Mrs Noble-Barton, Miss Smith & Mrs Burling-Finn. Thank you.

### **Gifts from God Assemblies Autumn 2**

Please see below the dates of our 'Gifts of God' assemblies which take place on alternate Fridays at 2.45pm. Please note that the last two assemblies of the term are on consecutive weeks.

A polite reminder to only attend Gifts from God assembly if your child is receiving an award, space is at a premium in the school hall!

Friday 8th November

Friday 22nd November

Friday 6th December

Friday 13th December (Final Gifts from God Assembly of the Autumn Term)

### **Do you know a family with a child who starts school (Reception class) in September 2025?**

If so, please encourage them to attend one of our Prospective Parents Sessions. During these sessions, parents will have a short presentation on the admissions process followed by a tour of the school. Sessions are as follows:

Monday 11th November 2024 at 9.15am

Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 1.45pm

Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 11am

Thursday 14th November 2024 at 2.30pm

### **Stay and Pray - 9am \*\*Dates for your diary\*\***

Over the course of the Autumn Term, each class will hold a 'Stay and Pray' session. During these sessions, parents, carers & grandparents are encouraged to drop their children at school and then make their way into the classroom for a short prayer session with their child/grandchild.

Each session will start at 9am and run for approximately 20 minutes. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in prayer with your child and their class. Everyone is invited, regardless of faith. Dates are below:

Friday 8/11: Year 3

Friday 15/11: Year 4

Friday 22/11: EYFS

Friday 29/11: Year 1

Friday 6/12: Year 6

Friday 13/12: Year 5

### **Curriculum Workshops**

So far this term we have hosted several successful Parent & Child Workshops. These events are wonderful opportunities for parents & carers to experience the curriculum and work with their child. Below are the dates of the remaining workshops, all are a 9am start and last for around 90 minutes:

Tuesday 5th November - EYFS

Tuesday 19th November - Year 2

Tuesday 26th November - Year 3

### **Centrestage Recital - Thursday 14th November at 4pm**

A date for your diary if your child has Centrestage lessons in school. There will be a concert on 14/11/24 at 4pm in school for you to see what your child has been learning during their speech and drama lessons.

### **School Photographs**

The proofs of the school photographs taken this week will be sent out after half term along with details of how to order them. A reminder that class photographs will be taken on Friday 15th November.

## HALF TERM CAMPS at Bishop Walsh School

### **Bishop Walsh Football Camp**

Dates: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

Times: 9:30am - 11:30am (morning) 12pm - 2pm (afternoon) Wraparounds available in the morning and afternoons.

Ages: 4 - 12

Fee: From £9

<https://www.microsportsltd.co.uk/bishop-walsh/p/football-octoberhalfterm2024>

### **Bishop Walsh Tennis Camp**

Dates: Tuesday 29th - Thursday 31st October

Times: 9:30am - 11:30am (morning) 12pm - 2pm (afternoon) Wraparounds available in the morning and afternoons.

Ages: 4 - 12

Fee: From £9

<https://www.microsportsltd.co.uk/bishop-walsh/p/tennis-octoberhalfterm2024>

Any questions about the above please email [Staff@micro-sports.co.uk](mailto:Staff@micro-sports.co.uk) or [Charlotte@micro-sports.co.uk](mailto:Charlotte@micro-sports.co.uk)

## Starting Secondary School - September 2025 - a message from Admissions

Applications are now open for current Year 6 children to apply to transfer to secondary school in September 2025. Parents/carers can apply up to **11.59 pm on 31 October 2024**.

Applications received after the closing date are treated as 'late applications' and less likely to be offered one of their preferred schools.

Information to support parent/carers can be found on the council website:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school\\_admissions/1778/secondary\\_school\\_year\\_7\\_admissions/1](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1778/secondary_school_year_7_admissions/1)

We recommend that parents/carers use all of their six preferences to maximise their chances of getting a place at one of the schools that they prefer.

If you live in Birmingham, please submit your child's application before the final closing date of **31 October 2024** via the following link <https://eadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/prefs.php>

If you live outside of Birmingham, please contact the local authority which you pay your Council Tax to regarding how to apply for your child's secondary school place.

## PFA News

### Do you shop at Asda either in store or online? PLEASE SIGN UP

We're pleased to announce that St Nicholas School PFA has joined the ASDA Cash programme, so families can now earn money for the school while doing their shopping - <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

### Captain Nick Crew: Fri 8th Nov, 7.30pm

More details to follow...join us for our next Captain Nick adventure with Dads, grandpas and all other male figures in children's lives.

### Advent Fayre: Sat 30th Nov, 12pm-3pm - message from the organising committee

The St Nicholas Advent Fayre is just around the corner! This is our official school event and we can't wait to welcome you all for a day filled with festive fun and activities, including craft stalls and creative activities for the whole family, festive games, raffles, and prizes to be won!

## Save the Dates!

Crazy Hair Day in exchange for £1 donation: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Non-Uniform Day in exchange for a chocolate donation: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Let's get ready to make some merry memories together! See you all there!

**Christmas After School Disco: Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Dec, 3:30-5pm (children only)**

**Dates for the diary**

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	School closed to pupils - INSET day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupils return for the second half of the Autumn Term
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	9am-10.30am EYFS parent & child curriculum workshop in the school hall & classroom
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Crazy Hair Day in return for £1 donations towards the PFA Advent Fair
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Year 5 - Alton Castle information meeting via Zoom
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Centrestage Recital at 4pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Class Photographs
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 - Blackwell information meeting via Zoom
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	9am-10.30am Year 2 parent & child curriculum workshop in the school hall
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Non-uniform day in return for chocolate donations for the PFA Advent Fair
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	EYFS Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	9am-10.30am Year 3 parent & child curriculum workshop in the school hall
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	12pm-3pm PFA Advent Fair
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Mass for Feast of St Nicholas - 9.15am in church

Friday 6th December	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS & KS1 trip to Midlands Art Centre to see Little Angel Theatre: Finding Santa
Thursday 12th December	KS2 trip to Lichfield Garrick to see Jack and the Beanstalk
Friday 13th December	Year 5 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 13th December	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December	9.15am - EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play performance - tickets only
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Jumper Day PFA Christmas Disco 3.30pm to 5pm
Friday 20th December	Last day of the Autumn Term - pupils break up for Christmas
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>	
Monday 6th January	First day of the Spring Term - all pupils back in school at 8.50am
Friday 31st January 2025	Young Voices concert at Resorts World, Birmingham

God bless,

Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton  
Head of School

Miss Smith  
Assistant Head

**St. John Paul II Multi Academy**

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