



Wednesday 25th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of what has been a very busy term, I'd like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support. With only a couple of days left before we break up for the Easter holidays, I'd like to wish you and your families a very happy and holy Easter.

This half term has been full of great progress across the school. The children have shown wonderful dedication to their learning, and their achievements reflect all the hard work they put in—both here in school and at home.

I'm really pleased to share that many of our pupils have already reached their reading targets for this half term. This is a fantastic achievement and highlights how important reading is to us. On Friday, we'll be giving out gold coins to celebrate their success, and the children will be able to choose a book from our vending machine as a special reward. This continues to be a great motivator and really encourages a love of reading.

I'd also like to thank all parents who help support good school attendance. Of course, we understand that children may be unwell from time to time, and we appreciate your cooperation in these situations. Please remember that if your child is ill, you must contact the school office before 9am to let us know the reason for their absence and, where possible, provide medical evidence.

A reminder, too, that holidays during term time cannot be authorised, as this is set out in law rather than school policy. If you do decide to take a holiday during term time, we ask that you are open with us about your plans. Please be aware that the local authority can issue fines even when they suspect an unauthorised absence has taken place. This can be difficult for children, especially if they feel pressured to hide the reason for their absence from staff.

Finally, please take a look at the important dates listed at the end of this newsletter for the next two days and the upcoming half term. We know many parents need time to plan around work commitments, and we hope that sharing these dates early helps you join us for as many school events and celebrations as possible.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.



CATHOLIC LIFE

Wednesday Word: You will have received a link to a copy of the Wednesday Word by email- it provides families with a weekly reflections on each Sunday's Gospel. The leaflet shared today contains reflections for each weekend over the Easter break. Please take the time to share this with your child.

Times of Holy Week Services in the Parish







Holy Week

2026



Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March Sunday 29th Monday 30th Tuesday 31st Wednesday 1st April Holy Thursday 2nd Good Friday 3rd Holy Saturday 4th Easter Day 5th Easter Monday 6th	Palm Sunday Masses with blessing of Palms & Processions at usual weekend times. Holy Week Holy Hour at St. Mary's, Willenhall at 5.00pm Mass at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton 10.30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Darlaston at 10.00am 'The Chosen' Film Afternoon. St. Mary's at 1.00pm Confessions Night at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton at 6.30pm till 8.00pm (2 priests) Mass at HTB at 7.15am Chrism Mass at St. Chad's Cathedral at 11.30am Mass of the Last Supper at 7.00pm at Holy Trinity, Bilston followed by Watch until 10.00pm Willenhall Walk of Witness at 12.00noon Good Friday Liturgy at 3.00pm at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm at St. Mary's Blessing of Easter Foods at 11am at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton Easter Vigil Mass at 8.00pm at St. Joseph's, Darlaston Followed by social Mass at St. Mary's, Willenhall at 9.00am Mass at Holy Trinity, Bilston at 10.00am Mass at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton at 11.30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Wolverhampton at 10.30am Parish Easter Party at Holy Trinity, Bilston at 2.00pm
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This year we are blessed to have Fr. Paulinus Okwuolise, a Priest of the Catholic Diocese of Okigwe in Imo State, Nigeria, as our guest preacher throughout Holy Week.

Church Addresses:

St. Mary's, Leveson St. Willenhall. WV13 1DA

St. Joseph's, Willenhall Road. WV1 2QN

Holy Trinity, Oxford St. Bilston WV14 0PX

St. Joseph's, Church St. Darlaston. WS10 8DY






For more information please contact: 01902 452841 or email: stnewmanparish.wmids@caob.org.uk



Lent Almsgiving

Our Break the Rules Day, last Friday was a huge success! The children had lots of fun and thanks to your generous donations raised £536.90 for Father Hudson's Caritas!

On Friday 27nd March, the children in our school CAFOD Club will be organising a 'Big Lent Walk' to raise money for CAFOD and help to fight global poverty. All children and staff across the school will be taking part in the walk around the school grounds during the school day, learning more about the work of CAFOD and praying for people in poverty around the world. Please bring in sponsor forms and money into school on Friday.



Thank you in advance for your generosity for this worthwhile charity.



Monday 13th April 2026

Easter Bonnet Parade (EYFS & KS1) & Egg Diorama Competition (KS2)

To give families chance to get creative during the Easter break, we will hold our annual Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Diorama Competition on the first day back after Easter holiday.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to create a bonnet / hat at home and wear it to school ready for our fantastic parade. Parents are welcome to join us on the school playground at 2.50pm to watch the parade!

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 - 6) pupils are also encouraged to get creative at home and make an Egg Diorama (a scene using decorated eggs). The dioramas will be displayed in the school hall for all pupils to see and prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

We look forward to seeing your amazing creations!



Staffing News

I know that you will be sad to learn that Mr Davies, our PE coach, has decided to take on a new challenge and will be leaving St Joseph's. Mr Davies has been a much-loved part of our school community for many years, and he has always gone above and beyond for our pupils. A great example of this is how, even while recovering from recent surgery, he still came along to support both the girls' and boys' football tournaments in the last couple of weeks.

We're also very grateful to Mr Kapoor ('Mr K' to the children), who has stepped in and done a fantastic job covering PE during Mr Davies' time away.

Mr Davies will be joining us in assembly on Friday morning, giving us the chance to thank him properly and wish him all the best for the future.



Breakfast Club

We are pleased to share an update on the government's roll-out of free breakfast clubs. St Joseph's will be offering this provision from **September 2026**. Next half term, we will be surveying parents so we can plan effectively and ensure the new breakfast club meets the needs of all our families.

Our **current breakfast club provision will continue as normal** until the new scheme begins. For further information, please contact the school office or visit our school website. If you want your child to attend Breakfast club, please book on Scopay two days in advance. If you have forgotten to book in time, please call the school office to book on your behalf.





Uniform Reminders

When we return to school after Easter, pupils can come to school wearing their summer uniform:

Navy V-neck Sweatshirt or Cardigan with School Logo

Navy Trousers/ **Navy** Skirt / **Navy** Shorts or Red & White gingham summer **dress** (not gingham skirts or shorts)

White Shirt with a collar (no polo shirts)

Red and Navy striped school tie

Black Shoes - **No trainers.**

- If your child has outgrown their uniform and it is still in good condition, please consider donating it to school so that it can be used by others.
- Hair - long hair must be tied back for school. No extreme haircuts or shaved lines/ patterns. Hair accessories must be small and in school colours - red, white, blue or black.
- **Earrings are not allowed at school. If you intend to have your child's ears pierced, please wait until the start of the long summer holiday to allow time for them to heal before returning to school in September.**
- Make-up and nail varnish are not allowed.

Thank you for helping to maintain our high uniform standards.

PE kits

Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school for their PE lessons.

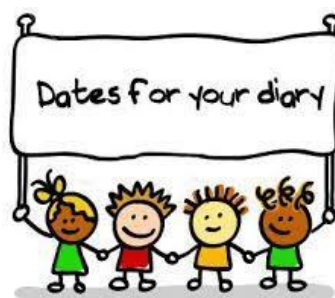
Children who do not bring their PE kit into school will not be awarded their golden stamps.



We have a number of children in school with severe nut allergies.

Please do not send any products containing nuts into school in lunchboxes or as birthday treats.

Thank you.



DATE	EVENT
Friday 27 th March	Easter Culture Day in school - dress in cultural clothes to celebrate your heritage or identity, or just come in own clothes
Friday 27 th March	Big Lent Walk - Sponsored event for CAFOD
Friday 27 th March	Stations of the Cross for KS2 children, led by Year 4 at 2.45pm. Year 4 parents are welcome.
Friday 27 th March	Break up for Easter
Monday 30 th March - Friday 10 th April	School Closed for Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April	School re-opens for the Summer Term
Monday 13 th April	KS2 Egg Diorama Competition EYFS & KS1 Easter Bonnet parade at 2:50pm
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
Thursday 16 th April	National Offer Day for Reception Places for September 2026
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day - Members of St George's house can wear own clothes to school
Friday 24 th April	Year 3 Class assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Friday 24 th April	Year 4 SPARKS Fire Safety workshop
Saturday 25 th May	School & Parish Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston at 4pm - all welcome
Friday 1 st May	Whole School Mass in School to celebrate the feast of St Joseph's the Worker at 2.30pm - parents and carers welcome
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY - School closed
Thursday 7 th May	Year 2 Queens Workshop
Thursday 7 th May	Year 4 to Harry Potter studios
Friday 8 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Friday 8 th May	Year 3 to Pasford Farm
Monday 11 th May - Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 15 th May	Year 6 Pizza making workshop
Monday 18 th May - Wednesday 20 th May	Year 6 Residential Visit to Whitemoor Lakes
Friday 22 nd May	Key stage 2 First Aid Workshops with St John's Ambulance
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for half term
Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May	School Closed for half term