



**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

**Our Emmaus and Diocese Mission**

***Forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice***

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school for the final half term of the academic year! As ever, this is always such a busy term with sports days, moving up days, transition and leavers' events all to come. Attached to this newsletter are a list of dates to add to diaries or 'magnet to the fridge' so that you're up to date with all the exciting events and celebrations coming up.

This week has seen many of our children out on school trips. Year 2 and Year 3 visited Bishops Wood and Year 4 went to The Botanical Gardens (a favourite trip of mine!). A variety of outdoor activities were enjoyed by the children including hunting bugs, learning about plants and locating different types of animals. Great opportunities for the children to be immersed in nature in such an enriching way. Next week, the same two places are also being visited by Reception and Year 1. I am sure both classes will have just as an enjoyable time and develop their learning in class further.



**The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

Father Philip led a beautiful Corpus Christi Mass this morning; the children read and sang so well, and it was wonderful to be joined by so many members of the Parish. Parishioners are always very welcome to join us for Mass.

Father reminded us that this is a time for deep reflection on the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ. Personally, I find that the Eucharist serves as a reminder of the love and care of God for us all. A gift for us all to nourish both body and soul, uniting us as one body in Christ.

June, of course, holds a particular significance in the Church's year through the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus which take place next Friday. This

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provides a rich and deeply appropriate focus for us all, inviting us to reflect on Christ's love – an infinite and unconditional love that is personal, sacrificial and offered to all.

With this in mind, we wished to seek parental feedback on the opportunities for prayer and liturgy for the children at school. We would very much appreciate your feedback. As ever, Mrs Micthell and I read every response and will analyse and share outcomes in the coming weeks. Thank you – the link to the survey can be accessed here - [Liturgy and Prayer at St Joseph's](#)

### **Kind Hearts**

#### **Staffing update:**

A few weeks ago I shared that Mrs Southwood and Miss Rollason will be leaving St Joseph's at the end of the summer term. I can now inform parents that we have successfully appointed two teachers to start with us in September. **Mrs Standish**, who has worked at St Joseph's in a number of positions will join us after her maternity leave in the position of class teacher along with Mrs Dodd in Reception class. In addition to this, **Mrs Pawelczyk (Mrs P)** joins us from Our Lady and St Kenelm in Halesowen in the role of class teacher. With a kind heart, we welcome both teachers and look forward to working with them as part of our team and community in the next academic year. All of the children will find out of their next class teacher in the coming weeks prior to our moving up day.

### **Kind Hearts, A Thirst For Knowledge, A hunger for justice**

#### **A Day of Welcome**



On Friday 12th June, we are joining schools across the country in a Day of Welcome, an annual day of solidarity and learning in schools that aims to build a culture of welcome and understanding for people seeking sanctuary.

The theme for A Day of Welcome and Refugee Week 2026 is "Courage", which comes from the Latin term *cor*, meaning "heart." For refugees around the world, courage is often a daily necessity. It is the courage to face unknown journeys, learn new languages, navigate unfamiliar systems, or simply to wake up each morning and step into an uncertain world. Through art, stories, and community, we celebrate the courage that lives within us all – and how connection helps it grow.

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**Sports update:**

Our Year 5 and Year 6 girls team qualified from the Stourbridge league to the knock out stage with an aim to qualify for the final. I have today been told the dates for the next stage:

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 9:30-12:00pm at the Dell stadium** along with 15 other teams. The girls will be transported to the Dell by minibus and parents are welcome to join us. Should the girls qualify for the final, this will take place on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June at Maidensbridge Primary School with Kick off at 5:30pm**. As fate would have it, this is an inset day and school will be closed for the day. Should we reach the final I will meet the girls at the venue prior to kick off. Please do let me know if you have arranged any long weekends just in case!

**Gifts from God**

Gifts from God will return next week

Year group	Values and Virtues	Good Work
Reception		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

**Attendance – Well done everyone, our whole school attendance is excellent!**

Attendance	
<b>Whole school weekly attendance</b>	<b>98.5%</b>
<b>Whole school attendance (full year)</b>	<b>96.9%</b>
<b>National average</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>Reception weekly attendance</b>	<b>99.33%</b>
<b>Year 1 weekly attendance</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Year 2 weekly attendance</b>	<b>96.43%</b>
<b>Year 3 weekly attendance</b>	<b>98.67%</b>
<b>Year 4 weekly attendance</b>	<b>98.67%</b>
<b>Year 5 weekly attendance</b>	<b>99.33%</b>
<b>Year 6 weekly attendance</b>	<b>97.67%</b>



**Well done to Year 1 who have achieved the highest attendance this week and will receive an extra play time! Keep it up!**

### **Kind Hearts, A hunger for Justice**

From time to time, there may be occasions that emerge when you need our support. Never hesitate to get in touch should you need our support. I am the DSL in school and Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Riley and Mrs Faux-Conduit are the DDSLs. Mrs Mitchell is also our SENCo and Mental Health Leader. School safeguarding information and our Early Help offer can be found at this link on the school website [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Safeguarding](#)

In school we are also very fortunate to have Mrs Dulson as our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant and Mental Health First Aider and can support your child in a whole manner of ways to support their wellbeing [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Mental Health and ELSA](#) . **We're here to help when you need us!**

### **Questioning minds**

**Dates for your diary** – please keep an eye on the link below while dates are added: [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar](#)

### **Questioning minds – Term Dates**

The 2026-27 term dates can be found below:

	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Half term</b>	<b>Ends</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2026 to Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2026	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
<b>Spring Term</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2027 to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2027	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
<b>Summer Term</b>	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2027 to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2027	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2027

The following INSET Days agreed for 2026/27:

- *Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026*
- *Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026*
- *Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2026*
- *Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2027*
- *Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2027*

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CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

In addition to the five INSET Days listed above, a sixth INSET Day is also proposed to facilitate a MAC-wide INSET Day. The proposed date for this INSET Day will be confirmed in due course.

**Inset Days**

Please note a further inset day has been added. As a Multi-Academy Company, Emmaus are able to use a 6<sup>th</sup> inset day for staff development and formation. The inset days for the rest of the academic year are as follows:

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

As such, school will close for pupils for the summer break on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 3:15pm**

Have a great weekend, God bless

*Mr A. Wilkes*

Executive Principal

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