

Latest School News

Our Catholic Faith

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 9th July 2023 - Father and Son (Matthew 11:25-30)

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'



Reflection

A good companion is priceless and helps us to make the best of ourselves. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus offers his companionship to us and to our children. In this much-loved and encouraging gospel passage, Jesus invites us to go to him to rest and to be refreshed. Jesus came to take away fear and loneliness - to help people feel loved and accepted. We can experience Jesus' companionship through other people and through spending time with God in prayer

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Sacrament of Confirmation

Please remember in your prayers those young people preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday evening. We look forward to welcoming Bishop David again to this special celebration.

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.*



Weekend Mass Times at Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Saturday evening Vigil Mass for Sunday 5.30pm

Sunday Mass: 10am with children's

There is a children's Liturgy of the Word at 10am Mass on Sunday.

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School

School Newsletter

Friday 7th July 2023

Transition Time

On Thursday, children from Reception to Year 5 had time in their new classes getting to know their new teachers. Don't forget, there is an opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher after school on **Wednesday 12th July**. Teachers will be available in classrooms from **4pm to 5pm**.

Football Competition

On Monday, Our Lady of the Wayside Y6 girls' football team took part in a football competition at Bodymoor Heath (Aston Villa's training ground). The girls played against nine other schools before they were successful in reaching the semi-final. After tense game played in very windy conditions, the girls battled well and were crowned overall winners. Each player received a gold medal, which was presented to them by Nat Haigh (ex Aston Villa player), who also signed items of clothing or posters at the end of the afternoon. The girls were a credit to themselves and Our Lady of the Wayside school. Congratulations.



Police Visit

Nick Birch (Schools Intervention and Prevention officer) from West Midlands Police visited Y6 to talk about and give advice around their transition to Y7. It was informative and the children were given opportunities to ask any questions around worries or concerns they may have.



End of Year School Mass

Our final school Mass of this year takes place on Tuesday 18th July at 10:00am. Present in church will be Year 6, Year 5 and Year 4; other classes will join via the Livestream. This Mass provides an opportunity to give thanks and to celebrate this school year and say farewell to children and staff leaving Our Lady of the Wayside (Miss Pitman, Mrs Crawford, Mr Vinti and Mr Taylor). You are all most welcome to join us.

School Uniform - School Shoes

This time of year, children have often out grown their school shoes, or shoes simply start to fall apart. We totally understand parents not wishing to replace school shoes now.

School shoes are an important part of school uniform and there is an expectation that children wear school shoes in September.

Summer Reading Challenge



On your marks for Ready, Set, Read!, this year's Summer Reading Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency.

Solihull Libraries are challenging children aged 4-12 to read six books across the school summer holidays and collect stickers and rewards along the way. The challenge begins on Saturday 8th July but you can join at any time and take part at any Solihull Library (you just need to visit the same library each time). If children meet the challenge, they will earn themselves a certificate, a medal and a free family swim at either of the Everyone Active leisure centres in Solihull. You can read any book you like; the choice is yours but do take a look at our Summer Reading Challenge book collection on our [children's catalogue page](#)

But that's not all! All those who complete the challenge can enter a free prize draw to be in with a chance to win a £15 gift card for the Entertainer, or a £20 gift card for Waterstones or £30 to spend in Touchwood. They could even win a family ticket to a family film at The Core.

Visit the Summer Reading Challenge [website](#) for lots of games, competitions and the Book Sorter where children can write reviews and get suggestions for new books to try.

It's free to take part in Ready, Set, Read! with lots of fun activities in libraries across the summer - take a look at our [Events listing](#) for details of all the library events.

So, make a dash for the library and keep your reading skills fit and healthy!

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Attendance

It is essential that children regularly attend school, poor attendance has a serious and long lasting impact on your child. To promote and encourage good attendance we publish weekly attendance figures.

Reception	Red Group 97.4%	Blue Group 98.2%
Year 1	Class 1C 91.8%	Class 1Y 98.8%
Year 2	Class 2F 91.1%	Class 2CS 90.6%
Year 3	Class 3M 94.2%	Class 3TS 95.1%
Year 4	Class 4C 92.7%	Class 4L 88.5%
Year 5	Class 5E 96.9%	Class 5V 92.7%
Year 6	Class 6O 94.7%	Class 6P 93.4%

Overall attendance for this week is 94.3%. Well done this week to Class 1Y with an attendance figure of 98.8%

St Mary's, India Update



Thank you for your generosity and support for St Mary's Educational Trust, India. As a school we raised a fantastic £1200 at this year's Lenten Fun Day. On Wednesday, our RE Council presented our school's donation to Fr Dominic, Chair of Trustees for St Mary's. Mrs Sallis and Mrs Lloyd, the staff who visited India earlier in the year, raised an additional £1000. The money raised will be invested into computers for St Mary's School.

Charity Fundraising

One of our parents, Mark Tolladay, is raising funds for the Association for Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Disorders (AMEND). This is a patient group set up in 2002 to support and inform anyone affected by or interested in multiple endocrine neoplasia disorders and their associated endocrine tumours. He is undertaking Banger Rally from the 21st to 24th July which involves driving 1,298 miles through 4 European countries (France, Italy, Monaco and Spain) If you would like to donate, please follow the link below:

<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/knightsatthehelm2ballrally>

Work has already begun on the converting an old Citroen Belingo!



Our Lady of the Wayside COVID Memorial

With the COVID-19 pandemic officially over, we commissioned Mr Vinti, Year 5 class teacher, to create a piece of glass artwork in memory of those from within Our Lady of the Wayside Parish and School community who lost their life to COVID.

Mr Vinti is an incredibly talented artist and the art work he has created is simply stunning. Our sincere thanks to Mr Vinti for all his hard work and dedication in creating this permanent memorial.

You are all most welcome to join Bishop David for the blessing our COVID memorial at 6:45pm on Tuesday 11th July.



Let us pause for a moment in remembrance of all who have died of COVID-19.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.

Reporting Arrangements 2022- 2023 Evaluation

Thank you for the feedback received so far; to date, we have received 31 responses. We are keen to hear from more parents and to gather a range of views. This year's reporting arrangements were a different approach and were introduced with the aim of:

- Putting the child's learning and voice at the heart of education.
- Strengthening the partnership between teacher, pupil and parent.
- Providing parents with information in a timelier manner.
- Assisting parents in better understanding how they can support their child's education at home.
- Ensuring teacher's time is used efficiently and effectively.

Please share your views and feedback by Wednesday 12th July using the following link or QR code.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Buzq9iwGyy>



Thank you.

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Diving Talent

We love to hear what children have been up to outside of school.

This week, Tommy in Year 5 told us all about his diving achievements. Tommy travels to Sheffield every Friday to dive as, unfortunately, there is very limited professional diving schools within the Midlands region. Tommy has enjoyed great success in recent months, including winning the North East Regional Diving Championships - Tommy is currently the regional North East diving champion for his class! Well done Tommy, we are all so proud of you

Forthcoming Events

Reception - School/Parish Mass

Reception will be celebrating Mass with the parish this Saturday 8th July at the 5.30pm Mass. Please do join us. There will be tea and biscuits afterwards in the St Aiden's Day Chapel.

Athletics Event - Alexander Stadium

On Monday 10th July, some children will compete with other Catholic schools across the region in an athletics event at Alexander Stadium.

Sports Day

Tuesday 11th July

Middle Phase Sports Day, 2pm start

Wednesday 12th July

Early Phase Sports Day, 2pm start

Thursday 13th July

Lower Phase Sports Day, 2pm start

Please note, siblings are unable to watch Sports Day in other phases and collection of siblings is at the normal time of 3.25pm.

Y5 Bikeability

On Monday 10th July, children in Year 5 will need to bring a roadworthy bicycle and a correctly fitting helmet into school for the Bikeability training provided by Solihull Council.

Leavers Production

On Friday 14th July, children in Year 6 will be performing 'I'm an 11 year old, get me out of here!' **Due to seating capacity in the hall, the event is limited to two adults per child.** Please can we politely ask that no more than two adults attend. Thank you for support.

Our Lady and All Saints Athletics

Good luck to our Year 5 and Year 6 children who are representing Our Lady of the Wayside School in Our Lady and All Saints athletics event on Thursday - venue Norman Green Athletics Centre.