



Friday 8th November 2019

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn 2019				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 Masses

The next school Mass will be celebrated on **Thursday 14th November - Year 5 (Year of Word) and Thursday 21st November Year 4 (St Cecelia 22nd Nov) at 9.00am**. Parents, friends and parishioners are most welcome to attend. Please Note if no Priest is available there will be a Service of the Word.



Harvest Collection Appeal - Sparkhill Foodbank

Thank you to all those who contributed to our Harvest Collection Appeal. All donations were greatly received and passed on to Sparkhill Foodbank.

Winter Uniform

A reminder that we are now in winter uniform. Please see our school website for information regarding this.

<https://www.stjonmon.bham.sch.uk/parents/school-uniform>

All pupils should now be in white shirts (not polo shirts) with a school tie. Ties can be purchased on-line via school money (Please select the SHOP option) at a cost of £2.50. Shoes should be black and not slip-on. No boots or trainers should be worn. **Thank you to those parents who follow our School Uniform Policy.**

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to those parents/carers who supported our bi-annual book fair. A total of £560.00 was raised, which means, as a school, we can spend £224.00 on new books to supplement our classrooms and school library. Thank you.

Maths Parent's Open Week

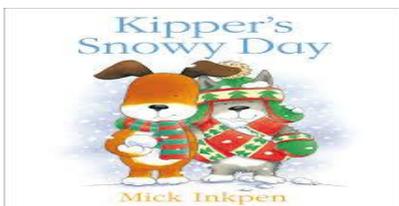
This year we are hosting a Maths Parent's Open Week from **Mon 25th – Fri 29th November (Year 3 - 25th to 27th & 2nd to 4th Dec)**. This is instead of our usual Inspire Workshops. You should have received an invitation to come into school to support your child during a mathematics lesson and learn more about our Master Maths approach. We would be grateful if you can complete the slip to indicate your attendance and send in to your child/ren's class teacher by **18th November**.



Year of the Word

This year sees the Catholic Church launch the 2020 'The God Who Speaks: The Year of the Word'. This initiative focuses on celebrating, living and sharing God's Word throughout the Catholic Church in England and Wales from 20th Sept until the end of Dec 2020. The three themes and vision for the year are: **Celebrating God's Word, Living God's Word and Sharing God's Word**. At SS John and Monica's school we will be focusing on this initiative throughout the year and giving children the opportunity to get to know scripture better and how this can enrich our lives.





Christmas Theatre Trips

Each Key Stage will be visiting the theatre again this year to enjoy a Christmas production. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to experience real live theatre! Rec/KS1 will be walking to the Midlands Arts Centre as we did last year and KS2 will be travelling by coach to the Crescent Theatre in Birmingham. Details of the trips are as follows:

REC/KS1: 'Kippers Snowy Day' on Tuesday 10th December (Cost: £10.00)

Please collect children normal time – 3.15pm

KS2: 'A Christmas Carol' – Crescent Theatre on Thursday 5th December (Cost: £13.28) – Please note children will return to school at approx. 5.00 pm

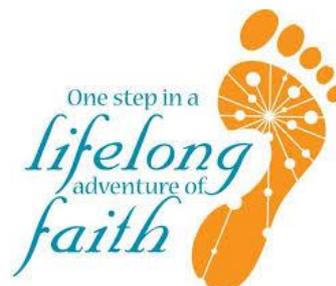
Please be aware of the deadline – **Thursday 21st November** for the above trips. If payments are not made, these trips are in danger of being cancelled. For consent and payment log-on to <https://login.eduspot.co.uk>

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 which will be led by Cannon David Evans**. The preparation Masses for this Sacrament are as follows:

- **Sunday 10th November**

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.



Fr Dominic Retirement Mass

A special retirement Mass for Fr Dominic has been organised by the Parish on Friday 29th November at 7.00pm at St John and Martin's Church. There will be refreshments afterwards in the newly refurbished B12 Urban Village Hall (formerly Parish Hall), where we will be presenting Fr Dominic with a small gift from our school community.



Attendance Focus Week – Monday 11th – Friday 15th November

We will be having an Attendance Focus week on Mon 11th – Fri 15th Nov. There will be rewards and certificates for those selected from the school draw with 100% attendance for that week. Attendance is very important and missed days' mean missed learning. Those pupils whose attendance drops below 95% will be contacted by school and asked to explain the reason for this. Good attendance and punctuality are life skills we must teach all our children.

Attendance for Week 21st – 24th Oct – Well done to Reception – 100%

4th – 8th Nov – 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	97.3%	96.8%	98.4%	99%	97.4%	95.9%	96.5%
Lates	7	6	10	7	1	11	4
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	Eyob & Zakariyya
Year 1: Miss Millar & Mrs Hodges	Kiara & Oji
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Michaela & Ivo
Year 3: Mrs. Flaherty & Mrs Ali	Ranell & Amaad
Year 4: Miss McEvoy & Miss Ali	Zosia & Mark
Year 5: Mrs. Goddard, Mrs Catling & Miss Hill	Alima & Ammar
Year 6: Mr. Ullah, Mrs Gray & Miss Hill	Spencer & Whole Class
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Safaa – Year 1 & Ellah – Year 6

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th Nov	Anti- Bullying Week	
Thurs 14 th Nov	Forest School Y2/Y5	am/pm
Fri 15 th Nov	Y1 Class Assembly – Parents/Carers of Y1 welcome	9.15am
Tues 19 th Nov	Confirmandi Children to St Martin's to meet Canon David Evans	1.45pm
Tues 19 th Nov	Sacrament of Confirmation	7.00pm
Thurs 21 st Nov	Nasal Flu Spray – Whole School	
Fri 22 nd Nov	Fundraising Committee Meeting – Forest School – All Welcome	2.00pm

Play Equipment/ Trim Trail

Please note that in the winter months the front Reception and Toddler playground is closed at 3.30pm. We also ask to make sure that your children do not use the Trim Trail or Tyre Park in the KS2 playground at the end of the school day as they are wet and slippery this time of year.

Polite Notice - After School Clubs

We ask you to read the newsletter and regular emails regarding After School Clubs. We do not print letters anymore unless they are essential. For this reason, if your wish your child to attend a club, either print off an emailed copy or simply call into the school office.

Mathletics Awards Awards

Well done to the following children who have regularly accessing Mathletics at home and have achieved the following awards:

Year 6: Bronze: Aibak, Mishal, Nagarathna, Khadeeja, Hamaad George, Mishthi, Rayyan. **Silver:** Aibak

Year 5: Bronze: Alima, Curtis

Year 3: Bronze: Hawwa, Aayan, Chitrani

Year 2: Bronze: Milaan

Year 1: Bronze: Elena, Ayden, Safaa



Data Sheets

Please ensure that all data sheets sent home recently are completed and returned to school. This includes correcting any information that is incorrect, so that we are fully up-to-date with emergency contact details. Please also complete the form regarding Free School Meals eligibility and additional languages spoken at home.

Anti-Bullying Week: 11th-15th November – Odd Socks Day

During National Anti-Bullying Week 11th-15th Nov, we will be doing a range of work around this important theme. Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By talking about this, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Indeed, it takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying. **To recognise this week, we are asking pupils to wear odd socks on Tuesday 12th November as a stand against Bullying.** We are excited for this campaign as we want to create empowering, positive messages addressing the fact that when it comes to bullying *CHANGE STARTS WITH US!*



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

Illegal Parking

We have had complaints from local residents about parent's parking illegally and inconsiderately across their driveways when dropping to /collection from school. Many local residents have CCTV and so we have advised them to send captured photographs of number plates to the police. This inconsiderate behaviour is NOT acceptable or an example that we should be setting to our children.



Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who has been hard at work selling Christmas Raffle tickets over Half Term. If you have sold all your tickets - don't forget you can pick up extra books from the School Office. The three children who sell the most tickets will get a special prize and everyone who sells their initial 20 tickets will get a little Christmas Reward from the School Office when they hand in their ticket stubs and money. Please do encourage friends, family, work colleagues, neighbours etc., to support our School's fundraising efforts. Some wonderful new prizes have been donated by generous local businesses over Half Term - please see the updated prize list on the school website. There are over 30 prizes currently and still more pledged.

The Year of the Word- The God Who Speaks Official Prayer

*Living God,
You walk alongside us and
Speak to us throughout the Scriptures.
Your Son, Jesus Christ,
Listens to our hearts and minds
So that we may be your witnesses
Throughout the world.
AMEN*