



ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: Mr D Linehan

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Tel: 0121 779 8060 Email: parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.stannessolihull.co.uk> Follow us on Twitter: @StAnnesCP



St. Anne's Mission Statement: "Each one of us is unique, each one of us is special, because we are created by God's love. May God's love shine on our lives as we care and share and learn together."

Friday 24th January 2025

CATHOLIC LIFE

School Virtue for this half term – Grateful and Generous
In our Liturgical Calendar we are currently in Ordinary Time

The half term focus for Catholic Social Teaching is: 'Rights and Responsibilities'

DIOCESAN VIRTUES AT ST. ANNE'S – OUR HALF TERM VALUE: 'GRATEFUL AND GENEROUS'

GRATEFUL AND GENEROUS

Pupils in our school are growing to be . . .

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Our school helps our pupils to grow . . .

By encouraging them to know and be grateful for all their gifts, developing them to the full so that they can be generous in the service of others.

The Christian Roots of the Pupil Profile.

Gratitude – an attitude of mind that habitually notices daily blessings and the good things that happen to us, giving our lives meaning and enjoyment, and sometimes pause for thought and a nudge to put things right. Generosity – the impulse to give and not to count the cost, to serve without reward, to have big hearts and great minds, to be men and women for others.

BUILDING THE KINGDOM



At St Anne's, we are striving to **Build the Kingdom of God!**

We are helping the children develop the skills we needed to be:

- Agents for a spirit-fuelled transformation of society.
- Moving our learning into action and our faith into action!

We are teaching the children that they are the leaders of tomorrow!

God is calling you to change the world one life at a time and one small step at a time. Begin today where you are.

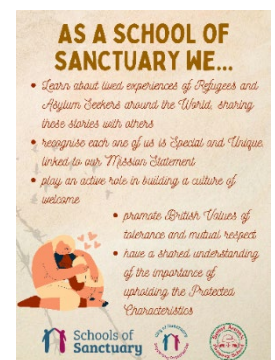
SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

At Saint Anne's, we are passionate about the work we do as a School of Sanctuary, building the **Kingdom of God** by making our community inclusive and welcoming.

We are putting our faith into action as we are reaching out to the new Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson MP, to introduce the work of Schools of Sanctuary, the challenges we face, and the changes we would like to see.

We are asking her to encourage all schools around the country to take part in this important initiative.

The letter can be found on our website here: [Letter to Bridget Phillipson MP](#)



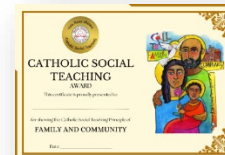
Please see link below for the monthly TenTen R.E Newsletter. The information shared on this newsletter links to the children's Collective Worship in class.

www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

- ▶ **Spring 1 Focus– Rights and Responsibilities**-Every person has a fundamental right to life. It is this right that makes all other rights possible. Everyone has the right to food, health care, housing, education and employment. We all need to strive to secure and respect these rights for others both locally and globally.

At St Anne's, children are chosen each week to receive a certificate for portraying one of the Catholic Social Teaching principles. This is to celebrate children putting their faith into action and to encourage deeper thinking on why we do things (i.e. we look after God's world because we have been entrusted as Stewards). Congratulations to the children chosen this week during phase assembly!



Faith without action, isn't faith at all.

ST ANNES & ST ANTHONYS CHURCH PARISH NEWSLETTER

Please find a link below to the Parish Newsletter which you can find on our website.

<https://www.stannessolihull.co.uk/spring2025>

CATERING WITHIN SCHOOL – ORDERING MEALS ON PARENTPAY

A reminder to please continue to pre-order your child's meals on ParentPay. If a dinner has not been ordered, then the children will be offered a limited menu option of a jacket potato with a filling or a pasta pot. They will also have access to salad and a freshly baked bread roll. This charge will be added onto your ParentPay account.

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

For queries such as reporting children's absence, requesting information or other general questions, please contact us via parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk. This is a dedicated parent email address which is monitored throughout the day. Messages sent here will be sent on to the relevant staff member(s) if necessary.

If you have any queries at all or if it is an urgent message, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office on 0121 779 8060.

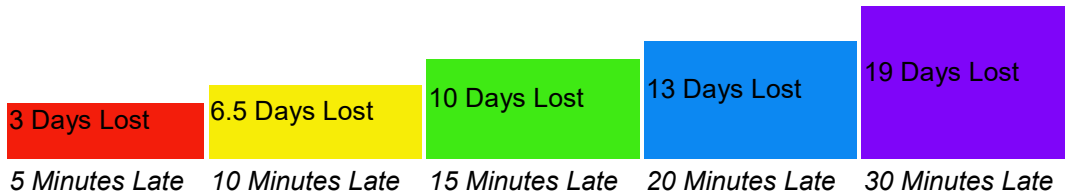
ATTENDANCE

Late marks and Absences

The doors open for children in Reception to Year 6 at **8.30am** and close at **8.40am**. Children who arrive after this time must go to the School Office where they will be given their late mark. Late marks are monitored and recorded. Children who arrive from 9.10am onwards are marked on the register as a 'U' for unauthorised absence, unless they are absent due to a medical appointment. Children arriving at the School Office prior to 9.10am will receive a late mark, 'L' on the register.

8.40am-9.10am = 'L', which means that your child receives a late mark. We are required to put a reason on the register for children who are late so office staff will always ask for a reason. If it is a personal/confidential reason please just say so; staff will make a note of this.

9.10am and beyond = 'U', which means the morning is recorded as an unauthorised absence.



(Over one academic year)

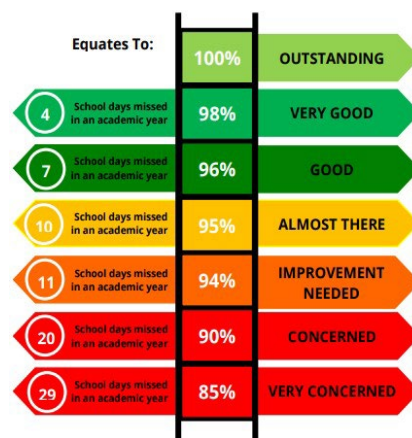
Attendance and Holidays –

Children Absent: If your child is absent from school it is necessary that you contact school on the first day of your child’s absence. Contact 0121 779 8060 and choose option 1 before the start of the day. There is an answer phone facility for you to leave your child’s name, class and reason for absence. Alternatively, you can email school with your child’s reason of absence: parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk

Following previous correspondence, this reminds you again that all holidays are unauthorised and the Local Authority will fine parents regardless of when holidays are booked because the ruling has always been in place. This is a Local Authority decision; the School cannot over-ride their decision.

WINNING CLASS

6M



RE INSPIRE PARENT WORKSHOPS

Please find the dates below for this academic years RE Inspire Parent Workshops.

Please note that some of the below dates have now changed.

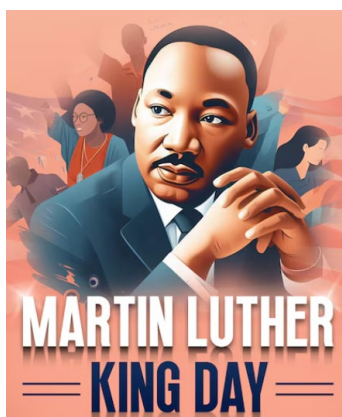
Year Group	Relevant RE Unit	Date
Reception	St Anne	Monday 12 th May
1	Following Jesus Today	Monday 23 rd June
2	Parables and Miracles	Monday 16 th June
3	First Holy Communion	Monday 27 th January
4	Sharing in the Life of Christ	Monday 3 rd February
5	Pentecost	Monday 19 th May

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



In this week’s votes the children answered the following topic question:

- Is it easy to save your pennies?



Martin Luther King Day

In our phase assemblies the children learnt about Martin Luther King and how he was an influential figure in history who stood up for human rights and equality. He showed excellence and resilience by fighting for change and gave a speech called “I have a dream.” Within this he spoke about living in a future where all people are equal regardless of the colour of their skin. The children thought about the inspirational impact Martin Luther has upon their lives today whilst answer the following question.



How can we be just like Martin Luther King and make sure everyone is being treated equally?

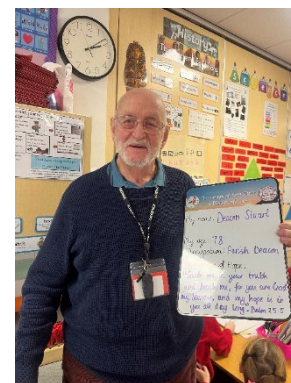
Feast of St Paul – 25th January



We Remembered Saint Paul this week through prayer, reflection and discussions around his significant contribution to spreading the teachings of Christ across the Roman Empire. He is known as the Patron Saint missionaries, evangelists, writers, public workers, rope makers, saddle makers, and tentmakers.

Pilgrims of Hope

We have another inspiring message to share from a Pilgrim of Hope – this week we turn to our shining Deacon Stuart. For his message of hope he quotes, **“Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.”** (Psalm 25:5)



JUBILEE LAUNCH DAY

Jubilee Launch Day Celebrations

Today we gathered together to celebrate the launch of the Jubilee Year. We are answering our call from Pope Francis to be Pilgrims of Hope and unite people with faith and joy. We started our celebrations by processing into God’s Gift Assembly through our Holy Jubilee Doors. We were also joined by Deacon Stuart in assembly to bless our school Bibles and the Bibles children had brought in from home.



St Anne's Year 4 Choir attended the Young Voices Concert at BP Pulse Live on Friday 17th January.



They have been tirelessly rehearsing every week since September to learn the lyrics for 12 songs and perfect dance moves for some of these. The experience has been incredible and all the children were inspired and motivated by the power of the music they experienced.

Mrs McGuire and Miss Ingleston have been blown away by the commitment, talent and enthusiasm of each member of the choir at every rehearsal.

At the concert on Friday the children were part of the largest school choir in the world. They sang their hearts out, danced amazingly and thoroughly enjoyed the experience- making it a memorable time for all. Mrs McGuire and Miss Ingleston were overjoyed at the children's enjoyment and the comments they made like the ones below:

'This is a once in a lifetime experience and I'm going to enjoy every minute'
 'Little Blue is such a heart-warming song'
 'I feel free and on Cloud 9'
 'I feel so happy'

Well done to every member of the choir- you all shone like the superstars you are and were true ambassadors for St Anne's School- impeccable behaviour, talent and pure joy. Thank you to the parents who supported their child in participating too.



NURSERY

Religious Education

In our RE unit 'Baptism – My Name' the children have been thinking about all the different ways that we use water in our everyday life. They had fun exploring the language of water play e.g. splash, pour, drip, etc. They know that water is used in a special way in church.



Literacy and Understanding the World

The Nursery children continue to learn about the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The children enjoyed making and tasting their own porridge. They explored the porridge oats and discussed the changes that they could see before and after it was cooked. They were happy to share it with the Three Bears too.



Religious Education

This week we continued our unit "People who help us". We visited Saint Annes Church church and discussed the different artefacts and objects we could see. We spoke about Father Christopher and his important work in the community. We showed super retrieval skills and wonderful knowledge linked to our church and were able to discuss what we saw.



Understanding the World

We have been having lots of fun learning about our local area. This week we used digi maps and google earth to explore the area around our school. We produced some super journey maps showing places we pass on the way to school. We also produced some wonderful work showing the places in our community.



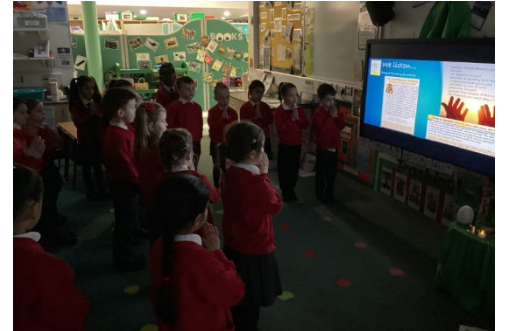
Music

In our music lessons we have been exploring sound. We used our voices to produce high sounds, low sounds, fast sounds and slow sounds. We then explored using our bodies to repeat different rhythms. We clapped our hands, stamped our feet and tapped our knees. We then used our bodies to make music and dance in time to the beat.

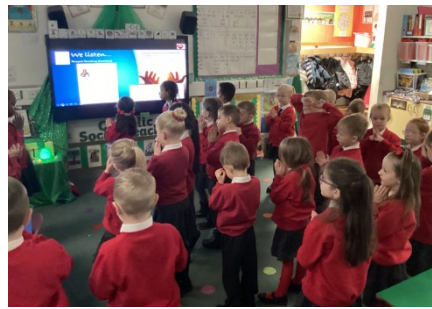
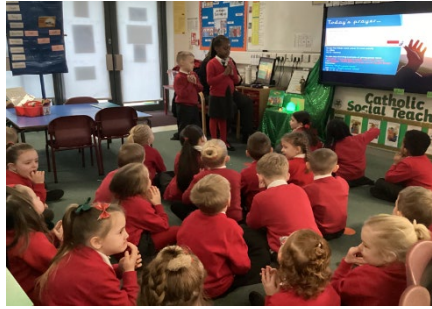
YEAR 1

Child-Led Prayer and Liturgy

This week, as part of our prayer and liturgy, children from each class took an active role in planning and leading our child-led prayer, centred around the theme of 'Good News.' Together, we reflected on how Jesus is always with us and encourages us to share good news with others through our daily words and actions. We also took time to think about the good news we've heard in recent weeks or days. As our Go Forth mission, we were challenged to consider the good news we can share with others to help build God's kingdom.

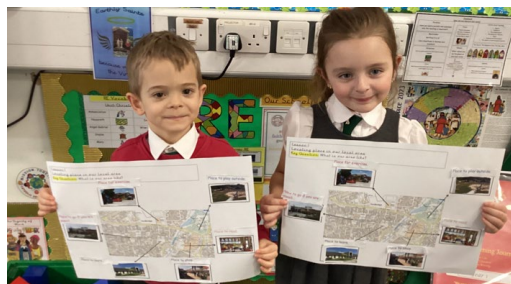


The children planned and led so beautifully, making all adults proud! 😊



Geography – What is our area like?

This week in Year One, as geographers we used our map-reading skills of a local scale, and located the city we live in and then our local area. We explored its key human features, like buildings, roads, and shops. Together, we asked, *What is our local area like?* and discovered how these features make it a special place to live.

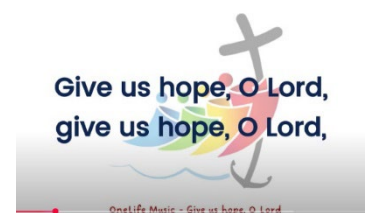


YEAR 2

Religious Education- The year of the Jubilee- Pilgrims of Hope

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the Jubilee year, launching the theme with our very own class focal point, centred around the place of pilgrimage, Knock. The children will begin learning about this holy site and they will discover more about its history and significance. They will be exploring lots of fascinating facts in the coming weeks.

In addition, Year 2 have been practising a beautiful song by Dan & Emily from One Life called *Give Us Hope, O Lord*. It was a wonderful moment when the children sang this meaningful song together during the Jubilee launch day assembly, adding a special touch to the occasion. What a wonderful way to begin this year of reflection and celebration!



Science

The children have been exploring different types of materials and whether you can change their shape. First of all, we experimented with twisting, bending, stretching and squashing and applied this knowledge to different materials. We explored play dough, plastic bottles and rubber gloves.



YEAR 3

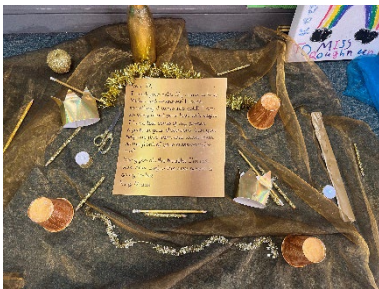
Religious Education - Catholic Life

Year 3 had a wonderful visit from Deacon Stuart on Wednesday. We had a very spiritual conversation about the special Jubilee Year and discussed the origin and significance of 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We were very curious to ask Deacon Stuart our Big Catholic Social Teaching question for our Christmas unit which is: **The shepherds cared for God's creatures. St Francis of Assisi praised God's creation. How can we be inspired by the shepherds and St Francis?** It was lovely to reflect on Deacon Stuart's expertise on how we should be beacons of faith sharing our gifts and knowledge with others, just like Saint Francis of Assisi and the Shepherds.



English - Talk 4 Writing

During English, Year 3 found an apple that had turned into gold! We found a letter next to the golden apple from King Midas! He told us all about his 'Golden Touch' where everything he touched turned into solid gold! The children went on a scavenger hunt around the classroom to help King Midas find his lost golden objects! The children discussed as a class what King Midas must be feeling and what problems he might face with his new power! We all read the story of King Midas and looked at our new story map! The children were so excited and cannot wait to learn more about the King and his mysterious new power!



YEAR 4

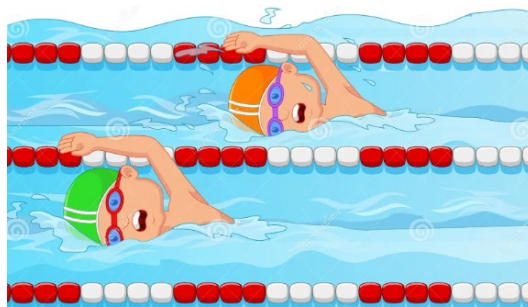
Religious Education – Jesus is The Light of the World

This week, the children have been reflecting upon the transfiguration of Jesus and the links between this important event and Jesus' baptism. We also discussed the special names given to Jesus, such as: Saviour, Messiah, King and Beloved Son. We thought deeply about why He is referred to by these names and how precious He is to us.



PE – Yoga, Tennis and Swimming!

Year 4 have been enjoying participating in lots of different sports! The children have been practising their flexibility and strength in Yoga, their coordination and technique in Tennis and their determination and skills in Swimming. Well done Year 4!



Computing – Animation

Year 4 have started their new topic in computing for this half term: Animation. For the first lesson, the children had to create their own animation by practising their skills on the 2Animate application on Purple Mash. The children created some excellent and creative animations!



YEAR 5

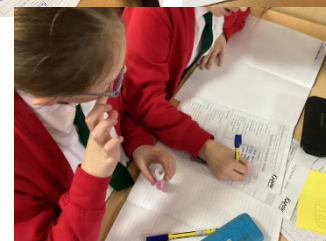
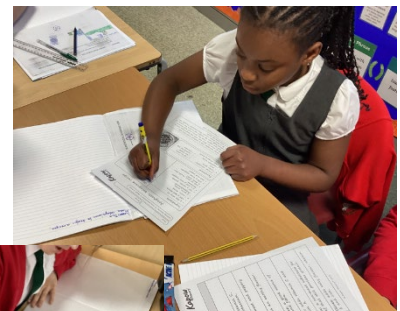
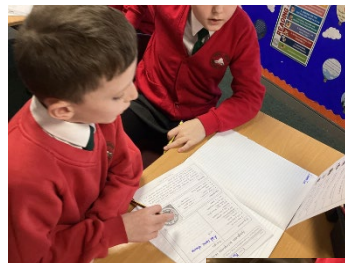
Prayer and Liturgy

This week, in Prayer and Liturgy, Year 5 have been thinking about the Jubilee Year of Hope. As it is to be officially celebrated on Friday 24th January, the children in Year 5 planned a prayer and liturgy all about the Jubilee year, and how we can be pilgrims of hope. The children who led our prayer and liturgy shared their own messages of hope to the year group. Then, they gave the children a Go Forth message of hope, where each child was asked to write down a message of hope, and we shared some with the class and placed them on the focal point. It was a truly wonderful activity to think about how we can Build the Kingdom, which is what we are doing each and every day at St Anne's.



Design and Technology

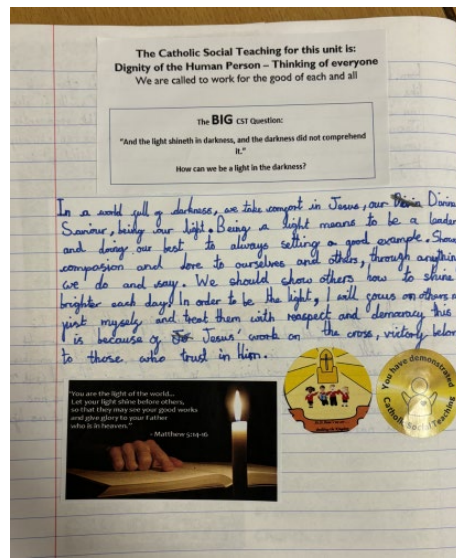
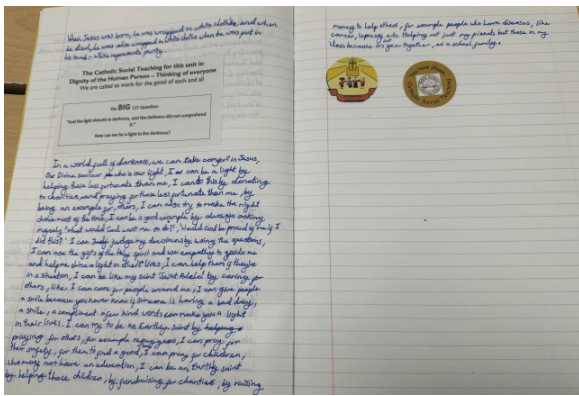
In our new unit in Design and Technology, Year 5 are looking at 'What could be healthier?'. By the end of our unit, we will be able to make a healthy and delicious spaghetti Bolognese. Last week, we **researched** how beef made it from the farm to our plates. This week, we **designed** our recipe, thinking about what we could add or take away from our recipe to make it tastier, but also making healthy choices. We had a look at a standard recipe for spaghetti Bolognese, and adapted it to meet our own wants and needs. We can't wait to carry on planning our meal and eventually cooking it!



YEAR 6

Religious Education

The Year 6 children have reflected deeply throughout their Christmas unit of work, leading up to answer our Big Catholic Social Teaching Question: How can we be a light in the darkness? We took a moment to reflect on how being the light means doing your best to live each day on purpose and in a way that's pleasing to God. It means showing kindness and compassion to others and yourself. It's about looking for opportunities to be more like Jesus, to lift others up, and to build the kingdom of God. It also means making a mindful effort to make your light shine brighter and help others discover their light. Year 6 you all shine so brightly!



Science

Our Year 6 biologists have been learning all about the heart and how this works! We have been investigating blood and the different components that make up this vital liquid: red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma. The children created a blood soup using different items to represent the four components! Despite the mess and 'blood' leaking everywhere, the children thoroughly enjoyed seeing a visual representation of these components!



ONLINE SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

Smartphone Free Childhood

Smartphone Free Childhood is a parent led movement whose mission is to protect children from the dangers of using smartphones too young.

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age. Are you ready to join? Find out more here: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>

HEAD TEACHER ACADEMIC AWARDS OF THE WEEK

RH – Kian T	RL – Harry D	1I – Tabitha G	1OC – Jagger B	2B – Ava-Rose
2R – Leo O	3L – Evelyn B	3R – Anesha G	4P – Jonah G	4OR – Lacie-Mae
5R – Solmaz N	5T – Tian R	6M – Billy B	6N – Ayla B	

HEAD TEACHER EFFORT AWARDS OF THE WEEK

RH – Florence E	RL – Oscar A	1I – Whole class	1OC – Promise P	2B – Elsie-Ray
2R – Huey H	3L – Jack C	3R – Ted M	4P – Tommy J	4OR – Frankie H
5R – Jackson R	5T – Tommy R	6M – Zara K	6N – Obi A	

OUTSTANDING VIRTUE CERTIFICATE – ‘CURIOUS & ACTIVE’

RH – Sienna G	RL – Posey-Lu	1I – Gracie L	1OC – Harvey A	2B – Charlie H
2R – Isla-Rose	3L – Minnie M	3R – Lottie C	4P – Noah M	4OR – Jack R
5R – Hezekiah P	5T – Laura H	6M – Ava M	6N – Chelsea O	

TERM DATES 2024-2025

<u>Spring Term 2025</u>	<u>Summer Term 2025</u>
<u>Spring 1</u>	<u>Summer 1</u>
<p>Monday 6th January 2025 – INSET Children NOT in school</p> <p>Starts: Tuesday 7th January Children return to school</p> <p>Half-Term: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February</p> <p>Monday 24th February – INSET Children NOT in school</p>	<p>Starts: Monday 28th April Children return to school</p> <p>Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday</p> <p>Half-Term: Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May</p>
<u>Spring 2</u>	<u>Summer 2</u>
<p>Starts: Tuesday 25th February Children return to school</p> <p>Easter Holiday: Monday 14th April to Friday 25th April</p>	<p>Starts: Monday 2nd June Children return to school</p> <p>Last Day of Term for Children: Friday 18th July</p> <p>Monday 21st July – INSET Children NOT in School</p> <p>Summer Holidays: Start Tuesday 22nd July</p>


YEAR 6 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon. 12 th – Thurs 15 th May	-	SATS Week
Date to be confirmed	-	Alton Castle Meeting with parents
Wed 18 th – Fri 20 th June	-	Kenelm Trust (formerly Alton castle) residential trip
Dates to be confirmed	-	Curriculum and SATs Workshop

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 17th Feb – Fri 21st Feb	-	Half Term
<i>Monday 24th February</i>	-	<i>INSET Day – Children NOT in school</i>
Tuesday 25th February	-	Children return to school – Start of Spring Term 2
Mon 14th April – Fri 25th April	-	Easter Holidays
<i>Wednesday 16th April</i>	-	<i>Reception Offer Day</i>
Monday 28th April	-	Children return to school – Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 5th May	-	May Bank Holiday
Mon 26th May – Fri 20th May	-	Half Term
Monday 2nd June	-	Children return to school – Start of Summer Term 2
<i>w/c Monday 9th June</i>	-	<i>Year 5 Bikeability</i>
<i>Monday 21st July</i>	-	<i>INSET Day – Children NOT in school</i>
Tuesday 22nd July	-	Summer Holidays

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Solihull Parenting Team

SPRING TERM 2025
Open to all Solihull parents and carers

BEING A PARENT GROUPS

Led by trained parent volunteers, the groups provide you with the tools to help manage challenging behaviour, improve communication, and build a positive relationship with your child.

The Being a Parent groups will be delivered both face-to-face and virtually, starting with a welcome session & then running weekly for a further 8 sessions:

TUESDAY	Virtual via Microsoft Teams	6pm – 7.30pm	28/1/25 – 1/4/25
WEDNESDAY	Dickens Heath School (B90 1NA)	9.30am – 11.30am	29/1/25 – 2/4/25
FRIDAY	Kingshurst Primary School (B37 6BN)	9.15am – 11.15am	31/1/25 – 4/4/25

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

Led by Solihull professionals, the group aims to help you to manage challenging behaviour and improve communication, as well as building and understanding your relationship with your child. The group target age is 4-11 years unless specified, delivered face-to-face for 10 sessions:


TUESDAY	Windy Arbor Primary School (B37 6RN)	1pm – 3pm	14/1/25 – 25/3/25
WEDNESDAY	TEEN Alderbrook School (B91 1SN)	5pm – 7pm	29/1/25 – 9/4/25


FIVE TO THRIVE

For parents with children aged up to 2 years, the FIVE TO THRIVE building blocks explore practical things you can do to enhance your child's brain development, increase confidence in parenting and meet local parents.

<p>MONDAY 12.30pm – 2.30pm</p> <p>Riverside Family Hub (B37 5DP) 6/1/25 – 10/2/25</p> <p>Elmwood Place Family Hub (B36 9UG) 24/2/25 – 31/3/25</p>	<p>TUESDAY The Bridge, Shirley (B90 3AG)</p> <p>12.30pm – 2.30pm</p> <p>7/1/25 – 11/2/25 25/2/25 – 1/4/25</p>
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Book your place now, or find out more by contacting Solihull Parenting Team at: bshft.parenting@sh.nhs.net or book via the Eventbrite QR code below:









A Family Hub is a place where children, young people and families can go for services, advice and to meet other families. Raising a family, being a parent or carer, or navigating life as a young person can be a challenge so staff in the hubs can put you in touch with different services in the area.

There are 4 Family Hubs in Solihull

- Elmwood- Smiths Wood
- Evergreen- Kingshurst
- Riverside- Chelmsley Wood
- Hatchford Brook- Elmdon

Scan here for more information on the Family Hubs website



Family Hubs are open to everyone and there will always be a safe space available for you if you need it. You can get help with many things from:

- parenting support and social activities
- seeing a midwife or a health visitor
- activities for young people
- support for children and young people with additional needs

The Solihull Start for Life Offer is a guide for everyone involved in a child's life from pregnancy to 2 years old. It includes information, advice, services and places to go to keep healthy, happy and safe in the first 1,001 days.

Scan here for the Solihull Start for Life



Email us: familyhubs@solihull.gov.uk or Call: 0121 704 6017

Follow us on Facebook: Solihull Family Hubs

Download the Solihull Family Hubs App, available on Apple Store and Google Play Store