



# St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

To Live, Love and Learn together, as Witnesses for Christ

0121 743 5675 <https://www.st-andrews.sotihull.sch.uk> [office@st-andrews.sotihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-andrews.sotihull.sch.uk)

Instagram- Standrewsschoolb92



Twitter X- StAndrewsOLAAS

Friday 5th December 2025

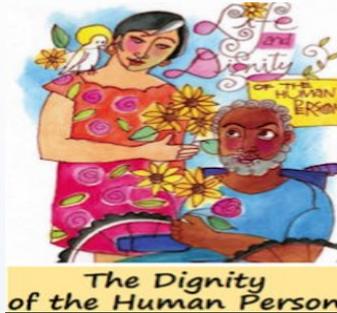
attentive  
faith-filled  
generous  
eloquent  
intentional  
truthful  
loving  
hopeful  
curious  
wise  
grateful  
discerning  
compassionate  
active

This half term, we are growing to be Learned and Wise. Learning how God wants us to live our lives, young or old we should not stop learning about what God wants of us. Wise knowing what God wants us to do and putting it into practise.

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Our Catholic Social Teaching focus for this half term is...



Wise men talk because they have something to say; foolish men because they have to say something.

(Plato- Ancient Greek Philosopher)

In the words of Pope Leo XIV...



Jesus Christ is not a figure of the past. He is the Son of God present among us, guiding history toward the future promised by God.

# Christmas Fair

We are delighted to share that this year's School Christmas Fair was a truly joyful occasion. The hall was filled with voices of the choir, Christmas cheer and excited children!

A heartfelt thank you goes to all our parents and families for their enthusiasm, support, and generosity. Your presence, contributions, and festive spirit helped make the event a memorable one.

We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to our PTA. Their hard work, creativity, and organisation brought the fair to life—from beautiful stalls to fun activities and thoughtful touches throughout the event. Your dedication as St Andrew's community helped to raise around £1060 for our school fund!

Thanks to everyone involved!

Wishing you all a joyful festive season!





This Sunday we celebrate the second Sunday of Advent, a wonderful time to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. We wish all our families a peaceful and faith-filled season, filled with hope, love, and special moments together as we look forward to welcoming Christ at Christmas.

Events like our Christmas Fair help us support trips such as the theatre trip for all of KS2 on Monday.

We went into Birmingham to watch Cinderella at The Old Rep and to say the children had fun, is most definitely an understatement!

There was singing, dancing, screaming and laughter throughout with this Cinderella having a modern twist...K-Pop Demon Hunters and 6-7 featured (if you know, you know!)

Thank you again to our PTA for funding the travel for this fabulous morning out!



We love sharing and celebrating all of the wonderful things happening in an around school linked to learning and achievements of your children, so if you are not yet following us...head over to Instagram and give our page a follow!

You'll have a peek into our Catholic Life, learning, achievements, friendships and fun, that we are so very proud of!

Instagram - Standrewsschoolb92



We invite all children to bring a bauble into school on **Monday 8th December** to hang on our School Community Christmas Tree.

We hope to have a bauble representing every member of our school family, creating a beautiful reminder of our togetherness throughout Advent. As the tree grows with colour and sparkle, it will offer us all a moment to pause, reflect, and celebrate the special community we share.

The Giving Tree is here!

As part of our ongoing outreach and charity work, we are supporting Father Hudson's and Lyndon Croft Care home by donating some small gifts for people less fortunate than ourselves.

If you would like to donate a gift, please take a tag from the Giving Tree in the entrance hall and bring your gift back to school by Wednesday 17th December.



Our Bishops' Conference and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into neurodiversity and faith experience. If you are a Catholic neurodivergent adult or a caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic (aged 2+), they would like to hear from you. Project organisers are collecting information through two short (10-20 minute) anonymous online surveys, which are

available to complete until 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026: If you are a neurodivergent Catholic adult or a caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic (aged 2+), you can find links for the survey at: [www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/new-survey-on-neurodiversity-and-the-catholic-faith](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/new-survey-on-neurodiversity-and-the-catholic-faith)



Save the Children

# Christmas Jumper Day



We are excited to announce that our school will be taking part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Fundraiser this year! Pupils are invited to wear their favourite festive jumpers and help support this wonderful cause. Families can contribute as little or as much as they wish, via our Just Giving page, which can be easily accessed by scanning the QR code below. Let's see if we can reach our £200 target!

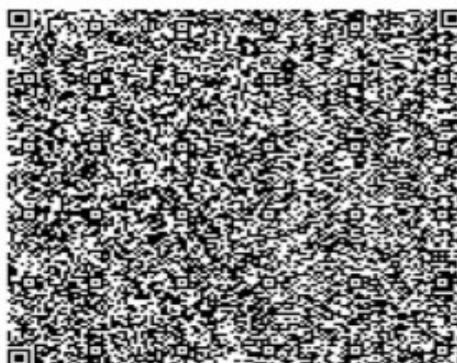
Thank you for helping us make a difference and spread some festive cheer!

**We're taking part in**



Save the Children

# Christmas Jumper Day



**FR** Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (213890), Scotland (SC009570) and Isle of Man (199).

# New KS2 Prayers

## Morning Prayer

O Jesus,  
through the most pure heart of Mary,  
I offer you all my prayers,  
thoughts, works and sufferings of this day  
for all the intentions of your most Sacred Heart.  
Amen.



## Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts  
which we are about to receive  
from your bounty.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Grace After Meals

We give you thanks, Almighty God,  
for all your benefits,  
who live and reign, world without end.  
Amen.

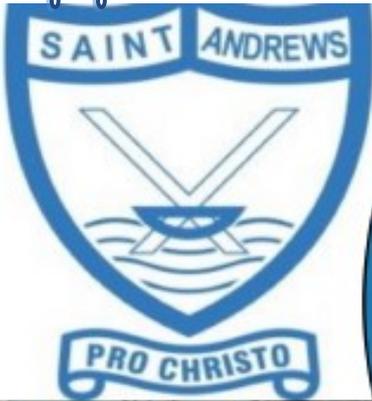


## Prayer at the end of the day

Lord Jesus Christ, as we come to the end of this school day,  
Help us to reflect and to pray:  
For the difficulties I have known, I ask for your help.  
For the blessings I have received; I thank you.  
May I seek to be an instrument of your peace in my home today.  
Each day is a gift. May I look forward to a new start tomorrow.  
May the journey of my life be an experience of your love,  
your compassion, your forgiveness and your peace.  
Amen.



# Applications close 12th December 2025



September 2026  
NURSERY PLACES

AVAILABLE  
15 and 30 hour  
places available

To Live, Love and Learn  
together as Witnesses for

Christ

Wraparound  
available from  
7.45am- 6.00pm

Contact us to find out more

St Andrew's Catholic Primary School,

Windrush Close, Solihull, B92 8QL

☎ 0121 743 5675

✉ [office@st-andrews.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-andrews.solihull.sch.uk)

Twitter X @StAndrewsOLAAS



# Term Dates



## School Year 2025 / 2026

### Autumn term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 01 September 2025

Half Term Holiday: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025

Term Ends: Friday 19 December 2025

End of Term Holiday: Monday 22 December 2025 - Friday 02 January 2026

### Spring term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 05 January 2026

Half Term Holiday: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Term Ends: Friday 27 March 2026

End of Term Holiday: Monday 30 March 2026 - Friday 10 April 2026

### Summer term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13 April 2026

(May Day: Monday 04 May 2026)

Half Term Holiday: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Term Ends: Monday 20 July 2026

End of Year Holiday Starts: Tuesday 21 July 2026

### INSET Days

Monday 1st September 2025

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 13th April 2026

# Important Dates

Date	Year Group	Event
Tue 9th December	Nursery and Reception	Nursery and Reception Nativity 2.30pm
Thu 11th December	All	Christmas Jumper Day
Thu 11th December	Year 5	Year 5 leading Mass 10am
Thur 11th December	All	Christmas Lunch
Fri 12th December	All	PTA Christmas Boutique 
Fri 12th December	Year 1 and Year 2	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 2.30pm
Wed 17th December	All	PTA Christmas Raffle Draw 
Wed 17th December	KS2	KS2 Carol Concert 2.15pm
Fri 19th December	All	Children break up for Christmas holidays
Mon 5th January	All	INSET DAY- School not open to Children
Tue 6th January	All	Children return
Wed 14th January	Reception to Year 6	Wonder Dome in school
Sun 1st February	Year 6	Confirmation Commitment Mass at 11am
Fri 13th February	All	Break up for Half term
Mon 23rd February	All	INSET DAY- School not open to Children
Tue 24th February	All	Children return
Tue 10th March	All	Individual School Photos
Fri 27th March	All	Break up for Easter Holidays
Mon 13th April	All	INSET DAY- School not open to Children
Tue 14th April	All	Children return
Saturday 9th May	Year 3	First Holy Communion at 12pm
Fri 22nd May	All	Break up for Half term
Mon 1st June	All	Children return
Tues 23rd June	Year 6	Confirmation at 7pm
Mon 6th July- Wed 8th July	Year 6	Year 6 Residential

## PE Days

Monday	Nursery, Year 3 & Year 6
Tuesday	Year 2 & 4
Wednesday	Year 2, 3 & 5 Swimming
Thursday	Reception, 1 & 5
Friday	Year 1, 4 & 6



# Attendance and Punctuality



Our KSI attendance winners were Year 2.

Our Key Stage 2 attendance winners were Year 3.

Punctuality Winners: Reception

Well done to our class winners this week.

Well done for the brilliant Attendance and Punctuality this week.

Class	Attendance	Unauthorised Absence. Excl Holidays
Reception	93.45%	0
Year 1	91.48%	0
Year 2	98%	0
Year 3	96.90%	0
Year 4	96%	0
Year 5	90.71%	0
Year 6	96.77%	0

## Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts

We monitor attendance closely and work with our Educational Welfare Officer to support families.

Children with attendance below 90% may receive a letter and be invited to meet with the officer.

We may request evidence for absences and track patterns carefully.

Holidays during term time cannot be authorised except in exceptional circumstances, in line with school policy and government guidance.

If you need support with attendance, contact the school office.

We would like to thank the majority of families who work hard to ensure their children attend every day and arrive on time - well done for your commitment to learning!

Class	Lates before registers close	Lates after registers close
Reception	0	0
Year 1	1	0
Year 2	2	0
Year 3	1	0
Year 4	7	0
Year 5	1	0
Year 6	4	0



If we have not heard from a parent concerning a child who is absent by 9:30am, we will make a telephone call to ensure the child is safe.

It is imperative that school are contacted if a child is not able to attend school. If we still are unable to make contact, then the Educational Welfare Officer will be informed and a home visit may need to be made to the family home.

# Nursery

This week in nursery we have enjoyed lots of Christmas activities, learning about Advent and what it is to get ready for the special day when Jesus was born.

The children put the candle of Hope onto our class wreath and coloured in a candle to take home. Also, this week we had a special delivery from the north pole! One of Santa's elves named Bob. He sent nursery a special letter about how to make it onto Santa's good list and each day this week he has been a bit cheeky in class, the children can't wait to see what he does next week.

Nursery have been recapping on their 2D shapes and drawing them too. We have practiced our cutting skills throughout the week with different activities.

We have enjoyed outdoor learning too this week with our stable roleplay and some new bikes have been donated to nursery Thank you.



# Reception

What an amazing first week of Advent we have had in Reception! From learning all about our special candles and lighting ours for Hope, to feeding our reindeer all the gingerbread men, and even dressing up as Santa's elves, Reception have had so much fun. We have also wrapped presents, made 'snowmen', and taken part in Godly Play this week.



# Year One

This week, Year 1 took part in creative activities inspired by Elmer and World Kindness Day. The children worked together to make a collaborative Elmer artwork and helped to build a large Elmer model, decorating it as a team.

In prayer and liturgy, they prepared their own simple prayers about kindness and thought about how they can show care to others. The children showed wonderful teamwork and kindness throughout the week.



# Year Two

It's been an exciting week in Year 2! In RHE, we have been learning all about parliament—how it works and the important role it plays in making rules. To put our learning into action, each table came up with a new rule we would like to introduce to our school.

We also had a very special moment for our football fans! Two of our famous Year 2 members received Emiliano Martínez goalkeeper gloves from Sunday's Aston Villa game. They even brought them in to show their friends, there was lots of excitement buzzing around the classroom—especially from the Aston Villa supporters! Of course, we can't forget about our cheeky friend—the Elf on the Shelf! He has been up to his usual mischief every morning.



# Year Three

This week, Year 3 led Hymn Practice with a focus on the virtues of being learned and wise. They shared the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids from the Gospel according to Matthew, reminding us of the five wise bridesmaids who were prepared with their oil lamps and the importance of making wise choices.

The children reflected on how we can live out our school mission during Advent by learning from Jesus' example, making the most of each school day, and bringing God's light to others. They finished by asking the whole school a thoughtful question: "How can I use what I have learnt today to help others?"



# Year Four

Year 4 have had a busy and exciting week! In Music, the children enjoyed learning to play Jingle Bells on their instruments.

In Geography, they planned routes around our local area using maps and symbols.

In RE, we learned about Jesus' ancestors and reflected on Catholic Social Teaching, focusing on the Dignity of the Human Person and how we can show respect and kindness to everyone.

Well done, Year 4!

# Year Five

Year 5 have had a busy week! They thoroughly enjoyed going to the theatre on Monday and represented St Andrew's brilliantly. On Wednesday, they went swimming, and I cannot go without mentioning two incredible children who pushed themselves to the absolute limit and managed to swim 600m - well done, Wynnie and Jacob!

This week, we have also been getting musical: practising our Christmas carol and creating our very own Blues songs using the glockenspiel. A busy, fun-packed week!



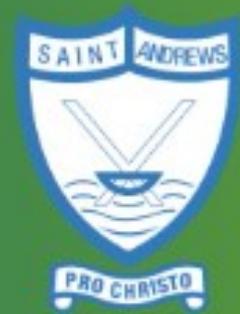
# Year Six

The theatre trip was the perfect way to begin the festive month of December. We had a fantastic time joining in with the cheers and boos of the pantomime! We have also been thinking about how we can prepare to open our hearts to Jesus in this season of Advent. We have all written an Advent promise which will help us come closer to Jesus in the lead up to Christmas. Well done on a busy week, Year 6!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

*AUTUMN TERM*



SEPT

26th - Christmas bottle donation &  
non-uniform day  
26<sup>th</sup> - AGM



OCT

15/16th - Book Fair  
23rd - Break the rules



NOV

7th - Fireworks Display  
10th - Christmas raffle sale  
12th - PTA Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Fair



DEC

1st - Christmas Colour Hamper  
12th - Christmas Boutique  
17th - Christmas Raffle Draw



Save the dates!



One of our favourite events of the year!!

If paying by cash, please put in a sealed envelope with your child's full name and year group on. You can also pay by BACS (please reference your child's name and year group with any online payment) to:

The Parent Teacher Association of St Andrews Catholic School

Sort Code: 20-84-13

Account Number: 23258734

If you do not want your child to partake, please, do email the PTA at [standrews-pta@hotmail.com](mailto:standrews-pta@hotmail.com) AND please do inform your child of this decision. If you would like for your child to partake, but struggling financially, please do send us a quick email and we will ensure your child has a gift for their loved ones.



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- Brownies, Rainbows, Cubs, Beavers and Scout Regulation Uniforms
- Leavers' Hoodies, Fleece Jackets, Reversible Fleece Jackets,
- Corporate Wear - available for small / large businesses, nurseries, tradesmen, clubs and teamwear.
- On site embroidery service (We offer a complete design and logo setup, embroidery service in store.)
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