



ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY



WEEKLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Friday 20th March 2026

Dear parents,

“Compassion for the suffering is the beginning of holiness.” St. Maximilian Kolbe

As well as showing the power given to Jesus by his Father, this Sunday’s Gospel reminds us of Jesus’ humanity. Jesus was upset by Lazarus’ death and wept for him. His compassion for Lazarus and Lazarus’ family mirrors his compassion for each one of us when we are upset. We too can experience Jesus’ compassion through other people and through spending time with God in prayer. Compassion is an attractive quality. Our own example in daily life can help our children become more compassionate.

St Vincent de Paul reminds us, “We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings of other people and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion.”

Jesus is compassionate, he came to take away fear, sadness and loneliness – to help us feel loved, accepted and supported. He asks us to notice when other people need us and to show compassion by doing what we can to help and support them.

FUTURE DATES

27th Mar – Last day of term

13th Apr – Back to school

22nd Apr – Nursery open morning 9-9.45am

23rd Apr – Y6 Inspire Workshop – 9am

24th Apr – Reception Class Mass – 9am

27th Apr – Y5 to Alton Castle

29th Apr – Y5 return from Alton Castle

30th Apr – Y3 Inspire Workshop – 9am

9th May – Y3 FHC Mass – 11.30am

11th May – SATS week

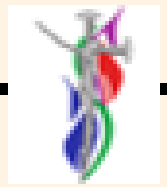
21st May – Reception Class Assembly – 9am

22nd May – Last day of term

OUR MISSION THIS WEEK

Holy week begins next week. Your mission is to create an eye-catching holy week poster. Make sure to include some of the symbols of holy week and the schedule for holy week in your parish. Put the dates and times of masses on the poster so that everyone can know when things are happening.





Well done to the Stars of the week



Nursery	Whole Class
Reception	Rafael & Eddie
Year 1	Eyram & Frankie
Year 2	Evie & Isaac
Year 3	Tommy & Daniel
Year 4	Gioele & Laura
Year 5	Valentino & Jack
Year 6	Max & Matilda
Sports	Joshua Y2 & Chidera Y3



REMINDER



Parents evenings

Monday –Nursery, Yr1, Yr2, Yr3, Yr4,

Tuesday Nursery, Reception, Yr1, Yr2, Yr3, Yr4, Yr5, Yr6

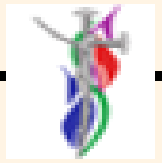
Wednesday - Reception

Reading next week – we are endeavouring to change all books for the holiday by Wednesday so no books in school Thursday and Friday.

Please bring in your loose change for Marys Meals. 10p buys a meal for a child.

Stations of the Cross 26th March at 9.15am for Reception & Y6

Mass celebrating the Annunciation 25th March 9am - Y3 leading



We are very grateful to everyone who came and supported our St Patrick's Day celebrations. A special thanks to Maggie and all her lovely dancers and musicians who provided the entertainment for the morning—they were fabulous.

We also appreciate the wonderful parents who helped behind the scenes, making tea and coffee and buttering Irish soda bread and scones. We are so grateful to everyone who supported this fundraising event. The money raised will support Father Hudson's Caritas and the pupils from Cardinal Newman and Bishop Ullathorne who will be going on pilgrimage to Lourdes in May.

We would like to thank Year 4 and Mr Allen for leading the St Joseph's Mass on Thursday. Fr Alex reminded us that our actions can speak louder than our words just like St Joseph.

Year 3 visited the Gudwara in Leamington this week. As part of the National Curriculum and British Values, we learn about other faiths so that we can show tolerance and understanding. It is important to learn about different beliefs so that we can be respectful of what other people believe. In doing so, we often strengthen our own beliefs and deepen our understanding.



congratulations

Year 3 marked a special milestone this week as they made their First Confession—you were all stars. Sincere thanks to Mrs Connolly for preparing the children so well, and to Mrs McGuire for her support.

Year 1 led a lovely prayer service on the theme of the Lost Sheep. Miss Alessio and Mrs Halls had prepared the children beautifully.

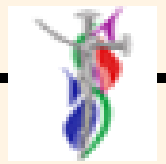


A Year 3 pupil and a Year 5 pupil both achieved second place in the Coventry Building Society Writing Competition—an excellent accomplishment.



Our choir visited St Jude's Care Home to share our Easter cards and perform a range of songs they had been learning. We are grateful to Mrs Cooke for her guidance.

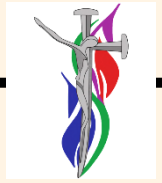
As part of the Musike Ensemble, Year 1 visited St Thomas More to sing and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We appreciate Mrs Cooke for teaching them the songs.



Well done!

St Patrick's House led a Mass in school, reading and singing with great enthusiasm. The afternoon was filled with so much fun during St John Vianney Has Talent, where the children performed brilliantly and entertained everyone.

Year 6 took part in the weekend Mass celebrating Mother's Day, reading confidently and singing beautifully. It was wonderful to see the church so full. We are grateful to Fr Alex for the flowers for our mums and for leading and celebrating the Masses throughout the week.



WEEKLY DIARY

Date's may be subject to change – please check your emails regularly

Monday 23rd March 2026

Y5 Morning of Mousike – 9am
Choir – KS2 – Lunchtime
Dance – KS2 – 3.15pm-4.00pm
Netball Training – Yr 5 & 6 – 3.15pm-4.15pm
Nursery – Y4 Parents Evening

Tuesday 24th March 2026

Reception Music – Lunchtime
Recorder Club KS2 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.
Boys Football Training – 3.15-4.15pm - **NO SESSION**
Girls Cross Country – Bablake playing fields – 4pm
Nursery – Y6 Parents Evening

Wednesday 25th March 2026

Whole school mass – Solemnity of the Annunciation – Led by Y3 – 9am
Running Club Key Stage 2 – 8.00 – 8.30 a.m.
Guitar Tuition
Dance Year 1 and 2 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.
Girls Football Training – 3.15 -4.15 p.m.
Reception Parents Evening

Thursday 26th March 2026

Mini-Tennis - Year 5 & 6 - 7.45 to 8.30 a.m.
Stations of the Cross – Receptions & Y6 – 9.15am
Piano Tuition
Creative Flair Dance Year 1 - 4 – Lunchtime
Netball Match against St Augustine's (Away)

Friday 27th March 2026







Gaelic Football Training Y5 & Y6 – Lunchtime



ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY



ATTENDANCE SJV

EYFS and KS1		KS2	
Class Name	Weekly Attendance	Class Name	Weekly Attendance
Nursery	97.18% 	Year 3	95.00% 
Reception	98.75% 	Year 4	94.53%
Year 1	94.67%	Year 5	98.52% 
Year 2	97.04% 	Year 6	98.96% 



BERKSWELL &
BALSALL COMMON
TENNIS CLUB



TENNIS COACHING CAMP EASTER 2026

For children in school years
Reception to Year 10

Tues 31st March, Wed 1st & Thurs 2nd April

Time: 1:00 - 4:00pm

Cost £20 per day or £50 for full 3 day course

Members and multi-player discounts available

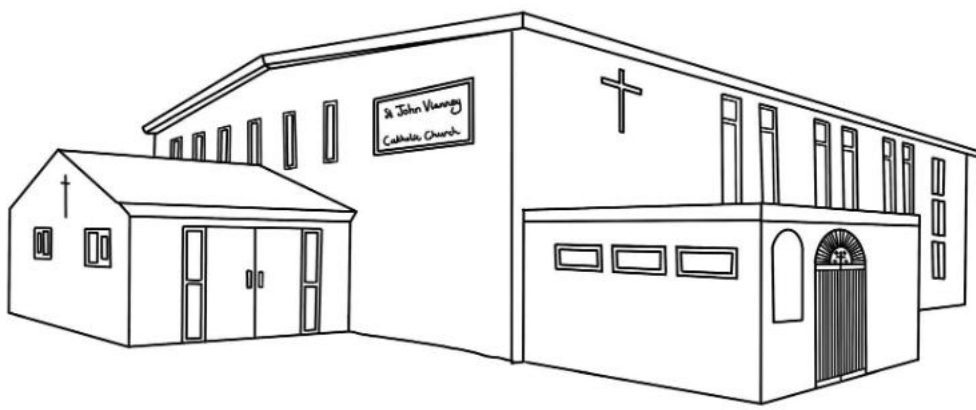
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A PLACE

Scan the QR code to register online
or WHATSAPP for the link



07811 419823





**HOLY WEEK AT SAINT JOHN VIANNEY
28TH MARCH – PALM SUNDAY**

6.00pm Saturday Vigil

Meet outside the front door at 5.55pm for the blessing of palms and procession into church.

29TH MARCH – PALM SUNDAY

9.30am Sunday Mass

Meet in school grounds at 9.25am, access only via church carpark for the blessing of palms and procession into church.

30th March – Monday of Holy Week

No Mass

31st March – Tuesday of Holy Week

11.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

12 Noon Holy Mass

7.00pm Coventry West Mission Group – Confessions at St Thomas More

1st April – Wednesday of Holy Week

8.30am Holy Mass

11.30am Chrism Mass at St Chad's Cathedral

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

2ND APRIL – HOLY THURSDAY

7.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight (Parish Hall)

11.45pm Night Prayer

3RD APRIL – GOOD FRIDAY

10.00am – Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

6.00pm Stations of the Cross

4TH APRIL – HOLY SATURDAY

10.00am Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

8.00pm Easter Vigil

5TH APRIL – SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

9.10am Morning Prayer

9.30am Easter Sunday Mass with FHC and Confirmation

Top Tips for...

MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minda Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday