



The Rosary School September Newsletter



Welcome to a New School Year.

A very warm welcome back to all our children, families and staff. We hope that you have enjoyed a wonderful summer filled with sunshine, fun and special family memories.

It has been absolutely lovely to see everyone returning to school looking so happy, refreshed and ready for the new school year. A particularly special welcome goes to our new Reception and Nursery children. It has been wonderful to see their smiling faces as they begin their very first steps of their Rosary journey. We are also delighted to welcome all of our new families to the Rosary community. We hope you will quickly feel at home as part of our school family.

There is always a special excitement at the beginning of a new school year. We are looking forward to a year filled with learning, friendship, faith, laughter and lots of exciting opportunities for our children. As we begin another year together, we look forward to continuing to live, love and learn together, supporting every child to flourish and become the very best version of themselves.

We are excited about all that the year ahead will bring and, most importantly, about sharing it together as one Rosary family.

Welcome back, everyone – here's to a wonderful new school year!

Our Catholic Faith - Season of Creation



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

As we return to school we turn our thoughts to the Season of Creation. This is a special time for us all to pray, reflect and act for our common home. The theme for this year is **“Living Water,”** and we are reminded that water is a precious gift from God and essential for all life.

During the hot days of the summer we were reminded of the importance of water to life - our own lives and that of all creation.

At the Rosary, we are called to be stewards of God's creation. This means looking after our world with care and gratitude, protecting our rivers, seas and sources of water, reducing waste and making choices that help our planet to flourish. It also means remembering those around the world who do not have access to clean, safe water.

During this Season of Creation, we will pray, reflect and take action, thinking about how we can treasure water and care for all that God has created. As we reflect on the words of Jesus, *"Whoever believes in me... rivers of living water will flow from within them"* (John 7:38), we are reminded that God's love brings life and hope.

Let us become people who cherish God's gift of water and help our common home to flourish. This year we will consider how we can manage water by not filling our bottles to the top and turning the taps off when they are not in use. We would also like to invite parents in to our prayer services as we celebrate this special season.

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Sunday Gospel



Peter went up to Jesus and said, "Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?" Jesus answered, "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times." Then Jesus told them this story: "There was a king with many servants. One of them owed the king an enormous amount of money. The servant could not pay so he begged for more time to pay his debt. The king felt so sorry for him that he let him go and even cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him a very small amount of money; but he would not give him time to pay and instead had him thrown into prison. When the news reached the king, he sent for the unforgiving servant. 'You wicked servant,' the king said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant

just as I had pity on you?’ Then the king sent the unforgiving servant to prison to be punished.”

This story reminds us that we should forgive one another just as God forgives us - again and again and again. We should forgive without limit. It can be difficult if someone has hurt us to find it in our heart to forgive but we are reminded that God will always forgive us and we need to need to forgive others. If we truly forgive there will be peace in our hearts.

Attendance



A message from St Teresa of Calcutta MAC

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new school year!

As we begin the 2026–27 academic year, we wanted to share our new **Parent Guide to School Attendance** with you.

We know that good attendance makes a real difference to children's learning, friendships, confidence and wellbeing. Every day in school is an opportunity to learn, grow and be part of the school community, which is why **every day matters**.

Across St Teresa of Calcutta MAC, we are committed to working closely with families to support children to attend school regularly and to overcome any barriers that may make attendance difficult. If you have concerns about your child's attendance, please speak to your child's school as early as possible. We are here to listen and help.

The enclosed guide provides a simple overview of our approach to attendance, including what we ask from families, what to do when your child is unwell, term-time holidays, punctuality and the support available if attendance becomes a concern.

We hope you find it useful and, most importantly, that it reinforces our shared commitment to giving every child the opportunity to make the most of their time at school.

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Professor Paul Ryan

Chief Executive Officer

St Teresa of Calcutta MAC

A Parent Guide to School Attendance

The Rosary Catholic Primary School

A message from us

At The Rosary Catholic Primary School, we know that every child's journey is different, and that family life can sometimes make school attendance challenging for you,

We also know something very clearly: **when children are in school every day, they feel more confident, learn more and are happier and more settled in school.**

We see this every day in our classrooms and playgrounds.

This short guide explains how we support attendance, what we ask of families, and what happens if attendance becomes a concern. Most importantly, it explains how we will always work with you to support your child.

Why coming to school every day matters

When your child comes to school regularly, they:

- settle into routines that help them feel safe and ready to learn
- build friendships and feel part of school life
- learn in small steps without missing important learning
- grow in confidence and independence

When children miss school, they can find it harder to keep up in lessons, feel less confident in class and feel less connected with their friends.

We understand that children may be off school from time to time. What matters most is that we stay in close contact and work together so that their attendance does not become a concern.

Promoting good attendance

At The Rosary Catholic Primary School, we actively promote attendance every day.

We do this by:

- welcoming children warmly each morning so they feel they belong
- making sure school is a safe, positive and happy place to be
- talking with children about why coming to school matters
- celebrating good and improved attendance
- keeping families informed so you always know how your child is doing
- contacting you early if we notice any worries or patterns

We want children to feel proud of coming to school every day. We want you to feel proud of your child's attendance too!

What we ask from families

We ask for your support with a few simple but really important things:

- please send your child to school every day unless they are genuinely unwell
- please make sure they arrive on time
- please contact us on the first morning if your child is absent
- please avoid holidays during term time
- please talk to us early if attendance or punctuality becomes difficult for you as a family

We will always work with you, you are not on your own.

School times and the school day

To help your child have the best start to the day, please see our school timings below:

- **School gates open:** 8.15am for breakfast club and 8.30am for class
- **School day starts at:** 8.45am
- **Registration closes:** 9.00am **Arriving after this time will mean your child is recorded as an absence**
- **Afternoon registration:** 1.35pm
- **School day ends:** 3.30pm

Children are expected to remain in school for the full school day unless we have agreed otherwise.

Arriving on time is really important, it helps children to quickly settle and to feel ready for learning.

Contacting us about absence

If your child is going to be absent, please let us know on the first morning.

You can contact us:

- **Phone:** 0121 464 4519]

Please include:

- your child's name
- reason for absence
- expected return date (if known)

If we do not hear from you, we will contact you. This is part of our responsibility to keep children safe.

If your child is unwell

We know it can be difficult to decide whether your child should stay at home.

As a guide:

- **Fever/high temperature:** children should stay at home until better
- **Vomiting or diarrhoea:** children should stay off for 48 hours after symptoms stop
- **Mild coughs and colds:** children can usually attend if they feel well

If your child has a minor condition such as head lice or a cold sore, they can usually still come to school.

If you are unsure, please contact us, we are always happy to advise.

Appointments

Where possible, please arrange medical and dental appointments outside of school hours.

If this is not possible:

- please let us know in advance
- provide evidence if requested
- keep time out of school as short as possible

We expect children to attend before and after appointments where appropriate.

Holidays during term time

We understand how important family time is and how expensive family holidays are in school holiday period.

However, term-time holidays are not allowed unless the circumstances are truly exceptional. This is because children miss important learning and routines that are difficult to catch up on.

Leave during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must be requested in advance (usually at least one month).

Unauthorised holidays may result in a penalty notice and if repeated further legal action.

If you need to request leave during term time, please:

- complete a **Leave of Absence Request Form** (available from the school office)
- submit the request at least **one month in advance** wherever possible
- include full details of the reason for the request and dates required
- wait for written confirmation from the school before making any arrangements

Please do not assume a request has been approved until you receive confirmation from the school.

When attendance becomes a concern

If your child starts to miss school regularly, we will always try to support you early.

We follow three steps:

1. Early contact

We will speak with you to understand what is happening and how we can help.

2. Attendance support

If needed, we will agree a simple plan together to help improve attendance.

3. Further support

If attendance does not improve, we may need to involve Birmingham City Council and legal action. This is always a last step and only happens when support has not led to improvement.

Our aim is always to work with you first.

Understanding attendance

Even small amounts of absence can add up quickly:

- **95% attendance** = around 2 weeks, 10 days or approximately **40 lessons missed** in a year
- **90% attendance** = around 4 weeks, 20 days or approximately **80 lessons missed** in a year
- **Below 90%** = significant loss of school time

We will always let you know early if we are concerned.

Our expectation is that children attend school at least **97% of the time**. This is the equivalent of around **6 days of absence across the whole school year, or about 2 days per term**.

Of course, our real aim is even higher than this. We want every child to be in school **every day, 100% of the time**, so they do not miss out on any of their learning or school experience.

Being on time

Being on time to school is really important for it helps your child:

- start the day calmly
- feel settled and ready to learn
- avoid missing important learning

Even regular small delays can add up to a lot of missed learning over the year.

If your child arrives after the register closes, this may be recorded as an absence.

When attendance is affected by other factors

We understand that some children may find attending school more difficult due to:

- anxiety or worries about school
- medical needs or long-term illness
- additional learning needs
- family circumstances or difficulties at home

If this is the case, please talk to us. We will listen and work with you to put the right support in place.

Keeping children safe

If a child is not attending school and we are unable to contact families, we may need to take further steps to ensure the child is safe. This may include home visits or contacting other agencies.

This is always done with care and with your child's wellbeing as our priority.

We are here to help

If you have any concerns about attendance or punctuality, please contact us as early as possible.

School Attendance Champion: Mrs Robinson and Mrs Norris

Our Attendance Team: Mrs Robinson and Mr Perkins

Phone/email: 0121 464 4519

When you contact us, we will:

- listen carefully
- try to understand what is making attendance difficult
- work with you to find solutions
- support your child to attend regularly

We want every child to feel happy, safe, and able to succeed in school.

Please note: This is a summary guide to help parents understand attendance expectations. Our full Attendance Policy, which contains more detailed information, can be found on the school website.

Punctuality

Attendance & Punctuality – Every Minute Counts

Being on time for school is extremely important. Learning begins as soon as children arrive, and even small amounts of lateness can quickly add up to lost learning time. For example, just 5 minutes late each day can result in several days of missed learning across the year. We want every child to have the best possible start to their day and not miss valuable learning opportunities.

Our school offers a **Breakfast Club from 8:15am**, providing a calm and positive start to the morning. School gates open at **8:30am**, and all children should be in school and ready for **registration by 8:45am**.

Arriving on time helps children to:

Settle into their learning calmly

Build good routines and habits

Feel confident and ready for the day ahead

Avoid missing important teaching at the start of lessons

Children who attend regularly and arrive on time are more likely to achieve well, build strong friendships, and feel part of the school community.

We appreciate your support in ensuring your child arrives at school on time every day.

For further information about attendance and how it is supported across the city, please visit:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20014/schools_and_learning/1502/school_attendance_advice_for_parents

Parking

We would like to remind all parents and carers about the importance of safe and considerate driving and parking around the school.

At the start of the school year it is easy to forget the importance of road safety especially when rushing to drop and pick up children from different schools. We have already seen vehicles stopping in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up children which has led to some children running across the road between cars which is extremely dangerous and creates a real risk of a serious accident.

In addition, there have been instances of cars parking on the pavement. This not only obstructs access but also makes it very difficult—and unsafe—for families with pushchairs or young children to pass. There have already been incidents, and we are concerned for everyone's safety.

Please be aware that the police have been informed and may monitor the area.

Tesco

WE are delighted to announce that we have received a grant of £500 for our EYFS outdoor area. Thank you to all the parents who voted for the Rosary School before the holidays.

We kindly ask all members of our community to park responsibly. The community car park by the mosque is available and provides a safer alternative—please make use of it wherever possible.

Let's work together to keep all our children, families, and neighbours safe. Please take a moment to think about your actions and look out for every member of our community.

Thank you for your cooperation.



At Rosary, we are committed to being a Rights Respecting School (RRSA) and helping our children understand not only their rights, but also the responsibilities that come with those rights. Over the coming weeks, we will be exploring a number of children's rights in more detail and thinking about what they mean in our everyday lives.

A great place to start at home is Article 29 – the right to education.

Article 29 reminds us that education should help children to develop their talents and abilities, learn to respect others and their rights, appreciate their own culture and the cultures of others, and learn to care for the world around them.

You might like to talk to your child about:

What does education mean to you?

Why is learning important?

How do we have a responsibility to help others learn?

How can our education help us make the world a better place?

At Rosary, we want every child to recognise that their right to learn comes with the responsibility to listen, participate, try their best and help create a classroom where everyone can learn and flourish.

Why not start a conversation at home this week and ask your child:

“What do you think your right to education means for you, and what responsibility comes with it?”

Live Simply



Collection for a Cause!

We're excited to continue supporting the 'We can' charity that transforms empty drinks cans into real change! By collecting and recycling aluminium cans, the organisation raises funds to support local food banks—helping provide meals for families in need.

Every can makes a difference, so please send in any clean, empty drinks cans with your child and they can place them in the trolley by our school reception door. Together, we can support both the environment *and* our community. Thank you for helping us make a positive impact!



We have a number of jumpers and cardigans that are in a very good condition. Please see the office staff if you require a jumper or cardigan for your child.



E-safety tips from Mr Yasir



Each month we look at the latest guidance and support for parents navigating a digital world. This month's topic is supporting your child with the new social media changes.

You may have seen the recent announcement that the UK government plans to ban social media for under-16s by Spring 2027. New measures to make online spaces safer for children and young people will also be introduced.

For many parents and carers, this brings mixed feelings. You might feel relieved, unsure what it means in practice, or worried about how it will affect your child's friendships and daily life.

All of these reactions are valid. What matters most is this: you are not expected to manage this alone, and these changes do not replace the importance of your role in your child's online life.

What's changing and what it means for families

The new rules aim to reduce the risks children can face online, including exposure to harmful content, bullying and contact from strangers.

The changes are expected to include:

- a ban on under-16s using social media platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook and YouTube
- restrictions on high-risk features like livestreaming and contact with strangers, which will apply across a wider range of online services, including gaming sites
- stronger age checks to verify users' ages
- possible limits on late-night use and 'infinite scrolling'

It's important to understand that not all online spaces are affected in the same way.

- messaging services such as WhatsApp are not expected to be included in the ban
- some platforms, including gaming sites (e.g. Roblox), will sit outside of the under-16s ban
- however, children may still experience risks in these spaces, particularly where communication with others is involved or where they might see harmful content

Children will still be able to go online to learn, play games and stay in touch with people they know. These changes are designed to help, but they will not remove all risks, or access to all online spaces.

A Reassuring Reality Check

It's understandable to hope these changes will solve the problem, but it helps to keep a balanced perspective.

Not everything online is harmful, and many children use digital spaces in positive and creative ways. At the same time, some young people may still find ways to access social media, and could still have harmful interactions, even with restrictions in place.

This matters because online safety is not only about access. It is also about helping children understand, question and navigate the online world confidently.

Age checks and bans can help, but they don't solve everything

New systems, such as age verification, are intended to make it harder for under-16s to access certain platforms. But no system is perfect.

Some young people may:

- find workarounds
- move to less regulated spaces
- rely more on peer guidance than adult support

This means that technology can support safety, but it cannot replace the role of trusting relationships and open conversations at home.

Parents and carers continue to play an important role

As a parent or carer, you have a powerful protective role. Children are more likely to stay safer online when they feel able to talk openly with you, trust your reactions, and know they will be supported rather than judged.

You do not need to be a technical expert. What matters most is being present, curious and approachable.

Building confidence through conversations

Talking about online life does not need to feel like a big or difficult task. Small, regular conversations can make a real difference.

1. Start with connection, not concern

Show interest in your child's digital world by asking simple, open questions about what they enjoy and who they connect with. You might say, 'What do you enjoy doing online at the moment?' or 'Who do you usually talk to when you're gaming or chatting?'

These kinds of conversations help children feel seen and understood, rather than monitored, making it more likely they will share their experiences with you openly.

2. Talk about changes together

When discussing the new rules, explain that these changes are about safety and wellbeing, while also acknowledging that they may feel frustrating or unfair for your child.

You might say, 'There are new rules coming in to help keep young people safer online. I know that might feel limiting, but we can talk about it together.'

The government has highlighted that open conversations between children and their parents or carers are an important part of helping young people stay safe, make good choices and get help if something does not feel right.

3. Focus on skills, not just rules

Even with restrictions in place, children still need to learn how to recognise when something feels wrong, manage peer pressure, deal with upsetting content and ask for help when they need it.

These are lifelong skills that go beyond any single app or platform, and they will continue to support your child as they grow and their online world changes.

4. Keep the door open

Let your child know they can come to you about anything they see or experience online, and that they will not be punished for being honest. This includes if they experience anything harmful on a 'banned' platform. It is the job of tech companies to implement effective age checks, and children must know that they have not broken any laws if they experience harm on these sites.

For example, you might say: "If anything ever worries you online, I'll always listen first. You won't be in trouble for speaking up."

Creating a supportive approach at home

Every family is different, but a balanced approach often includes:

Clear and consistent boundaries

- Agree expectations around apps, screen time and night-time use.
- Explain the reasons behind your decisions.

Shared responsibility

- Involve your child in discussions and decisions.
- Recognise their growing independence, especially as they get older.

Using tools as support, not replacements

- [Parental controls and device settings](#) can help reinforce boundaries.
- But they work best alongside open communication.

Modelling healthy habits

- Children often learn from what they see.
- Consider how and when you use your own devices.

- Show that [offline time and sleep matter too](#).

You don't need to have all the answers

Many parents worry that they should already have all the answers when it comes to online safety, especially as new rules and technologies continue to emerge. In reality, the online world is constantly evolving, and even experts are still learning. No parent gets everything right, and it is completely normal to feel unsure.

What makes the biggest difference is creating an environment where your child feels safe to talk, ask questions and share their experiences, knowing you are on their side.

The new social media rules are an important step in improving children's online safety, but the most important support your child has is still you.

A trusted relationship, open and ongoing conversations, and the confidence to ask for help will make the biggest difference in helping them feel safe, understood and able to navigate the online world with confidence

[PE Timetable](#)

Year 1: Tuesday and Friday

Year 2: Wednesday and Thursday

Year 3: Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 4: Monday and Thursday

Year 5: Tuesday and Friday

Year 6: Tuesday and Thursday

[Dates for the diary](#)

15th September: Y6 Prayer Service

16th September: Y5 Prayer Service

17th September: Y1 Prayer Service

18th September: Y3 Prayer Service

18th September: Y6 Residential Meeting

23rd September: Y6 Mass

24th September: EYFS Prayer Service

25th September: Y4 Prayer Service

25th September: Macmillan Cake Sale

26th September: Y2 Prayer Service

30th September: Whole School Mass

7th October: Whole School Mass

8th October: Harvest Festival

21st October: Parents Evening

23rd October: Finish for Half Term Break

School Notices

Earrings

Can I please remind parents that children are only permitted to wear a small gold stud to school and these need to be removed for PE, in line with our Health and Safety policy. Thank you to all the parents who support school with this policy.

Contact Details

If any of your details have changed recently can we please ask that you contact the school office. This could be a change of address, or a change of phone number or perhaps a change in emergency contact details. We will then update our school records accordingly. If you wish to change the names of people on the pick-up list please contact the school office.

School Website

Please refer to the website to find out information about the school and events that are taking place in school. It is possible to sync the school calendar to your mobile phone.

Parking Arrangements

We have been fortunate to have secured arrangements to use the Mosque car park. The carpark will be open for parents to use from 8.30am until 9.15am each morning and from 2.45pm until 3.45pm every afternoon except Friday. Can we once again stress the importance of using this facility rather than parking on pavements, blocking gates and using the corner of roads. **DO NOT USE THE CHURCH CARPARK FOR PARKING.**

Once again we have a number of cars that are being parked in such a way that may endanger the lives of children including double parking. The police have issued a number of tickets to

drivers and will continue to monitor parking and driving on Bridge Road. If you see anyone parking or driving dangerously you can take a picture and share on the website below.

<https://nextbase.co.uk/national-dash-cam-safety-portal/>

This can be used to prosecute drivers.

Free School Meals

If you feel your child is entitled to free school meals please contact Mrs Mahmood and she will do an online search. This will enable families to access HAF events free of charge during the holidays.

Play Equipment

Can I please remind parents that the play equipment is not for use at the end of the day especially by young children. Please keep your children with you and don't allow them to use as we do not have adults to supervise and there is a risk of accidents happening.

Early Help Offer

Please remember to visit our Early Help Offer on the school webpage where you will find information about the support we can offer as a school. If at any point you need additional support please see myself, Mrs Banks or any member of our pastoral team.

<https://www.rosaryrc.bham.sch.uk/early-help-offer/>

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child please contact a member of our safeguarding team. Information can be found on our webpage.

<https://www.rosaryrc.bham.sch.uk/safeguarding/>

My Family Coach

There are times when we all need help with parenting. My Family Coach is a free online service with lots of videos and advice on how to support children at each stage of their development. Please take some time to view the resources available to support with the many challenges of parenting. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>

Community Notices

NHS
Birmingham
Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

ChatHealth

Do you know where I can get some health advice?

The School Health Support Service can help students with all kind of things like...

Relationships, mental health, alcohol, bullying, self-harm, smoking, drugs and healthy eating

Text the School Nurse for confidential advice and support on **07480635485**

We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting **STOP** to our number. Please respect your school's mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rate.

norton hall
children & family centre

After school and holiday activities for 4-16 year olds

Football club

Martial arts

After school club

Holiday care and Holiday play scheme

After school and holiday activities

@Nortonhallcfc
@Nortonhallcfc
@nortonhallcfc

NORTONHALLCFC

Football club

Boys & girls
6-12 years

Come train and be part of a team
Tuesdays 6pm to 7.30pm
£3 per session



Martial arts

5-16
years

Help your child with their
coordination, respect,
concentration, behaviour,
fitness and direction

Fridays 4.30pm to 5.30pm
£4 per session



Holiday care

4-14
years

Week days 8.45am to 5.15pm
Full day care, breakfast, evening
snack. Packed lunch required.



Holiday play scheme

4-14
years

Week days 10am to 3pm
A range of activities including
sports, creative arts, cooking, team
games, workshops, off site activities,
outings. Packed lunch required.

After school club

4-14
years

Monday to Thursday 3pm to 6pm
Play opportunities, collections from
local schools, snack included.
£48 weekly (£46 for siblings)
£14 daily (£13 for siblings)

We accept college/university finance places



Youth groups

Boys and Girls youth groups

Contact Reece Keye or
Rico Gardner-Blake...

0121 328 3043

Norton Hall Children & Family Centre, Ralph Road, Saltley, Birmingham B8 1NA

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