



Christ is our light

All Souls' Catholic
PRIMARY SCHOOL

5th September 2025

NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

We were delighted to welcome back our children on Wednesday, following the Summer break, and it was great to see so many happy and smiling faces walk through the gates to begin a new academic year. The first three days of term have been incredibly positive, and the staff have really enjoyed getting to know their new classes and catching up with the children's summer adventures. I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to the children and families who are new to All Souls this year and I very much look forward to getting to know you all in the days and weeks to come. As a small school, we really value knowing our families well and want you to feel a part of our very special community. Please do make yourselves known to staff and don't be afraid to ask any questions that you may have.

I'd also like to formally welcome Mrs Rochelle Cocksworth and Mrs Lenka Tams to staff team this September. We are really pleased to have them sharing the responsibility of teaching our Year 4 class this academic year. Please do support them as they settle into their roles and life at All Souls.

There will likely be a number of important communications from school during this early part of the academic year, so please look out for these as well as regularly checking the school website where you will also find class pages and blogs which aim to keep you informed on what the children have been up to in school. The whole staff team are extremely optimistic and excited about the year ahead and we look forward to working in close partnership with yourselves in order to provide the best possible education for your children.

School Celebration Mass

The 9:30am Mass at All Souls Church every Sunday is a designated family Mass, which often includes a dedicated Children's Liturgy. The first Sunday of every month (unless it falls during a school holiday) is also designated a 'School Celebration Mass' where members of the school community prepare the Mass readings and intercessions. Thank you to all those who were able to attend our first School Celebration Mass of the academic year. Whilst for practising Catholics, weekly attendance at Mass should be the norm, we ask that children and families make an extra special effort to attend these once a month celebrations to nurture your faith and ensure that strong community of All Souls, which includes both the school and the church, remains.

Uniform Requirements

It's great to see how smart many of our children look as they return for the new school year and we're very appreciative of the effort many parents have made to ensure that this is the case. The current uniform policy can be found [here](#) as a reminder of the school's expectations. Please do take the time to read through this as there have been several amendments and clarifications to the previous version including actions taken where pupils do not adhere to the uniform policy. Please also make sure that all of your children's belongings are clearly labelled with their name and encourage them to take responsibility for their own items. Doing so greatly reduces the likelihood of items going missing. Please also note the school's expectations around jewellery, hair and make-up and items (including pencil cases and stationary) which should not be brought into school. The school does not permit smart devices (such as smart watches, smart glasses, air tags etc.) to be brought into school; only children in Year 6 who have been granted consent to walk to/from school unaccompanied are permitted to bring a mobile phone into school, which should be dropped off to the school office each morning and collected again at the end of the school day.

Sacramental Preparation

In the coming weeks Fr Paul will be writing to the parents and children in Years 3 and 6 regarding the arrangements for Sacramental Preparation and this year. When you receive this, please do ensure that it is read and understood fully.

Attendance

I am pleased to report that the start of term has seen very positive attendance and I hope that this is a sign of things to come for the academic year ahead. I cannot stress enough the importance of good attendance and the impact that this has on children's academic and personal development. There have been a number of recent studies completed which demonstrate the lifelong impact of school attendance and the statistics show a clear correlation between high attendance and attainment at each stage of a child's education. These studies also show how missing just a few days each year can considerably impact outcomes.

At our Governor's meeting of the year next week our Attendance Policy and target for the year will be set, which will then be shared via the school website and newsletter next week. Please note that the school continues to use StudyBugs for the purpose of reporting absences and communicate regarding attendance. Please ensure that you have access to this, the apps for which can be downloaded from the GooglePlay/Apple App store. If you have any difficulty, please do get in touch. Presently 93% of parents have a StudyBugs account. Please help us to get this up to 100%. It is pleasing that very few children have missed the start of the academic year due to being on holiday.

Please note that all requests for term time leave must be made via the form in the 'Contact us' section of the school website and should be received 4 weeks prior to the requested leave. The school is unable to authorise leave for holidays during term time and is committed to following government and local authority guidelines in relation to the issue of penalty notices, information related to which can be found from the links below:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/attendance-inclusion/attendance>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf

Nut Allergies

Please keep in mind that we have children on site with severe nut allergies. We would be grateful if you can ensure your child's lunchbox/snacks do not contain nuts, i.e., peanut butter sandwiches, snack packs containing whole nuts.

Thank you for your support.

Meet the teacher event

You should have received a letter on Wednesday (Parents of children in Years 1-6) regarding our 'meet the teacher' sessions after school. A copy of this letter has been attached to this newsletter. We are delighted that a representative from Bishop Ullathorne will be joining our Year 5 and 6 sessions to talk about secondary transition and answer any questions you may have about our local Catholic secondary school.

Weekly question for discussion

This academic year one of our whole school priorities will be to improve the oracy skills of our children. We will therefore be making changes to our curriculum to reflect this as well as introducing whole school routines and strategies to provide opportunities for children to talk and become more confident and articulate speakers. One of these strategies will be to have a weekly, whole school discussion question of topic, which will be shared with the children in school and discussed in the classroom at appropriate times during the school week. We will also be sharing this with you via the school newsletter each week in the hope that it can spark a discussion or debate at home. Please do try to find an opportunity to discuss or share this with your child to both elicit conversation at home and ensure that they are able to contribute to discussions and debate at school. Our first question for discussion is:

'Would you rather be able to live in space or in the ocean? Why?'

Drawing Time

Another focus for school development this year is our art curriculum. As part of this children from Reception to Year 6 will be having a weekly 'Drawing Time' on a Wednesday afternoon, where the whole school will undertake a short, 10 minute activity to develop their drawing, sketching and designing skills. This started on Wednesday with children decorating the cover of their new, dedicated, 'Drawing-time' books.



Baby News

We are overjoyed to share the news that **Mrs Hartwell and her family have welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Ivy Nancy.** Both mum and baby are doing wonderfully. We couldn't be happier for the Hartwell's as they begin this precious new chapter together. Ivy is already such a special part of our school family. Please join us in sending all our love, congratulations, and warmest wishes to Mrs Hartwell's family.

We would also like to congratulate Sam, our piano teacher, on the safe arrival of baby Daniel Walter who was born on 4th August weighing 7lbs 5 ounces. Sam and baby are both doing very well and hope to visit soon!



All Souls' Open Library

We are excited to announce the launch of our All Souls' Open Library! This is a wonderful opportunity for children to choose a book to take home, enjoy at their own pace, and then either return it to swap for another or keep it if they'd like to treasure it. To help keep our library well-stocked and varied, we are very happy to accept donations of books in good condition. Stories for younger children are especially welcome, as these are always in high demand. We look forward to seeing the children discover new adventures, characters, and favourite stories through our Open Library.

Pilgrimage Projects

We are so proud of the hard work and creativity the children have shown in their recent pilgrimage projects. They have put great thought and effort into their learning, and we are really looking forward to sharing their wonderful work with you. The projects will be on display in the **school hall from 3:00pm on Wednesday 10th September**, as part of our **Meet the Teacher event**. We warmly invite parents and carers to come along, take a look, and celebrate the children's achievements with us.

Useful Links

School Food United: *School meal orders be made by 8am on the day. Without a pre-order, the kitchen can only offer a jacket potato with beans to your child. Orders can be submitted for the whole term in advance. [Sodexo | Parent Portal \(schoolfoodunited.com\)](#)* **School Gateway & School Comms:** *We use School Gateway and School Comms to send out communications to families and is where payments for trips and events can be made using bank transfer or a debit/credit card. [School Gateway Login](#)*

If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day, please complete the following form and drop the medication in to the school office clearly labelled with their name. Please note that we cannot apply creams/lotions or administer eye drops. We can only give doses as per the label on the medication box/bottle: [Request For Medicine To Be Administered In School](#)

Forthcoming Dates for your Diary – those next week are in bold type:

Date(s):	Time(s):	What:
09/09/2025	9:30am	Years 1 & 5 Class Mass
10/09/2025	After school	Meet the teacher sessions
16/09/2025	9:30am	Years 2 & 4 Class Mass
23/09/2025	9:30am	Years 3 & 6 Class Mass

Starting school?

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 can start school in September 2026

Take action now

You can find out all you need to know about school admissions and apply online from 1 September 2025 at

coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions

or you can telephone school admissions on **024 7697 5445**

Apply in time to give your child the best chance of getting one of your preferred schools.



Apply online by
15 January 2026



coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Starting Secondary School in September 2026

Apply online at
coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions
by **31 October 2025**

for children born between
1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015

31 October 2025	Closing date for all applications
31 December 2025	If you move house before the 31 December 2025 you MUST contact the School Admissions Team to update your address
2 March 2026	Result emailed by 5pm or details available in your online account
4 March 2026	Parents who submitted a paper application will receive the result by letter



Please go to our website at
coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions
for details on how to apply. For further help
call School Admissions on **024 7697 5445**



All Souls' Catholic
PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES: 2025-2026

September 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Term time

Holiday

Bank holiday

Teacher training

Secondary Induction Day