




# THE ABI UPDATE

ISSUE 6 FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER - MR CLINTON

Dear parents, pupils, carers, and friends of Archbishop Ilsley,

It gives me great pleasure to announce the outcome for our visit from the Catholic Schools' Inspectorate (CSI). As you know we were visited by three inspectors, all who are serving headteachers of other Catholic Schools, on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November. They were so impressed with the RS Department, the 'delightful' pupils, the pastoral care offered by the school and the respect and participation of children in prayer and liturgy.

Perhaps most pleasing was that our motto, ethos and mission statement of 'Let your light shine,' was noted as being 'deeply understood and lived with integrity, guiding pupils' actions and relationships'.

We were graded as 'good' overall, but 5 of the 9 criteria were rated as 'outstanding'. To read the full report, visit our website and access the 'key information' tab.

Thank you to all the parents of Year 9 who visited us last night to learn how they can support their child as they prepare for their GCSEs. My thanks go to Mrs Lynch and Mr Morris for organising the event and Mrs Gashi, Mr Lynch and Mrs Grant for presenting about Science, Maths, English and Sixth Form. And Dr Regan for sharing his vast knowledge of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

A reminder that the school is closed on Monday 1st December for staff training.

## KEY DATES

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December - INSET Day. School is closed to pupils and students
- Monday 1st December - Art Enrichment trip to the Natural History Museum
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Year 12 Mock Examinations
- Tuesday 2nd December - Food Museum Trip
- Wednesday 3rd December - Flu Vaccinations
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Year 11 Parents' Evening (3.45pm - 6.15pm)
- Monday 8th December - Cadbury World trip
- Thursday 4th December - DT Future Chef Competition
- Thursday 11th December - DT Civil Engineering - Typhoo Tea Factory trip
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Academic Celebration Evening 5.30pm - 7.00pm
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Sixth Form Christmas Community Afternoon Tea
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - school closes for Christmas holiday
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - School reopens for Spring 1

**"...let your light shine."**

## CATHOLIC LIFE

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: LUKE 23: 35–43

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'



#### How is this relevant today?

In Luke's Gospel, we read the powerful scene of Jesus' crucifixion. While on the cross, he faces mockery from leaders, soldiers, and even one of the criminals crucified beside him. Yet, in the midst of suffering, Jesus offers hope and forgiveness to the repentant thief, promising, "Today you will be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43).

This passage speaks to us today in many ways:

**Facing adversity with faith:** Just as Jesus endured ridicule and injustice, we too may encounter challenges for standing up for what is right. This reminds us to act with courage and integrity, even when misunderstood.

**Taking responsibility:** The contrast between the two criminals illustrates the importance of personal accountability. Owning our actions and choices is a cornerstone of moral growth.

**Hope and redemption are always possible:** The repentant thief shows that it is never too late to turn toward God. Grace is available to everyone, regardless of past mistakes.

**The power of words and encouragement:** Even a few words of faith and compassion can transform lives, reminding us to be mindful of how we support and uplift one another.

As a school community, this message encourages our students, families, and staff to live with compassion, integrity, and hope, trusting that even in challenging times, God's love offers guidance, forgiveness, and renewal.

**"...today you will be with me in paradise."**



### This Term's Focus: Every Minute Matters

This term, we are focusing on Every Minute Matters – encouraging all pupils to arrive at lessons on time. When pupils move promptly between lessons, it helps them settle quickly, improves their readiness to learn, and ensures no teaching time is lost. Being punctual supports better concentration, reduces corridor issues, and promotes a positive learning environment for everyone in the classroom.

### Uniform Reminder

To maintain high standards, we kindly ask for your support in ensuring your child arrives at school in full, correct uniform every day. Our uniform policy can be found on our website. Please note:

- Leggings are not part of our school uniform and must not be worn.
- Skirts must be worn with tights, or blue school trousers only.
- Trainers are not permitted, pupils must wear appropriate school shoes.

Thank you for working with us to uphold our expectations. Your support with punctuality and uniform helps your child start each lesson positively and sets them up for success.



## ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS INSEPTION

On the Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November we received a Catholic Schools Inspection (CSI). As you may know, there are three foci:

- Religious Studies (RS lessons). I am sure you agree that your child receives an excellent religious education. Special thanks must go to Ms Duffy for her excellent leadership of the department.
- Collective Worship (or prayer and liturgy as it is sometimes known.) We are very lucky to have such a faith-filled member of staff in Deacon Martin Casey (who also teaches Science). However, Collective Worship is also led by your child's form teacher and Head of Year and all our teachers. We are so lucky to have the support of Canon Jonathan Veasey and Father Toby Duckworth at Sacred Heart and Holy Souls Church.
- Catholic Life - Perhaps most pleasing is that Catholic Life was rated as 'outstanding' by the inspectors. What is Catholic Life? It's the ethos and mission of the school. However, it's not just a policy or an approach, it's lived by every member of staff and every pupil and student at the school. It's how we speak to each other. It's how we care for each other. As the one pupil said, people, 'care for your heart as much as your grades.' Mr Foley and Mr Koryl have done great work in promoting this ethos. However, every single person in the Archbishop Ilsey Catholic community contributed to this outstanding grade for Catholic Life. So thank you parents, pupils, students, governors and the staff of Archbishop Ilsey. You can access the report on the website under the 'Key Information' of the website.

## YEAR 7 - MISS BRADY

## HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

What an exceptional week it has been for Year 7! We are delighted to share some wonderful achievements and moments that truly reflect the character, maturity and enthusiasm of our pupils.



First, our Year 7 cohort took part in the Ilsey Remembrance Service, demonstrating superb reverence, focus and respect throughout the ceremony. Their behaviour and attitude were exemplary, and they represented the year group—and the school—with real dignity. Well done to all involved.

We also had our CSI inspection this week, and many Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to speak directly with the inspectors. Their confidence, clarity and honesty made a hugely positive impression. The inspection team were extremely complimentary about how articulate, thoughtful and well-mannered our pupils were. This feedback is a real testament to the strong start Year 7 has made this year—fantastic work! A very special shout-out goes to 7JB, who delivered their first tutor assembly in front of the inspectors. And what an assembly it was! Exceptionally informative, well-structured and delivered with confidence, the assembly showcased everything we value in our learners. The liturgy was handled beautifully, and the inspectors were incredibly impressed. Even more inspiring is the fact that the pupils prepared and organised the entire assembly independently—an achievement that fills us with immense pride. Amazing job, 7JB!

You may also be aware of our new whole-school initiative: 'Every Minute Matters'. This is designed to support pupils in making the very best use of their learning time. It is essential that students are in their seats, ready to learn, before the second learning bell. Any lateness results in missed learning and may lead to a detention, so we appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation at home. To stay up to date with behaviour, attendance and key messages, please continue to check the MCAS Parent App regularly. Year 7, you have had a truly remarkable week—keep up the enthusiasm, the kindness and the hard work. We are so proud of you!

## YEAR 8 - MRS WAFI

## HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

This week has been a wonderful demonstration of the compassion, leadership, and community spirit that define our pupils at Archbishop Ilsey. A group of pupils took part in a highly productive meeting with our catering team, where they discussed the current canteen menu and explored practical ways to improve it for everyone. Their politeness, thoughtful questioning, and mature approach highlighted just how capable and considerate our young people can be.



Alongside this, we proudly launched the 2025 Archbishop Ilsey Christmas Hamper Initiative, a longstanding tradition rooted in our belief in Rights & Responsibilities—that every person deserves food, shelter, dignity, and the comfort of knowing they are cared for. Inspired by the words of Matthew 25:35–36, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink," we are reminded that Jesus calls us to serve others, especially the poor and vulnerable, and that every act of kindness is an act of service to Him. Each year, tutor groups across the school collect essential food items which are then packed into Christmas hampers, blessed at our annual Hamper Mass, and delivered to families in our local community who are facing hardship. These hampers mean far more than the items inside them—they bring warmth, dignity, and hope at a time that should be filled with joy and togetherness. In Birmingham, many families continue to experience hidden hunger, and this issue affects those living in the streets and neighbourhoods around us, reminding us that compassion begins close to home. By contributing even a few items, our students and staff help transform someone's Christmas from a time of anxiety into a season of comfort and celebration. The joy of giving lies not only in supporting those in need but also in the growth it inspires within ourselves—cultivating gratitude, empathy, and a deeper sense of faith. Together, as one school community, we truly can make a lasting difference.

This year marks the beginning of the options pathway, and our pupils are eager to learn about all the subjects available to them. It's an exciting time—though understandably a little nerve-racking—as they begin thinking about their future choices.



On 27th November, we held our first Year 9 Information Evening, the official starting point for this journey. It was fantastic to see so many families attending, keen to begin exploring the opportunities ahead. The evening gave everyone the chance to start important conversations and begin preparing for the decisions they will make in early 2026.

We also recently took our Envisage Programme pupils to Birmingham, and they were a real credit to our school. Their behaviour, enthusiasm, and commitment to achieving their best were outstanding throughout the trip.

This week we held our very first Pupil Parliament, bringing together pupils from Year 7 to Year 9 for an important conversation with the school kitchen manager. The aim of the session was to give pupils the opportunity to ask questions about the food and drink options available to them each day, and to share their ideas, thoughts, and concerns directly with the staff who help shape their school experience.

The meeting was a really positive and constructive experience, with pupils showing confidence, maturity, and a genuine interest in understanding how decisions about school meals are made. It was wonderful to see pupils and staff collaborating so openly—listening to one another, exploring suggestions, and considering ways to improve the service for everyone.

Opportunities like this are incredibly valuable. They reinforce how important it is for pupils to have a meaningful voice in school life, to feel heard, and to engage with the key members of our staff team. By taking part in the Pupil Parliament, our young people are learning how to express their views respectfully, work together, and influence positive change within their community. We look forward to future meetings where pupils can continue to shape and strengthen our school environment.

Let us all strive to be in lessons on time, so that we may make the most of every learning opportunity. As we approach the sacred season of Advent, we humbly seek the guiding intercession of Pope Leo, that we may walk in faith, hope, and charity."

Our second Attendance draw began on Monday 24th November. After the recent success of our, "In... To Win" draw, where seven lucky winners received a voucher for several food outlets, we have now set the '20 Day Challenge'.

## ATTENDANCE DRAW!

BE IN...  
TO  
WIN!

The rules are simple! It's our **20 Day Challenge**.

All pupils and students that have 100% attendance from **Monday 24th November - Friday 19th December** will be entered into our Attendance Prize Draw to win a £50 voucher.

**You have to be in for the next 20 days ... to win!**



Not only will all pupils and students maximise learning opportunities but they will be able to take part in all the fun activities planned for the end of term, contributing to the Christmas charities and end of term celebration assemblies.

## YEAR 10- MR BRUTON

As we approach the festive season, we are excited to announce the launch of our Year 10 Christmas Hamper Initiative. This annual project is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to put the school's Catholic Social Teaching into action by showing solidarity, compassion, and generosity to those in need within our local community.



### How You Can Help

We are kindly asking for donations of non-perishable food and festive treats to create hampers for families in our community. Suggested items include:

- Tinned Foods: Beans, vegetables, soups, tomatoes, rice pudding, etc.
- Jarred Foods: Pasta sauces, curries, pickles, etc.
- Pasta (dried), Breakfast Cereal, Cordials
- Instant Foods: Cup-a-soups, pot noodles, pasta in sauce, etc.
- Powdered Foods: Gravy, stuffing, rice, etc.
- Hot Drinks: Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate
- Snacks & Treats: Biscuits, sugar, jam, Christmas chocolates, tin of biscuits, mince pies, sweets, desserts

Donations can be sent in with your child to their tutor group.

### Living Our Faith – Rights & Responsibilities

Jesus calls us to serve others, especially the poor and vulnerable. When we help someone in need, we are serving Christ himself.

This initiative is closely linked to Catholic Social Teaching, encouraging our pupils to:

- Promote human dignity and the common good by helping those who are vulnerable.
- Practice solidarity by recognising that we are all part of one human family.
- Show stewardship and compassion through generous giving and service.

For I was *hungry*  
and you gave me food  
I was *thirsty*  
and you gave me drink  
Matthew 25:35-40

Next week marks the start of Advent, a season of preparation and reflection. During this time, we encourage our Year 10 pupils to continue thinking about the needs of others, and to embrace generosity, kindness, and hope in the lead-up to Christmas.

Thank you in advance for your support in making this initiative a success. Together, we can make a real difference for families in need.

## YEAR 11 - MR FRANCIOSO

As we move further into the winter term, I want to take a moment to reflect on just how proud I am of our Year 11s. Coming out of the recent mock exams, they have shown real resilience and maturity, and it's been fantastic to see so many pupils continuing that momentum rather than slowing down. The effort, attitude, and determination they are demonstrating each day truly shows their commitment to achieving their very best.



This half term, we have also launched a number of revision sessions and targeted support opportunities. Attendance at these has been brilliant so far, and I cannot stress enough how valuable these sessions will be in building confidence and strengthening understanding in the run-up to the final exams. Every small step really does make a difference.

We also have our upcoming Parents' Evening on the horizon — an important chance for families to connect with teachers, celebrate strengths, and pinpoint the best next steps moving forward. I strongly encourage every pupil to attend with their parent or carer, as these conversations play a key part in planning for success.

As always, I want to remind our Year 11s of the importance of the basics: good attendance, punctuality, and completing homework on time. These habits are the backbone of strong progress, and they ensure that no learning time is missed at this vital stage.

Thank you once again for your continued support at home. Together, we can help make this year not only successful, but memorable for all the right reasons.

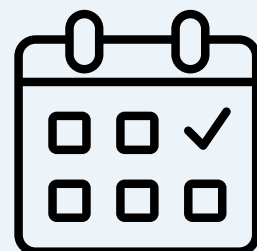


**Sixth Form applications are open... have you applied yet?**

**Check out our new courses available in Food and Nutrition and Applied Science.**

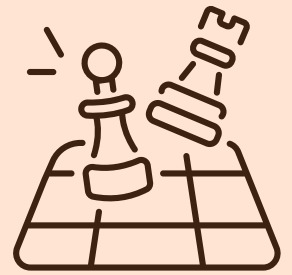
## WHAT NEXT... IMPORTANT DATES AHEAD FOR YEAR 11 PUPILS

- Report 1 Issued: 3rd December
- Year 11 'Meet the Sixth Form' events following pupils' Mock Exams
- Parents' Evening: 4th December
- Mock Exams 2: 23rd February – 6th March. Report 2 Issued: 26th March
- Year 11 Sixth Form interviews
- GCSEs commence: 11th May
- 29th and 30th June 2065 – Year 11 into 12 Step Up Days
- All GCSEs concluded on 24th June
- Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment: Thursday 20th August



# SUBJECT ENRICHMENT

Thank you to Mr Jackson, Mr Zaman and Mr Stain for supporting pupils and students in their participation in the English Schools Chess Championship, organised by the English Chess Federation, on Thursday 27th November.



Michael W, Daniel C, Adeel F and Andrei Abel in Year 13, Wojciech P, in Year 11 and Isa A on Year 9 took part and were all entered into a qualifier for this regional tournament, playing against schools from all over the country including Reading School, King Edwards Aston and Sale Grammar.

In order to get through to the next round, pupils and students needed to finish 5th or higher. Our school finished 6<sup>th</sup> which was a massive achievement, given the scale of competition that they faced. Pupils and students all did brilliantly, each coming away with at least 4 wins in the games they played, with Daniel C coming 21st overall as an individual out of 93 competitors. Well done to everyone involved!

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November, Mr Lynch and Mr Blair took eight of our top Year 10 pupils to take part in a Maths Challenge at Cardinal Newman School in Coventry. They completed a challenging cross-number and ten really interesting puzzles. They all had fun taking part and working together!

The product of the ages of  
a father and his son is 2015.

What is the difference  
between their ages?

We have included one of their puzzles - can you solve it?

Last week our Year 7 and 8 pupils took part in a national Times Tables Rock Stars competition called England Rocks! Well done to 7X1 who were the best class, and Lena B, Emma C and Sania B who were in the top three students for our school! Thank you to our Maths department for giving pupils this excellent opportunity.

Well done to Mrs Jones and our Year 12 students Harvey, Lily, Rainna and Julia, who came 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Catholic Partnership KS5 Debate held at St. Peter's Catholic School.

A great result! Thank you to Mrs Jones for working with our students and to St Peter's for hosting. We look forward to next year!



# NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS EDITION

DECEMBER 2025



## CHRISTMAS competition

This year's Christmas competition will be a precursor to The National Year of Reading. All you have to do is design a bookmark to celebrate the National Year of Reading to win a £25 Amazon gift voucher. The winning bookmark will be produced and used all year round.

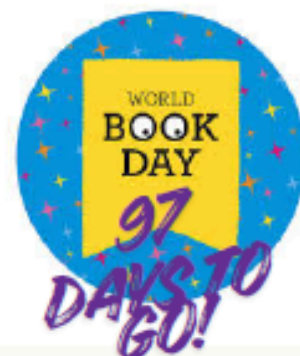
**See Ms Rani for an entry form**

## READER'S CHOICE

MS. RANI



EXILED TO A FAR-FLUNG ISLAND BY THE WHIMS OF THE GODS, MEDUSA HAS LITTLE COMPANY EXCEPT THE SNAKES THAT ADORN HER HEAD INSTEAD OF HAIR. BUT WHEN A CHARMED, BEAUTIFUL BOY CALLED PERSEUS ARRIVES ON THE ISLAND, HER LONELY EXISTENCE IS DISRUPTED WITH THE FORCE OF A SUPERNOVA, UNLEASHING DESIRE, LOVE, BETRAYAL . AND DESTINY ITSELF.



### After School Clubs

**3:15 - 4pm**

MON - BOOK CLUB  
TUES - CRAFT CLUB  
WED - BOARD GAME CLUB  
THURS - HOMEWORK CLUB

## Turn Christmas Shopping into a gift for our School

This year why not gift someone you care about a book by using the LoveReading4Kids.co.uk website. Not only would you be making somebody very happy, but you would also be helping raise money for our school library.

1

*Families buy books they already planned to gift this Christmas*

2

*You nominate our school at the checkout*

3

*Our school receives credit to spend on new books via LoveReading4Schools Portal*

**Three easy steps to the joy of reading!**

**REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS**

## Year 12 Mock Exams commencing Tuesday 2nd December - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December

As our Year 12 students approach their first set of mock exams, we would like to take this opportunity to highlight the importance of these assessments and to offer some guidance on how you can support your child during this crucial stage of their Sixth Form journey.

**Why Are Mock Exams Important?** Mock exams play a vital role in preparing students for the demands of Year 13 and their final Level 3 assessments. They allow students to:

- Experience real exam conditions without the pressure of 'final' grades.
- Identify strengths and areas for improvement early enough to make meaningful progress.
- Develop effective revision and study habits that they will rely on throughout Sixth Form.
- Build confidence, resilience, and the ability to manage time effectively under exam conditions.

The feedback from these mocks will form an essential part of the conversations we have with students about targets, predicted grades, and planning for university, apprenticeships, or employment.

**How Should Students Be Revising?** Please encourage your child to:

- Use the 'Year 12 Mock Examination Guidance' written by subject teachers, which details the length of paper, topics to revise and provides students with revision tips. This is available in students' Year 12 Google Classroom; it has been sent out to parents and carers via Bromcom and it is available on our website here: <https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/communication/letters/>
- Use the subject specific 'Independent Revision Guides' prepared by subject teachers. These give students a guide to the proactive work that they can be doing following each lesson, each week, each term and throughout the year. They also suggest what students can be reading, listening to and watching i.e. there are links to online revision guides, podcasts and websites that will support revision. These can be found in the Sixth Form section of our website here: <https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/sixth-form/advice-for-parents-copy/>
- Create a structured revision timetable, allocating time to each subject - this should be used
- Use active revision techniques such as completing past papers, practising exam questions, creating mind maps, flashcards, summarising notes, and self testing
- Prioritise weaker areas identified in classwork or in class PAR assessments.
- Stay organised, ensuring all notes, resources, and revision materials are up to date.
- Take regular breaks and look after their wellbeing—productive revision depends on rest, good nutrition, and balance.

**How Can Parents and Carers Support?** Your support makes a significant difference. You can help by:

- Talking with your child about their revision plans and helping them set realistic goals.
- Creating a calm, quiet, and organised space for them to revise.
- Encouraging healthy routines, including sleep, breaks, and time away from screens.
- Checking in regularly to see how they are feeling and to help them stay motivated.
- Reinforcing the idea that mistakes now are valuable, as the purpose of mocks is to learn and grow—not to achieve perfection.

We appreciate your ongoing support in helping our students make the best possible start to Sixth Form. If you have any questions or concerns about revision or the upcoming mock exams, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form team.

## Responsible Use of AI – Year 12 & 13 Assembly

This week, students attended an assembly with Mr Brookes focused on the responsible use of AI in both coursework and revision. As AI tools become more widely available, it is essential that our students understand how to use them ethically and in ways that genuinely support their learning.

We emphasised several key points:

- Integrity is essential. Any work submitted for assessment must be the student's own. Using AI to generate or rewrite assessed work is considered malpractice and can have serious consequences.
- AI should support thinking, not replace it. Tools can be useful for clarifying ideas, checking understanding, or generating practice questions, but students must still engage with the material themselves.
- Accuracy varies. AI tools can sometimes provide incorrect or outdated information. Students were encouraged to verify facts using trusted academic sources.
- Transparency matters. If students use AI as part of their research or planning, they should be open and honest about how it has supported their work. This includes referencing appropriately.
- Developing independence. Over-reliance on AI can limit students' ability to build the critical skills they need for exams, university, and employment.

Please speak to your child about these expectations and reinforce the importance of academic honesty as they prepare for upcoming assessments and coursework. Follow this link

<https://brookesjilsley.github.io/mobilegame/> to access the game created by Mr Brookes to help educate students around the key messages. Many thanks to Mr Brookes for his hard work in this area.

## Attendance and Punctuality – A Key to Sixth Form Success

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of the continued importance of excellent attendance and punctuality in the Sixth Form. Being present, on time and fully engaged each day has a significant impact on students' academic progress, wellbeing, and overall readiness for their next steps.

Our bespoke Pastoral Programme, delivered during tutor time, provides valuable support with study strategies, organisation, revision techniques, and careers guidance. Missing these sessions means students miss out on structured support designed specifically to help them manage the demands of Year 12 and Year 13.

In addition, our weekly assemblies provide students with essential information relevant to the week and term ahead, including updates on assessments, opportunities, enrichment activities, and key deadlines. These sessions play an important role in ensuring students are well-informed and fully prepared.

To support good habits and consistency, our punctuality policy is as follows:

- Late before 9:00am – students will receive a 20-minute detention at lunchtime on the same day.
- Late after 9:00am – students will receive a 1-hour after-school detention on the same day.

These expectations are in place to help students establish routines that prepare them for the demands of further study and employment. Your support in reinforcing the importance of punctuality is greatly appreciated and plays a key role in helping students make the most of their time in Sixth Form.

## **Year 13: Subject Enrichment - Criminologists visit Birmingham Crown Court**

Our Criminology students recently took part in a highly successful enrichment visit to Birmingham Crown Court. Throughout the day, students observed real court proceedings, gaining first-hand insight into the roles of legal professionals, courtroom etiquette, and the complexities of the criminal justice system. They were able to see the theories and concepts studied in the classroom brought to life, helping them make meaningful links between academic content and real-world application.

This kind of enrichment is particularly valuable as our students prepare for their Unit 3 Controlled Assessment, which will take place on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th December. Experiencing the courtroom environment deepens their understanding of criminal behaviour, evidence, procedures, and sentencing—all of which support the analytical skills and applied knowledge required for the assessment. Students returned from the trip with increased confidence and a clearer sense of how their studies relate to professional practice.

We are proud of the maturity and curiosity they demonstrated throughout the visit, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact on their upcoming work.

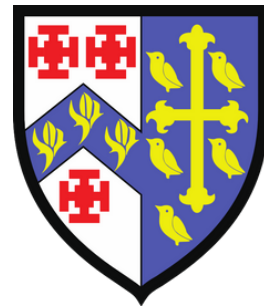


## **Year 13 UCAS Applications – Final Reminder**

We would like to remind all Year 13 students who are applying to university that they should now be completing their UCAS applications. To ensure the Sixth Form team has sufficient time to check each application thoroughly and write high-quality references, all applications must be completed and submitted to us by Monday 8th December.

Please encourage your child person to continue refining their personal statement, finalising course choices, and checking all sections for accuracy. Completing applications by the internal deadline allows us to provide the best possible support before UCAS's external deadlines. Thank you for your continued support.

## PARENT GOVERNOR ADVERT



Archbishop Ilsley are looking to appoint a new parent governor.

Do you have the time to commit to an enjoyable but demanding role?

- Show a commitment to promoting the Catholic ethos of the school?
- Attend three meetings a year
- Prepare for the meeting by reading papers beforehand?
- Maintain confidentiality?
- Attend training for new Governors via the Diocese?
- Visit the school once a term to meet your Senior Leader link?
- Produce governor reports?
- Abide by the Code of Conduct for Governors?
- Have a DBS check?

Please be aware, parent governors are representative parents rather than representatives of parents. In other words, the Governing Body is not the place to raise any complaints or grievances from parents or pupils, including yourself. You should do this through contacting the school directly.

Do you have the following skills?

1. A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children
2. Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills
3. The specific skills required to ensure the governing board delivers effective governance

How to Apply

Please check your email. There is a form to fill out and you will have to give the names of two referees. The closing date for the receipt of nominations by the schools is 9am on Friday 5th December.

The completed nomination form should be emailed to [recruitment@ilsley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@ilsley.bham.sch.uk)

Please read all the attachments that are emailed to you (and are also listed under 'latest news' of the website and have a look at the Governing Body section of the school website:

<https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/our-school/governors/>

<https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/communication/latest-news/>

**Archbishop Ilsley**  
Catholic School

Navigation: School, Catholic Life, Curriculum, Key Information, Parents, Sixth Form, Communication, Contact

**Latest News**

- ABI Update
- Twitter
- Letters

### Governors

We are currently welcoming applications for a new parent governor. Please see latest news for more information. Closing date: Friday 5th December

**Anna Jordan**  
Vice Chair of Governors

It is with great enthusiasm and dedication that I embrace the opportunity to serve as a Foundation Governor at Archbishop Ilsley.

With over two decades of experience as a science teacher, I bring a wealth of knowledge and a deep commitment to fostering academic excellence.

My active involvement in pastoral care within my current school has equipped me with a profound understanding of the importance of nurturing not only intellectual growth but also the emotional and social well-being of our students.