



# St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

*Head Teacher: Mrs J Foley*



**We love and learn together by growing  
in friendship with Jesus**

9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to update you on the financial pressures currently facing schools across Solihull, and how these challenges are affecting our ability to continue providing the high-quality, enriched curriculum we are so proud of.

Like all schools, we are operating within a funding model that is heavily driven by pupil numbers. The funding we received for 2025/26 is based on a Reception cohort size of 22 pupils who were registered at the school on the 2024 Census Day. This indicates the falling birth rates in the local area, but for us, it meant a significant cut to our budget. At the same time, schools are experiencing significant increases in costs due to inflation.

One area that is directly affected is our ability to sustain the curriculum enrichment opportunities that our pupils benefit from every day. The Enrichment Fund, which we kindly ask families to contribute to each year, allows us to maintain essential subscriptions such as:

- TenTen resources (prayer and liturgy)
- Times Tables Rock Stars
- MyMaths
- White Rose Maths
- Little Wandle (Phonics)
- Spelling Frame
- Spag.com
- Reading cloud
- Charanga (Music lessons for class teacher delivery)
- Year 4 Wider opportunities (Recorder lessons)
- Year 5 Young Voices (pupil entry and coach)
- AccessArt (Art lessons)
- Digimaps (Geography)

Over recent years, we have been able to keep these subscriptions running thanks to the generosity of our families. However, this year we have received contributions from less than 20% of families, meaning the Enrichment Fund is currently too low to sustain these resources and we will be forced to cancel several subscriptions at the end of this academic year.

We appreciate that every family's circumstances are different, and we never take any contribution for granted. Our request remains at £60 per family per year, which works out at £5 per month - around the cost



**Our Lady and All Saints**  
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of a coffee! Every pound donated goes directly back into your child's education, enriching their day-to-day learning experiences and supporting with homework tasks.

As a reminder, there is also a Foundation Stage fund of £60 per year. This contribution plays an essential role in keeping our Early Years provision rich, exciting and full of hands-on learning experiences for the children. The fund helps us purchase the many perishable items we use every day in the Foundation Stage, such as chalk, shaving foam, paints, craft materials, food ingredients and other consumables that allow us to create stimulating activities that support their development across all areas of the curriculum. The fund also helps us enhance the learning environment, and the children were especially thrilled recently with their new classroom chairs - a big hit with everyone!

If you are able to support the school by contributing to the Enrichment Fund or Foundation Stage Fund, we would be incredibly grateful. You can do this quickly and easily by logging onto ParentPay and selecting the amount you can afford to donate at this time. It might be that you can offer more at a later date.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and to those who have already made a contribution. Together, we can ensure that our children continue to enjoy the wide range of high-quality learning experiences they deserve.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Foley

Head Teacher



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