



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus

Our theme for the Summer term is: 'Stewardship'

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Attentive and Discerning'



Dear parents and carers,

18th July 2022

We have just completed our penultimate week in school. It has been a week dedicated to the Commonwealth games, which are coming to Birmingham this Summer. As part of our sports and fitness week, we had Sports Day which was enjoyed by all - and well done to green team who won overall. A massive thank you to our PE lead Miss Adams, for such wonderful organisation; to Miss Toni, for leading our closing ceremony dance; to all the parents who came in to lead a variety of sports and assemblies; and to 'Tom drones' for filming our dances.

The Met Office have given a red warning for severe heat for the start of this week. We are following the council's heatwave plan to ensure the safety of all pupils. Your child's school report will have been sent home. If you require an additional report to be printed, please let the class teacher know on eschools or contact the school office.

Parents are beginning to ask me about where the school stands with the Diocesan Academies Agenda. As part of this newsletter, I include a statement from the Governors about Academies and I will continue to share any further information when we know more.

Miss Price.

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Luke 10: 25-37

"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- We can have amazing opportunities to meet God and share His love, no matter where we are!
- Helping other people and sharing God's love is a holy purpose.

*God our Father,
We want to love you with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Help us to make each day a pilgrimage leading to you.*

Amen

Catholic Life in School

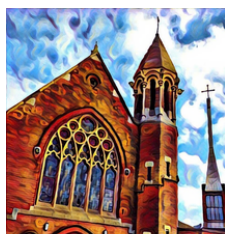
Year 1 Mass - St. Benedict

On Wednesday, Year 1 led us in our Mass dedicated to St. Benedict. We learnt so much about him throughout the Mass and the children read and sang beautifully.



Year 6 Leavers Mass in Church - 20.7.22 at 9:30am

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 20th July 2022, starting promptly at 9:30am. **Year 6 children** will be leading our Mass for the whole school one last time before they move on to the next phase of their Education...



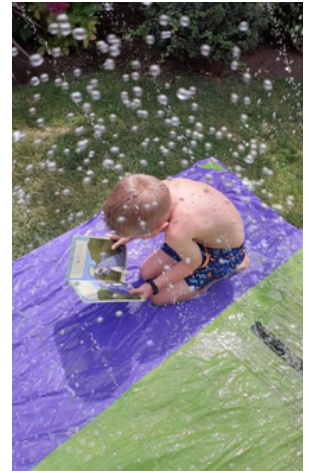
Y6 Leavers Trip to Drayton Manor - 11.7.22

Year 6 had a lovely day at Drayton Manor on Monday. It was well-deserved after all of their hard work. We have been incredibly proud of them for their resilience and all they have achieved this year and are so pleased that they had such a great day.



St. Mary's Loves Reading

Well done all of the children who are taking part in our Summer Reading Challenge and tweeting #MyChildReads - great to see the love of books that all our children have and all of the interesting places where you have been doing your reading!



St. Mary's Music Concert

Many of our children who are learning the violin, guitar and piano put on a concert to show us all the songs they have learnt at our end of Year Music Concert.



School of Sanctuary

Our Year 6 children led our Friday assembly all about our School of Sanctuary journey this academic year. As part of this assembly, we were delighted to be presented with our School of Sanctuary Award. Then on the afternoon, Year 4 represented our school at the REP for the production of 'What is a refugee?'





COMMONWEALTH Week

**BIRMINGHAM
2022**



Opening Ceremony to Commonwealth Week - Monday 11th July 2022
Each class prepared a presentation about their country and performed it



Year 3 vs. Year 4 football tournament



Whole School Bikeathon



Pilates

A big thank you to Mrs Leek who came to lead our Pilates classes.



Trampolining sessions



Zumba / Latin dance

The children had a great time in their Zumba / Latin dance classes with Mr Cammack.



Hockey lessons

Thank you to Fran, Neil and Oliver from Harborne Hockey Club.



Assemblies

*We had a number of guest speakers for our assemblies.
Thank you Mrs. Lay, Mr. Brook, Miss Adams and Miss Horton.*



Golf

The children loved their golf lessons with Mr Palmer.



T-shirt design

The children designed their own t-shirts to represent their house team for Sports Day.



Archery

Mrs Lay and Miss Tonks supported our archery learning.



Green House WINS

Well done green team who were our overall winners on Sports Day.





Perry the Commonwealth Games 2022 mascot Perry made his way around school, and our studies taught us all about how to be strong, inclusive and supportive about the games.

Each class had a country for the commonwealth that they learnt more about.



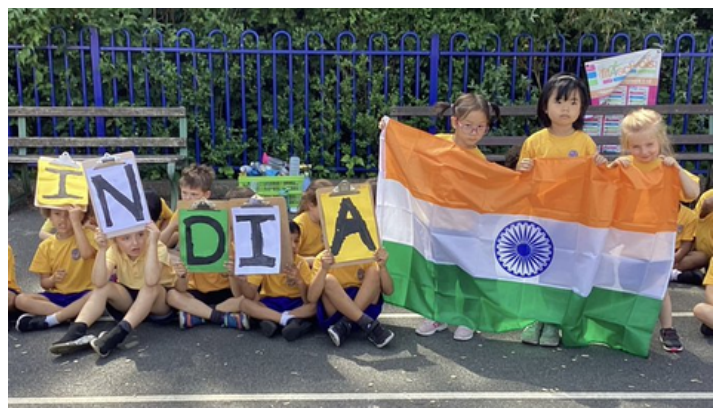
Year 1 - Fiji



Year 5 - New Zealand



Year 2 - Maldives



Year R - India



Year 1 - Australia



Year 6 - Barbados



Closing Ceremony to Commonwealth Week - Friday 15th July 2022



Reception news: -

Reception class created silhouette commonwealth art work.



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 completed their commonwealth art work to be displayed on Harborne High Street.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 enjoyed creating their commonwealth pictures.



Year 3 news: -
Year 3 have been exploring with water colours.



Year 4 news: -
Year 4 cooked Nigerian Pepper Stew and flatbreads as part of their DT learning in commonwealth week.



Year 5 news: -
Some of Year 5 attended the RAENG crumble workshop at Bishop Challoner and worked with other Year 5 children from other schools. They had to put their problem solving skills to the test.



Year 6 news: -
Year 6 have been learning about their commonwealth countries and created exciting fact files.



Our final week in school

We have lots of fun activities for children to do in school in their final week.

We break up on Thursday 21st July at our earlier times of

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KS1 classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes



GOODBYE

The main gates will be open - once children have been collected - parents and children will be invited on to the playground to create our 'guard of honour' for all children (and staff) who are leaving us.

Year 6 end of year farewell

Tuesday 19th July 2022

Year 6 are putting on two performances of Oliver for Y6 parents only. At the moment, we are restricting tickets to two per child, but hoping to open up any spare tickets when we know numbers. The performance will also be recorded so can be shared with loved ones later.

Performances are **9:30am** and **2:00pm**.



Year 6 Leavers Mass - Wednesday 20th July 2022 - 9:30am

We will be celebrating Year 6 and their time at St. Mary's with a whole school Leavers Mass on Wednesday 20th July at 9:30am. All parents and family members are welcome to attend this Mass. For the Mass, we will ask parents to sit in the old part of the Church. After Mass, the rest of the school will leave and return to have break time. Year 6 will remain in the Church and parents will join them to watch their slideshow of memories in the Church.

This will be when we hand out presents too.

The rest of the school / siblings will watch the slideshow in their classrooms.



Thursday 21st July 2022 - all day

Shirt signing will take place on the final day of term. We also continue to encourage parents, staff and children to join us in the guard of honour as they leave school for the final time as Year 6 pupils. Collection times of all children are in red in 'dates for this term' - all children will need to be collected by 2pm and then Year 6 (and any staff leavers) will come out.

Other News



Mrs Gobina and Mrs Williams will be leaving us at the end of the term as they both move on to the next chapter of their lives.

I am sure that you will join us in wishing them all the best in their future careers. Good luck and thank you for all that you have done here.



Academies

Statement from the Governing Body

All Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham have been asked to come together within families of schools to support the education of current and future pupils in our communities. 144 schools across the archdiocese are already academies within 16 'Multi Academies', including all of our Solihull schools, in Our Lady and All Saints Multi Academy, and many schools in South Birmingham in the Lumen Christi Multi Academy.

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School along with our 11 partner schools in the Tolkien Partnership, have met recently to discuss the opportunities of coming together as a family of schools within a Multi Academy.

Colleagues and pupils from across all 12 schools have been working together to learn from each other, share best practice and provide mutual support for over 20 years. The schools who are in the Tolkien Partnership are:

St Alban's Catholic Primary School
St Anne's Catholic Primary School
St Bernard's Catholic Primary School
Bishop Challoner Catholic College
St Catherine's Catholic Primary School
St Dunstan's Catholic Primary School
St Edward's Catholic Primary School
SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School
St Jude's Catholic Primary School
St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

We are in the process of ongoing discussions and when we have more information, and before any final decisions are made, we will engage with our Parish and school communities on the future direction of our schools.

Please note that other schools will be sending this communication out to parents across the week.

"To change is to grow..."

Classes

Last week, I announced the class teachers across the year groups. Going forward, we have decided to dedicate our class names to a variety of Saints. This way, the children will learn about many of the saints in detail during their time at St. Mary's and will celebrate their feast days. I will provide more information about this in the final newsletter of the school year.

It does mean that children will no longer be in an 'L' class or an 'F' class when we return.



Star of the week

Congratulations to the following children who have shone in school over the last week:

Year RL	Jessica	for having a fantastic Reception Year at St. Mary's
Year RF	Agatha	being so helpful and kind to both teachers and children in our class
Year 1L	Amelia	For always being a fabulous role model
Year 1F	Adadike	always trying her best and being a super role model
Year 2L	Wathu	endeavouring to establish and maintain good friendships
Year 2F	Marquis	kind and responsible behaviour to others
Year 3L	Brigid	going above and beyond in everything she does and for her kindness to others
Year 3F	Isabella	great attitude to learning and being a joy to teach
Year 4L	Peyton	always having a smile on his face
Year 4F	Isaac	being a kind and patient friend
Year 5L	Mariah	being determined and encouraging through Commonwealth week
Year 5F	Nikky	always being polite and friendly to adults
Year 6L	Sachin	behaving sensibly, calmly and politely
Year 6F	Conrad	having a positive attitude
Year 6F	David	listening and making a great effort

