



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs L. J. Yorke M.Ed.



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.

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Dignity of the Human Person'

Our virtues for this half term are: - Grateful and Generous



20th October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We have had another busy week in school and we are looking forward to sharing all that the children have done next week at our parent consultation evening, where you will have the opportunity to see the children's books.

Thank you to families who have already donated to our harvest festival. We know that everybody is feeling the pinch of increased prices at the moment, and we are so grateful to those who are donating to help SIFA FIRESIDE. We are presenting our harvest at Mass on Wednesday so please can all donations come in before Wednesday if you still wish to give. Another massive thank you to those who are setting up payments for school fund too. Please can I clarify: - If you wish to GIFT AID your donation to school fund, please use the bank details:

sort code: 30-19-14, account: 03595246 and if you do not wish to use gift aid but still wish to make a donation, you can make a payment via School Gateway. Next week is our final week in school before we break up for the October half-term. Please note that Friday 27th October, we have an INSET day for staff and school will be closed to children. Have a lovely weekend and we will see you on Monday. God Bless.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Matthew 22: 1-10

"Look, I have prepared my banquet," said the king. "Everything is ready; come to the feast!"

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn that:

- in accepting God's invitation, we are blessed with joy and a fruitful life
- we must look out for and accept the invitations God presents us with
- St. Teresa of Avila is a role model for how we can live our lives 'Christ has no body but ours...'

Dear God,

Help me to see and accept Your invitation. Give me the courage to say 'yes' to you, even when it is difficult. Give me the strength to accept Your invitation to be a good person, help those in need and to join You at Your great feast.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Year 1 Mass - 18.3.23 - St. Luke

Year 1 led our Mass about

St. Luke - 1L wore their

own clothes as they

celebrated their class Saint.

HARVEST!

Please send any donations for our harvest in to school next week. Thank you so much!



Reception Mass - Harvest Mass - St. John Paul II

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 25th October 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Our Reception children will be leading their first school Mass and their Year 6 buddies will be supporting them and attending too. All parents are welcome to attend.



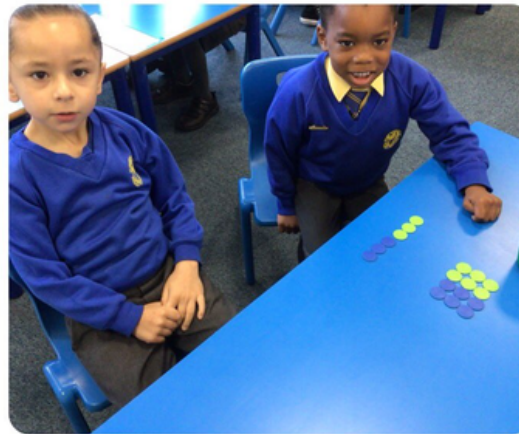
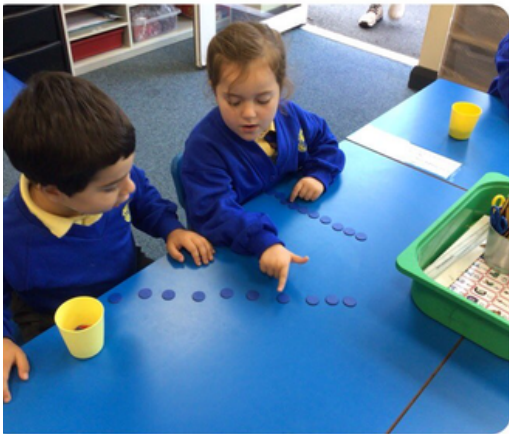
Reception news: -

Reception class won't let the rain interrupt their Forest School fun. They have explored colour mixing in the rain today.



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 have been recognising and making equal sets in Maths lessons.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been learning about the artist Bernard Hoyes for Black History Month. Here are their recreations of his 'dancing lady'



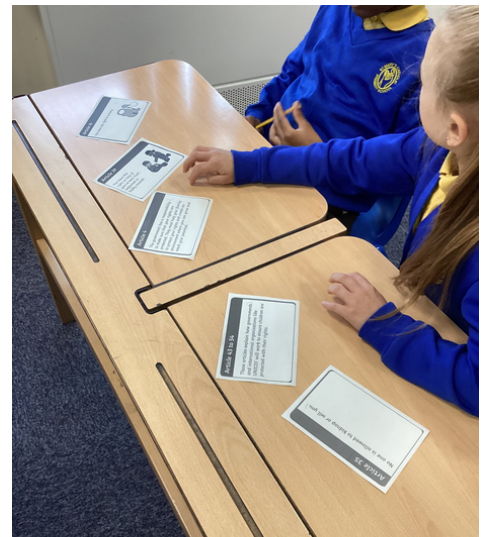
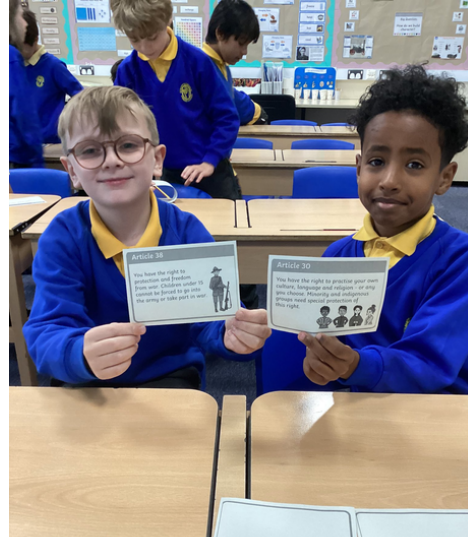
Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been enjoying cricket this half term. They have been improving their batting and fielding skills and enjoyed playing a game of cricket.



Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been learning about their rights as a child and explored which rights they think are the most important



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 children painted beautiful, vibrant 'Zinnias in a pot' inspired by Clementine Hunt. Their compositions included scenes of outdoor activity and still life of everyday objects.



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 are thinking like historians as they complete their source analysis to show what they have learnt about World War I.



October - Pray the Rosary

It has been so wonderful to see how the prayer bags are being used at home throughout October. Thank you for uploading your photos.

Please continue to share these photos with school, as you continue to pray with the children at home.



St Mary's Loves to Read



Thank you to Jane for facilitating our Harborne Library Visits. The children are really enjoying reading for pleasure.

This week, Jane read us a story about hope. The children were also directed to the Black history genre display and were told about the wonderful activities available during half term.

Harvest

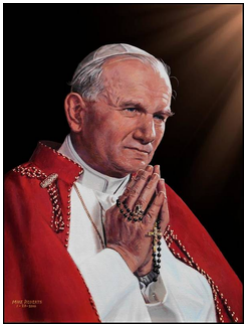
Our fabulous harvest donations so far! Thank you to all the parents and children who have donated this week!



Other News

Staff and children enjoying Friday lunch!





On **Tuesday 24th October**, we will be celebrating Saint John Paul II, christened Karol Józef Wojtyła, St. John Paul II was Bishop and Pope (1978–2005). He led an extraordinary and inspiring life and made many reforms. **Children who are in St. John Paul II House Group – can come in to school wearing red on this day!**



Year 4 Harborne Library Visit - 20.10.23

Year 4 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

4J will leave at 9:00am

4M will leave at 10:45am

If you are a parent who would like to attend and support walking to and from the library, please let the Year 4 staff know.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

**Tuesday 24th October 2023 and
Wednesday 25th October 2023**



Appointment for Parent Consultations will take place in the school hall
Please arrive 5 minutes before your appointment

After your appointment, the teacher will give you your child's books to take to the Year 3 classroom and look at (3L Classroom). Please do not photograph books - we have photos of children in their exercise books, and we do not have permission to share these photos for all children.

After you have looked at books - please complete the parent questionnaire via the QR code.
We like to hear all the things that we are doing well and what we could do better.
We always take on board any ways that you feel we could improve.

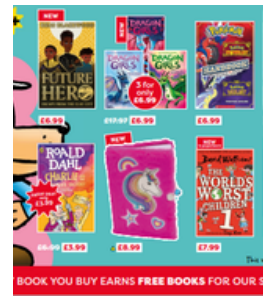
Please leave the building via the opposite Year 3 classroom - in this classroom, you will have the opportunity to purchase any books from the book fair and to peruse our pre-loved uniform and take any items home with you. Most of our donated uniform is almost new, washed and ready to go - please take advantage of this. You can leave a donation if you wish.

If you have another appointment, you can make your way back to the hall. If not, leave via the playground and gate.

School-aged children are not allowed to attend the parents' evening appointment. St. Mary's children will go to the creche in Year 2 if you bring them with you.

Book Fair

Next week, we have the book fair in school. There will be opportunity to purchase books after school on Monday in the school hall and during parents' evenings in Year 3T classroom. All purchases are cashless.



Flu immunisation day: Wednesday 25th October

NHS nurses will be in school on Wednesday to administer the flu vaccine.

PTA event - Thursday 26th October

Circus Day

The PTA are hosting a 'circus day' in school, where every class will have the opportunity to attend a fun workshop in the school day.



School Closed - INSET

Friday 27th October 2023

School is closed for children on Friday next week as it is a teacher INSET day. Children will return to school on Monday 6th November at normal time.



Dates to be aware of...



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Open Afternoon



Do you or someone you know have a child due to start school in September 2024? If so, and you would like to have a tour of the school and ask some questions, please call the school office (0121 464 2141) to book your preferred slot:

Thursday 16th November - 10:30 - 11:30

Thursday 16th November - 1:45 - 2:45



We look forward to welcoming you to our lovely school.

APPLY NOW**Deadline for Year 7 and 14-19 Admissions - September 2024**

This is a reminder that parents residing in Birmingham have until **31 October 2023** to apply through the Birmingham City Council website www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions for their child's secondary school place. Further information, as well as the admission arrangements to support parents with making their preferences, can be found on our website. Advice and guidance is also available from Children's Services on 0121 303 1888.

Please note that parents who apply late are less likely to be offered one of their preferred schools.

This is an Operation Encompass School

KEEPING SAFE

We are an operation encompass school. Therefore school is working alongside the police to ensure support for any child who has been involved in or witness to domestic abuse. Please find more information about this on our website or contact the school office.

Pastoral Team

If you require any support from school please speak to a member of our pastoral team

**Do not book holidays during term time**

This is a reminder that holidays during term time are unauthorised. If you intend to take your child out of school during term time, we ask that you complete a holiday request form at least 2 weeks prior to the leave date where possible. Parents may be fined by the Local Authority for taking unauthorised leave of absence. Children need to be in school every day so please ensure holidays are only booked during school holiday time.

Good attendance, continues to be a school and government priority. Good attendance is 96% and above. Remember below 95% is a concern and below 90% is classed as persistent absence. If you have any problems with regards to getting your child to school or you are struggling to improve your child's attendance, please speak to Mrs. Yorke or Mrs. Davis.

We will announce the attendance for the previous week in this section of the newsletter each week.

Attendance and Punctuality: -

Our attendance for last week was -

Week 16th October - 20th October

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	93.3%	93.7%	94%	96.9%	97.3%	98.3%	97%	92.6%	93.3%	100%	97%	94.1%	96.1%	96.9%
Lates	5	3	8	3	7	1	2	0	3	3	8	2	4	2
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.88%		School Target				97%		

Well done Y4M: - our Attendance Champions

Dates for next term

WB 23.10.23

24th October 2023 - all day

24th October 2023 - am

24th October 2023 - 3:30-6:30

25th October 2023 - am

25th October 2023 - 9:15am

25th October 2023 - 3:30-6:30

26th October 2023

27th October 2023 - all day

Half Term holiday

Autumn 11 virtues

6th November 2023 - all day

WB 6th November 2023

6th November 2023 - all day

7th November 2023 - am

8th November 2023 - 9:30am

9th November 2023 - all day

9th November 2023 - 4:00pm

10th November 2023 - 9:00am

WB 13th November 2023

WB 13th November 2023

13th November 2023 - all day

14th November 2023 - am

14th November 2023 - 2:15pm

15th November 2023 - all day

15th November 2023 - 9:15am

16th November 2023

17th November 2023 - all day

WB 20th November 2023

21st November 2023 - am

22nd November 2023 - all day

22nd November 2023 - 9:15am

24th November 2023 - 9:00am

24th November 2023 - 10:00am

25th November 2023

28th November 2023

29th November 2023 - all day

Please send in donations for our Harvest Collection

Children in **St. John Paul II House** - wear red non-school uniform

Year 4 visit to Harborne library (9:15 4J and 11:00 4M)

Parent Consultation Evening

Flu immunisations

Reception Welcome Mass in Church (with Year 6 buddies) - parents welcome

Parent Consultation Evening

PTA circus workshops in school

INSET Day - school closed to children

Half Term Holiday

Grateful and Generous

Children return to school at normal time

Poetry Week for Remembrance and Holy Souls

Year 4M non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Martin de Porres

Year 3 visit to Harborne library (9:15 3T and 11:00 3L)

Whole School Remembrance and Holy Souls Mass in Church (Parents welcome)

Social Media Kindness Day

U11s boys' football match

Year 4 Prayer Service for all Year 4 parents

Interfaith Week

Anti-bullying week

Odd Socks Day for Down Syndrome Awareness

Year 6 visit to Harborne library (9:15 6O and 11:00 6R)

Phonics Early Reading Workshop for parents

Year 6R non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Ruth

Year 6 Mass for Year 6 parents in school hall

St. Mary's Open Day for Reception class 2024 (10:30) or (1:45)

PTA non-uniform day in support of Parish Fete - bring sweets/bottles

Road Safety Week

Year 5 visit to Harborne library (9:15 5F and 11:00 5M)

#RED WEDNESDAY - taking action to help persecuted Christians in Africa

Year 2 Mass in Church (and Year 1 classes attend) - parents welcome

Year 5 Year group Assembly

Year 3 Mass in Church (and Year 4 classes attend) - parents welcome

Parish Fete

Year 4 visit to Harborne library (9:15 4J and 11:00 4M)

INSET Day - school closed to children

Star of the week

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

- Year RB Alessandro For super blending in your guided reading group this week.
- Year RT Sia For painting an amazing skeleton in our art lesson this week.
- Year IF Ava For beautiful presentation in all her work.
- Year IL Eliab For being a fantastic role model and always working hard!
- Year 2E Ada For being a conscientious, hardworking and helpful member of the class.
- Year 2G Olivia For writing an excellent non-chronological report about the great fire of London.
- Year 3L Lucia For always being a fantastic role model to others and constantly trying her best.
- Year 3T Harry For consistently trying his best and living out our school virtues.
- Year 4J Fera Is a Super role model and always tries her very best with all she does.
- Year 4M Elsie For producing a fantastic, exciting writing.
- Year 5F Katy For resilience and working hard in every lesson.
- Year 5M Marley-Marie For fantastic discussions during BHM and our English topic covering apartheid.
- Year 6O Maggie For excellent demonstrating resilience on her work this week.
- Year 6R George For working really hard in all areas of his learning this week.

