



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.

June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Our theme for the Summer term is: 'Solidarity and the Common Good'

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Intentional and Prophetic'



12th June 2023

Dear parents and carers,

The Diocese expect that all Catholic schools partake in the live simply award and our children have been working hard over the past year to help make St. Mary's more sustainable - this includes developing our planted areas, turning lights off and recycling more. We are trying to walk, scoot or cycle to school where possible and live as sustainably as we can.

This week we celebrated World Environment Day and World Ocean Day and learnt about the importance of looking after 'Our Common



Our children (and staff) are change makers!

Home'. All of our work is supporting our overarching theme for this term 'Solidarity and the Common Good' and we are learning that sometimes decisions have to be made for the common good, not just our individual needs. This weekend, we celebrated the solemnity of Corpus Christi - this was a particularly special day for our children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday. Thank you to all involved in supporting the children to receive the Sacrament and as a school, we will continue to pray for them as they continue on their journey of faith, receiving Christ every week.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

John 3 : 16

"God loved the world so much that He gave His only son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not be lost but may have eternal life."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- God is three persons in one – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- The Sign of the Cross is a profession of our faith.
- God, in each person of the Holy Trinity, loves us very much, and sets a loving example for us to follow.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be, world without end.*

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Y2 Mass – Sacred Heart of Jesus

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 14th June 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 2 children will be leading our Mass and Year 4 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



Reception news: -

Reception have been making kites this week using recycled plastic bags and enjoyed learning about ocean day.



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 have enjoyed playing invasion games this week.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been out planting. We are looking forward to seeing them flower at the end of the term.



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been using an atlas and their super geographical skills to locate the bodies of water that surround the UK.



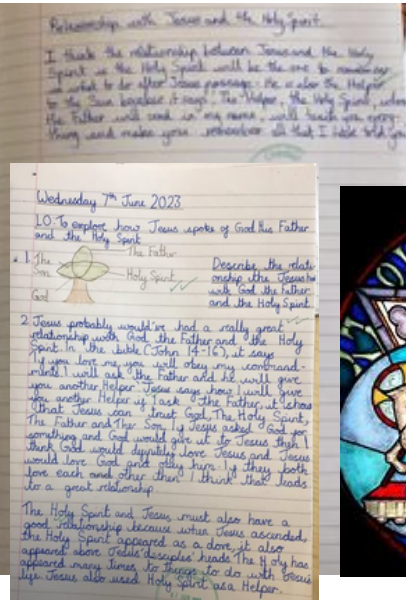
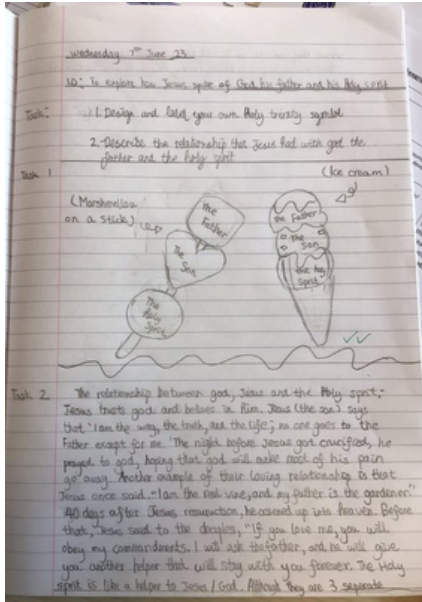
Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have enjoyed learning about how sound travels to your ear.



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have been learning about the relation between the Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit



Year 6 news:-

Henri, Luke and Noah in led a very thoughtful Prayer and Liturgy service this week about the Beatitudes. The children have written their own versions of the Beatitudes to share at home.



Wider Opportunities

Thank you to Mr Jones, who works as a construction worker for rearranging his scheduled Careers Week talk, which had to be postponed due to heavy snow. The children of Year 5 and Year 6 have had the opportunity to learn about another exciting career! #PSHE



Sacramental Preparation

Congratulations to all children that made their Holy Communion this weekend. Thank you to all those involved in supporting the children with their preparations. It was a wonderful day and such beautiful weather.



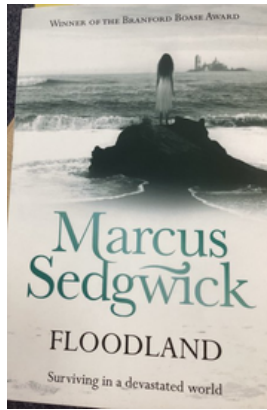
Solidarity and the Common Good

Why are we teaching the children to look after God's planet?

Pope Francis is very clear in his encyclical *Laudato Si* (June 18, 2015) that from his perspective, becoming attentive to the 'cry of the poor' puts us in a position to listen to the cry of our sister the earth, who 'cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her'. Francis insists on the intimate relationship between care for the environment and care for the poor. (Cardinal Michael Czerny: 2022: *The Social Teaching of Pope Francis*: p57)

World Environment Day - Monday 5th June 2023

World Environment Day learning...

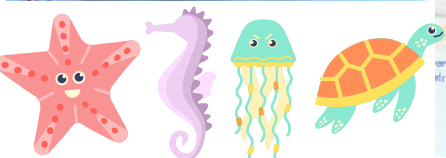
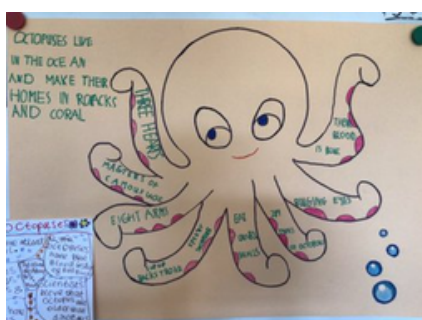
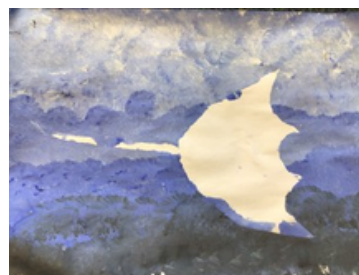


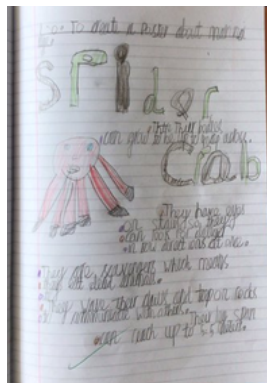
World Ocean Day - Thursday 8th June 2023

On Thursday 8th June, we continued our work about looking after our blue planet.

The children learnt more about stewardship, sustainability and our Christian response to global challenges facing the planet.

Year 2 created wonderful pieces of art work that gave a very important message - 'Save Our Seas'





Year 1 learnt about the different oceans and animals found in the Ocean and different bodies of water!

Year 3 used an atlas and their super geographical skills to locate the bodies of water that surround the UK



EYFS have been learning about recycling and reusing. They also looked at maps and talked about different types of water we find - especially at the beach!

Severn Trent Water -

As part of our learning on World Ocean Day, Severn Trent lead assemblies for KS1 and KS2.



They led workshops for Year 4 and Year 5: -



This June, The Wildlife Trust are encouraging people to reconnect with nature.

How many can you join in with?

Tag us in @StMaryB17 and #30DaysWild

Let's go 30 Days Wild



To help you go wild this June, we've come up with 30 ideas!

This is just a guide - feel free to adapt any of these activities to your lifestyle, or come up with your own. It's completely up to you. For inspiration, take a look at what others are up to by keeping an eye on #30DaysWild on social media, and joining the 30 Days Wild Facebook group.

Look, touch and smell	Move in nature	Discover nature	Help nature	Connect to nature
01 Look for a feather, flower, bee and butterfly	05 Swing on a branch, hug or climb a tree	12 Go on a mini beast hunt	19 Reduce plastic waste	26 Take time to admire the beauty in nature
02 Feel a smooth leaf, lump of moss and wind on your face	06 Exercise in nature	13 Identify a bee, fly or a bee fly	20 Put out a water dish or make a mini pond	27 Find what makes you happy in nature
03 Smell wild herbs or a flower	07 Play a game outdoors	14 Count and identify wildflowers	21 Sow wildflower seeds or feed the birds	28 Talk to a friend about what you love in nature
04 Listen to water flowing, birds singing and bees buzzing	08 Have a picnic	15 Learn five facts about your favourite bird, mammal or insect	22 Make a leaf pile, log pile or bee home for wildlife	29 Tell a wild story about nature
	09 Go on a nature treasure hunt	16 Speak up for nature - take part in a campaign	23 Raise money for wildlife with a sponsored walk	30 Share the best bits of 30 Days Wild with friends and family!
	10 Splash in water	17 Camp out or go to a Big Wild Weekend event	24 Leave a patch of long grass and dandelions to grow for wildlife	
	11 Visit a nature reserve, park, garden or beach	18 Take the Big Wild Quiz	25 Draw, paint or write about your favourite creature	

Next week - WB 12.6.23

Money week in school

Next week, we are taking part in money week and the children will be partaking in a range of economic activities to bring money matters to life.

My money week is a national week in schools, meeting objectives from our maths and PSHE curriculum, designed to raise awareness of the importance of financial education.



St Mary's School Summer Fair - 16.6.22 3:30pm - 6:30pm

The PTA have been organising our much anticipated Summer School Fair which will be Friday 16th June 2023. Tickets can be purchased from your class representative or any member of the PTA.

Our Summer Fair raises vital funds to enhance the opportunities for the children of St. Mary's and brings the school community together.

Thank you for your support.



Well done to all the children in St. Gianna who were the winning house group last half-term and were rewarded with extra play time and afternoon tea with Mrs Yorke.



Are You Considering a Career Change?

Train to teach in local schools supported by our shared values and community

● Inspire

● Teach

● Excel

PGCE and QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) in a one year, school-based programme

Come on a school experience day to find out more:



🌐 bctsa.org

🐦 @bctsa_training

📷 @bishopchallonerts

📘 bishopchallonerts

🎵 @bctsa_training

☎ 0121 441 6175



Bishop Challoner Training School Alliance

Primary and Secondary courses and long-term career development in our local family of schools



The overall welcoming spirit of BCTSA is what led me to choosing to train there. I felt a real warmth of support which made me feel comfortable and confident.

Rachel, BCTSA Health and Social Care trainee, 2022-2023



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



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OMETV

OmeTV is another app which encourages users to 'make friends from all around the world'. People can search profiles by age and gender and send direct messages or photos. However, the app is primarily used for video calls. When using this feature, users are connected at random, although only their country of origin is shared. People can then either choose to move on to the next chat or can stay in that call for as long as they wish.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STRANGER DANGER

While young people generally know not to share personal information with strangers, the safety of their home and the distance offered by technology can make them feel more relaxed and uninhibited. Combined with the fact that OmeTV provides a webcam function – and anonymity – it can be an easy way for groomers to gather information, talk to connect on other social media platforms, or potentially request intimate images.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

Unfortunately, there are a lot of users who use OmeTV's webcam feature to expose themselves. While users can swipe to the next call quickly, it's not something that can be filtered out completely – so young people are exposed to highly inappropriate images.

REPORTING DIFFICULTIES

When video calling, the other person's username is often hidden and therefore they can't be blocked or reported. There is a 'Report Abuse' link at the bottom of the video, but the speed with which calls can swipe past can make it difficult to use this system. There's also little evidence to suggest that offenders are dealt with appropriately (through warnings of account termination, for example).

AGE VERIFICATION

17+

Although the site states that users must be 18 or over, there's no way to verify this, and it's easy to use an existing Facebook account to log in, or for users to set up a fake account. To access OmeTV, users simply need to press a button confirming they're an adult, which makes it a likely many users will claim to be much older than they are.

VIDEO RECORDING

REC

When young people are chatting live on a webcam, they could be coaxed by others into doing things they don't feel comfortable doing, or persuaded that no harm can come from it. What they don't know is whether the other user is recording them. These videos could then be used to embarrass or blackmail them, or they could be kept by a potential online predator.

LIMITED PARENTAL CONTROLS

OmeTV has very limited parental controls. There is a 'safe mode', but this is of little practical use given that explicit content isn't filtered out. While the site sets several rules and regulations, there are few apparent ways to enforce them or restrict what users can see or do.

Advice for Parents & Carers

FOLLOW AGE GUIDELINES

OmeTV has an age recommendation of 18 and over, which suggests the developers are aware that it may facilitate adult content. It's important to adhere to the age guidelines and try to restrict access to the app for younger users. If you find it on an under-18's device, talk to them about the potential risks and explain why they probably shouldn't be using it.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Maintain communication with your child about online safety and empower them to protect themselves. Simply deleting an app from their device impacts their independence and can cause resentment. Instead, highlight news reports of predators exposing themselves to children on the internet, and discuss what they should do if asked for explicit images.

DISCOURAGE CHATS WITH STRANGERS

Remind your child of the dangers of talking to strangers online. The anonymity OmeTV offers, plus its webcam function, makes it an attractive place for groomers to network and create inappropriate content. Explain that your child may see something which upsets them – and that it's a crime for anyone to expose themselves to a young person online.

ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Regardless of how responsible your child may be, it's easy for young people to get lured in by others, feeling they've built up a trusting friendship and being coaxed into doing things they wouldn't normally do. Ensure in-app purchases aren't enabled on their device, and emphasise that they can always talk to you about anything online that worries them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and reading behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

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Joyful June 2023

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month

2 Say positive things in your conversations with others

3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it

4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it

5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down

6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings

7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good

8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share

9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently

10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them

11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it

12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone

13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side

14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you

15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it

16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way

17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful

18 Look for something good in a difficult situation

19 Get outside and find the joy in being active

20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity

21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement

22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh

23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to

24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for

25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others



26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it

27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy

28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people

29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today

30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

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.

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 the last week of term was –

Week 22nd May – 26th May

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	96.7%	94.3%	96.7%	93%	99.7%	96%	97.7%	92.7%	99.3%	96%	99.4%	98.3%	94%	93%
Lates	8	7	4	5	1	0	9	8	3	4	4	6	2	10
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.7%			School Target				97%	

Well done Y2E: - our Attendance Champions

Dates for next term

WB 12.6.23

12th June 2023 - pm

13th June 2023 - 9:00am

14th June 2023 - 9:15am

14th June 2023 - 2:30pm

16th June 2023 - 9:00am

16th June 2023 - 3:30-6:30pm

WB 19.6.23

WB 19.6.23

20th June 2023 - 9:15-11:00am

20th June 2023 - 1:15-3:00pm

21st June 2023 - 9:15am

21st June 2023 - after school

23rd June - all day

23rd June 2023 - 9:00am

23rd June 2023 - 1:00pm

WB 26.6.23

27th June 2023 - all day

27th June 2023 - 9:00am

28th June 2023 - all day

29th June 2023 - 9:30am

30th June 2023 - 9:00am

30th June 2023 - 9:15am

4th July 2023 - 9:00am

5th July 2023 - all day

5th July 2023 - 10am and 1pm

7th July 2023 - all day

7th July 2023 - 1:00pm

7th July 2023

11th July 2023 - 9:00am

12th July 2023 - all day

12th July 2023 - 9:15am

13th July 2023 - 2:00pm

14th July 2023 - 9:00am

14th July 2023 - 2:00pm

19th July 2023 - all day

19th July 2023 - 9:30am

21st July -

Money Week

Holy Communion party in school (children bring dresses/suits to change in to)

YRT visit to Harborne Library

Y2 Mass in Church (and Y4 attend) - parents welcome

Reception parents workshop - transition information for Year 1

YRB visit to Harborne Library

Party in the Playground

Refugee Week

Arts Week

Parent Inspire morning session

Parent Inspire afternoon session

Y5 Mass in Church (and Y3 attend) - parents welcome

Film Club (PTA event)

Class photos day

YIF visit to Harborne Library

YIL visit to Harborne Library

Request for bottles for the Parish Fete can be brought in to school

Y3 trip to Coventry Transport Museum

Y2G visit to Harborne Library

Y2 trip to Arboretum

Whole School Mass for SS Peter and Paul - parents welcome

Y2E visit to Harborne Library

Reception Year group assembly for parents

YRT visit to Harborne Library

Transition day - children will meet their new teacher/class for next year

New Reception cohort parent meeting in hall - children meet their teachers

Sports Day (Reception and Infants - am; Juniors - pm)

YRB visit to Harborne Library

Reports are due ready to be emailed to parents

YIL visit to Harborne Library

New Reception cohort transition meetings with parents / class teachers

Y1 Mass in Church (and Y5 attend) - parents welcome

MATILDA Performance for parents

YIF visit to Harborne Library

MATILDA Performance for parents

New Reception cohort transition meetings with parents / class teachers

Year 6 leavers Mass (Y6 parents welcome)

Break up for Summer holidays

Early finish time

Star of the week

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

Year RB	Chigemezu	For some fantastic independent writing about caterpillars this week.
Year RT	Josie	For reading beautifully in our class mass.
Year IF	James	for working so hard in all of his learning.
Year IL	Theo	For being a fabulous role model.
Year 2E	Alicia	For completeing all projects as well as weekly homework.
Year 2G	Arsin	For being kind and polite.
Year 3L	Arthur.G	For working really hard all week and being a good friend to others
Year 3T	Paulos	For his superb manners and being a great friend to all.
Year 4J	Jack.P	For his Fantastic work in art.
Year 4M	Amber	For her super badminton skills.
Year 5F	Elizabeth	For settling in very well in 5F and great work in RE
Year 5M	Ebube	Super improvement with his gymnastics routine.
Year 6O	Julia	For consistently having a positive attitude to her learning.
Year 6R	Kesanat	For working really hard on her newspaper report about rising sea levels.

