



Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY  
 SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Miss L. J. Price M.Ed.

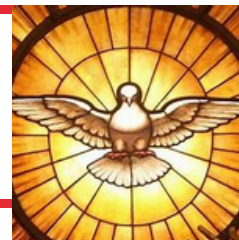


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

## April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit

**Our theme for the Spring term is: 'Options for the poor and vulnerable'**

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



Dear parents and carers,

8th April 2022

We began our week with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the children (and staff) in Years 3-6 had the opportunity to go to Confession., in order to say sorry for the times that we make mistakes and to prepare our hearts for Jesus this Easter. Our Reception parents have come in to school to work alongside their children in the classrooms and hopefully you picked up some tips of how you can further support your children with their writing at home. Today we are beginning to prepare for Holy Week - our Reception and KSI classes led us in a joyous Palm Sunday collective worship, where we waved palms and thought about Jesus' triumphal entry in to Jerusalem. Next week, the children will follow the Holy Week journey of the Last Supper (Y3), Garden of Gethsemane (Y4), Good Friday (Y5) and Stations of the Cross (Y6). This year, the collective worship will be for the children only. But parents are welcome to join us in the Church on Good Friday at 12pm for the Stations of the Cross.

Miss Price

### Pilgrimage to the Cross

Romans 5-8

*"But God has shown us how much He loves us - it was while we were still sinners, that Christ died for us!"*

Reflecting on this week's Gospel, children learn that:

- Jesus died to show His great love for us.
- 'While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'
- Our whole lives are a pilgrimage to heaven! With Jesus to show us the way to God, we can continue to become better followers of Him.

Dear Jesus,

You show us the way to God. You let your light shine through us. You help us to grow in love. You rejoice in us. You died for us, to give us hope. Help us to hope and trust in you.

Amen

### Catholic Life in School

#### Year 6 Mass - 5th Week of Lent

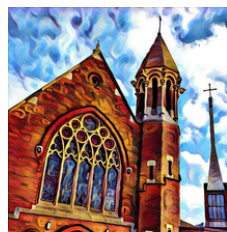
On Wednesday, Year 6 led our Mass for the 5th Week in Lent. Excellent reading and singing. Thank you parents who came.



#### YR Mass in Church - 11.5.22 at 9:15am - 4th Week of Easter

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 11th May 2022, starting promptly at 9:15am.

**Reception pupils** and staff will be leading us in our first Mass after Easter break and they will be **accompanied by Year 1 and Year 2 pupils**. Parents from Years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are welcome to attend. **(If you are an adult attending Mass, we ask that you continue to please wear face coverings and to sit in the old part of the Church on the left hand side).**





# Lent prayer... at home



## School of Sanctuary

We are continuing our work towards becoming a **School of Sanctuary** and children are learning about the difficulty refugees face and why they leave their countries. We have wonderful children who are very tolerant and understanding of others' needs, who really want to help. Their work has been noted in the School of Sanctuary newsletter... well done to the children and staff...

At **St Mary's RC Primary in Harborne**, pupils across the year groups explored the questions: How would you feel if it wasn't safe for you to stay in your community? How would it feel if you couldn't say what you believed? How would you feel if you had to live somewhere far away from everyone else?

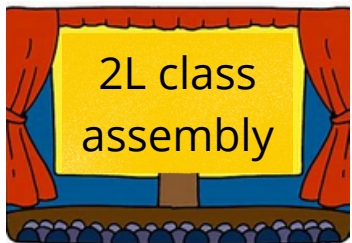


They also created posters showing their welcome for refugees and placed their messages of welcome on the front of the school.



## 2L Class Assembly

*This morning, Year 2L led us in a wonderful assembly on almsgiving, teaching us that even if our contributions are small, we can make a HUGE difference. You made Miss Stevens really proud and given her lovely memories of you all when she leaves us next week.*



## Palm Sunday



Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

*"Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed are you, who  
have come in your  
abundant mercy!"*



### Reception news: -

Reception class have been writing about Palm Sunday and creating their own palms



### Year 1 news: -

Year 1 have been learning all about position and direction in Maths. They have programmed Bee-Bots and used the iPads to direct the Bee-Bots to the correct destination



### Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been hard at work in their Computing lessons creating PowerPoints about Bengal Tigers



### Year 3 news: -

Year 3 wrote letters to Preet Kaur Gill MP about issues relating to recycling and were delighted when she responded to them on twitter.

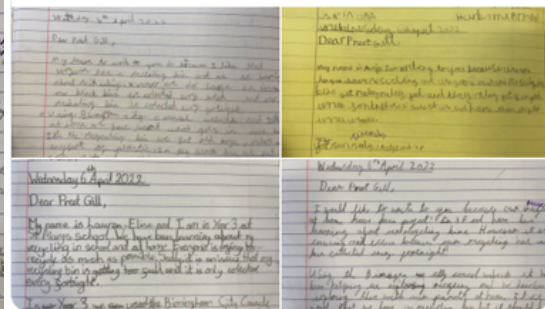
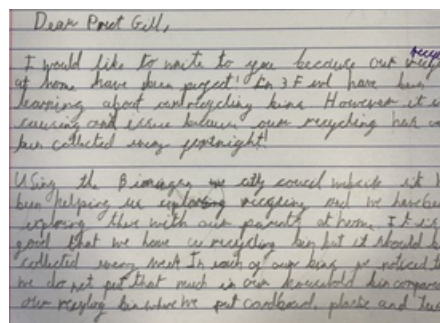
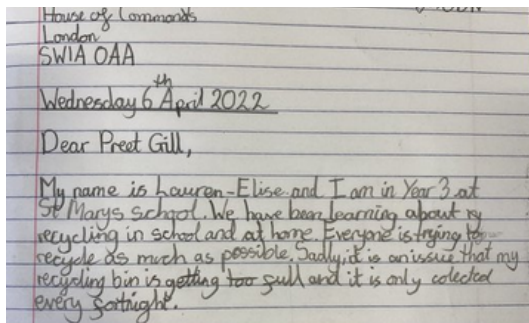


Preet Kaur Gill MP @PreetGillMP · Apr 6

Thank you so much to #3F for writing to me. I look forward to receiving your letters and responding.

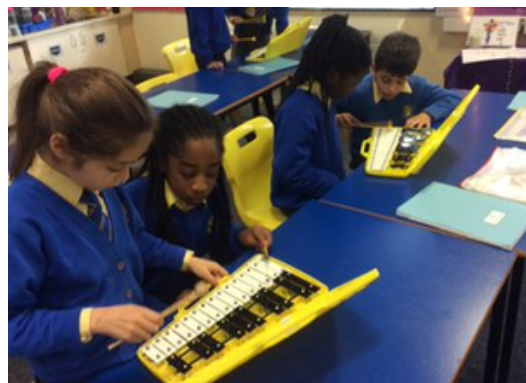
St Mary's School @StMaryB17 · Apr 6

#3F have been learning about recycling and exploring what goes in our different bins. We discussed the frequency of collections and Y3 think that our recycling bins should be collected every week instead of every fortnight. What do you think? @PreetGillMP



### Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have created their own compositions in Music using notes on the glockenspiels



### Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have started work on their 3D river models in DT. They are using mod roc and newspaper to create the different elements of the river



## Year 6 news: -

Year 6 are preparing for Holy Week and completing powerful pieces of writing to show their learning



*This week's news... continued*



*We hope that the parents who came to work with their children this week enjoyed themselves and learnt as much as the children. Thank you for supporting us in school to provide the best education for your children.*



## Birmingham Catholic Sports Netball tournament

*We were incredibly proud of our children representing the school in the Birmingham Catholic Sports Netball tournament last Tuesday. More games to follow :)*



*Miss Detheridge had a special birthday*



*Miss Horton ran the Manchester marathon*



*Miss Price found Jacob at St. Andrew's football ground*



Supporting our Lenten charities: -  
CAFOD, Water Aid and Migrant Help in Edgbaston.  
How are we doing?

## St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Our Reception have been 'walking against hunger' and so far they have walked 18km - which is a lot for small feet. They have raised £570 of their £600 target so far.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-marys-harborne-reception>



St Mary's  
Harborne  
Reception

200km this Lent to stamp out hunger

Raised **£570** Target **£600**

Distance **18.1 km** Distance Goal **32 km**



Year 1 have created Lenten promise boxes and raising money for our charities with every promise that they have completed. Please bring in any Lenten promise boxes on Monday and we will let you know how much you raised.

**MAKING  
YOUR OWN  
-Promise Box-**



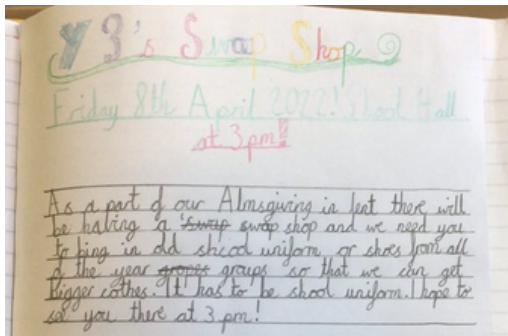
Our Year 2 children have been reading with the local residents on a Friday afternoon



## St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

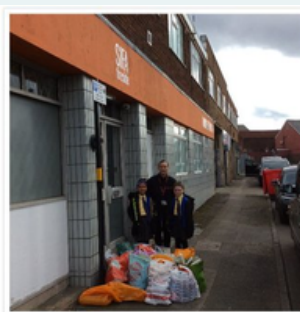
Year 3 have advertised the Swap Shop that took place this afternoon, They then sorted through all the donations, and some of Year 3 visited the laundrette to make sure all the clothes were fresh.

Then parents attended at 2:45 to take clothes that will be of use to them and donate anything unwanted that can be used by somebody else. We want to re-use where we can and not buy new.



Year 4 have been collecting food for food banks in urgent need of supplies. They have organised food items and delivered them. Year 4 have already managed to donate an amazing amount of food and supplies to two local food banks (SIFA Fireside and the Trussell Trust).

Their final collection will go to St. Chad's Sanctuary on Wednesday.



## St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Year 5 have been sponsored to complete a bucket walk around the playground for those who do not have enough clean water. Year 5 have raised £1268.07 for Water Aid! This is absolutely amazing! They will be completing their sponsored walk on Wednesday afternoon.



Year 6 have been monitoring food wastage in school. They stuck posters in the canteen and the school corridors to remind children of their campaign 'Eat For Your Need, Not For Your Greed' and next week, we will find out whether food waste has been reduced during Lent.



The Spiritual Council have been going out every Friday to pick up litter in the local community.



## 100+ *live simply* award ideas

The *livesimply* award is open to any Catholic community – including parishes, schools and chaplaincies – that wants to respond to Pope Francis' call to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with poor communities.

At St. Mary's, we have applied for the CAFOD live simply award – help us by making changes in your life to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity – tag us in to any twitter posts @StMaryB17

Our challenge this week is: – No. 89 Walk, cycle, take the bus or train, instead of driving!



There is opportunity to attend a football club during the Easter break, led by Ben Markall, the football coach, who has been leading our lunchtime and after-school clubs. Please note that the club is not being run by the school and this is an external club.



**PREMIER PROGRESS**  
LIFE OF A PRO CAMP

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, VIVIAN ROAD, HARBORNE, B17 0DN

<p><b>RECEPTION - YEAR 6</b> 25<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</p> <p>10:00AM - 3:00PM £20 PER DAY</p> <p>EARLY DROP OFFS - 9:15AM £5 PER DAY</p> <p>40 SPACES MAXIMUM FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED</p>	<p><b>FA LEVEL 1 &amp; 2 COACHES</b> UEFA QUALIFIED COACH EX PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER LINKS TO PRO CLUBS</p> <p><b>PRO PLAYER - SPECIAL GUEST</b> 2 PRO CLUBS LEAD SESSIONS <b>RETURN FORM BY 1ST APRIL</b> 07734 938963 INFO@PREMIERPROGRESS.COM</p> <p><small>Please return reply slips to Miss Adams, Year 5</small></p>
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## Out of school provision - Kidz.comm

Kidz.comm will be open Monday-Thursday next week, finishing slightly early on Thursday 14th April at 5:00pm. Kidz.comm is closed for Good Friday.

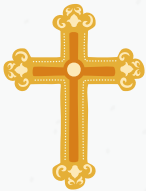


## Parish News

St Mary's Church will retain all its Covid precautions for the foreseeable future, despite widespread relaxations.

### Holy Week and Easter Masses - No need to book!

Holy Thursday - 14 April: Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7.30pm  
 Good Friday - 15 April: Stations of Cross: 12.00pm (led by Year 6 children)  
 Good Friday - 15th April : The Lord's Passion: 3.00pm  
 Easter Vigil - 16 April: Mass at 8.30pm  
 Easter Sunday - 17 April: Masses at 9.30am, 11.30am & 5.00pm



The About Being Catholic (ABC) will return after the Easter Break on Thursday 5 May with "Your experience of Easter Vigil/Baptism/Communion/Confirmation". Join Fr John in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.



**St. Mary's Church is open 8:00am - 4:00pm every day**  
 The Church is open for private prayer, candles at Shrines and personal Stations of the Cross.

## Reminders

### Standard Assessment Tests (SAT's)

Please note the following:

- Year 6 SATs take place **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**
- Year 2 SATs take place during the month of **May**
- Year 4 Times Tables Check from **6<sup>th</sup> June (3 week period)**
- Year 1 Phonics Screen Check takes place Week Beginning from **6<sup>th</sup> June (3 week period)**



Please do not book holidays for any of the above dates. Further details will be given out nearer the time.

Swimming lessons will begin on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May** for all of the children in Year 2. Swimming lessons are a compulsory part of the PE curriculum and therefore participation is obligatory. If your child is unable to participate for a **medical reason** then a doctor's note must be provided.

**The session:** Wednesdays – 1:00 – 1:30 (leave school at 12:30; leave baths at 2:00)

**What to wear:**

To walk to and from swimming, pupils are expected to wear plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms, yellow/gold t-shirt emblazoned with the school logo, blue school jumper or cardigan emblazoned with the school logo and black trainers. Velcro fastenings are very helpful and recommended for quick changing!



In the water, girls should wear a one-piece swimsuit (bikinis are not permitted) and boys should wear swimming trunks (not baggy 'board shorts'). All children should wear a swim hat, with any pupils with long hair ensuring that their hair is tied up. Googles are optional. Swim socks should be worn on the feet if a pupil has a verruca or a wart.



Your child will also need to bring their own towel.

### Adult helpers

*If you're available to help walk the children to the baths at 12:30pm and then help walk back at 2:00pm on a Wednesday - please let the teachers know.*

### Summer uniform

*Children should still be wearing their winter uniform, as the weather is still unpredictable and can be cold. Children may begin wearing their Summer uniform when we return after Easter...*

#### Girls' Summer Uniform

- Yellow summer dress
- Black shoes



#### Boys' Summer Uniform

- Grey shorts
- Yellow polo shirt
- Black shoes

#### PE

- Blue shorts
- Yellow t-shirt
- Black, blue or white trainers / black indoor pumps



This is an Operation Encompass School

# KEEPING SAFE

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



### Online Safety



Stay up to date with everything that is happening at St. Mary's by following us on our Twitter Page and giving us more likes!!!

*Start the conversation about online safety: -*

*Talking regularly with your child is the greatest tool to help keep them safe online. Talking regularly and making it part of daily conversation, like you would about their day at school, will help your child feel relaxed. It also means when they do have any worries, they're more likely to come and speak to you.*

# Dates for next term

WB 11.4.22 - all week -  
13th April 2022 - 2:00pm -  
14th April 2022 -

Holy Week  
EYFS Easter Bonnet parade (EYFS parents welcome)  
Break up for Easter break!

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KSI classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

3rd May 2022 - all day -  
4th May 2022 - 3:00pm -  
5th May 2022 - all day -

Children return to school  
x-table check information for Y4 parents  
School closed for Local Election Day

WB 9.5.22 - all week -  
11th May 2022 - 9:15am -

Y6 SATs Week  
Reception class Mass in Church (Reception, Y1, Y2 parents welcome)

13th May 2022 - all day -

School Council fundraiser - Freaky Friday - dress as a teacher (details to follow)

WB 16.5.22 - all week -

Y2 SATs Week

17th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -

Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class

18th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -

Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class

18th May 2022 - 9:15am -

Y5 Mass in Church (Y5, Y6 parents welcome)

19th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -

Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class

24th May - 7:00pm

Y6 children make their Confirmation

27th May 2022 -

Break up for Whitsun week

## Do not book holidays during term time

This is a reminder that 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. Term dates are on this newsletter and on the website.

Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Starts: Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>May Day Bank Holiday:</b> Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Starts: Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March - INSET - Children NOT in School</b>	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May – Children return to school	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July - INSET - Children NOT in School</b>
Ends: Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Closed for Local Election Day</b>	Ends: Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022
	Ends: Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - Closed for Queen's Jubilee</b>
<b>Easter Holiday:</b> Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	<b>Half-Term:</b> Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022	<b>Summer Holidays:</b> Start Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

## Attendance and Punctuality: –

*Good attendance, after the disruptions of the last two years, continues to be a school and government priority. During Parent consultations, staff will be giving out your child's attendance this term and discussing any concerns. 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 Miss Price or Mrs. Davis.*

**Week 28<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Class	YRF	YRL	Y1F	Y1L	Y2F	Y2L	Y3F	Y3L	Y4F	Y4L	Y5F	Y5L	Y6F	Y6L	
%	92.5%	100%	97.5%	100%	94.6%	88.3%	97.1%	100%	100%	96%	91.2%	95%	97.5%	92.1%	
Lates	5	4	4	1	12	6	2	2	3	1	7	3	4	4	
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.6%		School Target				97%			

**Well done YRL, Y1L, Y3L and Y4F: - our Attendance Champions**



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

- |         |           |   |
|---------|-----------|---|
| Year RL | Gabriel   | trying really hard with his letter formation this week                  |
| Year RF | Fabio     | showing enthusiasm during our Easter Bonnet rehearsals                  |
| Year 1L | Noah      | improved effort and concentration                                       |
| Year 1F | Charlotte | super behaviour and attitude to learning                                |
| Year 2L | Emiliano  | showing determination   |
| Year 2F | Arthur    | trying his best in Maths  |
| Year 3L | Leo       | showing enthusiasm in his learning                                      |
| Year 3F | Aiden     | excellent letter writing this week                                      |
| Year 4L | Martina   | excellent contributions to class discussions                            |
| Year 4F | Ava       | consistently showing a positive attitude to learning                    |
| Year 5L | Gabe      | being extremely helpful and willing to go out of his way to help others |
| Year 5F | Andrew    | showing great maturity and determination                                |
| Year 6L | Gisele    | reading confidently and beautifully in Mass                             |
| Year 6F | Anna      | producing a very well-written formal letter of complaint                |

