



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

Telephone: 0121 464 2141

Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

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.



November is dedicated to the Holy Souls.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Family and Communities'

Our virtues for this half term are: - Faith-filled and Hopeful

18th November 2022

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been anti-bullying week in school. The children have been learning about what bullying is, how to recognise it and how to STOP it. Our theme has been 'united against bullying'. We have been learning that sometimes people are unkind, and that any level of unkindness must be reported to a trusted adult so that it can be taken care of. Bullying is when somebody is unkind Several Times On Purpose... this is not okay. Children know that they must tell somebody so that it can be stopped. Bullying should never be kept quiet. Next week, we look forward to learning about different faiths and comparing them to our own and we have a special retreat day in school on Tuesday. Thank you to those who have donated toys for our Christmas appeal, we will soon begin our Advent charity and prayer work too. More details to follow.

Wishing you a lovely and restful weekend.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Luke 21: 9, 15

"Do not be frightened... I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict."

Dear Lord,

We pray for governments and leaders around the world, that they make good decisions to help the people in their countries. May they remember the poor and the vulnerable, and not think only of the rich and wealthy.

Amen

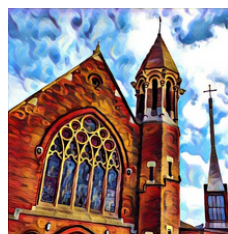
Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- to identify key people that we can go to for support and consider how we can support others
- that we can bring any troubles to God in prayer.

Catholic Life in School

Year 6 Mass - Votive to St. Andrew

On Wednesday, Year 6 led us in our Mass dedicated to St. Andrew. We learnt all about St. Andrew's call and martyrdom.



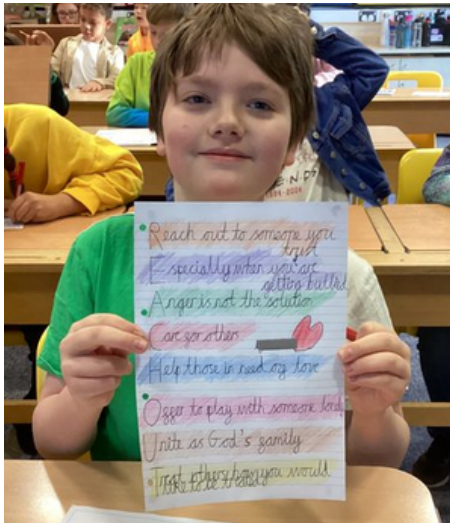
Year 4 Mass in Church - 23.11.22 at 9:15am - Christ the King -

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 23rd November 2022, starting promptly at 9:15am. **Year 4 children** will be leading our Mass and Year 3 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.

Anti-bullying Week



Our theme for this week has been 'united against bullying'. The week began with all pupils wearing odd socks to show that we are all unique and that it is good to 'stand out'. Mrs Davis led our whole school assembly and the children have done some wonderful work in classrooms. We can't say that bullying never happens, but we are united to **STOP** bullying through our understanding of what bullying is and what we should do to report it.



STOP. Bullying is:
Several Times On Purpose.
You should:
Start Telling Other People

Recycling bins

Thank you so much to our PTA who sources our new recycling bins and to the CAFOD club who are working so hard to raise the profile of recycling in school. Well done Eloise - your design was selected to be used on our new bins. With each item recycled, we are protecting our planet. Good work everybody.



Live Simply pledges

For your challenge this week, can you save water? You could try having a shower instead of a bath and turning the tap off whilst brushing your teeth!



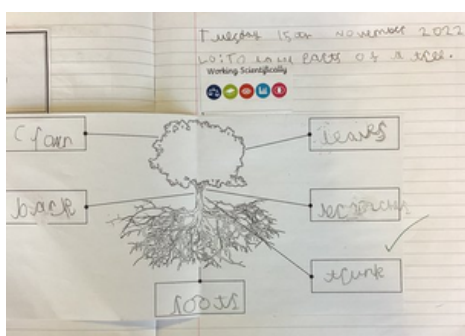
Reception news: -

Reception class learnt nursery rhymes this week, sequencing the stories and retelling them.



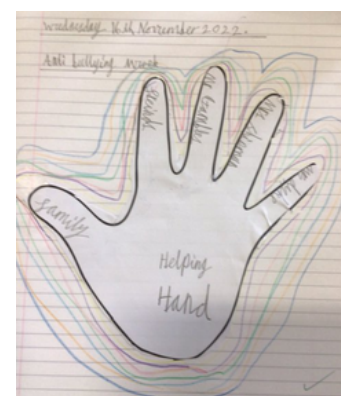
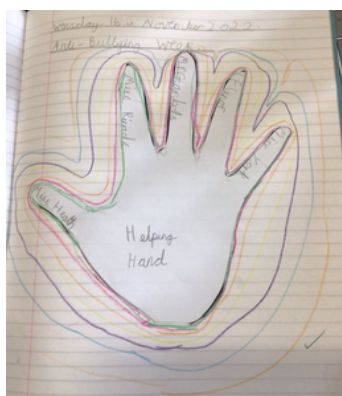
Year 1 news: -

Year 1 grouped deciduous and evergreen trees, labelling parts of a tree.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 made helping hands for Anti-Bullying Week, explaining who they would reach out to if they were being bullied or saw someone being bullied.



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 explored types of balance with different points of contact, creating incredible 1, 2, 3 and 4 point balances.



Year 4 news: -

Year 4 used Scratch in their Computing lessons, to use repetition (a loop) in a program.



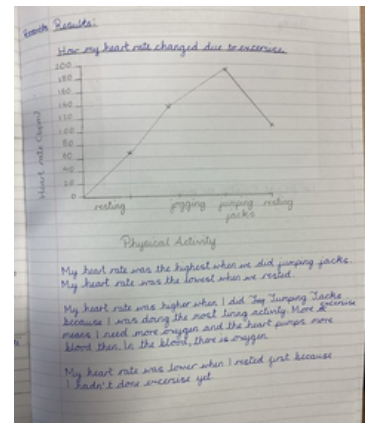
Year 5 news: -

Year 5 practised the accuracy of their forehand and backhand passes, in tennis lessons.



Year 6 news: -

In Science, Year 6 investigated how physical activity impacts heart rate by keeping track of their pulse rate before and after exercise.



Year 5 Assembly - Christ the King - 18.11.22

Well done Year 5 for a wonderful assembly to celebrate the feast of Christ The King this weekend.

Year 6 buddies for Reception



Year 6 are doing a wonderful job at being a buddy and guide to our Reception children. This week, Year 6 have been supporting their Reception buddies in their PE lessons.



Brighten Up Day - CAFOD Club - 18.11.22



CAFOD Club have led on a fundraiser today. They have asked everybody to dress up as bright as they can and by doing so, we will brighten up the lives of those who are less fortunate!



Other News

Tesco Shopping - Quinton

We have applied for a grant to help fund our upcoming Forest School with Tesco.

If you would like to help us collect the most blue tokens, you can shop at the Quinton store and use your blue token to vote for us. Spread the word with your families and friends that if they shop in Tesco, Quinton, to use their blue token for St.

Mary's.



Chess Competition

We have incredibly talented chess players at St. Mary's.

Congratulations to our wonderful chess players who were the winning team in the BCSSA Chess Competition. Well done to Markas who was individual winner, Aidan who was runner up and Julian and William who came joint third!



Panathlon

Congratulations to our KS2 children who competed in the Panathlon Challenge last week at Birmingham University.

They showed excellent skills and sportsmanship and came first! Well done!



Winter Mini Reading Challenge 2022 - Harborne Library



The Winter Mini Challenge encourages children to keep up their reading habits over the winter holidays, with a free-to-access website featuring rewards for reading and reviewing books.

Taking part in the Winter Mini Challenge is simple. Children read at least three books of their choice between 1st December 2022 and 20th February and add them to their online profile at www.wintermini.org.uk

Reaching their online reading goal will unlock a limited-edition virtual badge and a special Winter Mini Challenge certificate to print off and keep.

You'll find loads of other great resources on the website too, including games, book reviews, reading activities and content from the best children's authors and illustrators around. For parents, there is a Home Zone and Library Zone on the website with more information and top tips. Harborne Library also have a Facebook page so that parents can keep up to date with news and opportunities. Look out for special competitions for book bundles and much more!

It launches on 1st December and runs until 20th February, so sign up now!



Inter-faith week

Next week is Inter-Faith Week at St Mary's.

We have planned in to our RE lessons, links to other religions that will support our Building the Kingdom theme of Families and Communities and the importance of understanding and tolerating other faiths and beliefs.

The faiths that children will be studying are: -

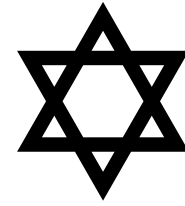


Reception - Sikhism

Year 1 and Year 2 - Hinduism

Year 3 and Year 4 - Judaism

Year 5 and Year 6 - Islam



Please feel free to send in with your children any artefacts, food, clothing that can be explored as part of our inter-faith week and support the learning in school, if you are able.

Year 5 Curriculum Workshop - 21.11.22 - 2:00pm



Year 5 parents are invited to find out all about their child's Curriculum in our Curriculum Workshop on Monday.

It is an opportunity to find out how the curriculum is run at St. Mary's, what topics are planned in for the school year, how maths and English is taught and what you can do to support your child's learning at home.

LET ALL CREATION SING

**Pupil Preparing for Advent Retreat -
Tuesday 22nd November: -**

Dan and Emily from One Life Music will be leading the children in a retreat with shared liturgy, prayer, singing and reflective activities throughout the day. The perfect way to ready ourselves before Advent.

Parish News



First Holy Communion Meeting - Tuesday 22nd November: 8:00pm
First Holy Communion Parents meeting will be on Tuesday 22nd November, 8.00pm in the Parish Centre, with Fr John, Sister Brenda and some Parish Catechists to discuss the forthcoming Saturday morning instructions commencing after Christmas for the Year 3 children.



Christmas Fayre - Saturday 26th November:

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 26 November, 12.00- 3.00pm. Donations can be put in the porch at weekends in box marked Christmas Fayre or on weekdays to the Priory.



Phones

Children are not allowed to bring phones in to school.
All children are picked up by a parent so phones are not needed.
In the event, permission has been given for Year 6 children to walk home (usually Summer term), phones must be kept in the Office.

SATs Week for Year 6

Children in Year 6 will be taking their SATs Tests from Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May 2023.
All Year 6 children are required to be in school every day during SATs week.

Jewellery



To **ensure the safety of all children**, we will only allow children to wear small stud earrings (not dangly earrings) and a watch, on the days that they are not doing PE.

On PE days we are asking that children do not wear any jewellery, so that it is not lost if they are asked to remove it for physical lessons. Thank you for supporting us with this, your child's safety is at the forefront of our uniform decisions. .

Supporting our local Birmingham children this Christmas



We need more toys to support families in Birmingham this Christmas.

We are accepting toys - new and unwrapped - and our final collection time is Thursday 8th December.

Thank you for those who have donated so far.

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



What children need to know about

ONLINE BULLYING

Keep your children safe online - What is ONLINE BULLYING?

Online Bullying - also known as cyberbullying - is bullying that take place on the Internet or via electronic devices and mobile phones. It can include: -

1. SENDING SOMEONE MEAN OR THREATENING EMAILS, DIRECT MESSAGES OR TEXT MESSAGES
2. HACHING INTO SOMEONE'S ONLINE ACCOUNT
3. BEING RUDE OR MEAN TO SOMEONE WHEN PLAYING ONLINE GAMES
4. POSTING PRIVATE OR EMBARRASSING PHOTOS ONLINE OR SENDING THEM TO OTHERS
5. CREATING FAKE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS THAT MOCH SOMEONE OR TRICK THEM
6. EXCLUDING SOMEONE FROM AN ONLINE CONVERSATION OR BLOCKING THEM FOR NO REASON

BE KIND ONLINE

BEFORE PRESSING 'SEND' ON COMMENTS, ASK YOURSELF THESE 3 QUESTIONS...

1. WHY AM I POSTING THIS?
2. WOULD I SAY THIS IN REAL LIFE?
3. HOW WOULD I FEEL IF SOMEBODY SAID THIS TO ME?



Why does it happen?

GOING ONLINE MAKES IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO SAY AND DO THINGS THEY PROBABLY WOULDN'T DO FACE TO FACE. ONLINE BULLIES DON'T GET TO SEE THEIR VICTIMS' REACTIONS IN REAL LIFE, SO THIS CAN COOON THEM FROM THE REAL DAMAGE THAT THEY ARE DOING. QUITE OFTEN, PEOPLE BULLY BECAUSE THEY ARE GOING THROUGH SOMETHING DIFFICULT THEMSELVES AND TAKING IT OUT ON OTHERS IS THE ONLY WAY THEY KNOW HOW TO GET CONTROL OF THEIR OWN EMOTIONS.

How does it feel to be bullied?

BEING BULLIED CAN IMPACT ON YOUR SELF-ESTEEM, CONFIDENCE AND SOCIAL SKILLS. BECAUSE IT HAPPENS ON YOUR PHONE, TABLET OR COMPUTER, IT CAN FEEL LIKE YOU ARE UNDER THREAT EVEN WHEN YOU'RE IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT, SUCH AS YOUR BEDROOM. DON'T FORGET...IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT IF YOU'RE BEING BULLIED.



Am I an online bully?

SOMETIMES IT ISN'T OBVIOUS THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS WRONG, BUT IF YOU USE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY TO UPSET, ANGER OR EMBARRASS SOMEONE ON PURPOSE, THIS MEANS YOU'RE INVOLVED IN ONLINE BULLYING. IT MIGHT BE AS SIMPLE AS 'LIKING' A MEAN POST, LAUGHING AT AN ONLINE VIDEO, OR SPREADING A RUMOUR. BUT THE PERSON BEING BULLIED COULD FEEL LIKE THEY ARE BEING GANGED UP ON. THINK ABOUT HOW IT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL IF IT HAPPENED TO YOU. EVERYONE CAN MAKE MISTAKES, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO LEARN FROM THEM - GO BACK AND DELETE ANY UPSETTING OR NASTY POSTS, TWEETS OR COMMENTS YOU'VE WRITTEN.




Who do I tell?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE BULLYING ON YOUR OWN. TALK TO AN ADULT THAT YOU TRUST - A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR TEACHER. MOST WEBSITES, SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES AND ONLINE GAMES OR MOBILE APPS LET YOU REPORT AND BLOCK PEOPLE WHO ARE BOTHERING YOU. YOU COULD ALSO CONTACT CHILDLINE (WWW.CHILDLINE.ORG.UK), WHERE A TRAINED COUNSELLOR WILL LISTEN TO ANYTHING THAT'S WORRYING YOU - YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME.

How do I prove it?

WHEN CYBERBULLYING HAPPENS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO DOCUMENT AND REPORT THE BEHAVIOUR, SO IT CAN BE ADDRESSED - RECORD THE DATES AND TIMES WHEN CYBERBULLYING HAS OCCURRED, AND SAVE AND PRINT SCREENSHOTS, EMAILS, AND TEXT MESSAGES.



How can I stay safe?

MAKE SURE YOUR PRIVACY SETTINGS ARE SET SO THAT ONLY PEOPLE YOU KNOW AND TRUST CAN SEE WHAT YOU POST. NEVER GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFORMATION ONLINE, SUCH AS IN PUBLIC PROFILES, CHAT ROOMS OR BLOGS, AND AVOID FURTHER COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE SENDING THE MESSAGES. KEEP AWARE OF FAKE PROFILES AND INTERNET USERS PRETENDING TO BE SOMEONE THAT THEY ARE NOT.



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.

Term dates are on this newsletter and on the website.

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 last week was -

Week 7th Nov - 11th Nov

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O	
%	96.6%	97.9%	96.7%	96.3%	98.7%	100%	98.3%	93.7%	97.3%	98.7%	94.5%	97.9%	95%	98.3%	
Lates	6	4	2	6	1	3	5	5	1	2	8	3	4	6	
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.7%	School Target					97%			

Well done Y2G and Y5F: - our Attendance Champions

Dates for this term

Autumn theme -

Autumn 2 Virtues

WB 21.11.22 - all week

21st November 2022 - 2pm

22nd November 2022 - all day

22nd November 2022 - 3:15pm

23rd November 2022 - 9:15am

24th November 2022 - all day

24th November 2022 - 4:15pm

26th November 2022

28th November 2022 - 2:00pm

29th November 2022 - 3:15pm

30th November 2022 - 9:15am

1st December 2022 - 10:15-2:00

6th December 2022 - lunch

7th December 2022 - 9:30am

7th December 2022 - after school

8th December 2022 -after school

8th December 2022 - 4:30pm

9th December 2022 - all day

12th December 2022 - 9:30am

13th December 2022 - 9:30am

14th December 2022 - 9:30am

15th December 2022

15th December 2022 - 1:45pm

15th December 2022 - 4:15pm

16th December - EARLY FINISH

Families and Communities

Faith-filled and Hopeful

Inter-faith week

Year 5 Curriculum Workshop

Retreat day in school - Let all creation sing - retreat for all pupils

Dodgeball competition - Bournville School

Y4 Mass in Church (Y4, Y3 parents welcome)

Non-school uniform day for Christmas Fair - bottles for bottle stall / sweet socks

Y5/6 Girls Basketball - Lordswood

St. Mary's Christmas Fair

Year 3 Curriculum Workshop

Hockey Tournament - Bournville School

Y2 Mass in Church (Y2, Y1 parents welcome)

KS2 Theatre Trip

Christmas Dinner day in school

Whole School Mass for the Immaculate Conception

Reception and KS1 Christmas disco

KS2 Christmas disco

Football Match - Lordswood boys

Christmas jumper or festive clothing day in school

Reception Nativity in Church

Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Year 3 and Year 4 Nativity

Reception and KS1 theatre trip

Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Carol Service

Y5/6 Basketball at Lordswood

Break up for the Christmas holidays - Early Finish

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KS1 classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

Star of the Week will continue next week.

*Mrs Yorke was out at a course today and so was not available.
Keep up all the wonderful work children, it gets harder and harder
each week for your teachers to select one of you.*

