



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: - 'Faith-filled and Hopeful'



Dear Parents and Carers,

20th June 2025

What a truly vibrant and joyful week we've had at school! We began the week with our much-anticipated **Whole School Culture Day**, and what a celebration it was! It was heart-warming to see our children proudly sharing their heritage through traditional dress, artefacts, and thoughtful presentations. The day was a beautiful reminder of the rich diversity within our school community and the importance of learning from one another. We would welcome feedback from you so we know if this was something enjoyed by the children so we can plan for similar days in the future. Please use the QR code to complete a short survey.



Our Year 1 children had a fantastic trip to Warwick Castle, where they explored history in the most hands-on and exciting way. They showed great enthusiasm and curiosity and we're so proud of how well they represented our school.

To round off the week, our PTA hosted a spectacular Summer Party this afternoon. The playground was filled with laughter, music, games, and community spirit. A heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible PTA, volunteers, and staff who worked tirelessly to make the event such a success. Your efforts not only brought joy to our families but also supported vital fundraising for our school.

Thank you all for your continued support and for making our school such a special place to learn and grow. Wishing you a restful weekend.

Mrs Yorke

CATHOLIC LIFE

This week's Reading

John 16: 12-15

'At that time: Jesus said to His disciples, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth..."'

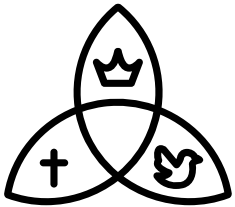
Reflecting on this week's reading, we learn: -

- There is one God, made of three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - The Holy Trinity
- Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide us to the truth of God's way.
- The Holy Spirit helps us to know, love and serve God more.



This week's Mass - Y5 Mass - Holy Trinity

This week, Year 5 led a beautiful Mass on the Holy Trinity on Wednesday. As you may be aware, we were initially unable to proceed with the Mass and sent out a message to our Year 5 parents to this effect. At last minute, we were able to go ahead and we offer our sincere apologies to our families who were intending to attend.

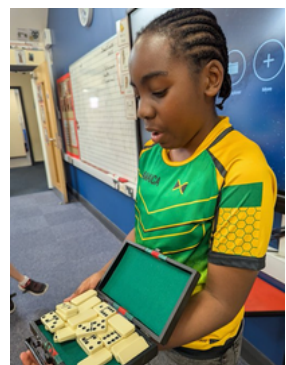
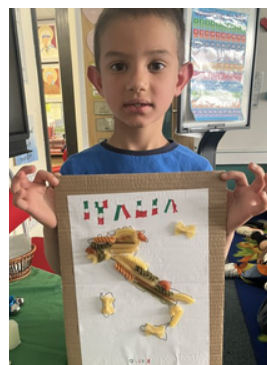
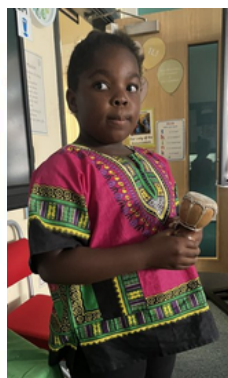
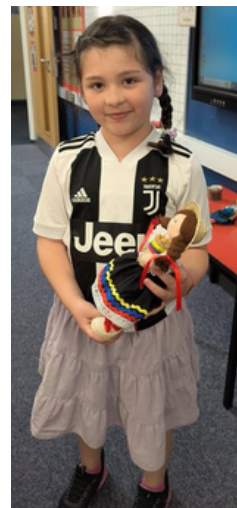
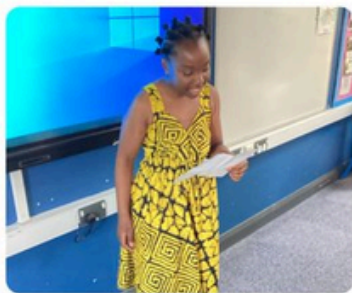
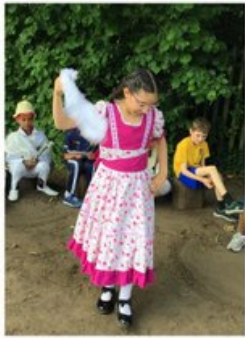


Our next Mass - Y3 Mass - Holy Body and Blood

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 25th June 2025, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 3 children will be leading our Mass and Year 4 children will be attending. All parents are welcome to attend. Year 3 children will be wearing their Holy Communion clothes to the Mass and those children who haven't made their Holy Communion can wear formal party clothes. This will give us the opportunity to take class photos of the children with all children being able to be together. Following the Mass, the children will have a little celebration in school before changing back in to their school uniform/PE kit. Please bring in Holy Communion outfits, in a named bag or on a named hanger. Please do not bring 'accessories' e.g. bags, gloves, veils and jewellery as we do not want anything to be lost/damaged.

Culture Day

Our children prepared and shared wonderful presentations about their cultures and heritage expressing who they are. We had variety of outfits, dances, jewellery, singing, instruments and we all learnt something new!



Warwick Castle

Our Year 1 children had a wonderful time at Warwick Castle and not only learnt about the castle, but about jousting and falconry too.



St. Mary's Summer Fair

We had such an amazing time at our Summer Fair, organised by the PTA.



St Mary's RC School
PTA
Parent-Teacher Association
Charity No. 1180380



Remarkable RE

Congratulations to all our incredible children for their dedicated and reverent work on the Pentecost RE unit. Your reflections were thoughtful, your creativity inspiring—and this week, you've all earned the Remarkable RE Award! 🌸



Extra-Curricular

Congratulations to Joseph, who achieved his black belt 2nd tag this week.
What an incredible achievement!

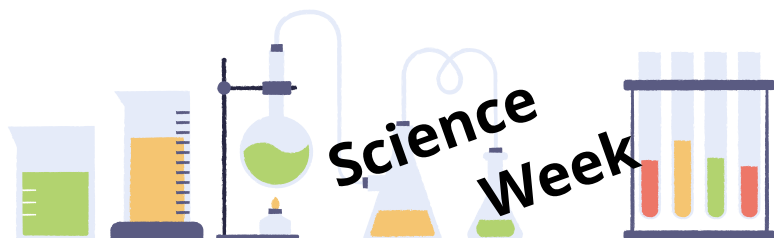


INSET DAY - 23.6.25



School will be closed to all children on Monday 23rd June for a teacher training day.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school at normal time on Tuesday 24th June 2025.



Tolkien Science Week - WB 23.6.25

We are taking part in Bishop Challoner's Science Week alongside other schools within our Catholic cohort of schools. The children will be enjoying all things Science, with a magic live lesson too.



Year 2 Harborne Library Visit - 24.6.25

Year 2 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

Y2G will leave at 8:45am

Y2E will leave at 10:15 am

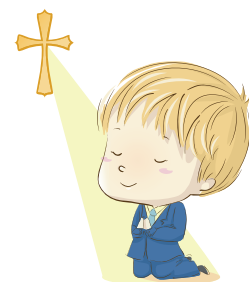
If you are a parent who would like to attend and support walking to and from the library, please let the Year 2 staff know.

To celebrate that many of the children will have made the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we invite all Y3 children to bring in their Holy Communion outfit/smart clothes, to school on Wednesday 25th June 2025. The children will wear their clothes/outfits to their Y3 Mass in Church on that Wednesday morning at 9:15am and will receive a special blessing from Fr. Hilary.

All families are welcome to this Mass. Following the Mass, the children will have a little celebration in school before changing back in to their school uniform/PE kit.

Week beginning 23rd June 2025

Please bring in Holy Communion outfits, in a named bag or on a named hanger. Please do not bring 'accessories' e.g. bags, gloves, veils and jewellery as we do not want anything to be lost/damaged.



Year 1 Assembly 27.6.25 at 9:15am

Our Year 1 children would love their parents (and grandparents) to join them for their Assembly on Friday 27th June at 9:15am.





Year 6 residential

Year 6 will be off to Alton Castle on Friday 27th June and will return to school on Sunday 29th June. Year 6 parents, please refer to letters for information about kit and what the children need for their trip. Any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

"We'll Meet Again"

Not long now until our Year 6s perform one last time at St Mary's in their show 'We'll meet again'. Set during the outbreak of World War II, the children of the 1940s are living with gas masks, sirens and the need of safety of the shelters.

Year 6 are putting on two performances of "We'll meet again" for Y6 parents only.

The performance will also be recorded so can be shared with loved ones later.

Performance are:

Thursday 10th July 2025

Friday 11th July 2025



Year 6 Leavers Mass –

Wednesday 16th July 2025 – 9:30am

We will be celebrating Year 6 and their time at St. Mary's with a whole school Leavers Mass on Wednesday 16th July at 9:30am. All parents and family members are able 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.



Friday 18th July – 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.

Look out for our bull this Summer



The city's next big art trail will depict the legendary Birmingham Bullring Bull, with 40 large bull sculptures, and 85 calves descending on Wednesday 16th July and continuing to be present throughout the Summer until Sunday 14th September.

Designed and painted by the children, this is what our bull looks like: -



His name is:-
Azrael the bull
and he will be
located on Harborne
High Street, so you
won't need to go far
to find him.

Over the Summer Holidays, you can take a photo with Azrael and tweet him so that we know that you found him. Enjoy looking at all the other bulls that are on display too and reading about the artists who painted them.

So why Bulls in the City?

It is to raise money for Birmingham Hospice. Read more about the charity and how you can donate by visiting the Bulls in the City website. Leave a message of encouragement and words of acknowledgement to our children for getting involved. So, find the bull, take a photograph with him, and donate!

Tweet @StMaryB17 #bullsinthecity

<https://www.birminghamhospice.org.uk/donate-bullsinthecity/>

Thanks for being part of our herd

offers end 31/07/25

Kids Essentials



Package 1

- 2 x Jumpers/Cardigans**
- 1 x Tie**
- 1 x PE T-Shirt**
- 1 x Book Bag**

£34.99

Package 2

- 2 x Jumpers/Cardigans**
- 1 x Twin Shirts/Blouses**
- 1 x Tie**
- 1 x Book Bag**
- 1 x PE T-Shirt**
- 1 x P.E Shorts**

£54.99

Kids Essentials:

Northfield High Street, B31 2NN



SCHOOLWEAR
ASSOCIATION

www.kids-essentials.co.uk  0121 477 0736

Kids essentials have kindly offered to do a one off deal for all year groups on uniform bundles due to being a new supplier of St Mary's Uniforms.
Please see the offer leaflet above.

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

If you have a concern that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following staff members as quickly as possible:



Louise Yorke
Headteacher



Rachel Jones
Senior Teacher



Rachel Richards
EYFS Lead



Sharon Tame
School Counsellor



Laura Noone
AHT



Jade Preedy
AHT

Alternatively, email DSL@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

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 a member of the SLT team.

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

Celebrating our fantastic attendance:-

Our attendance for last week was -

Week 16/06/25-20/06/25

| Class | YRB | YRT | Y1L | Y1F | Y2E | Y2G | Y3L | Y3T | Y4J | Y4M | Y5M | Y5F | Y6R | Y6O |
|--|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-------|------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| % | 100 | 99 | 98 | 99.3 | 100 | 97.6 | 96.6 | 93.6 | 99.3 | 97.9 | 99.3 | 97.6 | 96.2 | 98 |
| Lates | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Whole School Attendance so far this year | | | | | | 96.4% | | School Target | | | | | 97% | |

Well done RB and 2E: - Our attendance champions!

Dates for this half-term

Summer theme -

Summer 2

23rd June 2025 - all day

24th June 2025 - am

25th June 2025 - 9:15am

27th June 2025 - 9:15am

27th June - 29th June

WB 30.6.25

1st July 2025 - am

2nd July 2025 - all day

8th July 2025 - am

10th July 2025 - 2pm

11th July 2025 - 2pm

16th July 2025 - 9.30am

18th July 2025 -

Solidarity and the Common Good

Faith-filled and Hopeful

INSET day - school closed to children

Year 2 visit to Harborne library (8:45 2G and 10:15 2E)

Year 3 Mass in Church (Year 4 classes attend) - wear Holy Communion dress

Year 1 classes Assembly for parents

Year 6 residential

Collections of bottles for the Parish Fair

Year 1 visit to Harborne library (8:45 1F and 10:15 1L)

Transition Day (inc. new Reception cohort) - children meet their new teacher

Reception visit to Harborne library (8:45 RT and 10:15 RB)

Year 6 performance to parents - 'We'll meet again'

Year 6 performance to parents - 'We'll meet again'

Year 6 Leavers Mass (Y6 parents welcome) - Mass for whole school

Break up for Summer holidays

Early finish time

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KS1 classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

Year 6 shirt signing on final day in school and 2:00pm guard of honour

Term Dates for next year 2025-2026

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Autumn Term | Tuesday 2nd September - Thursday 23rd October |
| | <i>Half-term</i> |
| | Monday 3rd November - Friday 19th December |
| | |
| Spring Term | Monday 5th January - Friday 13th February |
| | <i>Half-term</i> |
| | Monday 23rd February - Thursday 2nd April |
| | |
| Summer Term | Monday 20th April - Friday 22nd May |
| | <i>Half-term</i> |
| | Monday 1st June - Friday 17th July |
| | |

School Closed:

- Monday 4th May 2026 - May Bank Holiday

INSET DAYS

- Monday 1st September 2025
 - Friday 24th October 2025
 - Monday 20th July 2026
- 2 more INSET days to be confirmed

Star of the week

- Year RB Faith For working really hard on her subtraction!
- Year RT Heaven For always sharing a smile with everyone she meets
- Year IF Eliana For her fantastic understanding and practical work of making equal groups in Maths
- Year IL Chiamaka For her fantastic knowledge of the kings and queens and sharing this with the class
- Year 2E Bronty Showing a very caring attitude to the plastic pollution affecting our oceans
- Year 2G Aaliyah For always being a kind and thoughtful role model to everyone in class!
- Year 3L Agatha For being a good role model and having a fantastic attitude to learning all week
- Year 3T Vicky For trying incredibly hard this week to be a kind friend to her classmates.
- Year 4J Charlotte For fantastic focus on her learning this week!
- Year 4M Alex For wonderful behaviour and attitude to learning this term. You are a fantastic role model!
- Year 5F Oscar For the huge improvement he has made in his writing this term. I am so proud!
- Year 5M Trinidad For her amazing attitude to learning, and her phenomenal progress in her reading this year
- Year 6O Ivan For having beautiful manners
- Year 6R Melissa For consistently setting a standard others strive to follow

