



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](mailto:enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk)

[www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](http://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.

## July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus

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

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



Dear parents and carers,

7th July 2023

Today, you should have received your child's school report, alongside their attendance and any statutory results and we hope that you're pleased with the information that we have given. We are still awaiting the Year 6 SATs results and will send out the Year 6 reports towards the end of next week with this information. If for any reason, you have not received your child's school report, please speak to the school office on Monday.

In our lessons this week, the children have been thinking about transition ahead of meeting their new teachers next week. They have been thinking about what they have enjoyed this academic year and what they are thankful for. We have also been exploring our feelings when things change and how normal it is to have worries. The children are generally very excited to meet their new teachers on Wednesday. I will include the class lists and names of the teachers in next week's newsletter. This week, we have also met the new families and children who will be joining us in September and we're very pleased to welcome them in to our St. Mary's family. We have two more weeks in school before the Summer break and still so much to learn and enjoy before a well earned rest. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Yorke

### *This week's Gospel and Prayer*

*Matthew 10:40*

*"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me;  
and those who welcome me, welcome the one who sent me".*

Dear God,

*Thank you for knowing me, valuing me and accepting me. Thank you for welcoming me into your family.*

*Help me be ready to welcome you.  
Help me be ready to welcome others.*

*Amen*

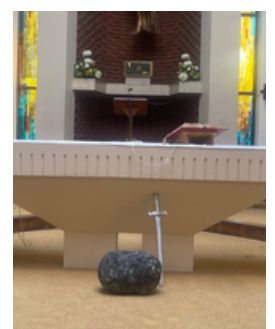
Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- to be welcomed means to be known, valued, and accepted.
- God welcomes us into His family and wants us to welcome others.
- By welcoming others, we also welcome God!

### *Catholic Life in School*

*Whole School Mass - 29.6.23 - SS. Peter and Paul*

*We had a wonderful school Mass dedicated to two of the earliest apostles and founders of the Church. Both Saints laid down their lives for their faith. Help us to be faithful!*



### **Y1 Mass - St. Benedict**

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Tuesday** 11th July 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 1 children will be leading our Mass and all parents are welcome to attend.

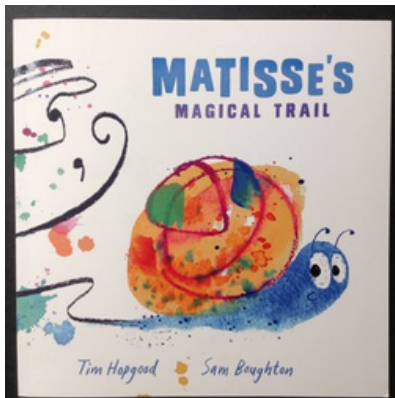


*Reception news: -*

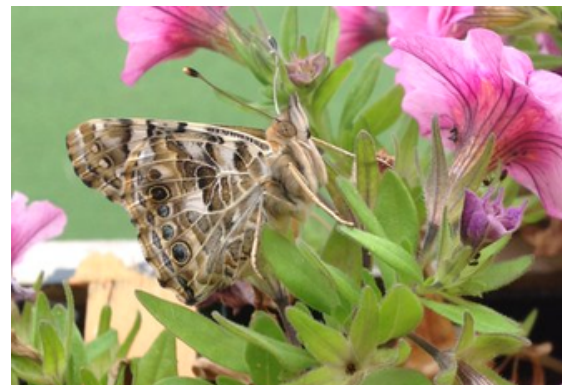
We're developing our Forest School and Reception Class have really enjoyed finding fairy treasure as part of their Outdoor Learning this week.



They have also enjoyed creating their own art work in the style of Henri Matisse.



And releasing butterflies in to our prayer garden.



*Year 1 news: -*

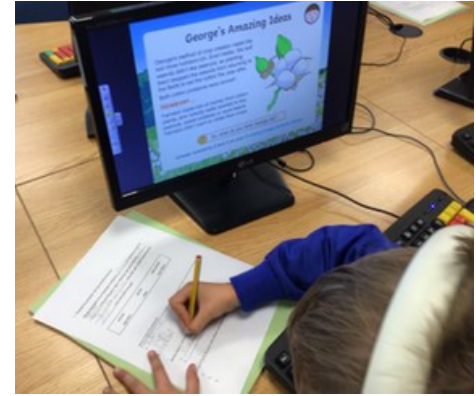
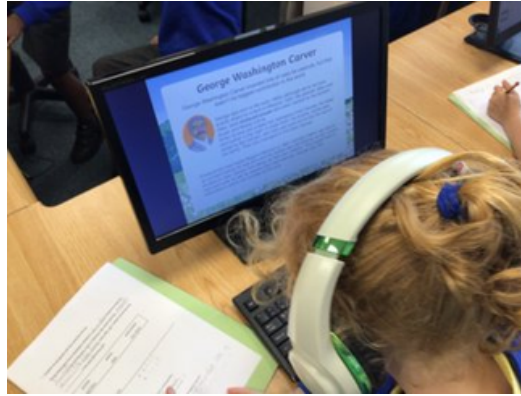
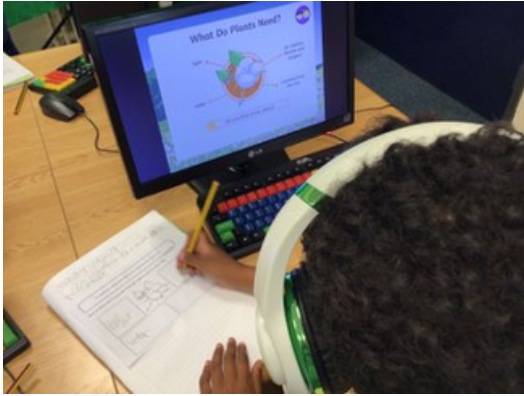
Year 1 enjoyed making dough in their Science lessons.





## Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been using computing skills to research the work of pioneering scientist George Washington Carver also known as 'The Plant Doctor' and 'The Farmer's Friend', in their Science lessons.

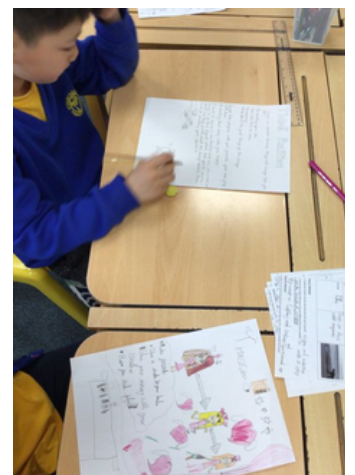
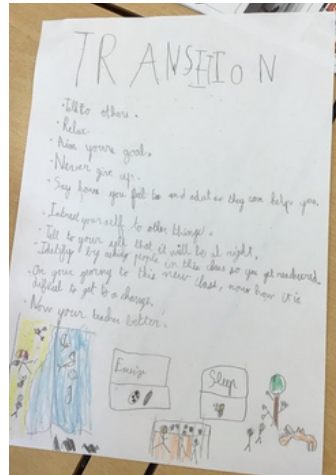


And they have enjoyed learning about chemical changes.



## Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been exploring change and thinking about their transition to year 4.



And are still enjoying learning about transport.





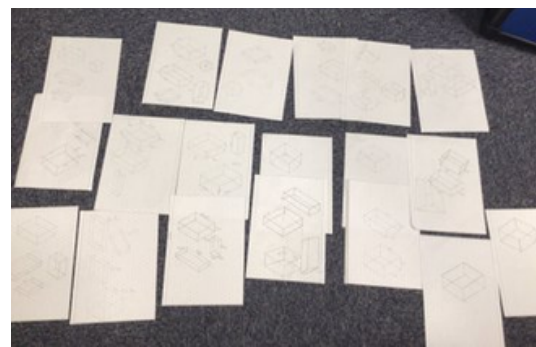
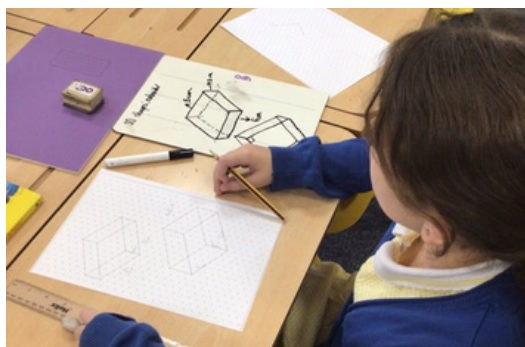
## Year 4 news: -

Year 4 are getting very excited about the Summer reading challenge at Harborne Library.

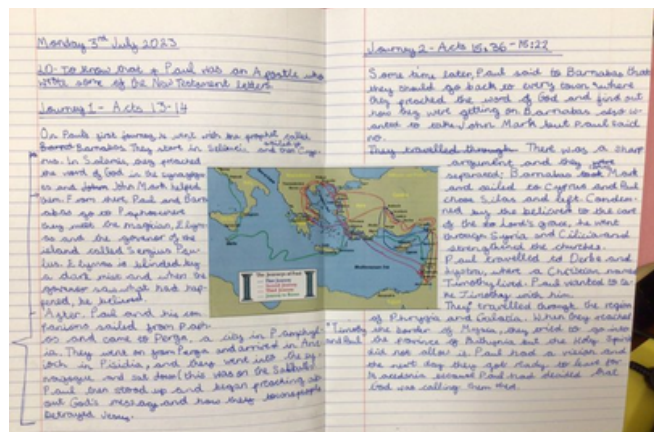
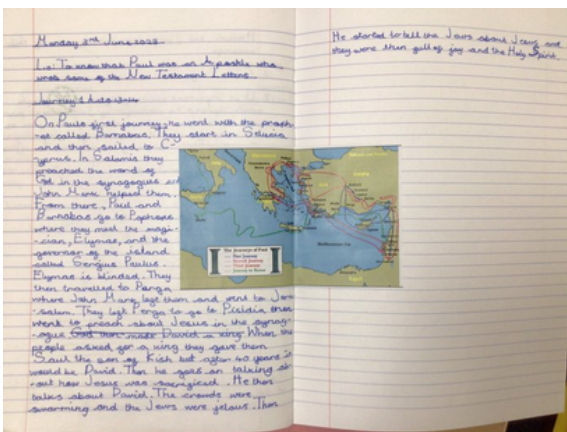


## Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have been learning about 3-D shapes and their 2-D representations, and drew their own on isometric paper.



They have also been enjoying their RE lessons, reading the Acts of the Apostles and learning about the challenges of the early Church. They studied the journeys of St Paul as he travelled across the Mediterranean and beyond to spread the word of God.



And they have been talking about their transition to Year 6 - they can't wait to meet their new teachers.





## Year 6 news: -

Year 6 have created fantastic Worm Eye View Art.



They have also been practising their badminton skills.



*Reception Assembly  
Our Reception children were wonderful in their assembly  
Well done children and thank you to the teachers for all your hard work and for all of the support from our parents. Great costumes!*



## Extra-Curricular



*Our UKS2 netballers have been absolutely wonderful in their competitions this year and have continuously shown great Sportsmanship. We're incredibly proud of them.*



# Sports Day

Unfortunately, strike action coincided with our Sports Day event, but that hasn't stopped the classes from enjoying their Sports Day activities and still scoring points for their House Team. It has been wonderful to see the team work shown by many of the children and we look forward to announcing the winning house next week, when all classes have competed.



Next week - WB 10.7.23



**Year 4 trip to Harvington Hall - Monday 10th July 2023**  
Year 4 are going to Harvington Hall on Monday - where they will enjoy a variety of activities including archery, exploring a Tudor kitchen and learning all about how food was made and what was eaten by whom, traditional board games and different forms of entertainment. Year 4 children need to wear their PE kit on Monday and they should be back before the end of the school day.

## Tuesday 11th July - Sports Awards ceremony in the Church (1:50-3:00pm).

This will be a lovely celebration of all the children's God-given talent, hard work and dedication to all things sport! During this event, some children will be awarded with prizes, nominated by their teachers, along with awards for other sporting achievements within school.

If your child has achieved a sport-related award this academic year (since September) and has not previously had it presented to them in a celebration assembly, they may be presented with it in front of our whole school community at this event.

Awards must be brought labelled with your child's name and what it is for (swimming, karate, football) etc. as soon as possible. Please send awards with your child directly to 3L.

**Awards must be brought in by Monday 10th at the latest.**

Unfortunately, any awards brought on Tuesday 11th will not be able to be presented.



## Transition Day - Wednesday 12th July

On Wednesday 12th July, children will be meeting their new teachers for the day. This is always such an exciting day in school.

### Teacher lists

I will confirm classes and teachers in Friday's newsletter.





St Mary's Catholic Primary School

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July  
classes of  
2016-2023  
Meet the cast...



## Matilda the Musical

Not long now to our Year 6's perform one last time at St.



Mary's in their show - Matilda the Musical.

Year 6 are putting on two performances of Matilda for Y6 parents only.

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

Performances are:  
13th July at 2:00pm  
14th July at 2:00pm

### Year 6 Leavers Mass - Wednesday 19th July 2023 - 9:30am

We will be celebrating Year 6 and their time at St. Mary's with a whole school Leavers Mass on Wednesday 19th 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 21st July 2023 - 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.



Ready, Steady, Read! Today is the day! Your children can register for the Summer Reading Challenge from today. So get their skates on head on down to your local library. 🏃🏃🏃

### Summer Reading Challenge

It is that time of year again - join Harborne Library and St. Mary's to encourage as many children as we can to read over the Summer Holidays.

**Step 1:** - sign up to the challenge at Harborne Library

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>  
#library

**Step 2:** Upload your photos on to our school twitter feed. Photos of children reading with siblings, parents, other family members, friends and on their holidays - share your love of reading with the whole school community.

@StMaryB17

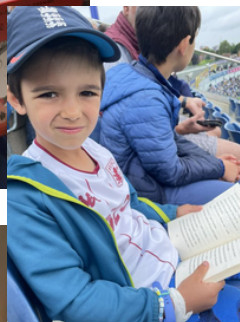
**Challenge:** - Which year group will upload the most photos?

Winners will be announced in the new school year!

- #MyTeacherReads
  - #MyParentReads
  - #MyChildReads
  - #SchoolCouncil
  - #Reading
- and your year group e.g #YR, #Y2, #Y5,



### #StMarysLovesToRead







**We're saying goodbye to these wonderful members of staff who are all moving on to new exciting opportunities...**

Mrs Keating is leaving to be a Deputy Headteacher in one of our local Catholic Primary Schools. Mr Gambles, Miss Adams and Miss Daykin-Pont are moving on to new posts in other Primary Schools. Miss Wrigley is leaving her position as teaching assistant to train as a teacher. We wish all of them the best of luck in their new positions. They will be really missed at St. Mary's and we send out a massive thankyou to them for the commitment that they have shown the children and their families during their time at St. Mary's



### SLT

*I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our Senior Leadership Team in September. We will be having two Assistant Headteachers as part of our Leadership Team and we look forward to all working together to move the school forward.*



Mrs Yorke  
Headteacher



Mrs Davis  
Deputy Headteacher



Miss Preedy  
AHT



Mrs Noone  
AHT



Mrs Jones  
Senior teacher



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



## SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS

### What is an influencer?

An influencer is somebody prominent on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account. Whilst there are some great influencers, there are some that choose to share their own opinions, which could be misogynistic or racist for example. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact. It is important to talk to your child about the spread of misinformation online and how we should fact check and critically analyse what we see and hear online. What we see on social media platforms is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with. Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once we start looking at certain content, our social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, so we don't see a balanced picture.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>

### Further Information:

The NSPCC have created an article detailing what you need to know about online influencers. You can read it here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-05-16-the-influence-of-influencers/>

### Worried about a child?

Contact our Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000 or emailing [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk).

## stay safe online

Remember the 5 SMART rules when using the internet and mobile phones.

- S SAFE:** Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your full name, email address, phone number, home address, photos or school name – to people you are chatting with online.
- M MEET:** Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.
- A ACCEPTING:** Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!
- R RELIABLE:** Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are. Make sure you check information before you believe it.
- T TELL:** Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

Find out more at Childnet's website ...



## 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 last week was -

**Week 26<sup>th</sup> June – 30<sup>rd</sup> June**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	91.7%	96.7%	99%	95.3%	98%	98.7%	97.3%	94.3%	99.7%	96%	97.1%	95.5%	91.3%	94.9%
Lates	11	7	0	9	4	5	5	10	3	8	8	4	4	6
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.8%			School Target				97%	

**Well done Y4J: - our Attendance Champions**

*Summer theme -*

### *Summer 11 Virtues*

*10th July 2023 - all day*

*11th July 2023 - 9:15am*

*11th July 2023 - 1:45pm*

*12th July 2023*

*12th July 2023 - all day*

*12th July 2023 - all day*

*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 -*

*Solidarity and the Common Good*

### *Intentional and Prophetic*

*Y4 trip to Harvington Hall*

*Y1 Mass in Church - parents welcome*

*Sports Awards Presentation in St. Mary's Church*

*Reports will be emailed to parents (Year 6)*

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

*New Reception cohort transition meetings with parents / class teachers*

*MATILDA Performance for parents*

*Y1F 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*

*1:40 finish time - Reception classes*

*1:45 finish time - KS1 classes*

*1:50 finish time - sibling group*

*2:00 finish time - KS2 classes*

## Dates for next term



# Term Dates for next year 2023-2024

<b>Autumn Term</b>	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>
<b>Spring Term</b>	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>Summer Term</b>	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>

## School Closed:

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Early May Bank Holiday

## INSET DAYS

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

2 more INSET days to be announced



# Star of the week

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

- Year RB Benji For his excellent efforts in our assembly rehearsals this week!
- Year RT Aloysius For being such a wonderful Zacchaeus in our class assembly!
- Year 1F Scarlett-Rose For being such a super role model to others, using her manners and working hard
- Year 1L Janelle For her continued hard work and brilliant attitude to learning!
- Year 2E Everyone For excellent behaviour on our school trip
- Year 2G Everyone For excellent behaviour on our school trip
- Year 3L Giorgia For her continued hard work and brilliant attitude to learning
- Year 3T Abigail S For her superb narrative writing based on the Tin Forest.
- Year 4J Erina Lo For being a good role model for her class.
- Year 4M Hanna For her beautiful singing at Mass.
- Year 5F Miriam For fantastic Kandinsky work in Art and being an amazing Living Simply champion
- Year 5M Gabriel Excellent participation and thoughtful responses in RE
- Year 6O Emilia For her enthusiastic portrayal of the Acrobat in the Y6 production
- Year 6R Lizzy For being really well focused in P.E this week and showing excellent control in tennis

