



Archdiocese of Birmingham

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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[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.

### April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit

Our theme for the Spring term is: 'Dignity of Work'

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Attentive and Discerning'



Dear parents and carers,

4th April 2025

I would like to share with you our fantastic response from parents' evening. So many of our parents came forward to speak to me, over the past few days, and I heard many lovely comments about the skills and care of staff. I really appreciate this feedback and it means so much to us as a school. Likewise, any comments given for improvements are just as valuable to us and I will take this on board, when considering future plans for the school: -

- 96% of parents strongly agree or agree that their child is happy at the school
- 97% of parents strongly agree or agree that their child feels safe at this school
- 97% of parents strongly agree or agree feel that the school enables their child to behave respectfully
- 93% of parents strongly agree or agree that the school is a supportive and joyful community
- 95% of parents strongly agree or agree that staff at the school are positive role models
- 91% of parents strongly agree or agree that the school works well with the local parish
- 94% of parents strongly agree or agree that they understand the school's Catholic mission
- 91% of parents strongly agree or agree that the school supports them in their role as educators of their child
- 96% of parents strongly agree or agree that their child enjoys learning in RE lessons
- 84% of parents strongly agree or agree that they know how their child is doing in RE
- 95% of parents strongly agree or agree that the school supports their child's spiritual and moral development

Thank you to our 125 parents who took the time to fill out the survey. When we had lower percentage numbers, it was because parents often selected neutral... I am not sure if this is because you're not sure or don't really have an opinion on the statement - but in the upcoming weeks, I will give more information about what we are doing and invite you to give your opinion on how we can be even better.

Our final question was: - **Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Catholic Life and mission, religious education, or prayer at this school?**

Again we received beautiful responses, and I wanted to share some of these with you...

"This is a wonderful school and staff work hard for the children."

"This is a nurturing and prayerful environment for my child."

"Lovely prayer services and Masses where parents can come and join in with. My child talks about Jesus at home. Prayer bags during Lent, nice to do as a family"

"RE books are beautiful - Catholic life is when the children are doing things for the community and charity."

"Thank you for your support and encouragement. God bless you!"

"Thanks for inviting parents to be involved in our children learning journey at school."

The whole community came for Archbishop visit hosted in the school."

"My child enjoys her RE lessons, and I'm happy for her."

"Strong morals and values are instilled in the children from a young age"

"Very Catholic focussed and well connected to the Church"

"I very much appreciate the storyline of the Bible so vividly explained to the children in their RE lessons."

"RE is one of my child's favourite lessons."

"Thank you teachers for supporting and nurturing my child in every aspect of schooling"

"The prayer is very important in life. The children should grow in faith and Christian beliefs"

"Faith at the centre of education is the most fulfilling way to learn. There is a true purpose in the school. St. Mary's has changed our lives."

I am sure you will agree that these are wonderful comments and mean so much to the staff.

Thank you for your continued support. We do look at ways to improve and have taken on board that our communication systems and website do need updating. This is something we are looking in to for the next Academic Year. SLT do stand on the gate every morning and we're always happy to have a chat about anything that you would like to bring to our attention and this is one of the best ways to let us know if there is an issue. Or you can always pick up the phone and call the office or send an enquiry in by email.

Summer uniform query

This is a long half-term because of Easter break being later this year. Therefore, I am happy for children to move in to Summer uniform, now that the nicer weather is coming.

Thank you for those who have donated to our Big CAFOD Lent Walk. We've raised an incredible amount of money for the charity

**£462 raised so far**

We have walked 162.4km of our 200km target

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-marys-catholic-primary-school-fundraising-page>

Have a lovely weekend, from,  
Mrs Yorke

# Catholic Life



*John 1:3*

*'All things came into being through him'*

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn that:

- God has been with us since the beginning of time;
- All of creation came in to being through Him;
- Pope Francis calls us to care for 'Our Common Home, in his encyclical 'Laudato Si'

## Our next Mass: – **Whole School Mass – 5th week of Lent**



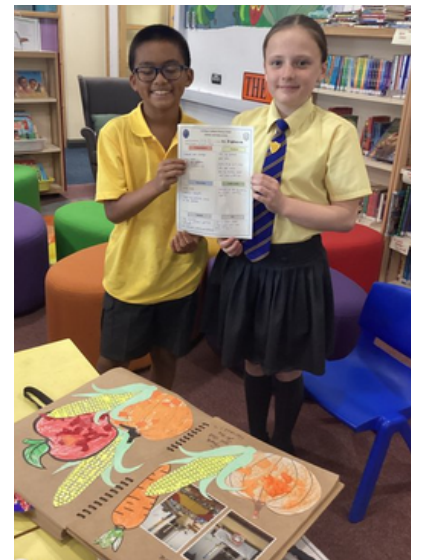
Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025**, starting promptly at 9:15am. This Mass will be shared out across the classes and is our last Mass together before Easter break. All parents are welcome to attend.



Reception children were joined by their year 6 buddies for Mass this morning. They reflected on gratitude as part of our 4th week of Lent.

## Monitoring

Our house captains have been busy this week, reviewing our Catholic Life books



# Charity

Thank you for supporting our wonderful Charity efforts

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

has raised the sum of

£354.82

to help people build a brighter future through CAFOD's projects around the world

**THANK YOU**



**MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

St Mary's Catholic PS  
Congratulations and thank you from the Marine Conservation Society for raising

£810.90

to protect our ocean.

[mcsuk.org](https://mcsuk.org) [mcsuk](https://www.facebook.com/mcsuk) [mcsuk](https://twitter.com/mcsuk) [mcs\\_uk](https://www.instagram.com/mcs_uk)



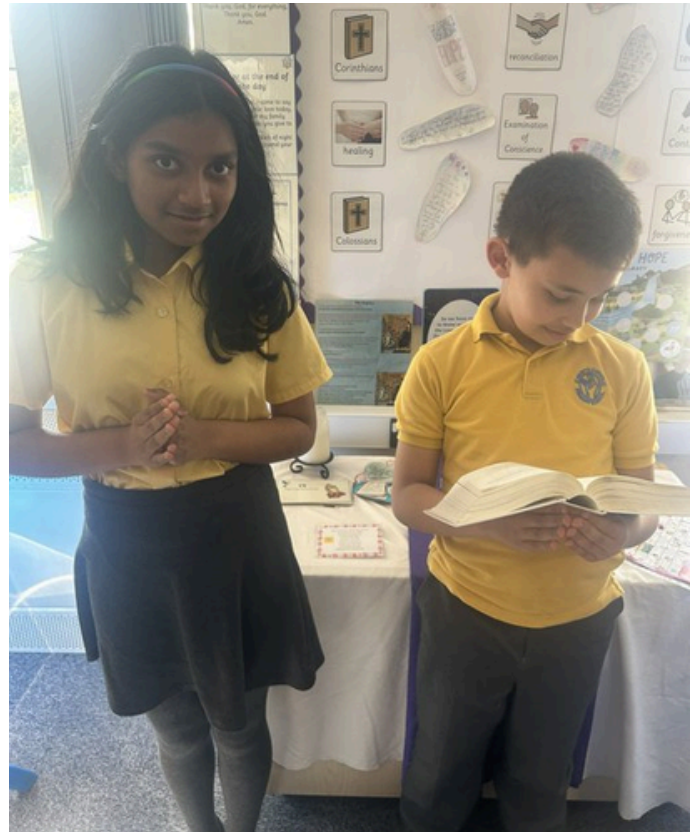
Registered charity in England and Wales 1004005 and in Scotland SC037480.  
Registered company limited by guarantee in England and Wales 02550966.  
Registered office: Overross House, Ross Park, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7US.  
VAT number: 321491232, FUN-019-21



© Williyam Bradberry

# Prayer

The children have led beautiful prayer this week for one another and have made the most of using different prayer spaces including, the classroom, prayer garden and the Church. They are wonderful examples to each other:-





# COACH RED

## MULTI-SPORTS CAMP

9:00-2:00

**£15**

A DAY

**St Marys Primary School, Harborne**

**Open to Boys & Girls aged 5-10**

APRIL

**22-25**

2025

Football

Volleyball

Tag Rugby

Boxing

Tug o War

Handball

Tennis

Basketball

Athletics

Badminton

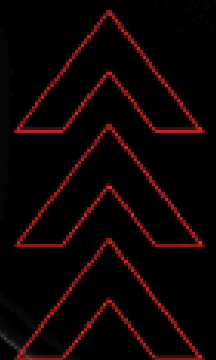
**REGISTER NOW**

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW OR SCAN QR CODE

[bit.ly/CoachRedMSC](https://bit.ly/CoachRedMSC)

**CONTACT US**

[coachred.sports@gmail.com](mailto:coachred.sports@gmail.com)

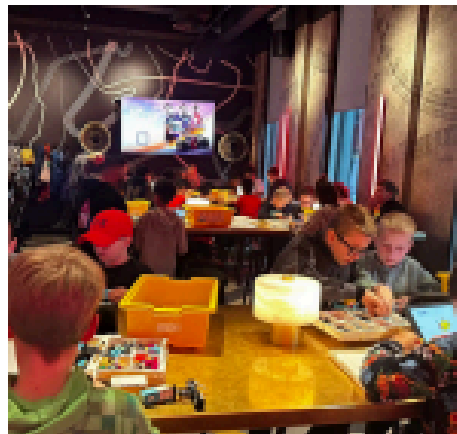


# LEGO CODING SESSION

@ F1 Arcade Birmingham

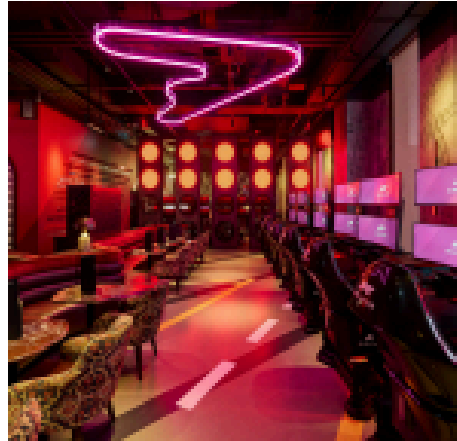
Back by demand  
during Easter Holidays

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
Kids Eat Free  
with every full  
paying adult



We have two new sessions during Easter to give young people 2.5 hours of fun filled activities with a Formula 1 theme.

All attendees will get to create and code fantastic F1 themed builds whilst also getting to race in the state of the art simulators at F1 Arcade



£20

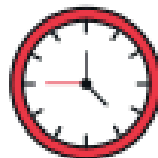


## SESSION INFORMATION

Sign up  
using link



Scan me!



10:00am - 12:30pm



2 Chamberlain Sq,  
Birmingham B3 3AX



Thurs 17th Apr  
and/or  
Friday 25th Apr

For further information  
[johnpaul@successeducation.org](mailto:johnpaul@successeducation.org)



# Nurturing ADHD Kids

This online 6 week course is free for Birmingham parents and carers of children and young people with ADHD or suspected ADHD

**LED BY ADULTS WITH ADHD**

**Does your child have ADHD or suspected ADHD?**

Are you trying to support them but find that everyone gives you different advice?

**What parents have said about this course**

*This course is literally game-changing for parents, caregivers, teachers and anyone living with a child (or adult) with ADHD. So much misunderstanding, frustration and worry could be prevented if everyone had access to this amazing resource.*

*Essential course for any parent of a child with ADHD. It changed the way I see my son and my ability to respond to his needs effectively.*

*Very informative, friendly, no pressure, enjoyable sessions*

**In this 6 week course, you will**

- learn about ADHD
- Understand the effect on our mental health
- Understand the reasons behind behaviours
- Gain confidence in advocating for our children
- Learn new strategies
- Help our kids be confident, resilient and be their best selves

**Phone: 0731 116 7485**

**Email: [contactus@brewseducation.org](mailto:contactus@brewseducation.org)**

Birmingham Resilience Education and Wellbeing Services CIC    CIC Business Registration: 13240865




# Nurturing ADHD Kids

**NEW GROUPS STARTING SOON!**

Free online 6 week course for parents and carers  
Each session is 90 minutes

**Next half term's courses**

**Tuesdays 7 - 8.30pm**  
starting Tuesday 29th April  
Register [HERE](#) or use QR code

**Wednesdays 10- 11.30am**  
starting Wednesday 30th April  
Register [HERE](#) or use QR code

**Registration closes at 5 pm on Monday 28th April**

If you miss the deadline, email us at [contactus@brewseducation.org](mailto:contactus@brewseducation.org) and you can join the next one starting in June

Funded by



## Celebrating our RE work

Well done to all the children who received the Remarkable RE certificates this week! We are very proud of your excellent responses and dedication to ensuring your RE books are a gift to God!





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:



Amy Davis Deputy Headteacher Lead DSL	Louise Yorke Headteacher Deputy DSL	Rachel Jones Senior Teacher DSL	Rachel Richards EYFS Lead DSL	Sharon Tame School Counsellor DSL	Laura Noone AHT DSL	Jade Preedy AHT DSL
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Alternatively, email [DSL@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto: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 Mrs. Davis.*

*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 31/03/25-04/04/25**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	92.9	90.8	98.3	88.3	93.7	94.1	95	96.6	100	94.1	91.6	95.4	98.2	96.6
Lates	2	3	0	5	1	0	1	8	0	0	3	2	2	1
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.5%		School Target				97%		

**Well done4J: - Our attendance champions!**

Spring theme -

Spring 11 Virtues

8th April 2025 - all day

9th April 2025 - 9:30am

10th April 2025 - 9:00am

11th April 2025 - all day

WB 14.4.25

17th April 2025 - 11:00am

17th April 2025

Dignity of Work

Attentive and Discerning

Year 2 school trip - Coal mining tour

Whole School Mass - parents welcome

Reception prayer service for parents

Year 3 school trip to Birmingham Art Gallery

Holy Week

Year 6 Stations of the Cross in Church for KS2 and parent

Break up for Easter Holidays

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 this term



- |         |          |   |
|---------|----------|---|
| Year RB | Mariyam  | For working hard and improving on her WellComm  |
| Year RT | Ivy      | For her fantastic independent writing about the Last Wolf   |
| Year IF | Anna     | For her wonderful setting description in English where she used lots of creative adjectives.  |
| Year IL | Eduard   | For his superb effort during the Birmingham Royal Ballet class. Well done Eduard!   |
| Year 2E | Finn     | For a super attitude to learning and trying his best! Well done Finn.   |
| Year 2G | Thea     | For being a wonderful member of class 2G.   |
| Year 3L | Alvin    | For showing super resilience this week when it has been hard!   |
| Year 3T | Ruby     | For being a wonderful, hardworking member of the class who is a role model to all! Well done.   |
| Year 4J | Arsin    | For showing more confidence in maths and her contribution to lessons  |
| Year 4M | Reese    | For quietly living the virtues of St Mary's and being an excellent role models to her classmates  |
| Year 5F | Alfie    | For making a fantastic effort to focus in every lesson this week. I've been impressed with Alfie's answers in our reading lesson and the way he read aloud to the class. Well done! |
| Year 5M | Nikola   | For an amazing attitude to her learning this term   |
| Year 6O | Rhea     | For always being so positive and upbeat, making the classroom a happier place   |
| Year 6R | Benjamin | Following the virtues. Well done Benji!   |

