



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,

13th June 2025

It's been another busy week in school. Our Fathers' Day workshops were well attended and it was lovely to see our families spending time together in school. Our Key Stage 1 classes and Year 3 enjoyed their Sports Day on Thursday. Sadly, rain stopped play for our Reception and Year 1 children but they were able to take part in a few activities before the downpour. Today, our Reception classes showed us their fantastic speaking and wonderful singing, celebrating Pentecost in their year group assembly. As the youngest members of our school, their confidence and presence in front of their grown ups was incredible.

Next week, we are excited to celebrate Culture Day on Monday. We are looking forward to seeing the children wear clothes that reflect their unique backgrounds and cultures. Children are also invited to bring an item (not valuable or of sentimental value please) or prepare a small show-and-tell in class to explain why it's special in their culture. As part of this celebration and our Jubilee Year commitments, we are fundraising for Father Hudson's Caritas and would be grateful to receive any donations – please follow the link in the QR code below.



As you will be aware, we are also looking forward to the annual Summer Fair on Friday. There will be food, entertainment and activities for the children. This is one of the main PTA fundraisers of the year and I am, as ever, grateful for your support at these events. Funds raised by the PTA pay for so many enrichment activities that are enjoyed by all the children.

We are expecting our Catholic Schools Inspectorate report next week, which will be sent out via email alongside a letter from the Chair of Governors. A copy will also be placed on the website.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and I am praying that the weather holds for the families that are joining the Parish pilgrimage tomorrow. God bless,

Mrs Yorke

CATHOLIC LIFE

This week's Reading

Acts 2:1, 4

'When the day of Pentecost arrived... they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.'

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

- Who the Holy Spirit is.
- That the presence of the Holy Spirit helps us to share our faith and hope in God with others.
- That we too can be filled with the Holy Spirit



This week's Mass – Y4 Mass – Pentecost

This week, Year 4 led a beautiful Mass celebrating Pentecost – one of the most important feasts of the liturgical year.



Our next Mass – Y5 Mass – Holy Trinity

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 18th June 2025, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 5 children will be leading our Mass and Year 6 children will be attending. All parents are welcome to attend.

Reception Assembly – Pentecost

Our Reception children led a beautiful assembly for their parents this morning on the theme of Pentecost. Well done on your confident reading and singing.



Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all children who made their First Holy Communion last weekend.
Thank you to all those involved in supporting the children with their preparations.



Father's Day Inspire Workshops

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Father's Day Inspire Workshops this week – we hope you enjoyed spending time with your child/ren and sampling a range of different activities! It was great to see everyone together and we are thrilled with the wonderful feedback we received from the day! Thank you to the staff too.

98% of those who gave feedback felt that you could participate in your activities

"Really lovely opportunity to spend time in school with the children. Well organised and fun, thank you!"



"Thanks for this great opportunity"



95% rated the day: - good, very good or excellent

"A really nice event that enabled me to enjoy being in my son's school environment. Thank you for inviting us in."



"Great enthusiasm from the staff as always. The transitions between activities was really smooth. Children and parents had a lot of fun."



"Great fun and very much appreciated"



"Thank you for putting these events on. It makes us feel part of St. Mary's community."



Sports Day

Our children really enjoyed their Sports Day event, scoring points for their House Team. It has been wonderful to see the team work shown by many of the children.

The overall House winner across all the sports days will be announced soon!

Reception and Year 1 Sports Day



Sadly, rain stopped play at the Reception and Year 1 Sports Day but the children were at least able to take part in a few activities and they enjoyed some ice lollies as a consolation!



Year 2 and Year 3 Sports Day



Thank you
Thank you PTA for
our special treat
following Sports Day!
We loved our ice-
lollies!





Congratulations to our girls' football team. They continue to represent the school beautifully and won their game 2-0, this week.

We're really proud of Yoadan, who is making wonderful progress in her gymnastics lessons. Well done for achieving your next medal and certificate. Keep up all of the enthusiasm for the sport and we know that you will continue to achieve great things.



PTA News

SUMMER FAIR

FRIDAY 20th June 3.30-6.30pm

Tickets available from your class reps or online on shocal-

Individual ticket	£4
Family ticket	£15

Inflatables	Funfair ride	Music
Glitter tattoos	Music	Food
Bar	Face painting	Toys
Sweets	Games	





Whole School Culture Day - 16.6.25

Children can wear clothing that reflects their unique culture and heritage and bring in an item for 'show and tell'.

Donations are being collected for Father Hudson's Caritas.



Reception Harborne Library Visit - 17.6.25

Reception will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

RB will leave at 8:45am

RT 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 Reception staff know.



Year 1 Trip to Warwick Castle - 18.6.25

Year 1 will be visiting Warwick Castle on Wednesday. Children will be leaving and returning within the school day. Thank you to parents for returning the packed lunch preference information. Please follow 'X' for any updates during the trip.



Year 2 Swimming - 19.6.25

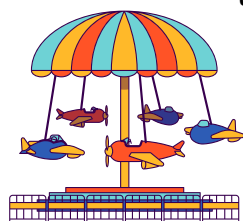
Year 2 will be going swimming on Thursday. Please ensure that children bring their swimming kit to school that day e.g.: swim suit/trunks, towel, swimming hat and goggles (if worn).

Summer Fair - 3:30 to 6:30pm on 20.6.25

Tickets are available from PTA Class Reps or online at shocal.

Individual tickets are £4 and a family ticket is £15. Attractions and entertainment include inflatables, glitter tattoos, a funfair ride, sweets, music, food, toys and much more!

**SUMMER
FAIR**





Year 6 residential

Year 6 will be off to Alton Castle on Friday 27th June and will return to school on Friday 27th 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.



2025

Please join us for the...

King Edward VI
Handsworth Grammar
School for Boys
Open Evening

**19th
JUNE
5pm-8pm**

**Headteacher's
presentations
at 6pm &
7pm!**

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

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 09/06/25-13/06/25

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	98.3	97.3	99	98	98.6	98	92.3	100	99	96.5	94	98	98.2	97
Lates	0	3	3	3	4	7	1	6	1	0	0	7	1	1
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.4%		School Target				97%		

Well done 3T: - Our attendance champions!

Dates for this half-term

Summer theme -

Summer 2

16th June 2025 - all day

17th June 2025 - am

18th June 2025 - all day

18th June 2025 - 9:15am

20th June 2025 - 3:30-6:30

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

Children wear clothes that reflect their unique backgrounds and culture

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

Year 1 trip to Warwick Castle

Year 5 Mass in Church (and Year 6 classes attend) - parents welcome

Party in the playground - ticketed event

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 Alice	For working really hard on her writing in literacy!
Year RT Mary	For working really hard to learn her lines for the class assembly
Year IF Innaya	For being an excellent role model and showing prayerful behaviour
Year IL Shindara and Mia	For working so hard in his Phonics (S) and excellent phonics learning(M)
Year 2E Amira	For always being a helpful and cooperative member of the class
Year 2G Rahzayne	For doing fantastic in his phonics!
Year 3L Cyril	For a super attitude to learning to this week
Year 3T Alexander	For always showing fantastic behaviour and being a role model to others
Year 4J Elvis	For a beautiful reading at his Holy Communion
Year 4M Lucy B	For working very hard in all lessons and being resilient
Year 5F Cara	For her fantastic effort in sports day and all our PE lessons
Year 5M Paulos	For excellent work in RE
Year 6O Maya	For trying really hard in her writing lessons
Year 6R Amber	For her use of logic in her maths lessons

