



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.

## March is dedicated to St. Joseph

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

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Learned and Wise'



17th March 2023

Dear parents and carers,

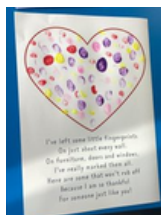
Happy St. Patrick's day!



This week we have taken part in British Science Week and the theme this year has been connections. The children have taken part in a whole school Science investigation and been looking at what a 'typical' Scientist looks like. Time to squash some of those stereotypes!

Next week, we are raising awareness about Down Syndrome and on Tuesday 21st March, children can wear mismatched and bright socks to school - the more colourful the better. I hope that you enjoy mothering Sunday and mums have a good rest this weekend. God bless.

Mrs Yorke



This week we pray for our marvellous mums, and all of the families who are separated from each other at this time.

John 4 : 14

"But anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again."

### This week's Gospel and Prayer

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- our souls can become thirsty
- we can receive the 'living water' of the Holy Spirit to refresh us
- The Father sent Jesus, Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit;
- Jesus is the source of the living water of the Holy Spirit

Jesus, be my source,

As I continue my journey through Lent, let the living water of the Holy Spirit flow through me.

Be my guide as I GIVE to others,

Be my strength as I ACT by making good choices, Be my friend as I PRAY and get to

know you more.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

### Y5 Mass - 4th Week of Lent

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 22nd March 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 5 children will be leading our Mass and Year 3 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.





Reception news: -

Reception class had a wonderful trip to the farm.



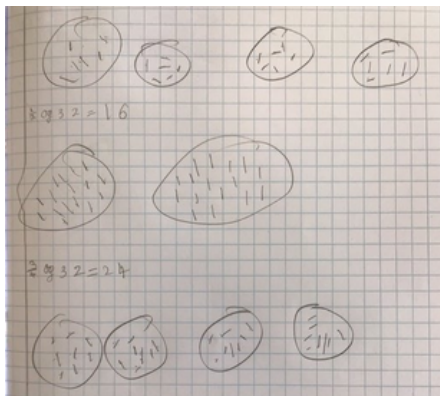
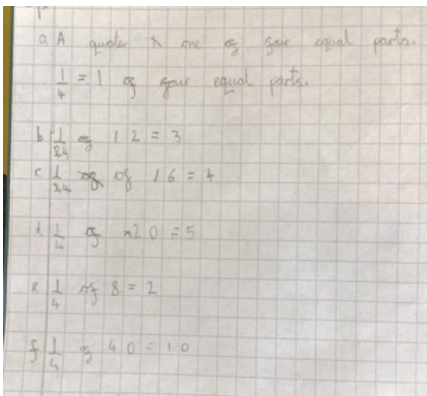
Year 1 news: -

Year 1 travelled back in time to the Victorian era. They learned about different toys from the past and present and who they might belong to, using Now Press Play.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have completed fantastic fraction learning in their maths.



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have enjoyed their basketball lessons this week.





*Year 4 news: -*

Year 4 have been cooking eggless ration muffins.



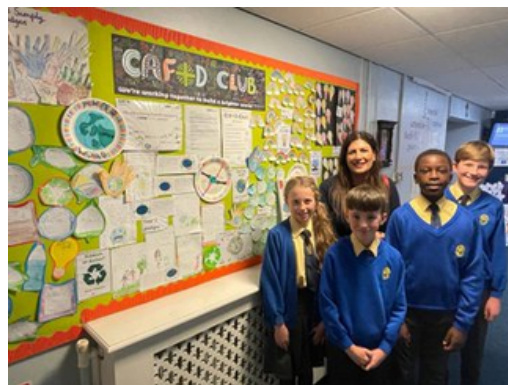
*Year 5 news: -*

Year 5 have been making DT soft toys, using blanket stitch. They look brilliant!



*Year 6 news: -*

Year 6 had a visit from local MP Preet Gill and they told her all about what they are doing to live simply and be Global Citizens, ready to make a difference in the World.





10-19 March  
**British  
Science  
Week  
2023**

**Whole School Investigation**  
*'Can bigger hands hold more beads?'*  
*What do you think?*



### Live Science Lessons



**Breaking Stereotypes**  
*'What does a typical Scientist look like?'*



### Extra-Curricular



*Choir Practice, led by Miss Daykin  
Pont, takes place every week.  
Beautiful singing.  
We look forward to hearing you in our  
Whole School Mass on 29th March.*





*Wear bright coloured socks on Tuesday 21st March...  
The #LotsOfSocks campaign exists to raise awareness about Down syndrome.*

*#LotsOfSocks help us to get people talking on World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD), celebrated each year on 21 March.*

*All you need to do is choose some socks that are going to get noticed - they might be mismatched socks or your craziest and most colourful socks, whatever takes your fancy!*

*If someone asks you about your socks you can tell them, "I'm wearing them to raise awareness of Down syndrome".*

MULTIPLICATION TABLE			
1x	2x	3x	4x
1x1=1	2x1=2	3x1=3	4x1=4
2x1=2	2x2=4	3x2=6	4x2=8
3x1=3	3x2=6	3x3=9	4x3=12
4x1=4	4x2=8	4x3=12	4x4=16
5x1=5	5x2=10	5x3=15	5x4=20
6x1=6	6x2=12	6x3=18	6x4=24
7x1=7	7x2=14	7x3=21	7x4=28
8x1=8	8x2=16	8x3=24	8x4=32
9x1=9	9x2=18	9x3=27	9x4=36
10x1=10	10x2=20	10x3=30	10x4=40
11x1=11	11x2=22	11x3=33	11x4=44
12x1=12	12x2=24	12x3=36	12x4=48
13x1=13	13x2=26	13x3=39	13x4=52
14x1=14	14x2=28	14x3=42	14x4=56
15x1=15	15x2=30	15x3=45	15x4=60
16x1=16	16x2=32	16x3=48	16x4=64
17x1=17	17x2=34	17x3=51	17x4=68
18x1=18	18x2=36	18x3=54	18x4=72
19x1=19	19x2=38	19x3=57	19x4=76
20x1=20	20x2=40	20x3=60	20x4=80
21x1=21	21x2=42	21x3=63	21x4=84
22x1=22	22x2=44	22x3=66	22x4=88
23x1=23	23x2=46	23x3=69	23x4=92
24x1=24	24x2=48	24x3=72	24x4=96
25x1=25	25x2=50	25x3=75	25x4=100
26x1=26	26x2=52	26x3=78	26x4=104
27x1=27	27x2=54	27x3=81	27x4=108
28x1=28	28x2=56	28x3=84	28x4=112
29x1=29	29x2=58	29x3=87	29x4=116
30x1=30	30x2=60	30x3=90	30x4=120
31x1=31	31x2=62	31x3=93	31x4=124
32x1=32	32x2=64	32x3=96	32x4=128
33x1=33	33x2=66	33x3=99	33x4=132
34x1=34	34x2=68	34x3=102	34x4=136
35x1=35	35x2=70	35x3=105	35x4=140
36x1=36	36x2=72	36x3=108	36x4=144
37x1=37	37x2=74	37x3=111	37x4=148
38x1=38	38x2=76	38x3=114	38x4=152
39x1=39	39x2=78	39x3=117	39x4=156
40x1=40	40x2=80	40x3=120	40x4=160
41x1=41	41x2=82	41x3=123	41x4=164
42x1=42	42x2=84	42x3=126	42x4=168
43x1=43	43x2=86	43x3=129	43x4=172
44x1=44	44x2=88	44x3=132	44x4=176
45x1=45	45x2=90	45x3=135	45x4=180
46x1=46	46x2=92	46x3=138	46x4=184
47x1=47	47x2=94	47x3=141	47x4=188
48x1=48	48x2=96	48x3=144	48x4=192
49x1=49	49x2=98	49x3=147	49x4=196
50x1=50	50x2=100	50x3=150	50x4=200
51x1=51	51x2=102	51x3=153	51x4=204
52x1=52	52x2=104	52x3=156	52x4=208
53x1=53	53x2=106	53x3=159	53x4=212
54x1=54	54x2=108	54x3=162	54x4=216
55x1=55	55x2=110	55x3=165	55x4=220
56x1=56	56x2=112	56x3=168	56x4=224
57x1=57	57x2=114	57x3=171	57x4=228
58x1=58	58x2=116	58x3=174	58x4=232
59x1=59	59x2=118	59x3=177	59x4=236
60x1=60	60x2=120	60x3=180	60x4=240
61x1=61	61x2=122	61x3=183	61x4=244
62x1=62	62x2=124	62x3=186	62x4=248
63x1=63	63x2=126	63x3=189	63x4=252
64x1=64	64x2=128	64x3=192	64x4=256
65x1=65	65x2=130	65x3=195	65x4=260
66x1=66	66x2=132	66x3=198	66x4=264
67x1=67	67x2=134	67x3=201	67x4=268
68x1=68	68x2=136	68x3=204	68x4=272
69x1=69	69x2=138	69x3=207	69x4=276
70x1=70	70x2=140	70x3=210	70x4=280
71x1=71	71x2=142	71x3=213	71x4=284
72x1=72	72x2=144	72x3=216	72x4=288
73x1=73	73x2=146	73x3=219	73x4=292
74x1=74	74x2=148	74x3=222	74x4=296
75x1=75	75x2=150	75x3=225	75x4=300
76x1=76	76x2=152	76x3=228	76x4=304
77x1=77	77x2=154	77x3=231	77x4=308
78x1=78	78x2=156	78x3=234	78x4=312
79x1=79	79x2=158	79x3=237	79x4=316
80x1=80	80x2=160	80x3=240	80x4=320
81x1=81	81x2=162	81x3=243	81x4=324
82x1=82	82x2=164	82x3=246	82x4=328
83x1=83	83x2=166	83x3=249	83x4=332
84x1=84	84x2=168	84x3=252	84x4=336
85x1=85	85x2=170	85x3=255	85x4=340
86x1=86	86x2=172	86x3=258	86x4=344
87x1=87	87x2=174	87x3=261	87x4=348
88x1=88	88x2=176	88x3=264	88x4=352
89x1=89	89x2=178	89x3=267	89x4=356
90x1=90	90x2=180	90x3=270	90x4=360
91x1=91	91x2=182	91x3=273	91x4=364
92x1=92	92x2=184	92x3=276	92x4=368
93x1=93	93x2=186	93x3=279	93x4=372
94x1=94	94x2=188	94x3=282	94x4=376
95x1=95	95x2=190	95x3=285	95x4=380
96x1=96	96x2=192	96x3=288	96x4=384
97x1=97	97x2=194	97x3=291	97x4=388
98x1=98	98x2=196	98x3=294	98x4=392
99x1=99	99x2=198	99x3=297	99x4=396
100x1=100	100x2=200	100x3=300	100x4=400

**Times table check meeting for Year 4 parents -  
Monday 27th March 2023 - 3pm**

*Next Monday 27th March, at 3pm, we are inviting Year 4 parents to come in to school to find out about the x-table check that your child will be taking in June. Year 4 teachers will explain what the check is and how to support your child at home. The meeting will take roughly 30 minutes and your child will be brought to you at the end of the school day, ready for collection at dismissal.*

*Parish News*



**St Mary's Church remains open 8:00am - 4:00pm**  
*St Mary's Church remains open from 8.00am until 4.00pm each weekday, - for private prayer, visits to Shrines, private prayer before the Stations of the Cross either in the old Church (graphic 3-D images) or the new Church (abstract, symbolic), or to light candles with your children.*



**Stations of the Cross - every Wednesday in Lent - 7pm**  
*The Stations of the Cross take place each Wednesday in Lent, in St Mary's Church, at 7.00pm, for half an hour.*



# Religious Education

"During this Lent,  
let us all ask the Lord:  
Make our hearts like yours."

-Pope Francis



# PRAY

The children are leading prayer services for their parents during lent 9:00-9:30 on the following dates

- Year 6 - Friday 3rd March ✓
- Year 5 - Wednesday 8th March ✓
- Year 3 - Tuesday 14th March ✓
- Year 2 - Friday 17th March ✓
- Year 1 - Wednesday 22nd March
- Year 4 - Thursday 23rd March
- Reception - Thursday 30th March



Supporting our Lenten charities: -  
CAFOD

At St Mary's, we are working together, to take on the Big Lent Walk! The whole school will be walking 200km in 40 days throughout Lent. Each class will contribute to this total and will walk 9 miles. This will take place throughout this half term.

We are taking part in this walk as part of our Lenten charity work. We will be supporting CAFOD and raising money to fight global poverty. Any donations to this cause will be greatly appreciated.

All donations will go to CAFOD.  
If you are happy to donate, you can donate via the link below.

<https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/st-marysb17>

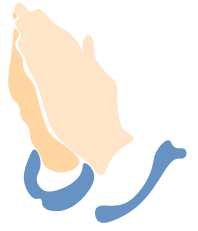




*This half term, each year group will be supporting our Lent work. Find out what your child will be doing and how you can support them...*

**Year  
R**

*Reception class will be praying for those who need our prayers. They will say prayers for: those within our school, parish and community; those who are in a position of power and making decisions; and those who are affected by poverty and war.*



**Year  
1**

*Year 1 are keen to care for the school environment. They will ensure that any litter is picked up in our playground and that the plants are being watered. Caring for God's planet begins with caring for the school, that we all share, and taking responsibility over looking after it.*



**Year  
2**

*Year 2 are finding out ways that we can look after God's creatures. They are particularly interested in fundraising to 'save the tigers' - they're putting their campaign together during Lent.*



**Year  
3**

*Year 3 want to help the local community and have decided to go litter picking throughout Lent in the local area. The children will be placed on a rota with a small group of children going each week.*



**Year  
4**

*Year 4 will be supporting our food banks during Lent - they will be asking for donations and encouraging the staff to volunteer. More information about who we will be supporting during this time to follow.*



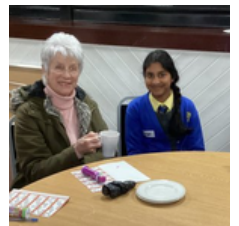
**Year  
5**

*Year 5 have learnt about the world water crisis and have explored the question: 'Is there enough water for everyone?' The children would like to complete their CAFOD walk whilst carrying buckets of water to raise awareness of water poverty.*



**Year  
6**

*Year 6 will be attending the Dementia drop-in group at the Parish Centre every Thursday morning in small groups to play games and speak with the residents.*



**Individuals  
/ groups**

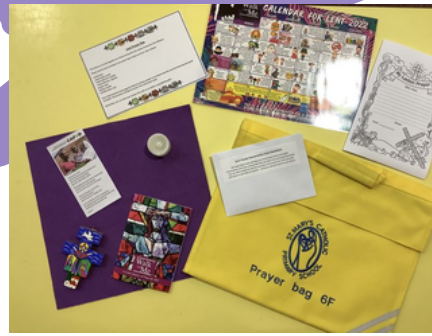
*Other groups of children are collecting for charity too and have ideas for how we can change our lives and grow closer to Jesus during Lent - more details to follow.*





# Our Lenten Journey so far...

## Lenten Prayer bags



*The Spiritual Council have worked hard preparing our Lent prayer bags which have started going home. We hope you enjoy using them with your children this Lent. Please tweet any pictures of them being used and tag us in @StMaryB17*

## St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Children have started their Big Lent Walk.

Each class have to complete 9 miles this half term to reach their targets of 200km.



Year 2 have done their first mile this week. 8 more miles to go – you can do it Year 2.



Year 2 children led a very prayerful liturgy for their parents and reflected on how we can place all our worries on the cross and offer them up to Jesus.





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



### Summary of Child Protection Information for Visitors and Volunteers

Our school is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

Our school will support all children by:

- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment
- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

At our school in order to protect our children, we aim to:

- Create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to
- Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse
- Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse

### 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 6<sup>th</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	89.9%	93.1%	97.4%	97.8%	96.6%	99.1%	94.7%	96.6%	96.2%	98.2%	97.5%	98.2%	93.3%	97.8%
Lates	6	2	2	3	4	2	1	6	4	2	2	1	4	2
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.5%	School Target					97%		

Well done Y2G: - our Attendance Champions



# Dates for this term

*Spring theme -*

*Spring 2 Virtues*

*21st March 2023 - all day*

*21st March 2023 - am*

*22nd March 2023 - 9am-9:30am*

*23rd March 2023 - 9am-9:30am*

*24th March 2023 - 9:15am*

*27th March 2023 - all day*

*27th March 2023 - 3:00pm*

*28th March 2023 - am*

*28th March 2023 - after school*

*29th March 2023 - after school*

*30th March 2023 - 9am-9:30am*

*WB 3.4.23*

*3rd April 2023 - 3:00pm*

*4th April 2023 - 2:00pm*

*6th April 2023 - 11:00am*

*6th April 2023*

*The Dignity of Work*

*Eloquent and Truthful*

*World Down Syndrome Awareness day - wear odd socks to school*

*Y5 visit to Harborne Library*

*Year 1 Lenten Prayer Service for parents*

*Year 4 Lenten Prayer Service for parents*

*Y2 Year group assembly*

*PTA organised event in school - Animal Man*

*Y4 parents meeting - about x-table check - in hall*

*Y4 visit to Harborne Library*

*Parent Consultations*

*Parent Consultations*

*Reception Lenten Prayer Service for parents*

*Holy Week*

*Y6 parents meeting - about Residential - in hall*

*Reception class Easter Bonnet Parade*

*Y6 Stations of the Cross in Church*

*Break up for Easter break!*

*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

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

Year RB	Ollie	<i>trying really hard with phonics this week</i>
Year RT	Norrie	<i>working so hard in all of her learning</i>
Year IF	Grace	<i>always trying her best in all her lessons</i>
Year IL	Joseph	<i>putting his best effort in to all lessons</i>
Year 2E	James	<i>having exceptional manners and being a good friend to others</i>
Year 2G	Ella	<i>for <u>always</u> trying her hardest in every lesson and activity</i>
Year 3L	Elsie	<i>persevering with her reading both in school and every day at home</i>
Year 3T	Aadya	<i>writing a superb fable based on the Lion and the Mouse</i>
Year 4J	John	<i>always having polite manners</i>
Year 4M	Hanna	<i>always being helpful and polite</i>
Year 5F	Alex	<i>fantastic attitude to learning and helping raise funds during Lent</i>
Year 5M	Anaiah	<i>lovely reading at our parents prayer liturgy</i>
Year 6O	Logan	<i>working really hard in maths this week</i>
Year 6R	Henri	<i>showing great enthusiasm and interest in British Science Week</i>

