



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.

## February is dedicated to the Holy Family

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

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Eloquent and Truthful'



Dear parents and carers,

10th February 2023

Our learning this week has been around children's mental health week and the theme has been 'let's connect', incorporated into this has been our learning around safer internet use and staying safe online. It was lovely to host a coffee morning for parents so that issues around online safety could be discussed over tea and biscuits.

Thank you to our parents and teachers who are supporting the PTA. We had a fantastic meeting yesterday and planned many fun events for the rest of the school year. The PTA meetings are a great way to become involved in school life and all parents are welcome to attend. Our next one is **Thursday 4th May at 3:45pm**. As we conclude our week, we ask for the intercession of our Lady of Lourdes, on the eve of her feast day, and we especially pray for the victims and families of the Turkey and Syria earthquake.

Mrs Yorke

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

*Matthew 5:1*

*"Your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven".*

Father God,

*You are the light of the world. Thank you for showing me Your light through Your love for me. Help me shine Your light through my gifts and talents, so others can see your love too.*

Amen

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

- we are called to shine God's light in the world.
- we can shine by using our gifts and talents to help others

### Catholic Life in School

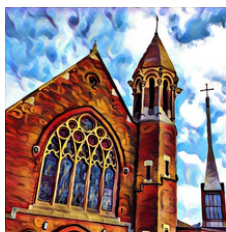
#### Year 1 Mass - 8.2.23

Year 1 led us in our Mass this week about Our Lady of Lourdes. The children read and sang beautifully. Their offertory is currently on display in our foyer as a dedication to Our Lady of Lourdes.



#### Y6 Mass in Church - 15.2.23 at 9:15am - St. Peter

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 15th February 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 6 children will be leading our Mass and Year 5 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



# CHILDREN'S

# MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



## Online Safety Day - Tuesday 7th February 2023

We had a wonderful online safety day, which began with a coffee morning with the parents. It was lovely to see so many parents talking about how to keep their children safe online.



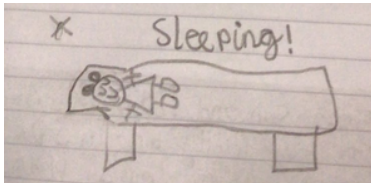
Y6 spoke about their mental health and how they can look after it. They did an activity called 'my happy place' and thought about what makes them happy.



Year 2 have been thinking about the things that help support their mental health.

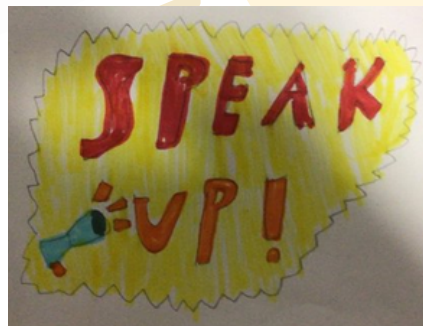
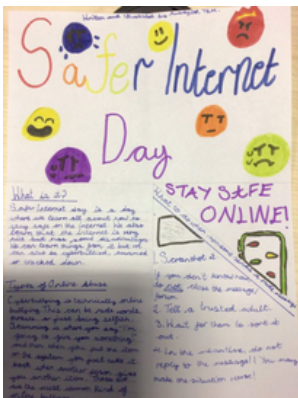


Reception class learnt a song to remind them to ask a grown up if they ever feel unsure about something, when using a tablet or phone.



it's okay  
not to be  
okay

Year 5 made some super posters for the Safer Internet Day.



Year 1 learnt how to be safe online and why it is important to be safe online.

"One day you'll see how hard it was and how brave you were."

Reception news: -

Reception class have enjoyed making soup this week.



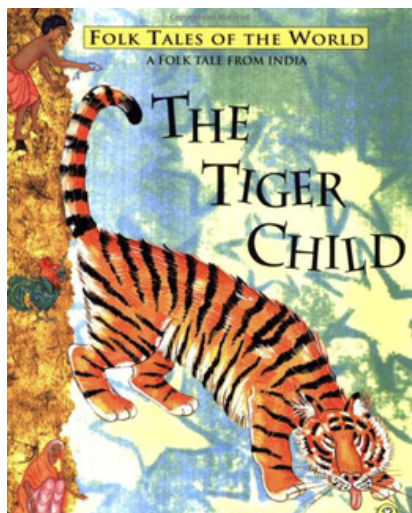
Year 1 news: -

Year 1 have really enjoyed their gymnastics lessons this week.



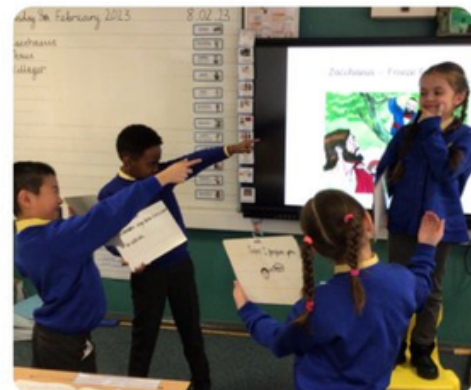
Year 2 news: -

Year 2 writers wrote inspiring stories about the Tiger child in their English lessons.



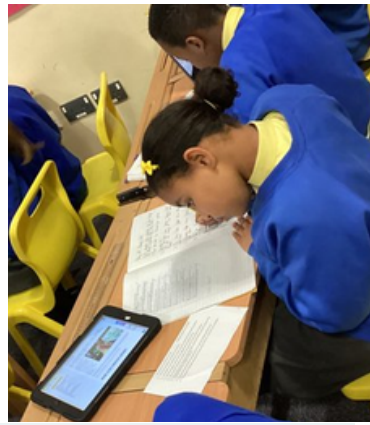
Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been learning about forgiveness in RE and created freeze frames to discuss thoughts and feelings of those present in the story of Zacchaeus.



### Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been using online sources effectively to answer comprehension questions.



### Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have been practising their batting, bowling and fielding in their cricket lessons.



### Year 6 news: -

Year 6 put their hockey skills to the test in a series of matches this week.



## Building God's Kingdom



Miss Horton and Mrs Noone delivered to staff of many Catholic schools the wonderful Catholic Curriculum that we are developing. They shared the amazing work our children have been doing and how we build the Kingdom of God on Earth.



## ***Year 6 visit to St. Chad's Cathedral Thursday 16th February 2023***

In preparation for the Year 6 Confirmation later on in the year, the children will be visiting St. Chad's Cathedral. They will leave school at 9:10am and will return in time for dismissal at 3:30pm.



## ***Friday 17th February - Cake Sale to raise funds to support Turkey and Syria Appeal***

In light of the recent news about the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria, we will be fundraising to support the CAFOD Earthquake Appeal. This appeal will help to fund urgent humanitarian aid to people in the affected areas.

We will be holding a cake sale in school on Friday 17th February and we would be grateful for donations of cakes. Cakes can be shop bought or homemade but please NO NUTS as we have children in school with severe allergies.

If you would like to donate cakes, there will be a table outside school at morning drop off on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February.

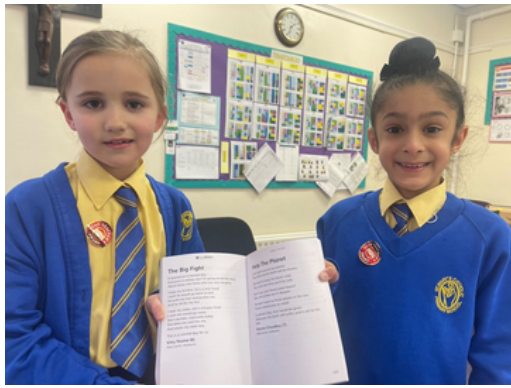
If your child would like to buy a cake at the cake sale, they should bring no more than £1 in an envelope (labelled with their name) on Friday 17th February.

If we have cakes leftover at the end of the day, we will run a stall outside school at pick up so please do have £1 ready in case you wish to buy a cake then also.

We are sure you will join us in asking our Mother, Mary, to provide comfort to the people of Turkey and Syria in their hour of need.

Thank you for your ongoing support.





**Writing - Poetry**

*Kitty and Raman are published poets! Wow!*

*Great work to you both. Keep up the wonderful writing.*



**Power Projects**

*Oscar and Ted went above and beyond with their Survival Power projects. They are amazing.*



**U11s Football Competition**

*Our undefeated U11s football team had another win this week 2-1. Well done.*



**U9s Football Competition**

*Our U9s footballers competed in their first tournament this week. They played exceptionally well and got through to the semi-finals*

Other News

**ELECTRIC DREAMS  
80S MUSIC NIGHT**

[ELECTRICDREAMSB17.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](http://ELECTRICDREAMSB17.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK)

**FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY  
SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER**

**HARBORNE SLIPPY**

**INDIE NIGHT**

[HARBORNESLIPPY.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](http://HARBORNESLIPPY.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK)

**Saturday 22nd April  
Saturday 21st October**

**GREAT MUSIC, GREAT CROWD, CHEAP DRINKS!**

**HARBORNE'S BEST NIGHTS OUT! (B17)**

"These are fun, safe local nights, cheaper than chips and bonus you can walk home." ★★★★★

**HARBORNE VILLAGE SOCIAL CLUB**

Profits go to local primary school PTAs: £2,500 raised in 2022!



**PTA fundraising**

*Harborne Village Social club are running different evenings throughout the year.*

*Any profits raised are split between the PTAs of the local Primary Schools.*

*So if you are interested, you can have a great night out and support fundraising for the children at St. Mary's.*

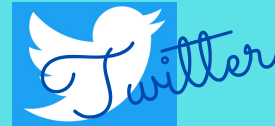
We are an operation encompass school. Therefore school is working alongside the police to ensure support for any child who has been involved in or witness to domestic abuse. Please find more information about this on our website or contact the school office.

## Pastoral Team

If you require any support from school please speak to a member of our pastoral team



**Let's keep kids safe online**



Stay up to date with everything that is happening at St. Mary's by following us on our Twitter Page and giving us more likes!!!

The online world is an important part of kids' lives nowadays. It's an exciting place for them to explore, with all sorts of fun and educational stuff to discover, but there can be some risks too.

'Keeping children safe online' will teach you how to help kids explore their favourite apps, games and sites safely. Our workshop will:

- help you understand how children experience the online world
- show you resources and tools that could help keep them safe

empower you to guide them in their journey.

Date: Monday 27th February 2023

Time: 4:45-5:45pm

Location: St Mary's Catholic Primary

**NSPCC**



## 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 30<sup>th</sup> Jan – 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	92.7%	96.1%	96.3%	97.5%	97.9%	93.8%	92.9%	96.3%	98.8%	95.8%	94.8%	96.6%	95.4%	95%
Lates	4	6	2	7	6	1	8	3	2	3	6	1	2	9
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.3%			School Target			97%		

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

# Dates for this term

*Spring theme -*

*Spring 1 Virtues*

WB 13.2.23

14th February 2023 - am

15th February 2023 - 9:15am

16th February 2023

17th February 2023 - 9:15am

*17th February 2023*

*27th February 2023 - all day*

27th February - 4:45-5:45pm

28th February 2023 - am

*1st March 2023 - all day*

1st March 2023 - 9:15am

*2nd March 2023 - all day*

WB 6.3.23

7th March 2023 - am

7th March 2023 - 9:15am

10th March 2023

WB 13.3.23

14th March 2023 - am

15th March 2023 - 9:15am

*15th March 2023 - all day*

*16th March 2023 - all day*

21st March 2023 - am

24th March 2023 - 9:15am

28th March 2023 - am

28th March 2023 - after school

29th March 2023 - after school

WB 3.4.23

**6th April 2023 - 11:00am**

*6th April 2023*

*The Dignity of Work*

*Eloquent and Truthful*

Acts of Kindness Week

Y5 visit to Harborne Library

Y6 Mass in Church and Y5 children attend - parents welcome

Y6 trip to St. Chad's

Y3 Year Group Assembly for parents

*Break up for February half-term - finish at normal time*

*Children return to school*

Online Safety coffee evening for parents

Y4 visit to Harborne Library

*POSSIBLE STRIKE Action*

Y4 Mass in Church and Y2 children attend - parents welcome

*World Book Day*

Careers Week

Y3 visit to Harborne Library

Reception Mass and Y6 buddies attend - parents welcome

Mothers' Day Activities in school

British Science Week

Y6 visit to Harborne Library

Y2 Mass in Church and Y1 children attend - parents welcome

*Potential STRIKE Action*

*Potential STRIKE Action*

Y5 visit to Harborne Library

Y2 Year group assembly

Y4 visit to Harborne Library

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations

Holy Week

**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	Esme	trying so hard with her blending and writing
Year RT	Finn	working to improve his reading and writing
Year IF	Aila	always trying her best and reading and singing beautifully in Mass
Year IL	Erin	fantastic attitude to learning and being kind, polite and helpful to her friends
Year 2E	Oscar	super writing this week
Year 2G	Theodore	incredible exciting writing
Year 3L	Azucena	being a kind friend and helping others in class
Year 3T	Charlie	fantastic contributions to our shape learning in maths
Year 4J	Olivia	always demonstrating the best manners and kindness towards others
Year 4M	Kai	for a fantastic power project
Year 5F	Miriam	fabulous attitude to learning and being kind, polite and helpful to her friends
Year 5M	Isaac	an outstanding piece of descriptive writing which builds tension and suspense
Year 6O	Audrey	great piece of historical fiction on the Suffragettes
Year 6R	Tomas	always being an excellent role model to others

