



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.

May is dedicated to our Blessed Mother, Mary

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

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Curious and Active'



Dear parents and carers,

26th May 2023

In our final week of the half term, we have been thinking about Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Our preparations have been particularly poignant for Year 6 as they made their Confirmation on Wednesday evening. It was lovely to welcome Bishop David Evans in to school and he was very impressed with the knowledge of the children. Thank you to all those involved in preparing our Year 6 children for their Confirmation - the Church was full!

We will continue to pray for all the children that they are always guided to make the right choices by the Holy Spirit.

This week has also been a special week for Year 2 children who have completed their assessments. Well done Year 2!

When we return after half-term, please ensure that children are not bringing in personal items from home i.e. toys, plasticine, football cards... this is causing a distraction to learning and fall-outs at play times. We have many activities going on at play times to engage the children and items from home are not needed.

Also, as the warmer weather is now hopefully here, please send your children in to school wearing sun screen and with a hat. Please make sure that the hat does not have any logos on it.

We are sending out our Social Media Policy alongside today's newsletter as a reminder of correct use. Groups like WhatsApp are so useful for reminders about things taking place in school but are not necessarily the forum to air any concerns or issues. Please make an appointment to speak with myself if you have any issues about school.

I would like to thank you all for your support this half term and hope that you all have a wonderful break.

We will see you on Monday 5th June for our final half-term of the school year.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

John 20: 19 - 23 and Acts 2 1 : 11

"After saying this, He breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit."

'When Pentecost day came round...they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.'

Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Your Spirit living in us reminds us that you are always with us because you love us! Please fill us with your Holy Spirit now, and give us the strength and courage to show God's love to the world.

Amen

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- Who the Holy Spirit is
- That the presence of the Holy Spirit helps us to tell others about our faith.
- That they can be filled with the Holy Spirit if they believe in Jesus.

Catholic Life in School



Reception Mass - 4th Week of Lent

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 7th June, starting promptly at 9:15am. Reception children will be leading our Mass and Year 6 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.





Pentecost

This weekend, we celebrate Pentecost and the birthday of the Church. We have been doing lots of things in school this week to prepare ourselves for this special feast day...



Symbols of the Holy Spirit

Fire

Reception and Year 1 held a birthday party for the Church. They roasted marshmallows and sang Happy Birthday!



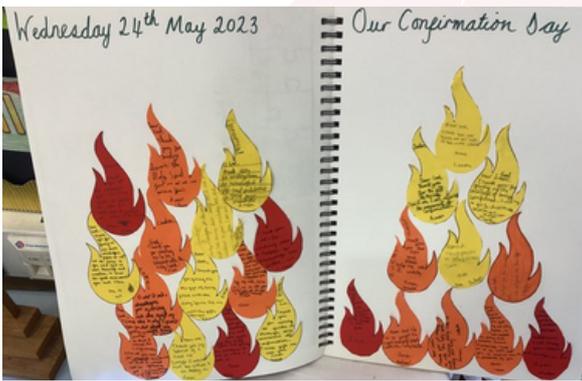
Wind

Reception class also thought about the powerful nature of wind - they used the parachute to represent this when thinking about how the Holy Spirit helped the Disciples.



Year 6 Confirmation

Thank you to all those involved in preparing our Year 6 children for their Confirmation. We will continue to pray for all the children. May they always be guided to make the right choices by the Holy Spirit.



Year 6 Confirmation Parent Workshop

Our beautiful crosses painted during the Confirmation workshop are now mounted to the wall. Such beautiful and thoughtful designs!



Reception news: -

Reception class have been planning their own prayer services to celebrate Mary, this month of May.



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 enjoyed their trip to the library and reading lots of stories.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been keeping their bodies and minds healthy during the daily mile.



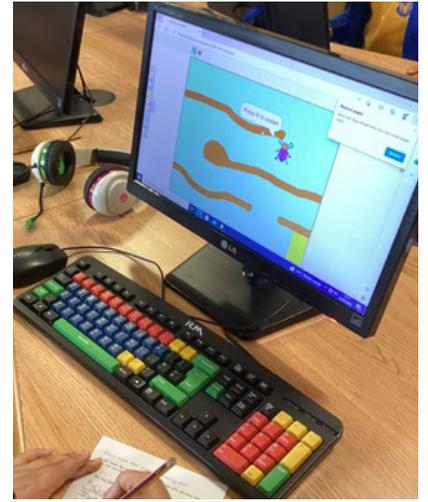
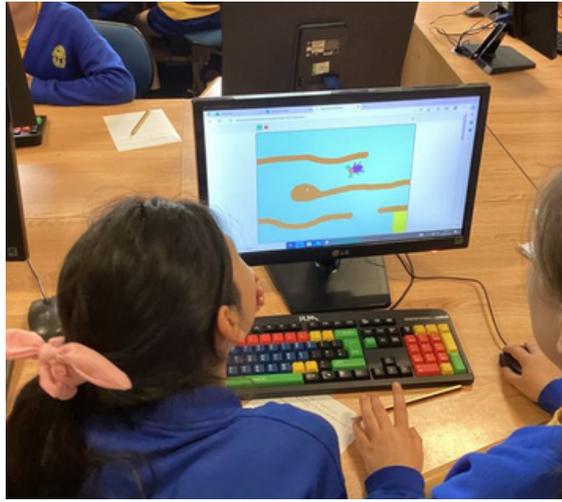
Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been leading their class in beautiful acts of Collective Worship and prayer this week.



Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have enjoyed their computing lessons this week.



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 recreated their own Solar system of the planets with balloons and chalk and even a hula hoop to represent Saturn's rings.



They have also had a wonderful time on their trip to Sarehole Mill.

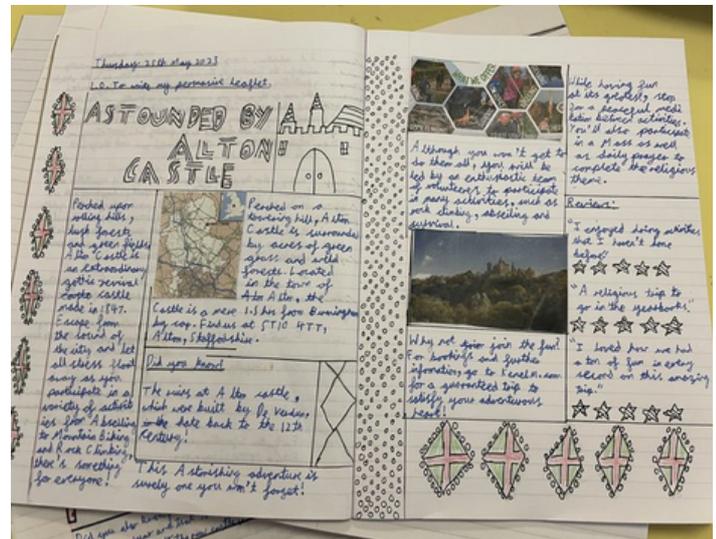
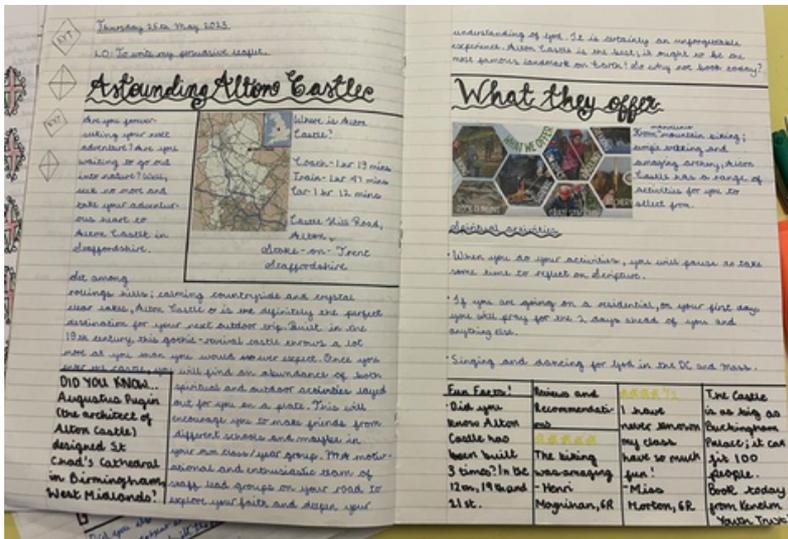


Year 6 news: -

Year 6 have had a wonderful week preparing for their Confirmation and enjoyed their workshop with parents to create beautiful crosses in honour of their chosen Saint name.



They also have produced a fantastic range of persuasive leaflets about their Residential destination – Alton Castle.



Extra-Curricular



Ulls Football boys team
Another great win for the Ulls St. Mary's boys team this week, winning 5-2 in their game.
Great work everybody.

**Relationships
Education,
Relationships and
Sex Education (RSE)
and Health Education**

Statutory guidance for governing bodies,
proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior
leadership teams, teachers

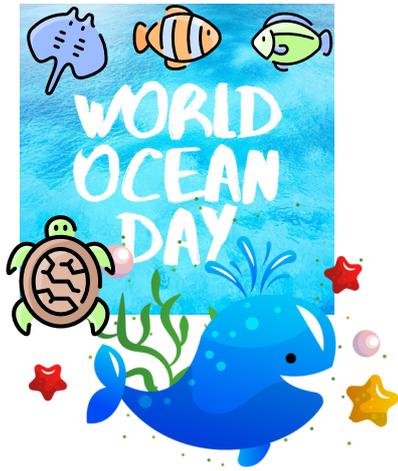
RSE talks for parents

Tuesday 6th June 2:30pm for Reception and KS1 parents

Wednesday 7th June 2:30pm for KS2 parents

The week we return, Miss Horton will deliver RSE (Relationships, Sex Education) and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Economics) workshops for parents.

Letters have been emailed out for further information.



World Ocean Day - Thursday 8th June 2023

On Thursday 8th June, we will be thinking about the importance of looking after our blue planet. Our work links directly with our Stewardship learning and Pope Francis' 'Laudate Si' encyclical. To show our support for sustainability, we will wear blue and our learning will be based on Geography, sustainability and our Christian response to global challenges facing the planet.

We kindly ask for a donation for your children wearing blue which will be in support of 'The Ocean Foundation' charity. Thankyou for your support.

Severn Trent Water - Thursday 8th June 2023

As part of our learning on World Ocean Day, Severn Trent will be in school to lead assemblies for KS1 and KS1 and to host workshops for Year 4 and Year 5.



Donations needed for Summer Fayre

The PTA have asked for the following donations to sell at the School Summer Fayre on Friday 16th June 2023...

Donations can be brought in on 9th June 2023

Reception - Sweets (in bags)

Year 1 - Cakes

(Please donate on morning of 16th June - no nuts)

Year 2 - Chocolate

Year 3 - Chocolate

Year 4 - Sweets (in bags)

Year 5 - Books

Year 6 - Teddies/ Soft Toys



Non-school uniform day - 9th June 2023

As a thank you for your kind donations, the children may have a non-school uniform day on Friday 9th June 2023.



Water bottles

Please make sure that your child brings their water bottle in to school every day. This is particularly important as the weather is getting warmer. Water bottles should not be glass or heavy metal for health and safety reasons.

Packed Lunches

Please make sure that packed lunches are suitable for school: -

- They should be healthy - a small sugary snack is allowed, alongside fruit and yoghurts.
- Cutlery - children must not bring in items that can be deemed dangerous, such as knives. Please pre-prepare anything that may need chopping.
- Containers - children (and staff) are struggling to open the thermos containers that some children are using for their lunch. Please ensure that containers can easily be opened (ideally by your child).



We are in the process of creating a Non-School Uniform Dress Code

Please ensure that your children are still dressed appropriately on non-school uniform days. This includes: -

- No very short skirts or shorts
- No bare mid-riffs or crop tops
- No Flip-flops or backless footwear (due to health and safety issues)
- No excessive make up or jewellery
- No clothing which reveals underwear
- No clothing with offensive logos



This week, your Live Simply challenge is to walk, cycle, take the bus or train instead of driving!

Can you reduce your carbon footprint?

Post on twitter with #LiveSimply if you accept the challenge!

Livesimply

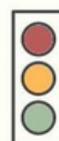
Our children (and staff) are change makers!



KEEP YOUR CAR WELL TUNED, GET AN ELECTRIC OR HYBRID CAR, IF YOU'RE REPLACING IT



USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT



AVOID PEAK TRAVEL TIMES

REDUCE YOUR TRANSPORT CARBON FOOTPRINT



AVOID SHORT CAR JOURNEYS & OFFER YOUR RIDE AS CARPOOL



EXPLORE ALTERNATIVES & AVOID SHORT DISTANCES BY PLANE



WALK OR CYCLE



TRAVEL BY TRAIN



SAVE THE DATE AS
★ St.Mary's RC school PTA hosts our ★

SUMMER FAIR

★ Friday 16th June ★
3.30pm-6.30pm

CHILDREN MUST
BE SUPERVISED
BY AN ADULT AT
ALL TIMES

GERMAN SAUSAGES ,
BEER & PROSECCO

Helter skelter, Ariel artist,
Costume Characters,
Glitter Artist & much more

Join us for lots of family fun- Inflatables, Entertainment,
Music, Stalls, Food, Bar, Raffle, Sweets, Games.

Tickets available from your class reps from Mon 22nd May.
Family ticket £12. Individual ticket £3.
Cash only event
Volunteers required!



**Piano Recital in support of Ukraine Hospitaliers / Paramedics:
St Mary's Church, Saturday 3rd June - 4pm**

*The piano recital will be given by Marie-Louise Taylor, concert pianist, who has performed in Birmingham CBSO centre, Adrian Boult Hall, Chetham's School of Music and has been an adjudicator for the Conservatoire at St. Mary's Church.
Programme: Mozart, Chopin and Schubert,
- see poster at School entrance*



**First Holy Communion Masses:
Saturday 10th June, 10.00am and 2.00pm!**

*The Holy Communion Masses are coming up on Saturday 10th June.
Check your child's Mass time with the Parish ahead of this date!*

**This is an Operation
Encompass School**

KEEPING SAFE

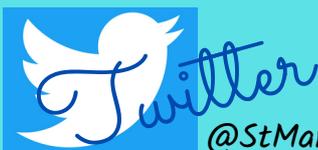
We are an operation encompass school. Therefore school is working alongside the police to ensure support for any child who has been involved in or witness to domestic abuse.
Please find more information about this on our website or contact the school office.

Pastoral Team

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



Online Safety



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!!!

Follow this link to find out more about how to keep your children safe when they play online games: -

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Need advice about online safety?

If you're stuck, not sure what to do, or if you're worried about your child, you can contact trained helpline counsellors on 0808 800 5000.

Childline also has lots of information about online and mobile safety that will help you and your child.

Minimum age is 13 years old for a reason

The minimum age to create a WhatsApp account is 13 years old! It is important to note that WhatsApp relies on the honesty of the children and family to adhere to the age restrictions. Other social media services like Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Musical.ly, and Skype also require users to be at least 13 years old to access and use their services. These age restrictions are to ensure the safety for your children. Please ensure that children are not exposed to any conversations that are being had on WhatsApp groups about school too. Thank you.



Tackling Online Hate

One way in which we can tackle online hate is ensuring our children learn about what it is and how they can stop it. Internet Matters have created a quiz that you can complete with your child. As you progress through the questions, you will be given advice as well as questions to discuss and help you have a conversation with your child.

The quiz is available here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/theonlinetogetherproject/tackling-online-hate-quiz>

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 15th May – 19th May

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	94%	95.3%	99.7%	98.3%	99.7%	98.7%	93.3%	97.3%	99.7%	97.3%	98.7%	97.1%	95%	96.7%
Lates	12	7	3	12	7	6	6	7	8	6	9	1	2	5
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.7%			School Target				97%	

Well done Y1L, Y2E and Y4J: - our Attendance Champions

June dates

Summer theme -

Summer 1 Virtues

5th June 2023 - all day

6th June 2023 - 2:30pm

7th June 2023 - 9:15am

7th June 2023 - 2:30pm

8th June 2023 - all day

8th June 2023 - all day

9th June 2023 - all day

10th June 2023 - 10am and 2pm

WB 12.6.23

WB 12.6.23

WB 12.6.23

12th June 2023 - pm

14th June 2023 - 9:15am

14th June 2023 - 2:30pm

16th June 2023 - 3:30-6:30pm

WB 19.6.23

WB 19.6.23

20th June 2023 - 9:15-11:00am

20th June 2023 - 1:15-3:00pm

21st June 2023 - 9:15am

21st June 2023 - after school

23rd June - all day

WB 26.6.23

27th June 2023 - all day

28th June 2023 - all day

29th June 2023 - 9:30am

30th June 2023 - 9:15am

Solidarity and the Common Good

Intentional and Prophetic

Children return to school on Monday at normal time

Reception and KS1 RSE/PSHE curriculum talk for parents

Reception Mass in Church (and Y6 attend) - parents welcome

KS2 RSE/PSHE curriculum talk for parents

World Ocean Day - children may wear blue to school (donation welcome)

Severn Trent visit in to school as part of our World Ocean Day work

Non-school uniform day - donations for Summer Fayre needed (PTA event)

Y3 Holy Communion Masses at St. Mary's Church

Money Week

Year 1 phonics assessments are taking place

Year 4 timestables check are taking place

Holy Communion party in school (children bring dresses/suits to change in to)

Y2 Mass in Church (and Y4 attend) - parents welcome

Reception parents workshop - transition information for Year 1

Party in the Playground

Refugee Week

Arts Week

Parent Inspire morning session

Parent Inspire afternoon session

Y5 Mass in Church (and Y3 attend) - parents welcome

Film Club (PTA event)

Class photos day

Request for bottles for the Parish Fete can be brought in to school

Y3 trip to Coventry Transport Museum

Y2 trip to Arboretum

Whole School Mass for SS Peter and Paul - parents welcome

Reception Year group assembly for parents.

Star of the week

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

Year RB	Anicet	<i>making the right choices and for lovely manners this week</i>
Year RT	Liam	<i>using his words to communicate with his teachers. Well done Liam!</i>
Year 1F	Sophia	<i>trying really hard with her DT project and making a moving animal</i>
Year 1L	Tomas	<i>for a fantastic DT project</i>
Year 2E	Krishan	<i>fabulous work and behaviour this week</i>
Year 2G	Michael	<i>role-playing an argument between doubting Thomas and the other disciples</i>
Year 3L	Rohan	<i>being really helpful to a friend in need</i>
Year 3T	Abigail	<i>brilliant filming and editing skills in computing</i>
Year 4J	Ewan	<i>showing good cooperation and teamwork with his friends at break time</i>
Year 4M	Amelia	<i>continuous effort in maths</i>
Year 5F	Jacob	<i>excellent behaviour and attentive listening</i>
Year 5M	Gabriel	<i>being a fantastic representative of St. Mary's during our visit to Sarehole Mill</i>
Year 6O	Simone	<i>fantastic leaflet about Alton Castle</i>
Year 6R	Eric	<i>excellent persuasive leaflet about Alton Castle</i>



Well done to the winning house St Gianna who have the most dojo points so far! There's still time to catch them next half term!