



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: 'Stewardship'

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



10th May 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for our donations of potted plants this week. We have used them on our prayer areas and laid them in front of Mary as part of our May Procession. We will continue to pray for her intercession and protection for all our children and families throughout May. Your children have led lovely prayer services devoted to Mary this week. Well done children. I would like to send out a reminder about children wearing correct school uniform, including on their PE day. Jewellery must be minimalistic for the safety of your child/ren. Some schools are moving to a no jewellery policy, due to accidents that happen. We have very active days in school, including children using activity trails, gym equipment, OPAL lunchtimes, Sports Clubs and PE sessions. This is fantastic... but children should not be wearing jewellery for this. Our school policy is one pair of studs and a watch. These need to be removed on PE days. **No other jewellery** is permitted - this includes bracelets and necklaces. Again this is for the safety of the children and I have asked staff to check that children are not wearing jewellery before they take part in physical activity. If children are unable to remove jewellery that is deemed unsafe, they may not fully take part in the planned activity. You can help us by ensuring that they are not wearing jewellery on PE days and to only wear small studs at any other time.

Please keep Year 6 in your prayers over the upcoming days. Next week, Year 6 will complete their SATs and they have all worked so hard to prepare. They'll need a good rest this weekend and an early night on Sunday. Have a good weekend everybody,

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Mark 16 : 19

'And so, the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into Heaven.'

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- Jesus ascended into Heaven and leads us from His rightful place at the right hand of God the Father,
- Jesus instructed the Disciples to spread the Good News and gave them power to do incredible things,
- We are also called to be Disciples who follow Jesus by listening to His instructions.



Risen Lord,

Draw us to you. Give us your peace.

Drive away all doubts,

and fill our hearts with joy;

you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Whole School Mass - 9.5.24 - The Ascension and May procession

On Thursday, the whole school community gathered for our Ascension Mass. We also had our May procession and devotion to Mary.



Reception news: -

This week, Reception have been learning about adjectives. The children drew some of their favourite characters and then wrote some words to describe them.



Year 1 news: -

Scientists in Year 1 have been looking at wild garden plants in their Science lessons.



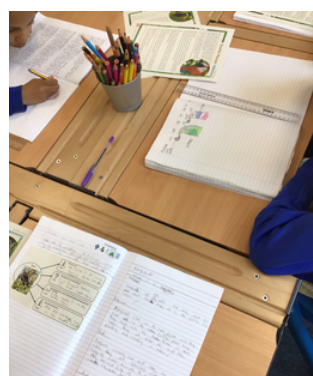
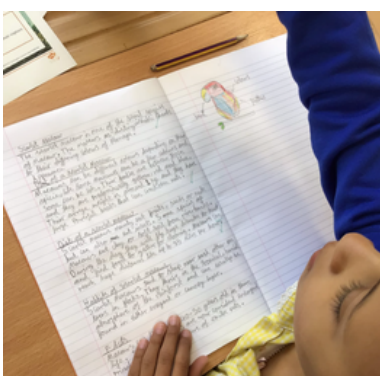
Year 2 news: -

Geographers in Year 2 worked together this week to identify and sort features of the world.



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been learning about the layers of the rainforest in Geography this week. They explored which animals live in each layer and created a fact file on their chosen animal.



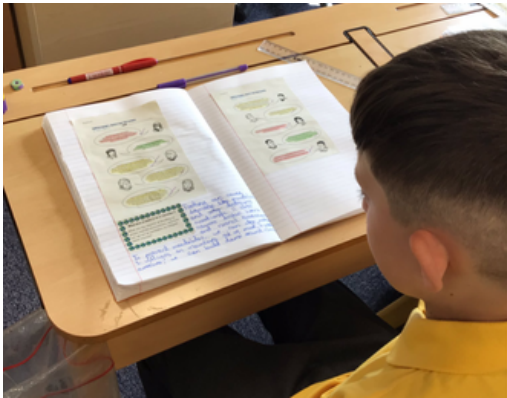
Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have designed labels for their 'loose change' water bottle which will be filled with money for their Water Aid charity 'cycle', taking place in a couple of weeks.



Year 5 news: -

In Geography this week, Year 5 discussed the causes and effects of flooding and how can we act as caretakers to make these impacts less harmful.



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 used drama in English to act out a scene from their class text, Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick.



Catholic Life

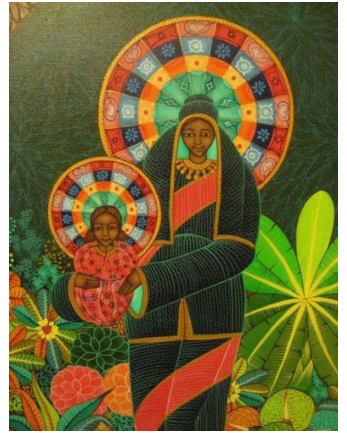


May and the Rosary

Prayer Bags in dedication to Our Lady

You can use this website to pray the Rosary at home...

<https://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php>



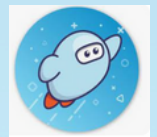
Year 1 Assembly
The Ascension of Jesus,
Year 1 children did an amazing job today in their rendition of Jesus' Ascension for their parents.



Reading Update



Open a world of reading.



We're really pleased to announce that SORA is back up and running! We have had IT issues preventing access to the app but these have now been resolved and service has been resumed.

What is SORA? SORA is an award winning digital app that provides access to an age appropriate library of eBooks, audio books and magazines. St Mary's have subscribed to 'Primary Ebooks Now UK' which is a curated collection of over 1500 eBooks and audio books tailored to primary school aged children.

Children can use SORA both at school and at home!

How can my child access SORA? A 'how to' guide will be distributed shortly but all that is needed are your child's school Microsoft log in details (these are the log in details that they use in school). Class teachers can provide this information if necessary*.

The SORA app can be downloaded for free or accessed via a web browser.

*Reception and Year 1 parents - our IT technician is currently working on your children's log ins but they will be ready very shortly.



We are incredibly proud of Yumi!
Yumi won 'Best in beam' at the West Midlands Development and Preparation grades held last Sunday. She also won 4th place overall out of 47 gymnasts. This is a great achievement Yumi. Congratulations!



Well done to Trinidad in 4J, Joseph in 4J and Florence in 1F who all took part in the Mini Great Birmingham Run on Sunday 5th May. Fantastic effort, children!



Year 5 home learning

Year 5 class teachers and Mrs Yorke have been very impressed by the engagement in home learning in Year 5 and the quality of projects. Great work children (and parents)!



Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)

Please note the following:

- Year 6 SATs take place **Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May 2024**
- Year 4 Times Tables Check from **3rd June (3 week period)**
- Year 1 Phonics Screen Check takes place Week Beginning **Monday 10th June**

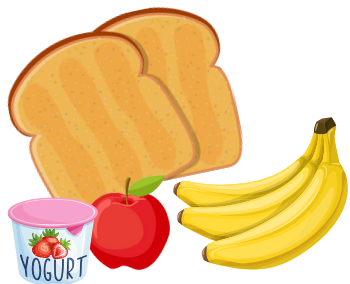


Please do not book holidays for any of the above dates. Further details will be given out nearer the time.

Breakfast Club for Y6 SATs week next week - WB 13.5.24

We are running a Breakfast Club for Year 6 next week as it is their SATs week (Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May 2024) in the school hall - this is free and *for Year 6 only!*

All Year 6 pupils should attend breakfast club between 8:00am - 8:30am next week. Thank you :)



**MENTAL
HEALTH
AWARENESS
WEEK**
13-19 MAY 2024



Feel Happy Dress Up Day - 17.05.24

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week and children may come to school on Friday 17th May wearing clothes that make them feel happy!



Sublime Science

The children will have a Sublime Science workshop next Friday to celebrate Mental health week and the end of SATs week. Thank you to our PTA for organising this special treat for the children and enrichment Science lesson. It sounds very exciting!





St. Mary's School Chaplain – Fr. Hilary

Fr Hilary Basil, Augustinian Friar of St Mary's Community, newly arrived from Nigeria (via Algeria) is happy to be St Mary's School Chaplain. He is ready to celebrate all School and Year Masses, to meet and greet parents after School, and to visit the children in their Classrooms when it is convenient.

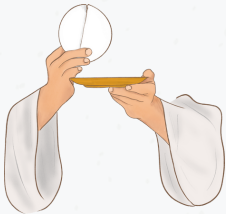


Fr Hilary will be celebrating the three First Holy Communion Masses, weekend 18/19th May. Fr John is ready to step aside after years of being School Chaplain....though he'll miss the energy, joy and real insights into faith your children bring.



First Holy Communion and Confirmation Preparation

St Mary's Parish First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes: 9.30 (Yr3) and 11.30(Yr6) on both Saturday 11th May and Saturday 18th May, in the Parish Hall



Eucharistic Ministers

Parents: we need lay Ministers of Holy Communion for all the Year Masses involving Years 4, 5 and 6. Your reverence for, and faith in Jesus Christ's presence both in the Sacred Host and the communicants, plus a short practice with Fr Hilary or Fr John is all that is required. Please let one of the priests know, if you can help.

Consultation – Changes to Parish Mass times



Parish Sunday Mass times throughout the Archdiocese, and especially in our local Deanery (Birmingham South: Harborne, Quinton, Bearwood, Weoley Castle etc) are under ongoing discussion. It is suggested that Mass times need to be staggered in order to allow one priest to cover two or more Churches for Sunday Mass. This is needed if/when a neighbouring priest is not available (sick, holidays, bereavement, death).

*The changes will be implemented in the next couple of years....
Have your say after each Mass at St Mary's Pentecost Sunday May 18/19th.*

St. Mary's Parish Fete

Please take note of the date for our Parish Fete. Complete with fancy dress, entertainment, food, drinks, stalls and a raffle.

We look forward to seeing many of our families and children.



*Carnival
theme*

Multi-activity camps

WHITSUN HALF-TERM



PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS

 **INSPIRING ACTIVITY**

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps

 **Trustpilot**
Based on over 20,000 reviews

YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

Venue: Harborne Academy Harborne Road Edgbaston B15 3JJ

Dates: 28th May 2024- 31st May 2024

Times: 9am - 4pm (4 year olds allowed from 9am - 1pm)

Price: £18.84 full day (£12.30 for 4 year olds 9am - 1pm)

Ages: 4-11 (4 year olds 9am- 1pm)

Additional info: EARLY BIRD 30% discount ends on 1/5/24

PLEASE BRING

- A packed lunch
- Plenty of water
- Suitable clothing
- Loads of energy!

Our 5* Holiday Camps are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the Whitsun half-term.

Children can meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from dodgeball to cricket, basketball to archery.

Book now for a half-term full of fun!

CAMPS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!

TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!

*T&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.

 **Trustpilot**
Based on over 20,000 reviews

Football camp

WHITSUN HALF-TERM



PREMIER FOOTBALL CAMPS

 **INSPIRING ACTIVITY**

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Children can meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

For football fans, our sport-specific camps are the perfect way to spend the school holidays.

Book now for a half-term full of fun!

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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



Being unkind online

Talk to your child about how they speak to other online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect and kindness...

Here are some examples of what being unkind online looks like to talk to children about:-

- Sending nasty or hurtful messages
- Leaving unkind comments
- Sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission
- Excluding somebody on purpose
- Impersonating somebody with a fake account
- Telling/sharing lies

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 06/05-10/05

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	95.8	97	97.9	96.2	92.5	99	100	97.9	96.2	98.3	97.5	98.3	89.9	97.4
Lates	2	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	0	1	2
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.43%			School Target				97%	

Well done 3L : - Our attendance champions!

Dates for next term

Summer theme -

Summer 1

WB 13.5.24

WB 13.5.24

16th May 2025 - 2:30pm

17th May 2024 - all day

17th May 2024 - all day

21st May 2024 - am

22nd May 2024 - 9:15am

24th May 2024

Stewardship

Eloquent and Truthful

Mental Health Week

Year 6 SATs Week

Year Reception Year group Assembly

'Feel happy' dress down day - wear the clothes that make you feel the most happy - PTA treat too!

Year 1 visit to Harborne library (8:50 1F and 10:20 1L)

Reception Mass **ONLY** for Reception parents in school hall

Break up for half-term break - normal time

Summer theme -

Summer 2

3rd June 2024 - all day

WB 3.6.24

4th June 2024 - am

4th June 2024 - 2:30pm

5th June 2024 - 9:15am

5th June 2024 - 2:30pm

7th June 2024 - all day

WB 10.6.24

WB 10.6.24

11th June 2024 - am

12th June 2024 - all day

12th June 2024 - 9:15am

13th June 2024 - all day

14th June 2024 - pm

17th June - 19th June

19th June 2024 - 9:15am

25th June 2024 - am

2nd July 2024 - am

Stewardship

Learned and Wise

Children return to school at normal time

Year 4 Multiplication check window - 3 weeks

Year 3 visit to Harborne library (8:50 3T and 10:20 3L)

RSE talk for parents - KS1

Year 1 Mass **ONLY** for Year 1 parents in school hall

RSE talk for parents - KS2

World Ocean Day

Phonics check for Year 1 this week

Money Week

Year 2 visit to Harborne library (8:50 2E and 10:20 2G)

Sarehole Mill Trip - YSF

Year 4 Mass in Church (and Year 3 classes attend) - parents welcome

Sarehole Mill Trip - YSM

Year 6 Fathers' Day Inspire

Year 6 residential

Year 5 Mass in Church (and Year 2 classes attend) - parents welcome

Reception class visit to Harborne library (8:50 RB and 10:20 RT)

Year 1 visit to Harborne library (8:50 1L and 10:20 1F)

Star of the week

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

Year RB	Charlotte	Excellent learning about Arctic animals
Year RT	Diako	For putting lots of effort into all of his learning this week
Year IF	Florence	Excellent performance in the Year 1 assembly
Year IL	Jayden	Always working hard
Year 2E	Max	Trying hard in swimming lessons
Year 2G	Sara	For always trying her best and presenting her work beautifully
Year 3L	Ethan	Writing a great letter of complaint in his Exciting Writing
Year 3T	Nathan	For a fantastic contribution to our 'Time' learning in Maths
Year 4J	Nikola	Beautiful singing in Mass yesterday
Year 4M	Arthur	Super effort in Exciting Writing
Year 5F	Rhoda	Incorporating our school virtues in everything that she does
Year 5M	Cecile	Always following instructions and consistently helping her peers in the classroom
Year 6O	Layla	Having a wonderful attitude towards her work and always offering to help in class
Year 6R	Tamilore	Always being reflective and thoughtful in her work, particularly in RE.

