



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.

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## June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Our theme for the Summer term is: 'Stewardship'**  
**Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Learned and Wise'**

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Dear parents and carers,

6th June 2025

I would like to begin by thanking you all for your kind wishes, support and response to the parent questionnaire this week. As you know, on Wednesday and Thursday, we were inspected by the Catholic Schools Inspectorate. The Inspectors received 138 parent questionnaire returns and 58 gave detailed responses. These responses were overwhelmingly positive and supportive of the school and staff, so I thank you for this. We are awaiting our report to be written now which can take up to 3 weeks and I will share this with you as soon as I have it. Over the past couple of days, the children shone through and I am incredibly proud of them and the team we have in school.

We have had a wonderful week in school. On Wednesday evening, our Year 6 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The children were exceptional in their conversation with Bishop David prior to their Confirmation and asked some deep and thought-provoking questions. Congratulations to all our Confirmandi who have now been fully initiated into the Church, filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.



Today, Years 4, 5 and 6 went to Tudor Grange Stadium to compete in their Sports Day. What a wonderful experience for the children! I am sure that they have all gone home today excited about the range of opportunities they had to compete in.

I would like to say a massive thankyou to our parents, particularly Mrs Lay, who helped us organise the event, and to all our volunteers who helped the event run so smoothly.



Next week, on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June, the rest of the school will have their Sports Day. Year 2 and Year 3 will have theirs in the morning 9:00–10:00; and Reception and Year 1 will have theirs in the afternoon 1:30–2:30.

On Monday, we look forward to welcoming you to our fathers' day Inspire. This is an opportunity to get involved with some fun activities with your children and the staff in school. Don't worry dads if you can't make it, any family member can come along.

We have joined with the PTA to make this event non-school uniform so that donations can be brought in for our party in the playground.

Our PTA have asked for the following: Reception and Year 1 – sweets;

Year 2 and Year 3 – chocolate; Year 4 and Year 5 to fill a bag with

goodies i.e. keyrings, pencils, fidgets, toys; and Year 6 – teddies and

books. Thank you for your support with these donations. Although

children are choosing their own clothes for Monday, please make

sure that they are practical for the activities. Monday is a non-school

uniform day for everybody, whether they're doing the Inspire workshop or not.



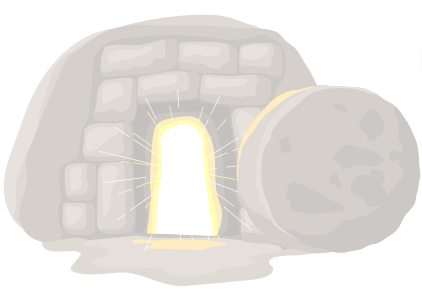
This weekend, we will support our Year 3 children who will make the sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time. Thank you to all involved in preparing the children and as a school we will continue to pray for your children and help them in the journey of faith.

I am delighted to announce that Governors have secured the appointment of a new Deputy Head teacher for September 2025. Mrs Laura Noone will step in to this new role. Mrs Noone is currently Assistant Head teacher and therefore knows our school's mission, values and goals very well. I know that she will continue to make a significant contribution to our school community in this position.

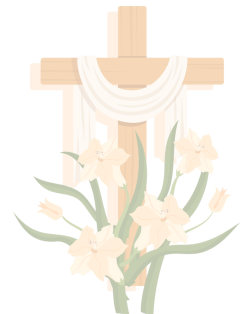
Have a lovely weekend, God bless,

Mrs Yorke





# CATHOLIC LIFE



## This week's Gospel

John 10:26

*"I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."*

### Reflecting on this week's Gospel, we learn: -

- Jesus wants us to know God as our Holy and Righteous Father
- Our Christian faith unites us with God and each other
- Together in hope, we are called to continue Jesus' work, to make God known to all.

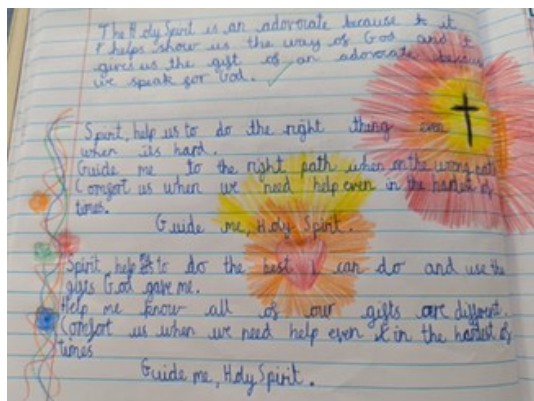
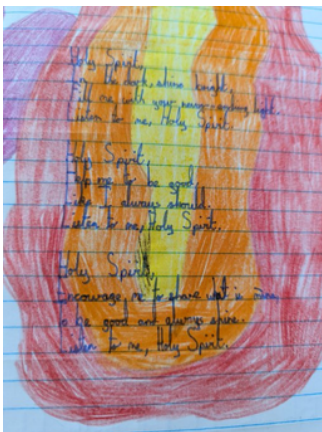


### Our next Mass - Y4 Mass - Pentecost

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 11th June 2025, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 4 children will be leading our Mass and Year 3 children will be attending. All parents are welcome to attend.

### Pentecost

The children have led beautiful prayer and taken part in some fantastic lessons about Pentecost this week.





# Sporting Success



The Year 6 boys have won the district cup and remain undefeated!  
They had a fantastic match and won 7-1.  
Well done boys!!



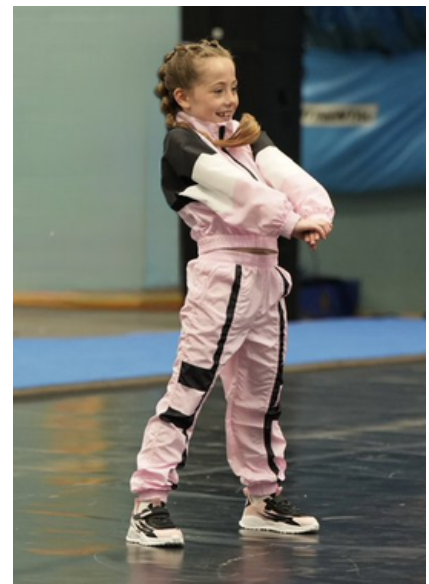
The girls football team also have a great game this week, winning another league match 9-1. Well done to our girls.



Here are our boys and girls celebrating each others' achievements.



We're very proud of sisters Phoebe and Isabella who achieved highly in their dance competition on Sunday. Phoebe was awarded three 1st places and two 2nd places, and Isabella was awarded 2nd place.





And a massive congratulations to Willow who trained for 18 months to perform at Disneyland Paris. She endured a gruelling audition process at her dance school and over the half-term performed in both the Main Street parade and show.  
What a magical moment for you and your family!



And massive congratulations for Olivia who represented her tennis club in the Warwickshire Club Challenge at the Lexus Birmingham open. It was a great experience for her and after competing with her partner in doubles matches, she then got to meet lots of world class, inspirational tennis players.  
Here is Olivia with Swiss number 1 Vitorija Golubic.  
What an amazing opportunity!



We love seeing the children achieving great things by using their God-given gifts. If your child is doing well at something outside of school, please share it with us so that we can celebrate them in school as well. You can send any photos in to the enquiry email and with your permission, we will share them on the Newsletter.

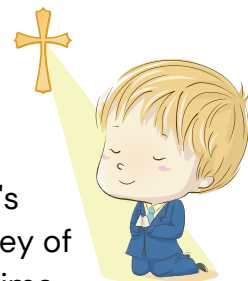


## Holy Communions

7.6.25 10:00am

7.6.25 2:00pm

8.6.25 2:00pm



Our Year 3 children will be making their First Holy Communion at St. Mary's Church this weekend. This marks the third major step on the children's journey of faith, when the children receive the sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time.

To celebrate that many of the children will have made the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we invite all Y3 children to bring in their Holy Communion outfit/smart clothes, to school on Wednesday 25th June 2025. The children will wear their clothes/outfits to their Y3 Mass in Church on that Wednesday morning at 9:15am and will receive a special blessing from Fr. Hilary. All families are welcome to this Mass. Following the Mass, the children will have a little celebration in school before changing back in to their school uniform/PE kit.

Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

Please bring in Holy Communion outfits, in a named bag or on a named hanger. Please do not bring 'accessories' e.g. bags, gloves, veils and jewellery as we do not want anything to be lost/damaged.

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**Week Beginning 10th June – Phonics Check for Year 1**

Year 1 children will be completing their phonics screening check next week.

This check assesses children on how well they can decode certain words. Decoding means sounding out an unfamiliar written word. The children will be asked to decode a series of 40 different words. While most of these will be real words, there will also be some pseudo-words mixed in. These are sometimes known as alien words, and they will be accompanied by an image of an alien to help children identify them. We wish them the best of luck in their phonics check.

**Fathers' Day Inspire – 9.6.25 9:15–11:00 or 1:15–3:00**

To celebrate Father's Day, we are hosting a special play-based 'Parents and children Inspire workshop' in school. This workshop has been designed for dads in line with Fathers' day but of course mums or any family member can attend. The person attending must be an adult over 18 years of age. We have planned some fun activities, led by staff in school, where you can work with your children across the year groups.

**Year 1 Harborne Library Visit – 10.6.25**

Year 1 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

1L will leave at 8:45am

1F 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 Year 1 staff know.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

9:00–10:00 = Year 2 and Year 3

1:30–2:30 = Reception and Year 1

Our Sports day for Reception – Year 3 is next Thursday (weather permitting). All parents are welcome to join us.

**Reception Assembly 13.6.25 at 9:15am**

Our Reception children would love their parents (and grandparents) to join them for their Pentecost Assembly on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 9:15am.





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](mailto: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 02/06/25-06/06/25**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	97.3	89.6	94.6	98.3	97.6	96	95.6	99.3	99.3	95.6	95.3	96.3	98.6	97.3
Lates	3	5	3	4	3	6	2	4	0	1	3	4	4	
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.3%		School Target					97%	

**Well done 3T and 4J: - Our attendance champions!**



# Star of the week

Year RB	Jax	For Brilliant singing and actions during our assembly practise
Year RT	Joseph	For his beautiful drawing of the Pentecost story.
Year IF	Azrael	For his beautiful singing during mass and prayerful behaviour this week.
Year IL	Kori	For sharing the light of Jesus so enthusiastically this week.
Year 2E	Zoey	For her excellent attitude to school life and for taking such great pride in her work.
Year 2G	Grace	For her beautiful singing during mass and prayerful behaviour this week.
Year 3L	Aaron	For working hard and making good choices
Year 3T	Melissa	For leading a beautiful child-led prayer this week with confidence and reverence.
Year 4J	Ben	For fantastic improvement in his focus during lessons.
Year 4M	Lucy E	For excellent active participation during RE lessons this week
Year 5F	Rudi	His creativity, imagination and flair in our English lessons. His writing is a pleasure to read.
Year 5M	Nikola	For having an amazing attitude to her learning this half term
Year 6O	Seth	Representing our school so well in football and excellent sportsmanship
Year 6R	Isla	For the care she showed for a friend when they were hurt

