



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

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.

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Families and Community'

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



25th October 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to thank you all for your support this half term and for completing the parent questionnaire at parents' evening. I will take time to process the information shared over half-term and will continue to bare your feedback in mind with future strategic planning. I will feedback your responses in my next newsletter.

I am just in the process of confirming all the dates for next half-term and these will be sent out to you, alongside the class newsletters on the day that we return to school after the break.

We have had a very successful INSET day in school today, with specific ADHD training, Thrive and My Happy Mind training. We look forward to using all that we have learnt to ensure that all children in school thrive and receive the best education we can offer.

I hope that you will all take time to rest and enjoy the half term break together. Please remain safe during the season, especially with firework night approaching, and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 4th November.

Mrs Yorke



Catholic Life



This week's Gospel and Prayer

Mark 10: 43

'Anyone who wants to be great among you must be your servant.'

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- the importance of following Jesus' example by serving others
- that by dying on the cross, Jesus won for us the ultimate prize - eternal life with Him in Heaven.



Lord, we pray for all those who lead, Help our leaders to remain focused on you, to live and to lead as humble, grateful, assured, and generous servants.

To live and to lead as an example.

To live and to lead as faithful followers of Jesus.

Amen



Reception Mass - 23.10.24

- Welcome + Harvest

Reception children were joined by their Year 6 buddies in Church to celebrate our wonderful Harvest Mass together yesterday. This was Reception's first school Mass and they were officially welcomed to St Mary's school



Our next Mass: - Y1-Y6 Mass for Remembrance

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 6th November 2024**, starting promptly at 9:30am. Most of the school will be attending this Mass. Year 1 - Year 6.

All parents are welcome to attend.



Thank you



Reception class raised £972 on their sponsored Welly Walk last week! This is phenomenal and the school are so thankful to the parents and all who supported this initiative. The money will be spent on outdoor clothing for the Reception children.

Thank you

Thank you so much for all of your kind donations, which the children took to SIFA Fireside yesterday. They were thrilled to see so many donations! Your generosity will really make a difference to so many people.

**Birmingham,
You're not alone.**

Vivian Road
Harborne
Birmingham
B17 0DN



To all at St Mary's Catholic Primary School,

I am writing on behalf of us all here at SIFA Fireside to thank you for your support and for your recent Harvest Festival donation.

SIFA Fireside is Birmingham's main support centre for adults experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Our vision is every adult in Birmingham can live a future without homelessness. Our mission is to challenge and address the systemic causes, and effects of homelessness in collaboration with our partners.

We provide immediate practical help for anyone who is sleeping rough and continue to support our vulnerably housed clients with prevention and recovery services. We offer health and wellbeing services, emergency housing guidance, employment support, benefit advice and community engagement.

We couldn't do this without donations like yours. Please get in touch if you would like to visit our Support Centre and see the impact of your support. To sign up to receive quarterly email updates from us, please fill out this form: <https://sifafireside.beaconforms.com/form/b9a986f2>

Yours Sincerely,

Melissa Roche
Head of Fundraising, Volunteering &...



Prayer



Lovely prayer session about St. Teresa of Avila, planned and led by our Year 5 boys.

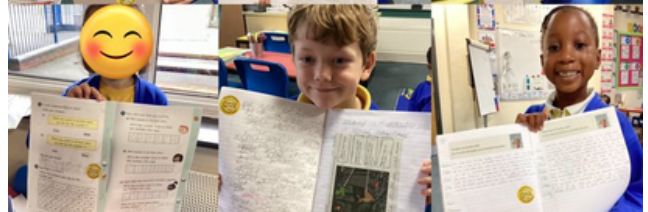
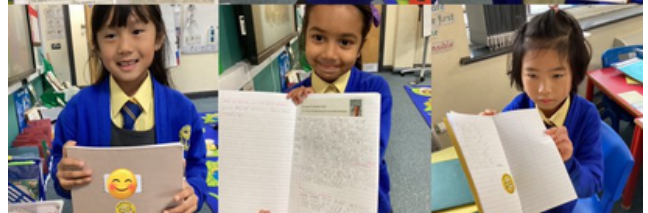
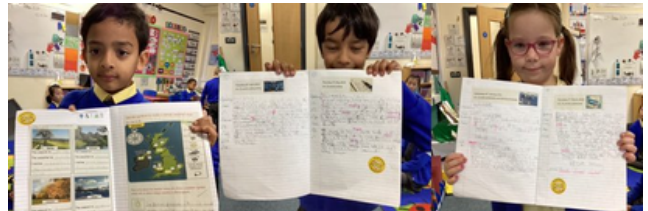
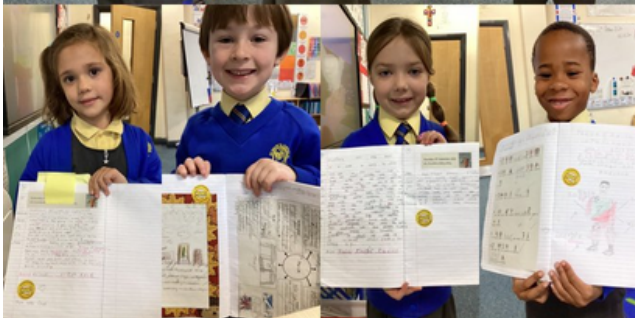
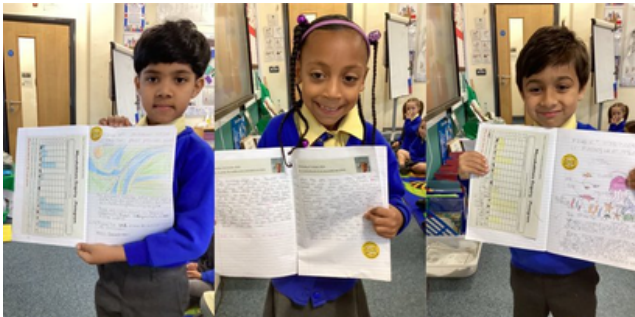


Thank you Fr. Hilary for teaching Year 2 all about baptism this week.



Parents' Evening

We had high numbers of parents attending our Parent Consultations this week. Thank you all for your engagement and for taking the time to complete the Parent Questionnaire. Both evenings were very positive and the children loved having the opportunity to look back in their books and find the work that you identified as being their best work.



Black History Month Learning

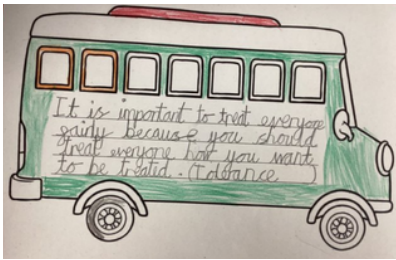


Reception class have been learning all about each others' families, cultures and traditions that make up their class.

Year 1 have been learning about Claudia Jones, known as the 'Mother' of the Notting Hill Carnival.

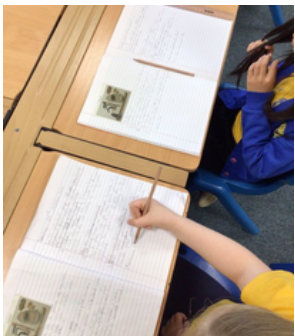


Year 2 have been learning about the Bristol Boycott - they looked at the bus boycott in the USA, Rosa Parks and the Martin Luther King Jr speech.

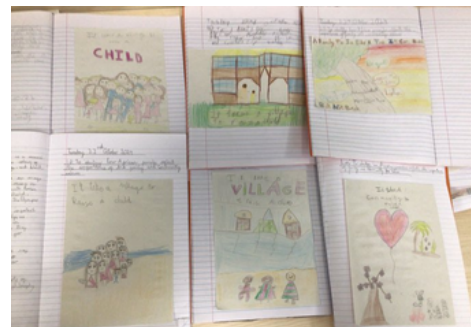


Year 3 have been learning about Olduvai Gorge, why it was important and what was discovered there.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Year 4 spoke about how it takes a village to raise a child.



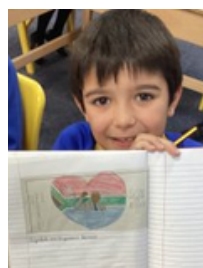
Year 6 have been learning about the life of Walter Tull



Our Black History Month ended with a session of African drumming and food tasting. Thank you to PTA for funding this session.



Year 5 have been learning all about Nelson Mandela and apartheid.



Home Learning



Well done to all the children that have completed home learning projects this half-term. We will continue to share our curriculum maps on the class newsletters with suggestions for what you can do at home to support learning. When projects from home are brought in, we use them for display purposes and refer to them in lessons. We can't wait to share more next half-term.

Staff News



Mrs Richards' maternity leave
We wish Mrs Richards the best of luck as she breaks up today to begin her maternity leave.



Over half-term

First Communion / Confirmation programmes

Anyone with a child in Year 3 or above wishing to make their First Communion or in Year 6 or above wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2025, are now able to collect a pack from the Parish Office Packs can be collected at drop-off (8:30am-9:00am) and at the end of the school day (3:00-3:30pm) Please return completed forms by 6th November.

New partnership

LEGOCODING SESSION

In partnership with **F1 Arcade Birmingham**

SUCCESS EDUCATION
TURNING THE IMPOSSIBLE INTO POSSIBLE

SPECIAL OFFER
Kids Eat Free with every full paying adult

£20

Sign up using link

SESSION INFORMATION

10:00am - 12:30pm
Thurs 31st October
2 Chamberlain Sq, Birmingham B3 3AX

2.5 hours of fun filled activities with a Formula 1 theme.

All attendees will get to create and code fantastic F1 themed builds whilst also getting to race in the state of the art simulators at F1 Arcade

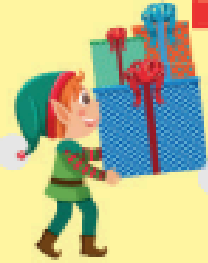
For further information
johnpaul@successeducation.org

We have been asked to support the Birmingham Irish Association Initiative again this year, to provide toys for children who in Birmingham who may not receive a Christmas present this year. Our families and staff have always been so generous at supporting this initiative.

Details can be found below: -

Toy Appeal

Christmas 2024



Please give new toys (unwrapped) for our local children in Birmingham for all age groups ranging from 1-15 years



COLLECTION DATES:

Monday 4th November - Thursday 12th December

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL





All Saints - Half-term project?

The week we return – we will be learning about the Saints. This half term, your child **may** like to learn about a particular Saint in more detail. Any work can be used for our All Saints learning and display work. Children could learn more about their class Saint, their chosen Saint for their Confirmation name, or a Saint that they are particularly interested in.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

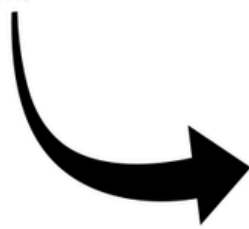
Reception 2025

Open Day



Reception 2025 Parents -

Would you like to come and see
our school in action?



Reception

Please contact us to book a slot:

Morning Tour— 10:30—11:30

Afternoon Tour—13:45—14:45

Contact Email:



enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Call: 0121 464 2141



4M Feast Day - St Martin De Porres - 8th November

Friday 8th November will be 4M's class Saint feast day so they will be celebrating in school. Children in 4M can come to school in their own clothes on Friday and will be doing lots of fun activities learning about St. Martin De Porres.



SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER

**12.00
to
3.00pm**

ST MARY'S PARISH / PTA

CHRISTMAS FAIR

**PARISH HALLS
VIVIAN ROAD, HARBORNE**

- * Santa's Grotto *
- * Bottle Tombola *
- * Chocolate Tombola *
- * Christmas Stockings *
- * Mulled Wine & Mince Pies *
- * Festive Sandwiches & Drinks *
- * Stalls: Books, Jewellery, Toys, Fancy Goods,
Glass, China & Pottery, Cakes,
Jams & Chutneys *

Free Admission (£4 for Santa's Grotto)

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:



Amy Davis	Louise Yorke	Rachel Jones	Rachel Richards	Sharon Tame	Laura Noone	Jade Preedy
Deputy Headteacher	Headteacher	Senior Teacher	EYFS Lead	School Counsellor	AHT	AHT
Lead DSL	Deputy DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL

Alternatively, email 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 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 22/10/24-25/10/24

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	99.1	97.9	94.1	95	100	97.9	95.8	98.7	96.2	97	98.3	95	97	97.5
Lates	4	1	5	5	1	4	3	1	1	2	2	4	1	2
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.4%			School Target				97%	

Well done 2E: - Our attendance champions!

Star of the week

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

- Year RB Jayden For settling in well in reception
Year RT Sebastian For working so hard to learn to write his name this half term.
Year 1F Daisy For her beautiful handwriting.
Year 1L Arabella For her kindness and helping others when they need it.
Year 2E Rakeb For always working hard and showing kindness to others
Year 2G Guadalupe Fabulous role model in all that she does
Year 3L Agatha For writing a super letter in English, using appropriate and relevant sentence types!
Year 3T Belle For writing a fantastic letter in English, using taught sentence types and beautiful handwriting!
Year 4J Hannah For persevering with her match and asking lots of good questions
Year 4M Peonya-Rose For being a fantastic role model and working hard in all of the subjects
Year 5F Arthur For excellent participation and making good choices!
Year 5M Jennifer For impeccable presentation and determination in every lesson
Year 6O Matthew For showing great knowledge and enthusiasm when learning about other religions
Year 6R Amber Her beautifully designed and informative end of World War I newspaper front page

