



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.

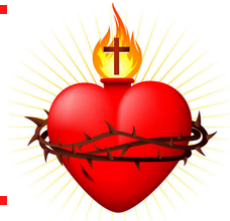


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

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: - 'Attentive and Discerning;



Dear Parents and Carers,

26th June 2026

It has been a wonderful albeit extraordinary week in school – children, families and staff have shown incredible resilience and adaptability as we experienced very high temperatures that necessitated changes to the school day. I am sincerely grateful for your support with the 'soft closes' this week – I endeavour to keep the school running as normal but I will always put the safety and welfare of the children first. I am hopeful that as the weather forecast is more manageable next week, we can enjoy a normal week at school.

Year 1 had a lovely trip to Warwick Castle on Wednesday – the cool castle building and shaded areas within the grounds made for a comfortable experience for the children. They enjoyed fascinating talks from the castle staff, a falconry display and even tried to break into the castle! The trip was a fantastic enrichment experience to the children's Kings and Queens history topic.

The week culminated with the PTA's annual 'Party in the Playground' which was a great success. With adaptation for the weather conditions, the event was able to proceed and feedback has been very positive. The PTA will provide details of the sum raised shortly. I am, as ever, grateful to the PTA and our families for their support.

A reminder that Monday is a non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle donation for the Parish Fair. The fair promises to be a wonderful event, and I hope many of our families will be able to attend on Sunday 5th July.

It is Transition Day on Wednesday 1st July and the children will meet their new teachers for the year ahead, with Year 6 going to their secondary schools on this day This is always a very exciting day and I will be pleased to share details of the classes and teachers (including new staff who will be joining us in 2026/2027) in next week's newsletter. With the grace of God, I am confident that our school will continue to flourish in the year ahead.

God bless,
Mrs Yorke

CATHOLIC LIFE

This week's Gospel

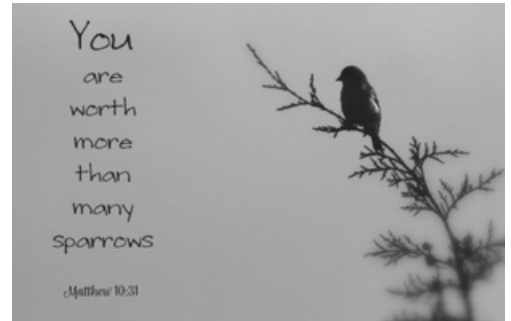
"Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Matthew 10:31



Reflecting on this week's reading, we: -

- know that He takes care of us
- remember to trust Him and not fear



This week's Mass - KS2 Mass - Nativity of St John the Baptist

Whilst originally intended to be a Whole School Mass, Key Stage 2 gathered together to celebrate the Nativity of St John the Baptist. In this special Mass, we were reminded that God knows each of us deeply and has a purpose for our lives. Just as John was called before he was even born, we too are called to use our gifts to serve others and to bring God's light into the world.



Our next Mass - Y2 Mass - Votive Mass for St Benedict - Wednesday 8th July

As Transition Day is taking place on Wednesday 1st July, our next Mass will be on Wednesday 8th July at 9:15am. Year 2 will be leading the Mass and Year 1 will be in attendance. Parents/carers are welcome to attend and are asked to sit in the Old Church.





CATHOLIC LIFE



Reception thought of their own prayers, said them out loud and blew them into bubbles to send to God. They know that God loves us and is always listening to our prayers.



Year 6 created some beautiful artwork based on their Big Question: 'If creation shows us who God is, how should we respond?'

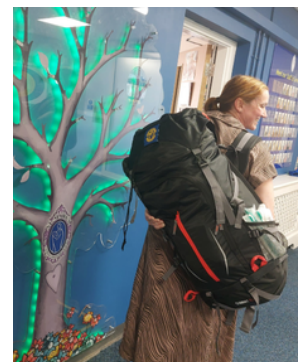


THE ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM

BAGS OF HOPE



Thank you for your kind donations for the school's Bag of Hope for the homeless. Mrs Yorke was very proud to take it to the BDES Leadership Conference on Friday where our bag was blessed by His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley. The bag from St Mary's, along with bags from other schools, will now be distributed across the diocese as a sign of hope, care and compassion for those in need.

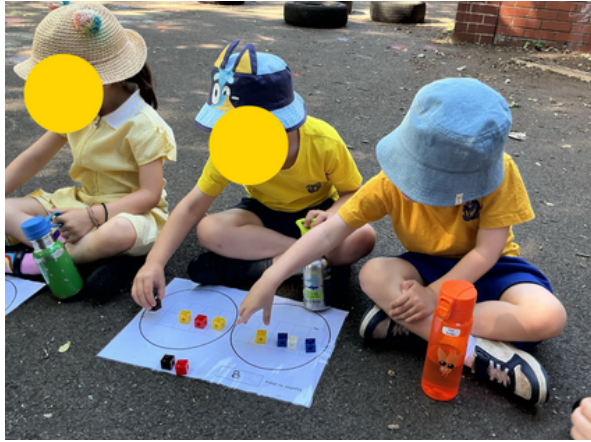


Thank you

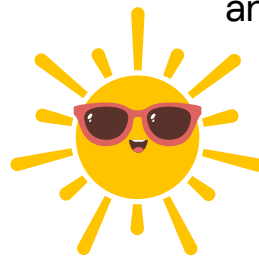


COOL HEADS, BRIGHT MINDS!

Despite the exceptional temperatures this week, teachers have found some creative ways to keep the children cool while continuing their learning!



Reception stayed hydrated and cool in the shade for their outdoor maths learning. They can confidently talk about odd and even numbers!



Year 2 were also able to enjoy some adapted ball games with Coach Red that didn't involve physical exertion!



Year 4 took their reading outside in the lovely shaded area and took part in 'show not tell' charades.



There was also time for some 'cool down' breaks during the week!



YEAR 1 TRIP TO WARWICK CASTLE



Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Warwick Castle on Wednesday as part of their History topic on Kings and Queens. They had a tour of the Castle and enjoyed exploring the shaded outdoor areas – they even pretended to break into the Castle! Thank you to staff and parent volunteers who accompanied the trip who worked hard to ensure the trip was as comfortable as possible for the children.

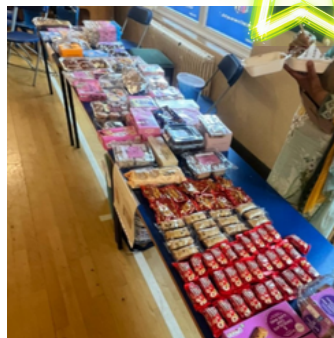


PARTY IN THE PLAYGROUND

Thank you to the PTA for organising another fantastic 'Party in the Playground'! The event was a great success, and we are extremely grateful to all the volunteers, staff and families who supported the occasion – especially on what was an extraordinarily hot day.

The PTA work incredibly hard to create memorable events for our families while also raising much-needed funds to enhance enrichment opportunities for the children.

We truly appreciate all that they do for our school community.





Non-school uniform day for donations for Parish Fair – 29.6.26

There will be a non-uniform day for all children on Monday 29th June in exchange for a donation of bottles for the Parish Fair – the PTA will be waiting outside of school on this day to collect your donations of bottles... this can be bottles of pop or alcohol. We thank you for your generosity.

WORLD SPORTS

SUMMER FETE

St Mary's Parish Centre
Vivian Road, Harborne

★ SUNDAY 5 JULY ★
12.00 – 3.00pm

Join us for a day of fun!
Bring your friends and family.
Come in sportswear, prizes to be won!

- ENTERTAINMENT
- REFRESHMENTS
- RAFFLE
- STALLS

★ FREE ENTRY ★



Whole-School Audit of Pupil Medical Information

On Thursday, parents/carers were sent notification of a whole-school audit of pupil medical information that is currently taking place - including a link to a Microsoft Forms document to be completed for **each child** at school by their adult with parental responsibility.



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25th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Audit of Pupil Medical Information

As part of our ongoing duty of care, we are undertaking a whole-school audit of pupil medical information, including a full review of medication held in school. This audit is concerned specifically with ensuring we have full and complete medical information about children's long-term or chronic medical conditions (that may or may not require medication) as opposed to short term medical complaints e.g.: minor infections, coughs, colds etc.

Attached to this letter is a link to a Microsoft Forms document and parents/carers are asked to complete a form for each of their children at the school. For a new form for subsequent children, please click on the "Submit another response" button on the document. Please note, the form/s must be completed by an adult with parental responsibility and should not be completed by children.

All information submitted will be handled and stored in line with our GDPR/data protection requirements and we are only asking for information necessary for the safety and wellbeing of the children.

Please be advised that, when necessary, we do seek medical advice from the School Health Service (part of Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Service). If you provide any information which indicates that further medical advice may be necessary, you will be contacted to request your consent for school to make a referral.

Please submit all pupil medical information forms by no later than Friday 3rd July.

If you require any assistance, have any questions or would like the form in another format, please contact the School Office.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Kind regards,

L. J. Noone

Mrs Noone
 Deputy Headteacher



Pupil Medical Information Form

Please complete a form for each child at school - Click on the "Submit another response" button for a new form

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Name of your child * [X]

Enter your answer

2. Current Class * [X]

Enter your answer

3. Does your child have any medical conditions that school need to be aware of? *This includes asthma, all allergies, diabetes, epilepsy, heart conditions or anything that has required admission to hospital* * [X]

Yes

No

Submit

Please submit all pupil medical information forms by no later than **Friday 3rd July**. If you require any assistance, have any questions or would like the form in another format, please contact the School Office.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Stay safe and well during the warmer temperatures

Stay Safe

UK Health Security Agency **Beat the Heat**

Keep in touch



Look after yourself, older people and the young



Listen to the weather forecast and the news



Plan ahead to avoid the heat

Keep well



Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol



Dress appropriately for the weather



Slow down when it is hot

Find somewhere cool



Know how to keep your home cool



Go indoors or outdoors, whichever feels cooler



Cars get hot, avoid closed spaces

Watch out



Be on the lookout for signs of heat related illness



Cool your skin with water, slow down and drink water



Stay safe when swimming



Get help. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999

For more information go to www.nhs.uk/heatwave

Swim England **Always follow the WATER SAFETY CODE**

Whenever you are in, on and around water:



Scan the QR code to find out more

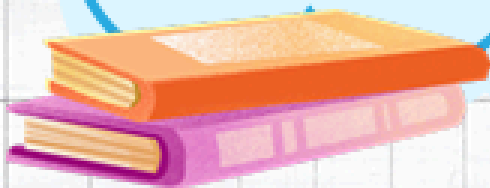
Reception 2027

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Thursday 5th November 2026

- Morning Tour: 10:30 - 11:30
- Afternoon Tour: 13:45 - 14:45

Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk
to book your place



OUR MISSION

TO LOVE GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS
BY

LEARNING TOGETHER
LOVING OURSELVES
LOVING EACH OTHER
LOVING ALL PEOPLE
LOVING LIFE ITSELF

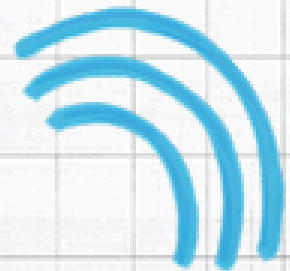
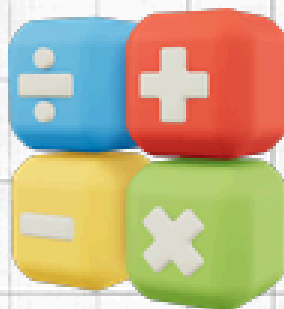
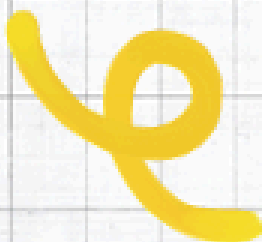
AND

CONSTANTLY STRIVING FOR
EXCELLENCE

WORTHY OF OUR GOD GIVEN GIFTS.

For more information call our school
office on: 0121 464 2141 or visit our
website:

https://www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk/web/september_2027_reception_class/720099





St Mary's RC Church Parish News





Sunday 28 June 2026
Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul (A)





Our "World Sports themed" Summer Fete is NEXT SUNDAY - 5 JULY, 12.00-3.00pm:

Thank you all for your donations, but we still need bottles, chocolates, plants and especially extra helpers!

 Please bring plants to the Priory on Friday or Saturday before the Fete.

 If you can bake cakes for the cake stall, please bring them to the Priory on Saturday or Sunday morning.


 **WE NEED HELP PLEASE: Saturday 4 July @:** 10.00-11.00am to move stuff to the Parish Centre, 2.00-4.00pm to set up in the Centre. **5 July @:** 9.15am onwards: to set up in the Centre and outside, put up notices. 12.00-3.00 to sell. Then 3.00-4.30: Clear away and tidy up. Offers to take anything left over away also needed at the end...strong volunteers please!


 Stall holders please come as agreed, but definitely by 11.00am, Sunday. Extra help needed on some stalls and general help. Please contact cyndeesson@aol.com/ 07702 747113.



Helping the Poor and Vulnerable

Action for the Poor:

 **B30 Foodbank:** Collection in wire basket in Church porch. **Urgently needed:** Tinned items: meat, fish, soup, vegetables (peas, carrots, sweetcorn) rice pudding, fruit (peaches, pineapple or fruit cocktail), tomatoes and baked beans. Pasta sauce, pasta, rice, instant/kettle noodles or pasta, Weetabix/porridge/cereal 500g, long life whole or semi skimmed milk, squash, tea/coffee, ready-made custard, jam/honey, biscuits, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet roll, sanitary towels.

 **St Chad's Sanctuary:** Collection in wire basket in Church porch. **Please do not bring clothing for women and children or bed linen as the Sanctuary have a lots of these items.** They would love donations of: Men's casual clothing - t-shirts, jeans, joggers, underwear, hoodies, men's trainers, tinned and dried food, longlife milk, tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits, shampoo, shower gel, soap, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste.

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

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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:



Laura Noone
Lead DSL
DHT



Louise Yorke
Headteacher



Jade Preedy
AHT



Rachel Jones
Senior Teacher



Sharon Tame
School
Counsellor



Rachel Richards
EYFS Lead



Shania
Birchenall
SENDCo

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.



ST MARY'S
Attendance matters
Every child, every day

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. Noone.

90% attendance means your child misses around 19 days of school a year – that's nearly 4 weeks of learning lost.

95% attendance means over 9 days missed, which can still have a significant impact on progress.

Every lesson counts, and even small amounts of absence can add up quickly. Being in school every day helps children stay on track with their learning, build friendships, develop good routines, and achieve their full potential.

Every day in school supports their progress and future success.

Dates for next half term

Summer theme -

Summer 2

29th June 2026 - all day
30th June 2026 - 3:45-4:30
1st July 2026 - all day
2nd July 2026 - 2pm
2nd July 2026 - pm
3rd July 2026 - 1:45pm
5th July 2026 - 12:00-3:00pm
8th July 2026 - 9:15am
8th July 2026 - 2:30-3:10pm
9th July 2026 - 2pm
10th July 2026 - 2pm
14th July 2026 - 9am
14th July 2026 - all day
15th July 2026 - 9:30am
16th July 2026

17th July 2026
20th July 2026
21st July 2026

Stewardship

Attentive and Discerning

Non-school uniform day - bring in 'bottles' for the Parish Fair
Music concert - Guitar (All years), Piano (Y4/Y5/Y6)
Transition Day (inc. new Reception cohort) - children meet their new teacher
Reception Sports Day - wear house colours
Music concert - Violin (All years), Piano (Y1/Y2/Y3)
Years 1, 2 and 3 Sports Day - wear house colours
St. Mary's Parish Fair
Year 2 Mass in Church (and Year 1 classes attend) - parents welcome
Year 5 Ukulele concert for parents
Performance of Year 6 production to parents
Performance of Year 6 production to parents
Year 2 Prayer Service for parents
St Alphonsa House Feast Day - wear own clothes
Year 6 Leavers Mass (Whole School) - parents welcome
Break up for Summer holidays
Early finish time
1:40 finish time - Reception classes
1:45 finish time - KS1 classes
1:50 finish time - sibling group
2:00 finish time - KS2 classes
Year 6 shirt signing on final day in school and 2:00pm guard of honour

{ **INSET Days (CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL)**

Next Year's Term Dates - 2026-2027

Autumn Term	Wednesday 2nd September - Friday 23rd October
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December
Spring Term	Monday 4th January - Thursday 11th February
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 22nd February - Thursday 25th March
Summer Term	Monday 12th April - Friday 28th May
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 7th June - Wednesday 21st July

School Closed:

- Monday 3rd May 2027 - May Bank Holiday

INSET DAYS

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
 - Friday 2nd October 2026
 - Friday 12th February 2027
- 2/3 more INSET days to be confirmed

Star of the week

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

- Year RB Ben For trying really hard in his phonics!
- Year RT Anna For fantastic ideas when writing a pirate poem in literacy!
- Year 1F Andreaas For his wonderful contributions during English and striving for excellence
- Year 1L Jessica For being a fantastic role model in the class!
- Year 2E Daisy For her fantastic attitude to learning and always using beautiful manners.
- Year 2G Anthony For his fantastic attitude to learning and super behaviour!
- Year 3L Chloe For her fantastic attitude to learning and super behaviour!
- Year 3T Nathan For consistently trying his best every lesson and always using beautiful manners
- Year 4J Harper For showing fantastic effort and enthusiasm in our lessons about the contributions of Ancient Mayan society!
- Year 4M Michelle For fantastic consistent home learning throughout the year
- Year 5F Adadike For her enthusiastic and positive approach to her learning
- Year 5M Harry For always being such a great role model in the class – keep it up :)
- Year 6O Noah For always being a delightful member of the class who shows kindness and care to all!
- Year 6R Eliza Trying really hard in class and making a real positive contribution to school life

