



Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY  
 SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Miss L. J. Price M.Ed.

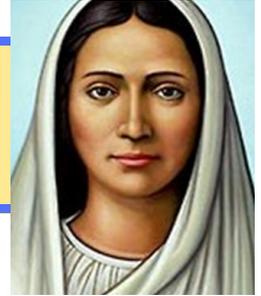


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

## September is dedicated to Mary.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'The Dignity of the Human Person'

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



10th September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

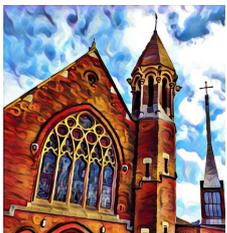
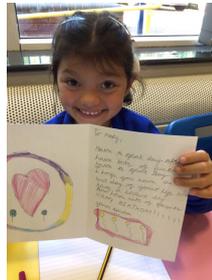
*It was wonderful to welcome back the children to another school year - we hope that you all had a lovely break. I would like to welcome all our new children and families - I am new too so it is lovely that we can all start together. Already, there are plenty of things happening in school and I will show some of the things we are doing in the newsletter each week. Additionally, follow us on our school twitter page to see more. The children have returned to school looking very smart and they are a credit to you all. I am delighted with how the children have settled back into school life and they are working really hard already. We're having lots of fun too.*

Miss Louise Price

## MASS

### Feast of The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Our first school Mass of the new school term was held today in Church. Today has been a special celebration in school as we celebrate our Patron. The children have been making birthday cards and stained glass windows to show their devotions to our Heavenly Mother.



### Year 6 Mass in Church - 15.9.21 at 9:15am

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 15th September, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 6 pupils and staff will be celebrating next week's Mass and **parents are welcome to attend** (If you are an adult attending Mass, we ask that you continue to please wear face coverings).

### Blessing of the classrooms, pupils and staff

This week, our school rooms, pupils and staff have been blessed with holy water by Fr. John. May our classrooms be a place of love and harmony as we live out our school mission.





**This Sunday, 12th September, is Education Sunday. Education Sunday is always celebrated on the second Sunday in September. This year's theme is 'a word in season' and the children will learn more about this next week.**

**"The One who was to come would be an anointed teacher, who would be able to speak "a word in season", the right word at the right time, to the weary."**

Thank you for our pupils. May your love strengthen and nurture them through the influence and example of those who care for them. We pray that through their time at school they will flourish and grow to discover who you have called them to be.

We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord,

## This week's news



**Our after school clubs will begin next week.**

The children have been enjoying their physical activities – these include the daily mile, dance lessons and PE lessons.

On your child's PE day, they can wear their PE kit in to school, please ensure that your child's pumps are also available in school for the days that they have dance in the hall.

Children **must** wear pumps inside and can wear trainers outside. **All jewellery must be removed for physical activities.**

### Reception news: -

A warm welcome to all our new Reception children who started school today and to our new parents. We hope that the children enjoyed their first day and are excited about starting St. Mary's.

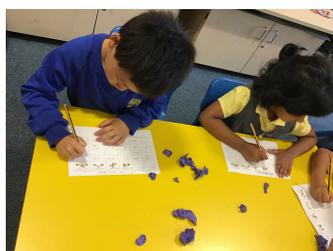
### Year 1 news: -

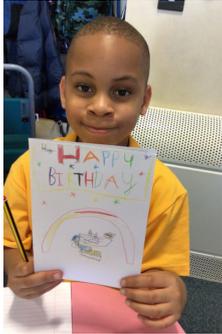
Year 1 children have been making sure that their prayer areas in the classrooms are really special. They have devoted their drawings to Our Lady for her birthday and our displays show the 'Season of Creation' which we will be focusing on in school this term.



### Year 2 news: -

In their Science topic, the children are investigating the properties of materials.

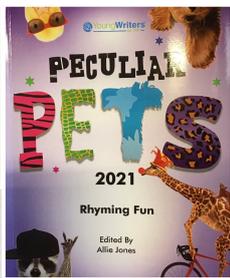




**Year 3 news: -**  
As part of our Feast day celebrations, Year 3 have created birthday cards for Mary.

**Year 4 news: -**  
Year 4 have started their history topic on the Romans.

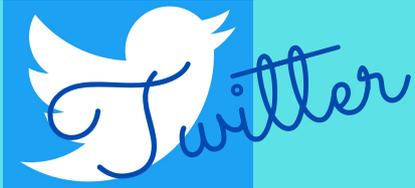
**Year 5 news: -**  
We have published poets in Year 5. Congratulations to Eva and Emilia - your poems are wonderful!



**Lord Shelington VIII**  
Lord Shelington was a gentle soul  
Until he met Lord Dale.  
He admired him and vowed to be like him  
in every way and became quite prim.  
He went into town, spent all his money on gambling.  
And next, guess what?  
He ran away and bought a mansion,  
Sat on the throne and decided to overthrow Queen!  
He had become quite naughty  
And was caught sneaking into Buckingham  
He was sent straight to jail  
And was fed nothing but mouldy cheese fo years  
And still, or so he thought,  
He was the best of them all!

**Rocco The Nail Artist**  
Rocco is my peculiar pet  
And our story starts at the local vets  
When he noticed the vet's lovely nails  
As she painted the snake's now glamorous scales  
Next, guess what? He ran away  
Can you guess where? Okay, I'll say  
Straight into the nails salon  
Where nails are painted so full-on  
With sparkles, sequins, glamour and glitz  
Now all the women binned their mitts  
Straight away he started to paint  
He loved it so much he was about to faint  
Oh how he loved it he almost cried

**Year 6 news: -**  
Year 6 have been working extremely hard in their 'Exciting Writing' lessons recounting Theseus' battle with the Minotaur.

Stay up to date with everything that is happening at St. Mary's by following us on our Twitter Page!

Massive congratulations to Miss Moster who has achieved her PhD in Modernist Literature. You're a wonderful role model to the children.





### Roald Dahl Day

Monday 13th September is 'Roald Dahl Story Day' and children across school will be reading extracts from Dahl's books and short stories. The learning focus will be on characters that feature in Dahl's books.

There is also a competition that can be entered, where your child can design a brand new villain.

Mrs. Keating will send out more information about how to enter the competition and all entries need to be submitted by Friday 22nd October 2021.

### Collection for Afghanistan refugees and asylum seekers

Mrs. McConnell is working with St. Chad's Sanctuary to organise donations for asylum seekers and those who are arriving in Birmingham from Afghanistan.

We are asking for donations on Non-perishable food and toiletries to be brought in to school on **Thursday 16th September 2021**.

The children will be involved in the sorting of the items and we will take the items to the Sanctuary on Friday 17th September 2021.



#### Non-perishable food

- rice
- pasta
- couscous
- tinned tuna
- dried fruit/nuts
- tinned tomatoes
- tinned soup
- baked beans
- oil

#### Toiletries

- toothpaste
- toothbrushes
- shower gel
- shampoo
- conditioner



## Cafod



### National CAFOD Assembly

This week on Thursday 16th September 2021, we will be taking part in the National CAFOD assembly for Creation and Environment.

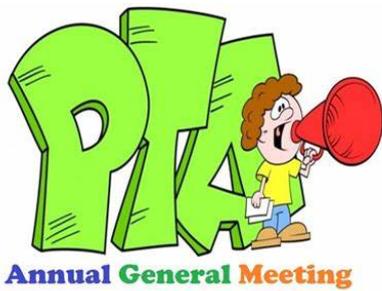
Primary: You can find out more at home by joining CAFOD's national assembly online with us at 9.30am on 16 September, or watching it afterwards: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/National-assemblies>

### Other News



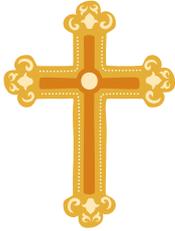
### Macmillan Cake Sale

On Friday 24th September, we will be raising money for the Macmillan appeal by hosting a cake sale in school. The School Council (when elected) will be arranging this and there will be more details to follow.



The first Annual General Meeting of the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) of the New school year will be on Thursday 14th October at 7pm. We look forward to welcoming new parents who would like to join the PTA in supporting the school run events throughout the school year.

## Parish News

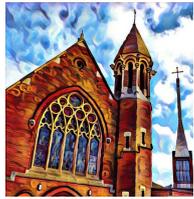


### Church Opening Times

St. Mary's Church opens weekdays at 8:30am for a twenty-five minute Mass. The Church will then remain open for quiet and prayer till 4:00pm.

### Guided Tour of St. Mary's Church

On Thursday 23rd September at 7:30pm - Fr John invites you to come along to a guided tour of St. Mary's Church. The tour will take about an hour. All are welcome - Catholic or not.



### Children's Mass

It is wonderful to see so many families at Mass again. Fr. John would like to remind everybody that the 9:30am Mass on a Sunday is the best Mass for children, toddlers and babies to attend. The Masses at 11am and 5pm will be more quiet for those wishing to spend time in silent prayer.



### Celebrating our beautiful world art work

The Parish Council have asked for the children to draw pictures of creation that they can use in their art displays in Church. Any art work completed by the children can be given in at school and we will make sure that the Parish gets them.



## Reminders

### Please use book bags rather than rucksacks

Please can children attend school with their book bag and draw string PE bag.

The book bag has sufficient space fore reading books and homework and the PE bag should contain pumps for indoor PE, that can be kept in school for the half term. We are asking for this rather than the rucksacks as the rucksacks are too bulky and there is not enough space on the children's pegs for them all.

We will 'phase out' ruck sack over the next few weeks and after half-term break it will be book bags only please.

Logo prints provide a service where book bags can be personalised if you wish for your child to have a bag that feels unique and special to them.



  
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## Jewellery



To ensure the safety of all children, we will only allow children to wear small stud earrings (not dangly earrings) and a watch, on the days that they are not doing PE.

On PE days we are asking that children do not wear any jewellery, so that it is not lost if they are asked to remove it for physical lessons. Thank you for supporting us with this, your child's safety is at the forefront of our uniform decisions. .

## Start and End of day routines

*"Drop and go"*

Thank you for being patient with us this week as we all become accustomed to the beginning and end of day routines. They seem to be working really well and we will continue to review this in line with COVID guidance as the academic year progresses.

**End of day**

Please take note of the new end of day timings... following a review of end of day routines: -

At 3:10pm, Reception parents (once children are in full time) are to walk down the drive on the **left** hand side (as shown by the green arrows). Your child will be released to you, and you will leave by walking up the middle of the drive way.

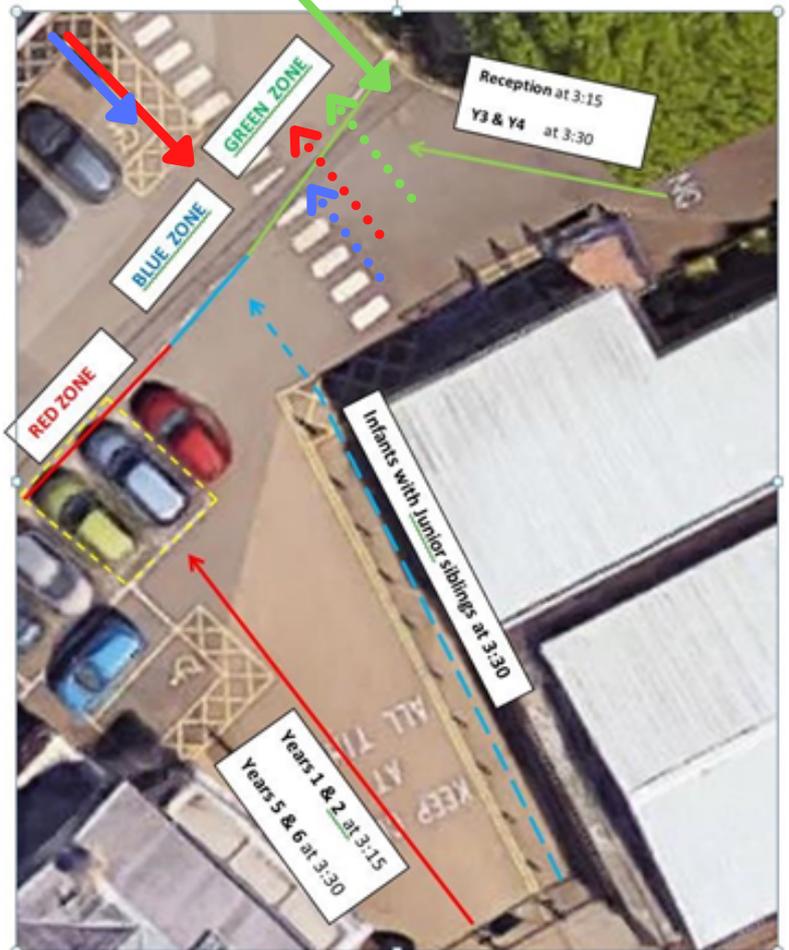
At 3:15pm, Year 1 and Year 2 parents are to walk down the drive on the **right** hand side (as shown by the red arrows) Your child will be released to you, and you will leave by walking up the middle of the drive way.

At 3:20pm, siblings will be released to parents, who will walk down on the **right** hand side (as shown by the blue arrows). Your children will be released to you, and you will leave by walking up the middle of the drive way.

At 3:30pm, Year 3 and Year 4 parents are to walk down the drive on the **left** hand side (as shown by the green arrows). Your child will be released to you, and you will leave by walking up the middle of the drive way.

At 3:30pm, Year 5 and Year 6 parents are to walk down the drive on the **right** hand side (as shown by the red arrows) Your child will be released to you, and you will leave by walking up the middle of the drive way.

## END OF DAY COLLECTION POINTS AND TIMES -



Please note: -

The school has a walking home policy that states that children should be picked up by the parents. We encourage children to only walk home by themselves in the Summer term of Year 6.

Please remember if you, your child or any member of your household has **any symptoms** of COVID-19, do not send your children into school until they have had a PCR test. If the result comes back negative, then children can return to school if well enough, if the results come back positive, your child will need to isolate for 10 days after symptoms start and household members should take a PCR test.

Thank you for your understanding with this.



Dates for the diary

15th September 2021 - 9:15am -	Y6 Mass in Church
16th September 2021 - 8:30am -	Donations of food and toiletries for St. Chad's sanctuary
22nd September 2021 - 9:15am -	Y5 Mass in Church
24th September 2021 - all day	Macmillan cake sale (for children only) in school.
1st October 2021 - 9:15am	Year 6L Class Assembly in School



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

Year 1F	Sienna	For being a super role model and always trying her best.
Year 1L	Brenda	Excellent effort in English, listening well to instructions.
Year 2F	Alfie	Fabulous stained glass image of Mary to celebrate her birthday.
Year 2L	Michael	For super learning and great contributions in Maths.
Year 3F	Niamh	Living out the school virtues in everything that she does.
Year 3L	Rhea	Showing great resilience and for trying hard in all challenges.
Year 4F	Daniel	Great enthusiasm shown in 'Exciting Writing'.
Year 4L	Katy	A positive start to the school year giving excellent contributions.
Year 5F	Hyabel	Settling in effortlessly to St. Mary's and with a friendly smile.
Year 5L	Noah	Enthusiasm in all lessons.
Year 6F	Hope	Contributing lots of valuable ideas in lessons.
Year 6L	Samuel	Listening well in all lessons and showing a positive attitude.

