



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.

February is dedicated to the Holy Family

Our theme for the Spring term is: 'Options for the poor and vulnerable'

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



Dear parents and carers,

11th February 2022

This week has been children's mental health week in school and the theme has been 'growing together'. We have been exploring feelings, how to grow emotionally and the importance of helping others. The classes had a timetabled slot each day, where they were able to do something off timetable just for their well-being. On Tuesday, we thought about staying safe online for 'Safer Internet Day' and it was wonderful to welcome parents for our coffee morning. Yesterday, we launched our new phonics programme in school 'Little Wandle', which was great fun and we all had time to D.E.A.R - (Drop Everything And Read). As we conclude our week, we ask for the intercession of our Lady of Lourdes, on her feast day, and we especially pray for the sick members of our community at this time.

Miss Price

This week's Gospel and prayer

Luke 5: 1-11

"Put out into the deep water and lower your nets for the catch."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- Simon Peter saw something special in the power of Jesus, demonstrated through His words and actions.
- Jesus invites us to follow Him and become part of God's family, but we are free to choose.
- When we 'sin', we miss the path that Jesus offers us. But forgiveness always puts us back on the right path.

Dear Jesus,

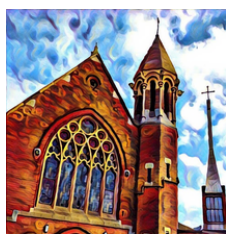
Simon Peter was amazed by the power of your words and your actions. May your words and actions have the same effect on us and inspire us to put out into the deep. Help us to trust you and accept your invitation to follow you.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Year 6 Mass - Our Lady of Lourdes

Year 6 led us in mass for one of their class titles of Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes. We sang 'Ave Maria' honouring our school patron.



Y4 Mass in Church - 16.2.22 at 9:15am - St. Peter

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 16th February, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 4 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).

Our Lady of Lourdes - Prayer for the sick



Today, we celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. Today is also the World Day of the Sick.

Pope Francis said: "To Cure the Sick, to Welcome Them, to Serve Them, is to Serve Christ" A Blessed feast day and healing prayers for everybody in our school community.

Prayer for the Sick

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.

Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence.

Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.

May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed.



Year 1 and Year 5's collective worship for the Feast of Our Lady Of Lourdes



Building the Kingdom

Presentation to Catholic schools in the diocese

On Wednesday, Miss Horton and Miss Stevens presented to schools across the diocese, the work that the children have been doing in school to build the Kingdom of God. Our children created a video that showed the 'big questions' we were focusing on. All children spoke eloquently and confidently about the issues we face today, such as 'Is there enough water for everyone?'



This week's news

Reception news: -

Reception class have been acting out Jesus' miracles



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 used cubes to estimate and measure the mass of different classroom objects



Year 2 news: -

Fr. John came and showed Year 2 what happens during the sacrament of the sick



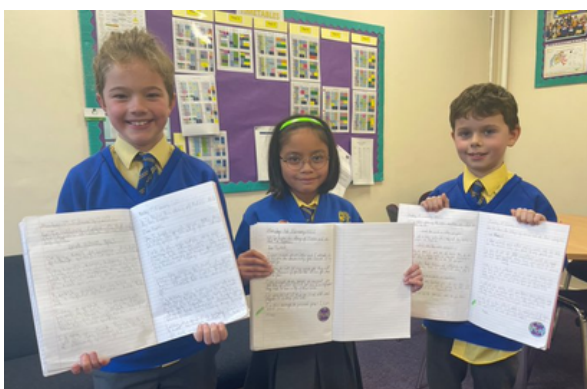
Year 3 news: -

Year 3 reflected on how we should respond to Jesus



Year 4 news: -

Year 4 showed Miss Price their best writing and learnt about how drinks can damage teeth, using eggs in different liquids to observe what happens to the egg shells



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have been investigating the insulating properties of different materials



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 have been erupting volcanoes and writing instructions based on their experiment.



Children's Mental Health Week

Growing Together

We have really been considering the importance of our mental health and well-being this week - the importance of looking after it and the impact we can have on others' mental health and well-being.

During the week, we have taken time to do things that make us happy.

Be the
reason
someone
smiles
today.

it's okay
not to be
okay

Mental health
is just as
important as
physical health



**GROWING
TOGETHER**

WE'RE TAKING PART IN
CHILDREN'S MENTAL
HEALTH WEEK

childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk
#ChildrensMentalHealthWeek

Children's Mental Health Week



Reception class learnt belly breathing techniques



Year 4 enjoyed some mindfulness colouring



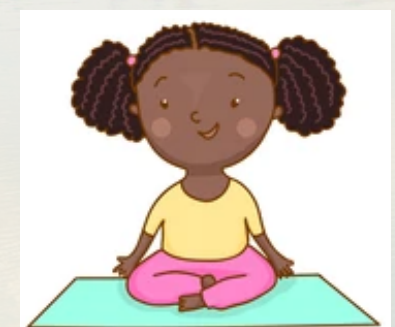
Year 3 stopped everything to read for pleasure for half an hour



Year 2 learnt how dancing can help us to feel good



Year 6 have completed various activities for their mental health including yoga



Safer Internet Day

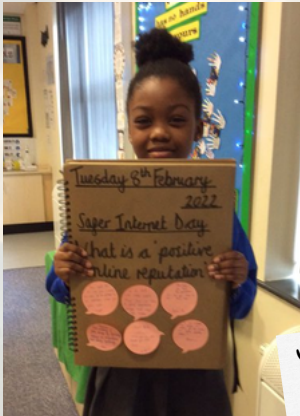


Monday 7th February - parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 8th February - parents of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

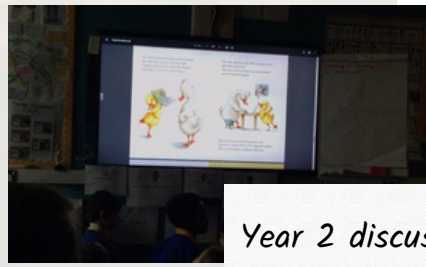
As part of our mental health week, parents came in to school and enjoyed a morning of talk about online safety over a coffee. Thank you to Miss Thompson for leading us in this and being available to answer questions.



ESafety



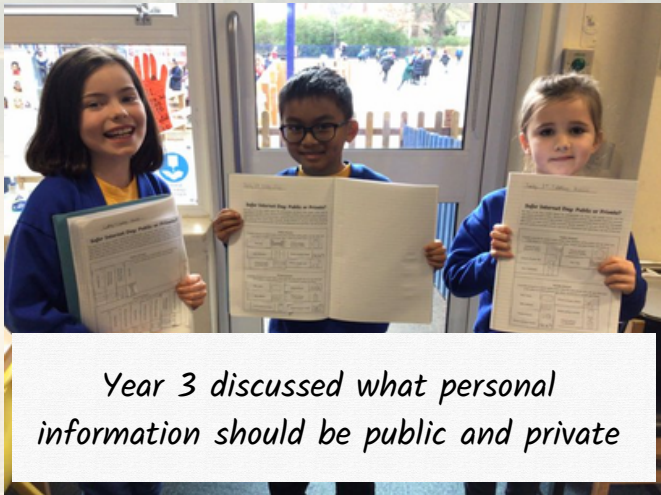
Year 6 have been discussing: -
'What is a positive online reputation?'



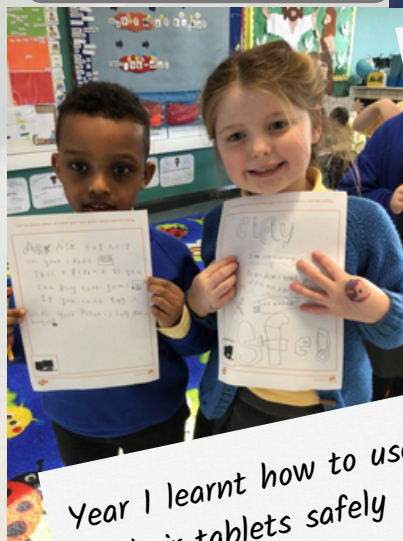
Year 2 discussed the digiduck story



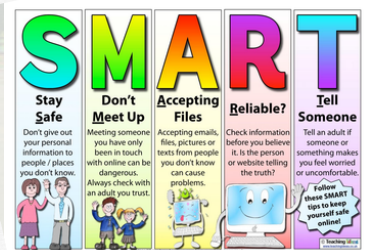
Year 4 created Safer Internet Raps



Year 3 discussed what personal information should be public and private



Year 1 learnt how to use their tablets safely



Super phonics day

Phonics Launch Assembly

Our day began with an assembly which introduced all of us to our new phonics scheme and reminded us of the importance of being able to read.

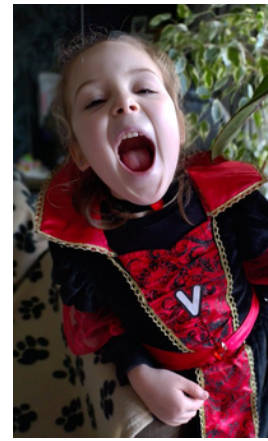


Dressing up

We dressed up as different graphemes for the day.



Super phonics day



Books to keep!

Those of us still learning our phonics were able to choose books that we could take home and keep.



Super phonics day

Reading for pleasure

Different teachers came to our classes throughout the day and shared a story with us.



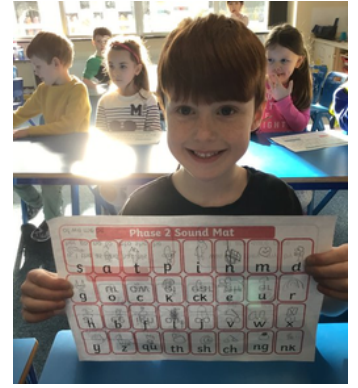
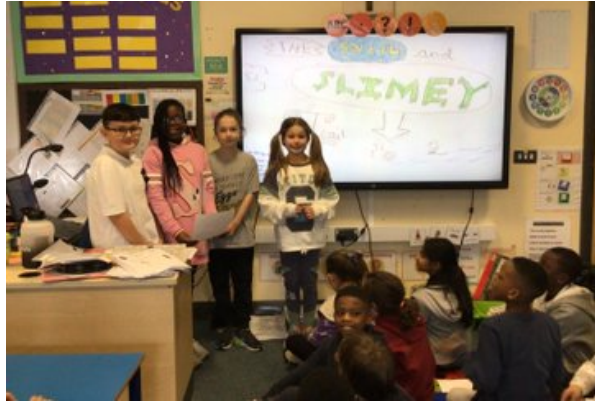
Reading at home

Our parents have been encouraging us to read in all sorts of ways at home.



Writing as a reader

UKS2 children wrote stories using the graphemes to share with younger children.
And Year 1 created their own grapheme charts.



Reading with our buddies

Year 6 read with their Reception buddies.



Raising money for Birmingham Children's Hospital

Joseph and Florence are cleaning up friends and families gardens and litter around neighbouring areas to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

We are incredibly proud of them for their work for the community and charity.

A just giving page has been set up and details can also be found on our twitter page if you would like to support this great cause.



Games Club

Tuesday 15th February for Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

St Mary's PTA will be holding a games club on Tuesday 15th February at 3.15pm. When the school day ends, children will remain in their class bubbles and play a variety of board games with their class mates which will be supervised by school staff and parent volunteers. Children will need to be collected from the school entrance at 4.10 pm (REC & YR1), 4.15pm (Yr2 & YR3).



Film Club

Wednesday 16th February for Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

St Mary's PTA Film club will be showing Disney's 'THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN' (Rated PG) on Wednesday 16th February from 3.30pm. When the school day ends, children will remain in their class bubbles to watch the movie in their classrooms. Children will need to be collected from the school entrance at 5.15 pm



Year 3 class trip

As part of this term's topics for Year 3: 'Extreme Survival' and their Science focus 'Animals including humans', they are going on a trip to West Midlands Safari Park, this **Thursday 17th February 2022**.

Please make sure that on this day, your child wears: warm jogging bottoms / tracksuit bottoms, their school top and cardigan / jumper and they should wear trainers. Please ensure that your child wears a waterproof coat too.

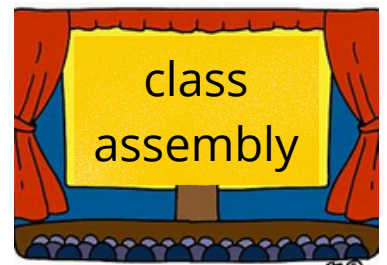
The children will return to school at the later time of 5pm on that day.



3L Class Assembly

3L class assembly will now be next **Friday 18th February**.

Arrive from 9am for a 9:15am start.



Friday 18th February 2022

We break up for one week at the normal finish times. We return to school on **Monday 28th February 2022**. We hope you have lots of fun next week – feel free to share with us on twitter [@stmaryb17](https://twitter.com/stmaryb17).



St Mary's Church will retain all its Covid precautions for the foreseeable future, despite widespread relaxations.



First Confession / Reconciliation

First Confession/Reconciliation will be tomorrow on

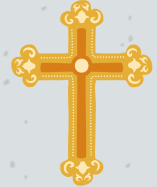
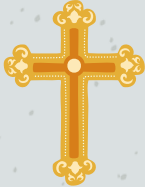
Saturday 12th February.

9:30 for groups 1, 2, 3, 4 (3F)

10:30 for groups 5, 6, 7, 8 (3L)

Eucharistic Ministers needed for School Masses

Please let school know if you are an Eucharistic Minister who attends the Wednesday morning Masses and is prepared to minister on the days that your child/ren are leading the Mass on the Wednesday – it would be good to have several people who are available for this across the weeks.



Requiem Mass for Sylvia Brennan

Sylvia Brennan, Irish Dancing Teacher for generations of children died Saturday 15th January in Good Hope Hospital after a short illness, with her family around her and having received the Last Rites. She is known and loved by thousands. Her Requiem is in St Mary's Church on Wednesday 23rd February at 11am. The only guaranteed way to attend the Requiem is by live-streaming on St Mary's Church, Harborne website.



Coffee mornings for parents

School/Nursery Drop-Off Coffee every Thursday in Parish Centre 8.45 - 9.45



Good To Talk!

This monthly group has been set up by Lizzy Shepherd, aimed at parents who have, or have a child who has, ADHD, Autism, learning difficulties, anxiety and general mental health issues.

Lizzy is keen that parents facing this have a support network that can help each other.

*A monthly group will take place on Thursdays, beginning on **Thursday 3rd March** from **12- 1:30** at the Priory.*

This is a great opportunity to meet with other parents who are in similar situations in order to build a support network. For more information, please ask Lizzy or the school office.

Positions available on the PTA – The PTA are in need of a treasurer, secretary and office bearer. If you would like to fulfil this position, please speak to Chair of PTA or Miss Price.

Role of the Treasurer-

The Treasurer ensures accurate financial records are kept and best practice procedures are followed for counting money, banking and making payments. He or she should keep the committee updated with regular reports, and ensure end of year reports are completed for the association's AGM and the Charity Commission annual return.

The Secretary role-

The Secretary supports the Chair to build effective communication links between the school and the association and maintains accurate records. They take the minutes at the meetings and keep an update on actions.

The Office Bearer role-

The office bearers ensure that the committee fulfils its responsibilities. They advocate for the PTA and act in accordance with the PTA's constitution and financial matters. They work as a team member through support and assisting with projects.



SATs Week for Year 6

Children in Year 6 will be taking their SATs Tests from **Monday 9th to Friday 13th May 2022**.

All Year 6 children are required to be in school every day during SATs week.

Labelling of clothing

There is a very high volume of unnamed jumpers, cardigans and coats now in the parent shelter.

Please label all belongings for your child (including lunch boxes / water bottles / clothing...)

Items that are labelled are returned to your child's classroom when they are left somewhere else in school. Items that are not labelled are placed in the parent shelter.



Collect clothing

Please collect any missing items of clothing as soon as possible. At some point next week, the PTA have offered to take any unclaimed clothes and wash and dry them for donation.

Any clothing found with name labels on them will be returned to school.

Reading diaries

Books that I have read and shared			
Date	Book	Page No.	Comments

We know that our parents understand the importance of reading with their children every day at home. Research proves that children learn to read best when they read to an adult every day, who can support them with intonation, pronunciation, new words and meaning. Please let us know what books / materials you are reading with your child at home by signing diaries – it supports us to evidence and implement further challenge at school.



When buying on amazon, you can name 'St Marys Roman Catholic School Pta' as a registered charity. 0.5% of what you spend automatically goes to the PTA pot, which they use to buy things for school (at no extra cost to you) - it's just like ticking gift aid.

Hair styles



We can not allow extreme hair styles in school. This is a reminder that long hair must be tied back. All hair should be one colour. Extreme cuts and lines are not allowed. Large bows and coloured beads are not allowed (small bows and head bands are allowed). All hair styles must be neat and sensible and not a distraction to others. Thank you.

Phones

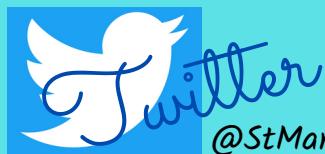


Children are not allowed to bring phones in to school. All children are picked up by a parent so phones are not needed.

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.

Online Safety



@StMaryB17

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

Follow this link to find out more about how to keep your children safe when they play online games: -

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Turn off automatic updates on apps

Most social media apps and games have regular updates due to new features or to make the app suitable for new devices that have been launched. By turning off automatic updates, this will give you the opportunity to check what exactly has changed with the app before accepting. It is always worth reading through the updates, as app owners can discreetly tweak their terms and conditions which can sometimes mean they take your personal information.



FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

Power Project



Shrove Tuesday - 1st March 2022

When we return to school, we are celebrating Shrove Tuesday carnival style... we are having a day of music and arts and fun, before we enter in to Lent.

To fit in with the theme, we are asking that the children **design their own carnival face mask** to wear for our celebration on the play ground.

This half-term project will be for the children to find out a little bit more about 'Mardi Gras' and to design their own face mask to wear in school on the Tuesday.

That day will also be a day of non-school uniform - the brighter the colours, the better!

Dates for next term

15th February 2022 - 3:15-4:15pm -

16th February 2022 - 9:15am -

16th February 2022 - 3:30-5:15pm

17th February 2022 - 9:15am-5:00pm -

18th February 2022 - 9:15am -

18th February 2022

28th February 2022 - all day -

1st March 2022 - all day -

2nd March 2022 - 9:30am -

4th March 2022 - all day -

9th March 2022 - 9:15am -

11th March 2022 - 9:15am -

15th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

15th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

16th March 2022 - 9:15am -

16th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

16th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

17th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

17th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

18th March 2022 - 9:15am -

21st March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

21st March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

22nd March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

22nd March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

23rd March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

23rd March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

25th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -

25th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -

28th March 2022 - all day -

29th March 2022 - after school -

31st March 2022 - all day -

31st March 2022 - after school -

8th April 2022 - 9:15am -

Games Club for Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

Y5 Mass in Church (Y5 parents welcome)

Film Club for Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Y3 Class trip to West Midlands Safari Park

Year 3L Class Assembly in school (3L parents welcome)

Break up for February half-term - finish at normal time

Children return to school

Carnival day in school for Shrove Tuesday - bring your masks! (Mardi Gras)

Whole school Mass for Ash Wednesday (children only)

World Book Day

Y2 Mass in Church

Year 3F Class Assembly in school (3F parents welcome)

YRF Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

YRL Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y5 Mass in Church

Y1F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y1L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y3F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y3L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y2F Class Assembly in school (2F parents welcome)

Y5F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y5L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y2F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y2L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y4F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y4L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y6F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

Y6L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)

INSET DAY - School closed to children

Parent consultations

Retreat day for children in school

Parent consultations

Y2L Class Assembly in school (2L parents welcome)

Term Dates

Spring 1

Monday 3rd January – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 4th January – Children return to school

Tuesday 1st February - INSET - Children NOT in School

Ends: Friday 18th February

Half-Term:
Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February 2022

Spring 2

Starts: Monday 28th February

Monday 28th March - INSET - Children NOT in School

Ends: Thursday 14th April 2022

Easter Holiday:
Monday 18th April to Friday 29th April 2022

Summer 1

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May

Tuesday 3rd May – Children return to school

Thursday 5th May - Closed for Local Election Day

Ends: Friday 27th May

Half-Term:
Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2022

Summer 2

Starts: Monday 6th June

Tuesday 5th July - INSET - Children NOT in School

Ends: Thursday 21st July 2022

Friday 22nd July - Closed for Queen's Jubilee

Summer Holidays:
Start Monday 25th July 2022



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

Year RL	Danaya	<i>always trying so hard and making brilliant progress with blending this week</i>
Year RF	Harley	<i>always trying his best and for super maths learning</i>
Year IL	Sofia	<i>consistently determined to do her best in everything</i>
Year IF	Theo	<i>trying his best in everything and always being so polite</i>
Year 2L	Noah	<i>outstanding teamwork and determination</i>
Year 2F	Cara	<i>fantastic food chains in Science</i>
Year 3L	Ewan	<i>brilliant effort in everything that he has done this week</i>
Year 3F	Aoife	<i>Enthusiastic! Kind! Positive! Brings sunshine in to the classroom each day</i>
Year 4L	George	<i>Great improvement in spellings and writing</i>
Year 4F	Mar	<i>putting 100% effort in to everything that she does</i>
Year 5L	Edjay	<i>consistently on task and always trying his best</i>
Year 5F	Jacob	<i>wonderful enthusiasm across the curriculum and attentiveness in lessons</i>
Year 6L	Zachary	<i>outstanding effort in every subject</i>
Year 6F	Josh	<i>contributing well to guided reading sessions</i>

