



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

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

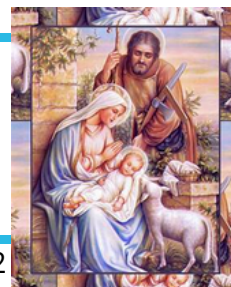


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

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'



18th February 2022

Dear parents and carers,

The children have had a lovely final week in school. To support our well-being programme, the children and staff have been sharing in random acts of kindness and they have been involved in a wide range of activities to support well-being. These acts have been linked to our learning about the call of the disciples. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support to the school this half-term and to extend this out to the staff. It has been a challenging half-term with Covid absences and everybody has gone above and beyond. We have much to celebrate! I hope you all have a lovely and restful week. God bless.

Miss Price

This week's Gospel and prayer

Luke 6: 27-28

"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- in choosing to bless others we can be sure that God will bless us even more!

Dear Jesus,

Thank you that you love us and care about our feelings.

Help us to be more like you.

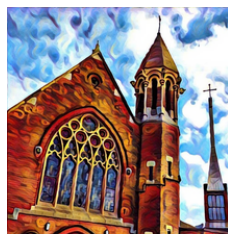
Give us your strength to love others well and forgive us when we get it wrong.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Year 4 Mass - St. Peter

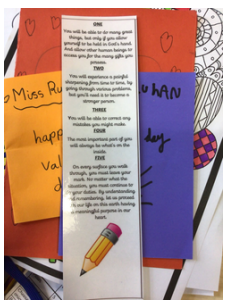
Year 4 led us in a beautiful mass dedicated to St. Peter. The singing was lovely and we learnt a lot about St. Peter and the call of the disciples.



Whole school Mass in Church - 2.3.22 at 9:30am - Ash Wednesday

Our next Mass in Church will be for pupils only on Wednesday 2nd March at 9:30am. All pupils and staff will be celebrating next week's Mass and parents will be able to watch via the livestream.





Random Acts of Kindness

As a staff, we are invested in looking after the well-being of the children and each other. The whole school took part in Random Acts of Kindness Week...



Building the Kingdom

Options for the Poor and Vulnerable

In our humanities lessons, learning about how we can help the poor and vulnerable, Year 6 produced persuasive leaflets encouraging people to help those affected by natural disasters.

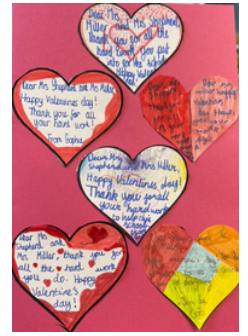


Year 3 have been using primary and secondary sources of information to explore how Marcus Rashford helped the poor and vulnerable in our country during the pandemic...

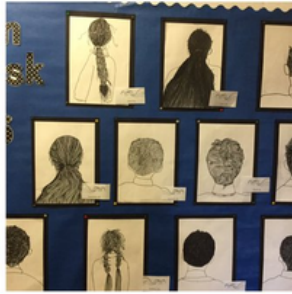




Valentines

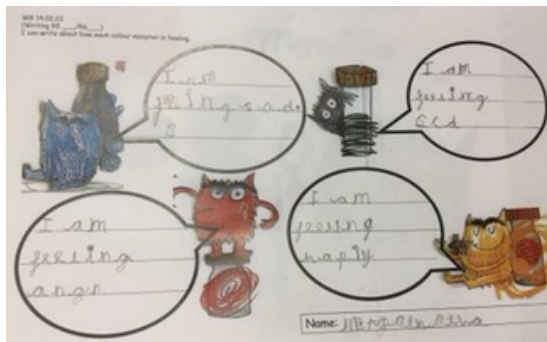


Art work



Reception news: -

Reception class have enjoyed their PSED lessons to support them to express their feelings



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 made Victorian peg dolls and sock dolls in DT



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 have been building micro-habitats in Science



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been exploring how our muscles work - learning about biceps and triceps



Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been collecting data and using Excel and PowerPoint to display this information



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have been acting out different parables and thinking about the meanings behind them



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 have been learning how to divide fractions by whole numbers and played a space game to compete against each other



Games and Film Club

Thank you to the PTA for their support this week - the children really enjoyed their games and film club after school.



Fantastic Finishes to the half term

Y1 enjoyed their Victorian Day

They dressed as Victorian children and played games from the time.



Y3 enjoyed their trip to the Safari Park

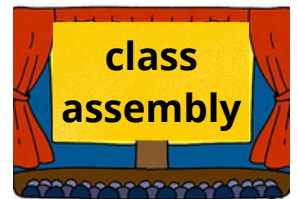


Y4 enjoyed their Latin American Day

They had a wonderful day celebrating Latin America day. Mrs Salgado made delicious arepas and Mate tea and showed us artefacts. The children also enjoyed making carnival headdresses and composing percussion music



3L Class Assembly



3L performed their assembly about love and kindness and the choosing of the disciples today, for children and parents. They were remarkable!



TUESDAY 1ST MARCH - MARDI GRAS IN SCHOOL 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!

WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH - ASH WEDNESDAY

Following our Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday celebration, Lent begins on Wednesday 2nd March. The first day of Lent is a day of prayer and fasting. We will receive the ashes in the morning, a physical sign that marks us as Jesus' family.



COLLECTING FOR CHARITIES DURING LENT

Each class will have a focus to 'do something extra' this Lent. More details will follow from the class teacher, and any money raised during this time will support our Lenten charities.

WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 3RD MARCH 2022

This year, children are asked to come to school in their pyjamas and will share a 'bedtime story' with hot chocolate! Reading and books will be celebrated throughout the day with lots of activities planned by teachers. Children will also receive a book token which can be spent at lots of shops (<https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>), or at our next book fair on Thursday 24th March.



National Careers Week – Week beginning 7th March 2022

We are having a week in school where a range of careers will be celebrated. We would like to get the children excited by the breadth of careers available to them when they are older. We welcome anybody who would be willing to talk to the children about a job they do.



Maternity News

We have two expectant first-time mums on our staff... Congratulations to Mrs. Richards and Miss Ruhan, who are both expecting their first child in the Summer.



Parish News

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



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.

Friday Evening Meal/Getting Together for Young Families and Young Couples

1st and 3rd Friday of every month, starting on Friday 4th March 2022.

Doors open from 7pm in The Parish Centre.

Join us at the Parish Centre from 7pm onwards for sharing a meal together and for enjoying each other company!

Simply come along with your family and bring your own food. We will eat all together and children will be able to play and/or watch a movie while adults have a chat. Everybody welcome!

If you would like more info please email Elena: erivafisher@gmail.com

Community News

RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE LOCAL AREA...

HUNGRY LITTLE MINDS EVENT

FREE event for children aged 0-5 years...

Children's entertainer & Bouncy Castle!!

Date: 23rd February 2022
Time: 11am till 1pm
BOOKING REQUIRED...

FREE books and craft packs!!

Location: Holloway Hall

Ley Hill, Birmingham
B31 1TT

For bookings call: 0121 477 6440



Let us help

The cost of living in the U.K. surged in 2021 to a 10-year high but help is at hand for low-income households in Edgbaston (that's Bartley Green, Edgbaston, Harborne and Quinton)

You may be eligible for a grant of up to **£150** to help with basic household essentials!

Speak to Us :
householdsupport@gatewayfs.org

Sow & Grow

The Spring Garden



Get ready to grow

Our exciting new short course will teach you all you need to know to start sowing, growing and upkeeping a garden or other green space. Make more out of your garden this year!

Where: Martineau Gardens

27 Priory Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B5 7UG

When: Mondays, 10:00 - 12:30

Dates: 28 February to 25 April 2022 (8 sessions)

Costs: Full Cost: £90 | Discount: £45

Unemployed and on Income Based Benefits: **FREE***

*if you have not previously done a Sow & Grow gardening course with us.

More details and to book your place

Call: 0121 303 4318 or Email: information@baes.ac.uk

Commonwealth games young person grant

Young people ages 11-18 can apply for a grant for sports activities/equipment to help support their physical/mental health. Applications start at the beginning of every month and finish at the end of the month.

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.



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.



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

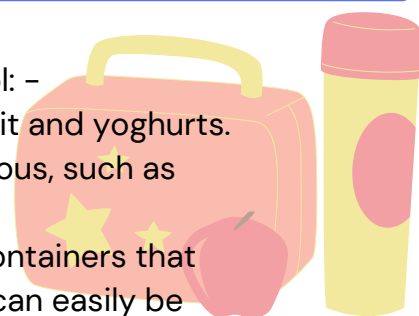


We can not allow extreme hair styles in school. This is a reminder that **long hair must be tied back**. All hair should be **one colour**. Extreme cuts and lines are not allowed. Large bows and coloured beads are not allowed (small bows and head bands are allowed). **All hair styles must be neat and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

Packed Lunches

Please make sure that packed lunches are suitable for school: -

- They should be healthy - a small sugary snack is allowed, alongside fruit and yoghurts.
- Cutlery - children must not bring in items that can be deemed dangerous, such as knives. Please pre-prepare anything that may need chopping.
- Containers - children (and staff) are struggling to open the thermos containers that some children are using for their lunch. Please ensure that containers can easily be opened (ideally by your child).



Phones



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

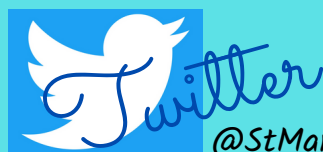
This is an Operation Encompass School

KEEPING SAFE

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



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/>

Need advice about online safety?

If you're stuck, not sure what to do, or if you're worried about your child, you can contact trained helpline counsellors on 0808 800 5000.

Childline also has lots of information about online and mobile safety that will help you and your child.

A new club for our younger children will be up and running after half - term

EXPLORE, DISCOVER AND DEVELOP

Enjoy a fun, award winning, arts and crafts after school club and get creative with friends.

- ✦ Exploring the creative effect of Banksy...
 - ✦ Discover Paul Klee expressionism...
 - ✦ Mixed media creations inspired by Faith Ringgold...
 - ✦ and learning silhouettes styles by Kara Walker
- ...to name a few of the awesome art inspired
Create Club fun activities your child will enjoy



Create Club is after school Every Monday
Starting on 7.3.22
£6 per session
20 places
3:30-4:30

A WESOME ARTISTS

School clubs and music tuition in Spring 2...

Before school clubs

- Wednesdays (7:45-8:45) - Karate - For Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4
- Thursdays (7:45-8:45) - Karate - For Y4, Y5 and Y6
- Fridays (7:45-8:45) - Karate - For Y1, Y2 and Y3



After school clubs

- Mondays (3:30 - 4:30) - Create Club - For YR, Y1, Y2
- Wednesdays (3:30 - 4:30) - Chess - For Y3
- Thursdays (3:30 - 4:45) - Chess - For Y4, Y5, Y6



Music tuition

We have teachers for violin, guitar and piano in school.
Please ask at the school office to sign up or find out more.



Dates for next term

28th February 2022 - all day -	Children return to school
1st March 2022 - all day -	Carnival day in school for Shrove Tuesday - bring your masks! (Mardi Gras)
2nd March 2022 - 9:30am -	Whole school Mass for Ash Wednesday (children only)
4th March 2022 - all day -	World Book Day - wear pyjamas
9th March 2022 - 9:15am -	Y2 Mass in Church
11th March 2022 - 9:15am -	Year 3F Class Assembly in school (3F parents welcome)
15th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	YRF Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
15th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	YRL Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
16th March 2022 - 9:15am -	Y5 Mass in Church
16th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y1F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
16th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y1L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
17th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y3F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
17th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y3L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
18th March 2022 - 9:15am -	Y2F Class Assembly in school (2F parents welcome)
21st March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y5F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
21st March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y5L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
22nd March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y2F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
22nd March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y2L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
23rd March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y4F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
23rd March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y4L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
25th March 2022 - 9:15am-10:30am -	Y6F Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
25th March 2022 - 1:45pm-3:00pm -	Y6L Mother's Day Inspire for mothers (or mother figure / grandmother)
28th March 2022 - all day -	INSET DAY - School closed to children
29th March 2022 - after school -	Parent consultations
31st March 2022 - all day -	Retreat day for children in school
31st March 2022 - after school -	Parent consultations
8th April 2022 - 9:15am -	Y2L Class Assembly in school (2L parents welcome)

Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Starts: Monday 28 th February	May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2 nd May	Starts: Monday 6 th June
Monday 28th March - INSET - Children NOT in School	Tuesday 3 rd May – Children return to school	Tuesday 5th July - INSET - Children NOT in School
Ends: Thursday 14 th April 2022	Thursday 5th May - Closed for Local Election Day	Ends: Thursday 21 st July 2022
	Ends: Friday 27 th May	Friday 22nd July - Closed for Queen's Jubilee
Easter Holiday: Monday 18 th April to Friday 29 th April 2022	Half-Term: Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June 2022	Summer Holidays: Start Monday 25 th July 2022

Star of the week

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

Year RL	Melissa	<i>excellent independent writing</i>
Year RF	James	<i>growing in confidence in class</i>
Year 1L	Jan	<i>fabulous effort in his DT lessons</i>
Year 1F	Ben	<i>brilliant effort in art lessons</i>
Year 2L	Patrick	<i>excellent effort all week</i>
Year 2F	Maya	<i>for being a kind friend to her class mates</i>
Year 3L	Maya Z	<i>keeping the virtues in everything that she does</i>
Year 3F	Tiffany	<i>for her enthusiasm and well-thought out questions at the Safari Park</i>
Year 4L	Miriam	<i>always trying her best in all that she does and being an excellent role model</i>
Year 4F	Chizitara	<i>writing a fabulous non-fiction text about fair-trade</i>
Year 5L	Palia-Elsie	<i>being an excellent role model</i>
Year 5F	Matilda	<i>for everyday acts of kindness</i>
Year 6L	Bonnaelle	<i>always being an excellent role-model to others</i>
Year 6F	Alfie G	<i>trying really hard in his writing lessons, producing an excellent persuasive leaflet</i>

