



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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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.

September is dedicated to Mary.

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

Our virtues for this half term are: - Grateful and Generous



15th September 2023

Dear parents and carers,

This week, we have continued the theme of Education Sunday and we have been praying for all staff that work in our schools. We remind ourselves that those called to work in schools are serving their vocation and we pray that the Lord watches over our St. Mary's family throughout the Academic Year. Children have also been campaigning to become leaders and class reps. The elections for school council, spiritual council, CAFOD club, prefect and Head boy/girl have begun. Next week, we are celebrating God's wonderful creation and looking a little more deeply at Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si - where he compels all of us to do our part to protect Our Common Home. CAFOD club play an important part in leading our live simply approach in school. As part of our creation learning, we are having a fun Super Science week in school, which is very exciting.

We hope that you enjoy the week ahead,

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Matthew 18 : 20

"For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- our schools are part of the mission of the Church
- as we learn, we grow in mind, body and spirit
- Jesus is always with us as our role model

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,

Catholic Life in School

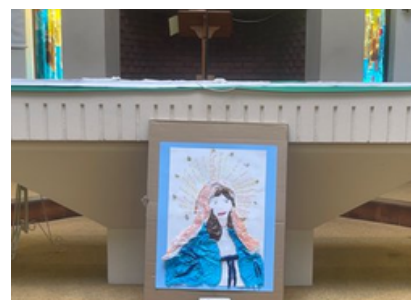
Year 6 Mass - 13.9.23 - Holy Name of Mary

On Wednesday, Year 6 led us in our Mass

dedicated to the Holy name of Mary.

The children created a beautiful

image of our Lady for the offertory.



Y2 Mass - St. Matthew

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 20th September 2023, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 2 children will be leading our Mass and Year 1 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



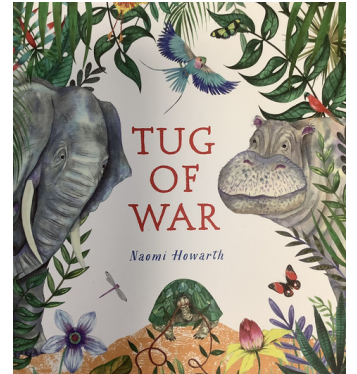
Reception news: -

In Reception we have been very busy developing our fine motor skills this week!



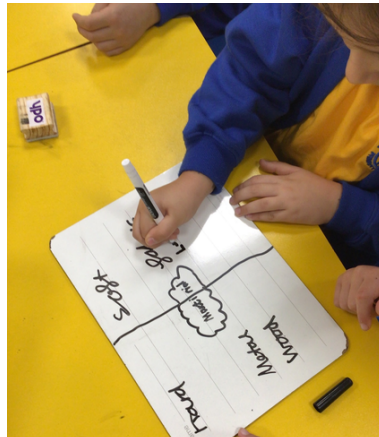
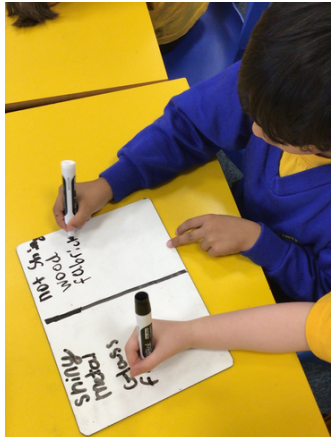
Year 1 news: -

Year 1 have enjoyed reading 'Tug of War' and making predictions in English.



Year 2 news: -

Our Scientists in Year 2 are busy thinking of different ways we can group materials.



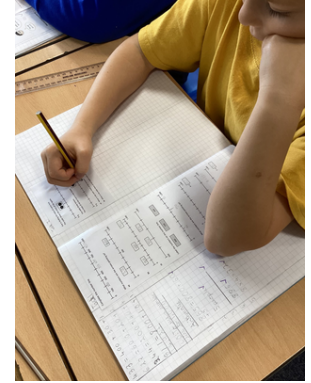
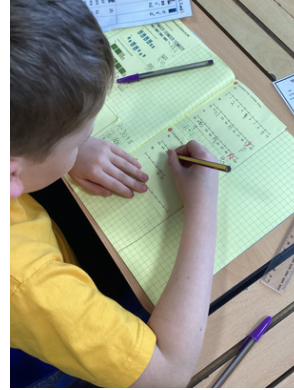
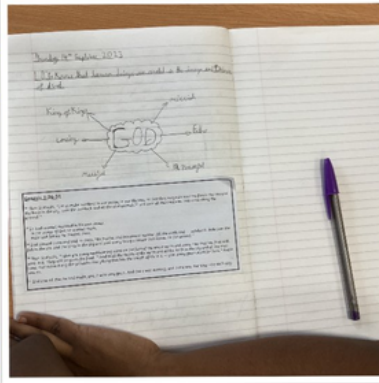
Year 3 news: -

Year 3 enjoyed practicing their striking, throwing and catching skills in PE



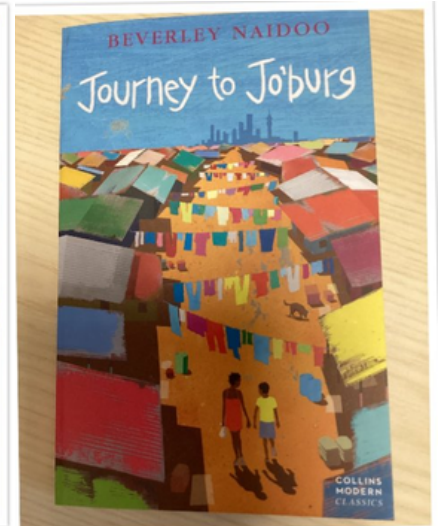
Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been using number lines to count to 1000 and have been thinking deeply about how we are made in the image and likeness of God.



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 loved their first ukulele lesson this week! They learnt the names of the strings and were even playing independently by the end of the lesson! They are also enjoying reading *Journey to Jo'Burg* and have been building a bank of descriptive language to help write a setting description.



Beverley Naidoo @Naidoo_J2J · 23h
Go well, #Y5! Deep breaths for the journey ahead & hope, like Naledi & Tiro, you have lots of questions & conversations on the way...

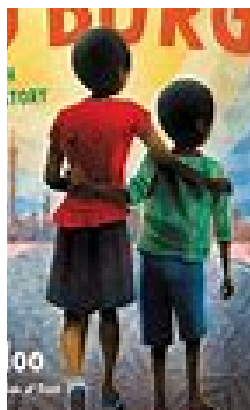


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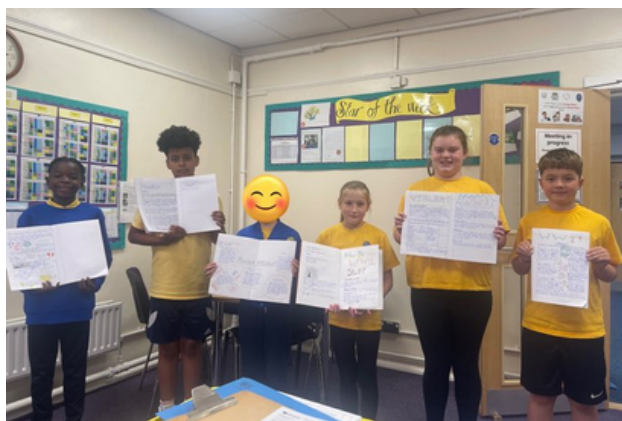
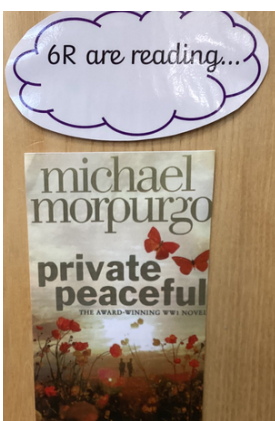
The author of Journey to Jo'burg has replied to our tweet - Year 5 are really excited about this and will be tweeting their work for the author to see in the upcoming weeks.

School of
SANCTUARY AWARD
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 have started reading *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo as they explore World War 1. The children have put themselves in Tommo Peaceful's shoes and been exploring the politics and alliances that were taking place at the time.



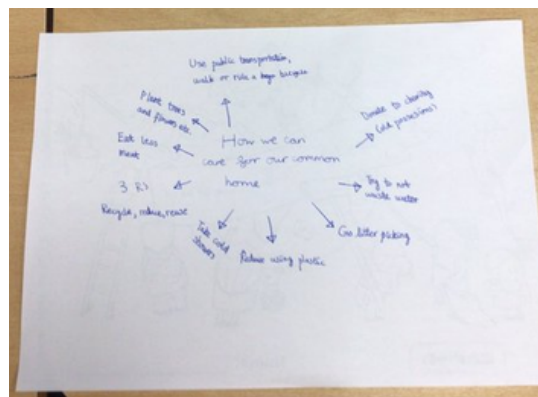
CAFOD Just one world

We have a new CAFOD club, who have had their first meeting together and talked about how we can care for our common home. Every week they will set a challenge: -

This week your challenge is:-

to reduce your plastic waste and ensure you recycle your plastic!

A massive well done to everybody who applied for the position this year - we have such caring children who are passionate about caring for our world. Great work.



Year 5 Harborne Library Visit - 19.9.23

Year 5 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

5F will leave at 9:30am

5M will leave at 10:45am

If you are a parent who would like to attend and support walking to and from the library, please let the Year 5 staff know.



There are several open evenings taking place to support Secondary School choices - here are a few that have been sent to our enquiry box for your information....



**ASPIRE.
BELIEVE.
ACHIEVE.**

Open Evening

Thursday 28th September 4:00pm - 7:00pm
Open Mornings
25th - 29th September 9:00am - 10:00am

Bookable through our website.
www.harborneacademy.co.uk



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 20th September, 6pm - 8.30pm



Open Evening 2023

We look forward to welcoming you on
Thursday 21st September 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Headteachers talk:
5:15pm
6:45pm

St Paul's School for Girls, are holding their Open Evening on Thursday 21 September, between 5 - 8pm.

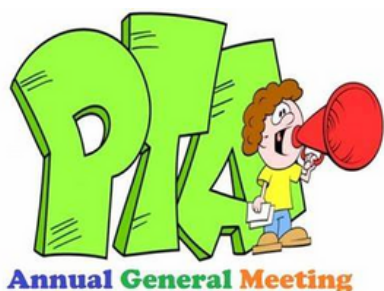
Next week - WB 18.9.23

**Super Science Learning
WB 18th September 2023**

Next week, we have a Super Science Learning day in school, which is linked to our RE work about creation. Each year group have an exciting element of creation to explore linked to exciting Science Activities and our Building the Kingdom work.



**PTA Annual General Meeting
Thursday 22nd September 2022**



The first Annual General Meeting of the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) of the New school year will be on **Thursday 21st September at 3:30pm**. We look forward to welcoming new parents who would like to join the PTA in supporting the school run events throughout the school year.

Healthy Snacks

Please may we remind all parents that only healthy snacks are permitted in school – your child may have a piece of fruit at break time. Do not send your child in with crisps, sweets or chocolate as they will not be able to consume this on site. Please also be aware that we do not allow nuts, in order to reduce the chance of children with allergies from having a reaction.


**PE day**

We will continue to wear PE kits on the days that children are doing PE in school, It is important that children are wearing correct PE uniform. PE uniform is the Gold t-shirt, Royal blue shorts, dark navy tracksuit bottoms and plain black (or white) trainers.

Please see the information below regarding the days each class will have their PE lesson. On PE days - the children come in wearing their PE uniform. Please ensure that any jewellery is taken off for PE days for your child's (and others) safety.

PE days	
Reception	Tbc
Year 1F and Year 1L	Monday – dance Friday –running
Year 2E Year 2G	Wednesday – dance / Thursday - dodging Monday –dodging / Wednesday – dance
Year 3L and Year 3T	Tuesday – cricket Thursday – gymnastics
Year 4J Year 4M	Monday – rounders / Thursday – dance Tuesday – rounders / Thursday – dance
Year 5F and Year 5M	Monday – netball Friday – health related exercise
Year 6O and Year 6R	Thursday – swimming Friday - orienteering

CLUBS Before School

	Dance	Tuesdays 7:50-8:45am	Years 1 - 6
	Karate	Wednesdays 7:45-8:45am	Years 1 - 6
	Karate	Thursdays 7:45-8:45am	Years 1 - 6
	Karate	Fridays 7:45-8:45am	Years 1 - 6

After School

	Boys' Football	Mondays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 5 - 6
	Chess	Mondays 3:30-4:45pm	Year 3
	Netball	Mondays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 5 - 6
	Create Club	Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm	Years R - 2
	Girls' football	Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 3 - 6
	Chess	Wednesdays 3:30-4:45pm	Years 4 - 6
	Boys' Football	Wednesdays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 3 - 4
	Create Club	Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 3 - 6
	Chess	Thursdays 3:30-4:45pm	Year 4 - 6
	Football	Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm	Years 1 - 2

We have an exciting new three week menu...



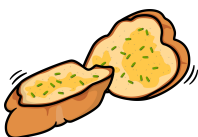
Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tomato Pasta Bake Fish Fingers Vegetable Lasagne	Meatballs or Quorn Meat balls in Tomato & Basil sauce Bubble Fish	Roast Chicken Or Quorn Roast with Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Sausage or Quorn Sausage Hot Dogs Vegetable & Cheese Bake	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Tempura Battered Fish
Sautéed New Potatoes Peas & Broccoli	Pasta Twists or Jacket Wedges Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Roast or Creamed Potatoes Carrots & Broccoli	Herby Diced Potatoes Corn on the Cob	Chunky Chips or Pasta Twists Baked Beans & Peas
A Selection of Sandwiches and Fresh Seasonal Salad Bar With Bread Available Daily				
Lemon Sponge with Custard Fresh Fruit Selection	Fresh Fruit Platter Yoghurt	Assorted Cookies Fresh Fruit Selection	Fruit Crumble with Custard Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Assorted Ice Cream or Fresh Fruit Selection



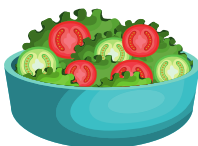
Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Italian Chicken Marconi Cheese Jacket Potato Filled with Tuna or Cheese or Beans	Lamb Burger or Quorn Burger Bap Fish Fingers	Roast Gammon Or Quorn Roast Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Chicken Goujons Chicken Tikka Masala Vegetable Samosa	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Bubble Fish
Potato Waffles or Garlic Bread Sweetcorn or Peas	Herby Diced Potatoes Baked Beans	Roast or Creamed Potatoes Broccoli & Carrots	Rice & Nan Bread Mixed Medley of Vegetables	Chunky Chips or Pasta Twists Baked Beans or Sweetcorn
A Selection of Sandwiches and Seasonal Salad Bar With Bread Available Daily				
Madeira Cake with Custard Fresh Fruit Selection	Fresh Fruit Platter Yoghurt	Assorted Cookies Fresh Fruit Selection	Assorted Ice Cream Fresh Fruit Salad	Chocolate Muffins Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Selection



Week 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese and Tomato Melt Fish Fingers Jacket Potato Filled with Tuna or Cheese or Beans	All Day Breakfast Consisting of Baked Sausages or Quorn Sausages Baked Beans Omelettes Hash Brown or Waffles	Roast Chicken Or Quorn Roast Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Fish Goujons Cheese & Pepper Roll Vegetable Lasagne	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Bubble Fish
Pommes Noisettes or Savoury Rice Sweetcorn Beans or Peas	Bread and Butter Slice	Roast or Creamed Potatoes Broccoli & Carrots	Seasoned Jersey Mid Potatoes Medley of Vegetables	Chunky Chips or Pasta Twists Baked Beans or Sweetcorn
A Selection of Sandwiches and Fresh Seasonal Salad Bar With Bread Available Daily				
Jam Doughnuts Yoghurts Fresh Fruit Selection	Fresh Fruit Platter Yoghurt	Lemon Drizzle Cake With custard Fresh Fruit Selection	Fruit Flavoured Jelly Fresh Fruit Yoghurts	Assorted Ice Creams Fresh Fruit Selection



ADDITIONAL MENU OPTIONS AVAILABLE DAILY

Vegetarian options available daily.

For any allergen/dietary requirements please speak to the Catering Supervisor

MADE FRESH

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. .

String necklaces / bracelets need to come off please.

Guitar lessons



Is your child interested in learning to play the guitar? Our guitar teacher works in school on Mondays and Tuesdays and has space for more children to work with him. Please contact our office and leave your details if you would like to take up this opportunity and Mr. Jackson will be in touch.

Coats



As the weather is changeable now, please ensure that your child comes to school with their waterproof coats.

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.

Pastoral Team

If you require any support from school please speak to a member of our pastoral team



Summary of Child Protection Information for Visitors and Volunteers

Our school is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

Our school will support all children by:

- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment
- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

At our school in order to protect our children, we aim to:

- Create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to
- Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse
- Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES
Deciding which online games are safe to play should be a parental priority. Some online games are designed to be played with strangers, which creates potential risks. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS
Help your child understand that they need to take regular breaks from gaming. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS
There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS
Children often ignore the age ratings on games. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS
If your child is a keen gamer, they may have other gamers around the house. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER
Playing games together can be a fun bonding experience. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS
Help your child to understand that gaming can be a source of stress. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS
A frequent problem when gaming is encountering trolls. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

Meet Our Expert
David Gwynne is a former specialist in technology, using gaming to help children learn. He has worked in the field of gaming for over 20 years.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming involves broadcasting and watching videos online in real time. Often on social media or via platforms like YouTube and Twitch, viewers can interact through comments, chats and reactions during the broadcast. Such instant engagement makes this an exciting way to share experiences, learn from others and build digital communities. Despite the many positives, live streaming also creates a potential platform for unsuitable content and poses some risks to children. It's essential to keep privacy and safety in mind and comply with each site or app's age restrictions.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION
Despite their age restrictions, some platforms don't require proof of age or sign-up, meaning the programme can register for an account (and therefore be present) for a child or younger than they actually are. This means that live streaming can reveal the identity of a child or younger than they are, and they may be engaging with those who are not appropriate for their age.

DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFO
A characteristic of live streaming is the ability to interact with viewers. This can lead to the disclosure of personal information, such as location, contact details, and other information. Without the correct privacy settings, a child could be inadvertently revealed to strangers, making them vulnerable to contact from people they don't know.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN
As the video streams on live, children may encounter live chat messages, comments, or direct messages. These can be used to harass, bully, or groom children. Parents should monitor their child's live streaming activity and ensure they have appropriate privacy settings.

UNAUTHORISED RECORDINGS
Each live streaming platform places content on servers for different reasons. For example, while Facebook and YouTube have a 13+ age restriction, Twitch only allows 17+ users to stream. However, anyone can watch a live stream, and it's possible that someone could record or screenshot the stream without the streamer's knowledge.

ROGUE CONTENT CREATORS
Children can often watch other people's live streams, which could include inappropriate content. Parents should monitor their child's live streaming activity and ensure they have appropriate privacy settings.

DANGER OF GROOMING
There are growing reports of children being groomed by strangers on live streaming platforms. Parents should monitor their child's live streaming activity and ensure they have appropriate privacy settings.

Advice for Parents & Carers

PUT PRIVACY FIRST
Through the streaming app's settings, switch your child's account to 'private' so only their friends can see their content. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

MANAGE MULTISTREAMING
Some apps and sites let users stream their content through multiple social media platforms at once. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

GET INVOLVED YOURSELF
Research suggests a significant number of streamers are 13 or under. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

TALK ABOUT LIVE STREAMING
Try to start with positives before discussing potential risks. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

CONSIDER THEIR ONLINE REPUTATION
As the broadcaster on live, it often causes the impression of being a professional. Encourage your child to play games that are designed for family members or friends.

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National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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 11th Sept – 15th Sept

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O	
%	96.5%	96.6%	93%	97.9%	96.7%	98.3%	98.7%	100%	98%	99.3%	99.7%	97.2%	97.7%	98.3%	
Lates	1	1	12	3	4	7	0	1	2	9	3	2	4	3	
Whole School Attendance so far this year							96.9%			School Target			97%		

Well done Y3T: - our Attendance Champions

Autumn theme -

Autumn 1 Virtues

18th September 2023

19th September - am

20th September 2023 - 9:15am

21st September 2023 - 3:30pm

22nd September 2023

WB 25th September 2023

26th September 2023 - am

27th September 2023 - 9:15am

28th September 2023 - 4:00pm

29th September 2023 - all day

October 2023

October 2023

2nd October 2023 - all day

3rd October 2023 - am

3rd October 2023

3rd October 2023 - after school

4th October 2023 - all day

4th October 2023 - 9:15am

5th October 2023 - all day

5th October 2023 - all day

5th October 2023 - after school

6th October 2023 - 9:15am

10th October 2023 - all day

10th October 2023 - am

11th October 2023

11th October 2023 - 9:15am

12th October 2023 - 4:00pm

13th October 2023 - 9:15am

WB 16th October - all week

16th October 2023 - all day

17th October 2023 - am

18th October - all day

18th October - 9:15am

24th October 2023 - all day

24th October 2023 - am

24th October 2023 - 3:30-6:00

25th October 2023 - am

25th October 2023 - 3:30-6:00

27th October 2023 - all day

Dignity of the Human Person

Curious and Active

Spiritual Council Elections

Year 5 visit to Harborne library (9:15 SF and 11:00 SM)

Year 2 Mass in Church (and Year 1 classes attend) - parents welcome

PTA annual meeting

School Council Elections

Mission Week

Year 4 visit to Harborne library (9:15 4J and 11:00 4M)

Year 3 Mass in Church (and Year 4 classes attend) - parents welcome

Ulls boys' football match

Children in **St. Vincent de Paul House** - wear white non-school uniform

Pray the Rosary

Black History Month

Year 3T non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Therese

Year 3 visit to Harborne library (9:15 3T and 11:00 3I)

Play leaders at Bishop Challoner school

KS2 film club - PTA

Year 1F non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Francis of Assisi

Year 5 Mass in Church (and Year 6 classes attend) - parents welcome

National Poetry Day

Year 5F non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Faustina

Reception and KS1 film club - PTA

Year 1 Prayer Service for all Year 1 parents

Mental Health Awareness Day

Year 6 visit to Harborne library (9:15 6O and 11:00 6R)

School Photo day

Year 4 Mass in Church (and Year 3 classes to attend) - parents welcome

Ulls boys' football match

Year 6 Year group Assembly

Please send in donations for our Harvest Collection

Children in **St. Teresa of Avila House** - wear blue non-school uniform

Year 5 visit to Harborne library (9:15 SF and 11:00 SM)

Year 1L non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Luke

Year 1 Mass in Church (and Year 2 classes attend) - parents welcome

Children in **St. John Paul II House** - wear red non-school uniform

Year 4 visit to Harborne library (9:15 4J and 11:00 4M)

Parent Consultation Evening

Flu immunisations

Parent Consultation Evening

INSET Day - school closed to children

Dates for next term

Star of the week

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

- Year RB Chimdindu For settling into Reception so well and having such a super start to the year!
- Year RT Stefan For being such a kind friend and sharing with others!
- Year IF Guadalupe For always being grateful and generous, helpful and polite!
- Year IL Tobenna For being a fabulous role model and for completing a wonder piece of work!
- Year 2E Yoadan For being a cheerful member of the class who is always kind to others
- Year 2G Hannah For being a fantastic role model to everyone in 2G and always trying her best.
- Year 3L Chidalu For always being a super role model and always trying her best in everything she does
- Year 3T Milo For being a super member of our class and always sharing his brilliant ideas
- Year 4J Patrick For fantastic participation during learning, and always being ready to share his ideas
- Year 4M Giorgia For her fantastic CAFOD activity and presentation
- Year 5F Annabel For being an excellent helper and role model
- Year 5M Eyobel For always participating in every lesson contributing great ideas
- Year 6O Jacob Excellent behaviour and attitude to work!
- Year 6R Emily For being really focused and working hard in every lesson this week

