



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

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

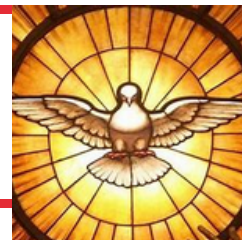


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit

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

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Intentional and Prophetic'



14th April 2022

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been Holy Week in school and we have been led by the children to Jesus' cross. Year 3 shared the Last Supper, and Year 4 taught us about the anguish Jesus felt in the Garden of Gethsemane, as he was betrayed by one of his own and arrested. Year 5 helped us reflect on all those involved in the persecution of Jesus and how Pilate 'washed his hands' of the whole affair. Today Year 6 led us in our stations of the Cross, which parents are invited to join us for in Church tomorrow at 12pm. Throughout our reflections, we have also completed our charity work and fundraising. I am incredibly proud of the efforts of the children and the support you have given to them at home - the money raised and the time given to others truly does make a difference in people's lives and I feel humbled to see Christ's work happening in our school. I wish you all a happy and Blessed Easter.

Miss Price

Pilgrimage to the Cross

1 Cor. 11:24

"This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Dear Jesus,

My humble Lord, help me to understand what it means to be a servant. Help me to live this humility in my actions. May the gift of Your most Sacred Body and Blood transform me into the person You desire me to be. Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen

Reflecting on this week's Gospel, children learn that:

- The Lord gave us the gift of the most Holy Eucharist
- Christ gives us the gift of His complete self-giving and sacrificial love.
- Through Jesus' cross and resurrection, we are set free.

Catholic Life in School

YR Mass in Church - 11.5.22 at 9:15am - 4th Week of Easter

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 11th May 2022, starting promptly at 9:15am.

Reception pupils and staff will be leading us in our first Mass after Easter break and they will be accompanied by Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. Parents from Years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are welcome to attend. **(If you are an adult attending Mass, we ask that you continue to please wear face coverings and to sit in the old part of the Church on the left hand side).**





Palm Sunday

*"Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!"*

*Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 set our scene: -
Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him; in their hands they waved palm branches...*



The Last Supper

*"Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you are proclaiming the death of the Lord"*

Year 3 showed us the love of Christ. Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples and washed their feet at the Last Supper. Year 3 set us a Go Forth - how can we serve others?



The Garden of Gethsemane

"The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak"

Year 4 wanted us to reflect upon the events that took place in the Garden of Gethsemane and to consider how Jesus was feeling as he prayed to His Father in Heaven.



Good Friday

"My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world"

Year 5 re-enacted Jesus' trial and sentencing to death. They encouraged us to reflect on Jesus' thoughts and feelings and why we should be so grateful to him for his sacrifice.



The Stations of the Cross

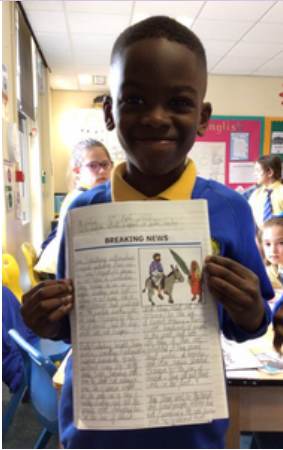
"Truly this was the Son of God"

Year 6 retold the Stations of the Cross and linked the suffering of Jesus, to the suffering and persecution that still takes place today.



We are so proud of our amazing RE learning this week...

Our Palm Sunday work...



Year 3 wrote 'Breaking News' articles all about what happened on Palm Sunday



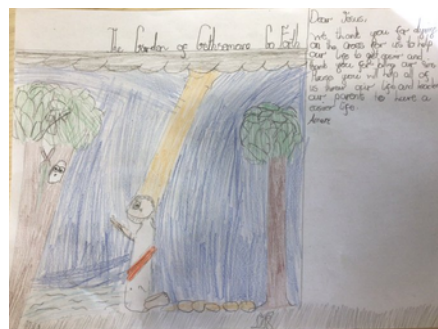
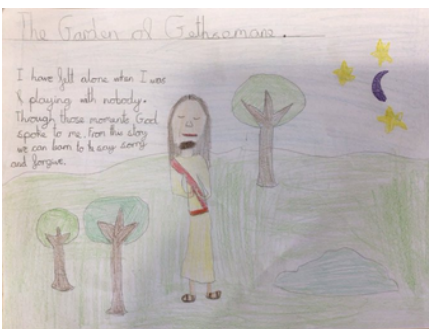
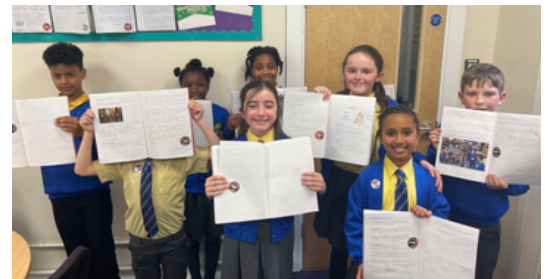
Our Last Supper Work

Year 2 created freeze-frames to show how the different disciples may have felt at the Last Supper.



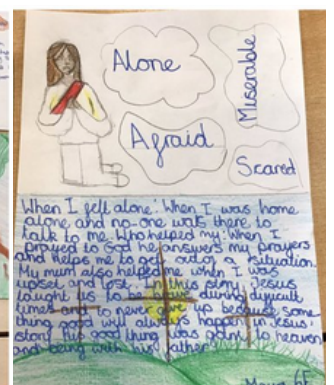
Our Garden of Gethsemane work

Year 4 prepared witness statements and acted out Jesus' trial under Pontius Pilate and then showed their written work to Miss Price.

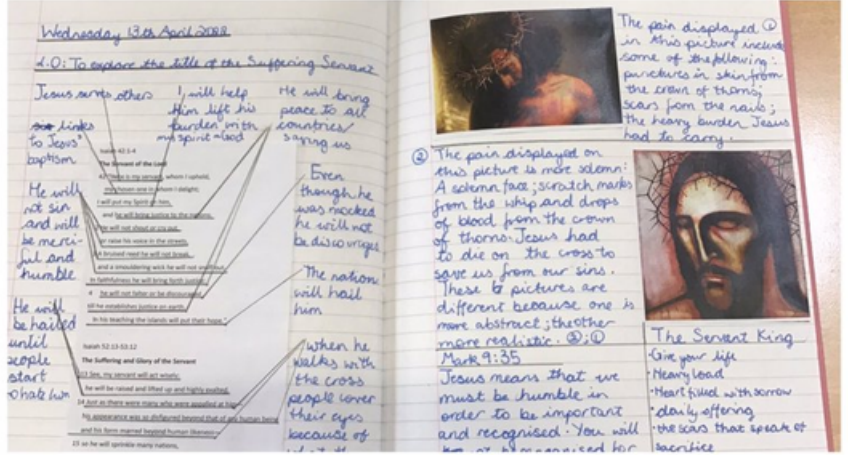
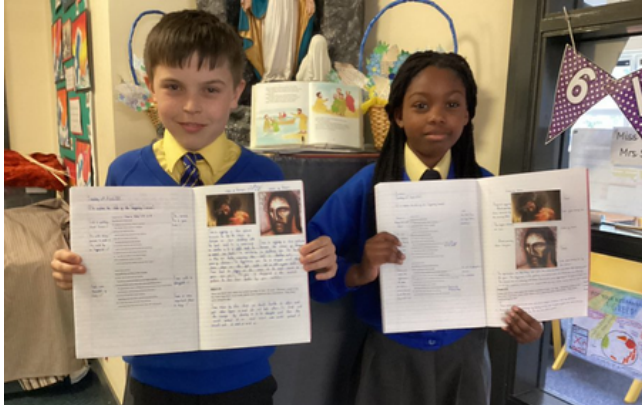
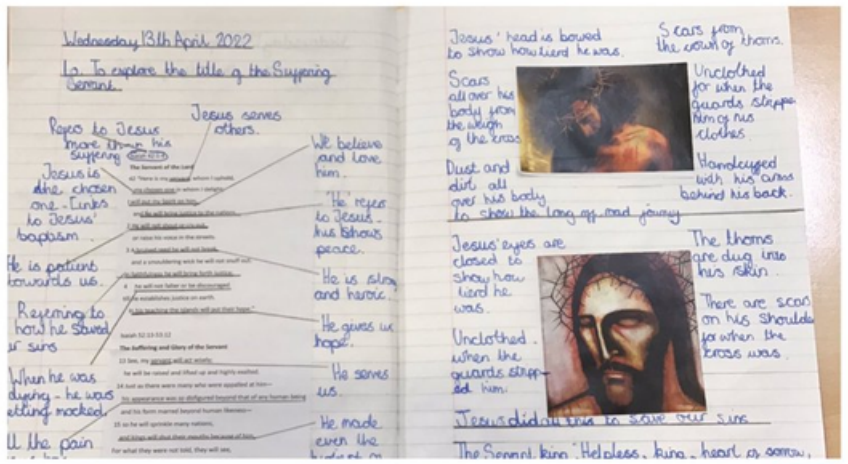
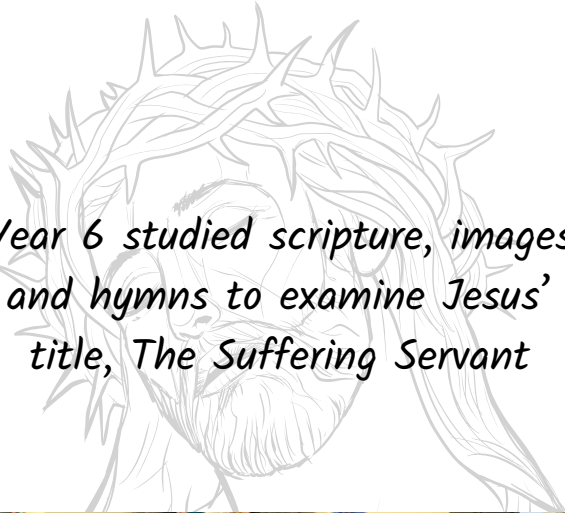


Year 3 reflected on what it was like for Jesus as he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Year 6 re-enacted the events of the Garden of Gethsemane



Year 6 studied scripture, images and hymns to examine Jesus' title, *The Suffering Servant*



Other Easter Activities

Reception class were wonderful in their Easter Bonnet parade. Amazing dancing and singing!



Thank you to the PTA for organising our Easter raffles



Supporting our Lenten charities: -
CAFOD, Water Aid and Migrant Help in Edgbaston.
How are we doing?

St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Our Reception class 'walked against hunger' and walked an impressive 19.3km - which is a lot for small feet. They raised £600 of their £600 target - great work Reception!

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-marys-harborne-reception>



200km this Lent to stamp out hunger

Raised: £600	Target: £600
Distance: 19.3 km	Distance Goal: 32 km

St Mary's Harborne Reception

Donate

My story

Reception are fighting malnutrition by taking part in the Walk against Hunger challenge. We'll be walking 40,000 steps during Lent to raise money for CAFOD's work around the world.

Badges

Challenge

25% 50%



Year 1 raised £224.78 from their Lenten promise boxes - this is a fabulous effort Year 1. Well done. This money will go to 'Migrant Help in Edgbaston'. Great work.

MAKING YOUR OWN -Promise Box-



Our Year 2 children read with the local residents every Friday afternoon.

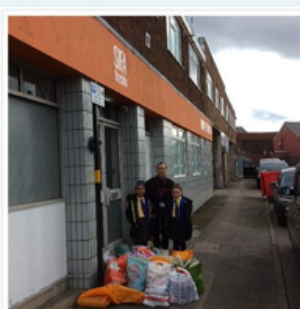


St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Year 3 advertised the Swap Shop, sorted through all the donations, and visited the laundrette to make sure all the clothes were fresh. The aim is to re-use where we can and not buy new – especially when the clothes are such good quality. They are hoping to do this again next term.



Year 4 collected food for food banks in urgent need of supplies. They organised food items and delivered them. Year 4 have donated an amazing amount of food and supplies to three local food banks (SIFA Fireside, the Trussell Trust and St. Chad's Sanctuary).



Year 5 were sponsored to complete a bucket walk around the playground for those who do not have enough clean water. Year 5 raised over £1650 for Water Aid! This is absolutely amazing!



St. Mary's Charity Work for Lent...

Year 5's Bucket Walk! 🪣💧



Year 6 have been monitoring food wastage in school. They stuck posters in the canteen and the school corridors to remind children of their campaign 'Eat For Your Need, Not For Your Greed' and next week, we will find out whether food waste has been reduced during Lent.



The Spiritual Council have been going out every Friday to pick up litter in the local community.



Well done Aleks from Y6F who took on the Cafod #LiveSimply challenge to walk to school this week!

100+ livesimplyaward ideas

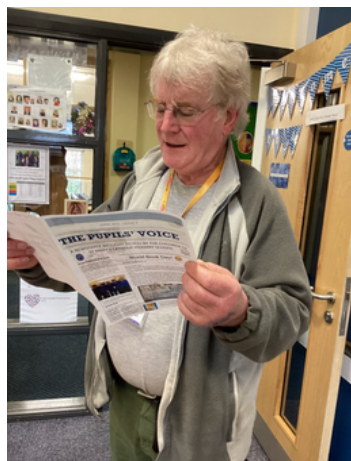
The livesimply award is open to any Catholic community – including parishes, schools and chaplaincies – that wants to respond to Pope Francis' call to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with poor communities.

At St. Mary's, we have applied for the CAFOD live simply award – help us by making changes in your life to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity – tag us in to any twitter posts @StMaryB17

Our challenge this week is: - **No. 89 Walk, cycle, take the bus or train, instead of driving!**



A group of children in Year 4 wanted to do something different to make money for our Lent Appeal and had the idea to create St. Mary's first newspaper. 'The Pupils' Voice' issue 1 has already sold over 100 copies at 50p each adding to our money raised. We look forward to issue 2. Fr. John said that the newspaper was better than 'The Times' - good work Year 4.



After our Easter Bonnet parade, Year 4 sold cakes with all proceeds going to our Lenten charities too. Thank you to Reception parents who donated the cakes.



In other news....



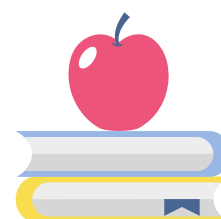
Today, we say goodbye to Miss Stevens, who has really enjoyed her time at St. Mary's. We know that she will be missed and we wish her all the best in her future career.

Reminders

Standard Assessment Tests (SAT's)

Please note the following:

- Year 6 SATs take place **Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May**
- Year 2 SATs take place during the month of **May**
- Year 4 Times Tables Check **from 6th June (3 week period)**
- Year 1 Phonics Screen Check takes place Week Beginning **from 6th June (3 week period)**



Please do not book holidays for any of the above dates. Further details will be given out nearer the time.

There is opportunity to attend a football club during the Easter break, led by Ben Markall, the football coach, who has been leading our lunchtime and after-school clubs. Please note that the club is not being run by the school and this is an external club.



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LIFE OF A PRO CAMP

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, VIVIAN ROAD, HARBORNE, B17 0DN

RECEPTION – YEAR 6
25TH – 29TH APRIL

10:00AM – 3:00PM
£20 PER DAY

EARLY DROP OFFS – 9:15AM
£5 PER DAY

40 SPACES MAXIMUM
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

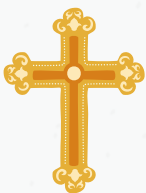
FA LEVEL 1 & 2 COACHES
UEFA QUALIFIED COACH
EX PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER
LINKS TO PRO CLUBS

PRO PLAYER – SPECIAL GUEST
2 PRO CLUBS LEAD SESSIONS
RETURN FORM BY 1ST APRIL
07734 938963
INFO@PREMIERPROGRESS.COM

Please return reply slips to Miss Adams, Year 5

Parish News

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



Holy Week and Easter Masses – No need to book!

Holy Thursday – 14 April: Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7.30pm
Good Friday – 15 April: Stations of Cross: 12.00pm (led by Year 6 children)
Good Friday – 15th April : The Lord's Passion: 3.00pm
Easter Vigil – 16 April: Mass at 8.30pm
Easter Sunday – 17 April: Masses at 9.30am, 11.30am & 5.00pm

Reminders

The About Being Catholic (ABC) will return after the Easter Break on Thursday 5 May with "Your experience of Easter Vigil/Baptism/Communion/Confirmation". Join Fr John in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.



St. Mary's Church is open 8:00am – 4:00pm every day
The Church is open for private prayer, candles at Shrines and personal Stations of the Cross.

Dates for next term

3rd May 2022 - all day -	Children return to school
4th May 2022 - 3:00pm -	x-table check information for Y4 parents
5th May 2022 - all day -	School closed for Local Election Day
WB 9.5.22 - all week -	Y6 SATs Week
10th May 2022 - all day -	Y3 Holy Communion Retreat in Hall (for children only)
11th May 2022 - 9:15am -	Reception class Mass in Church (Reception, Y1, Y2 parents welcome)
13th May 2022 - all day -	School Council fundraiser - Freaky Friday - dress as a teacher (details to follow)
15th May 2022 - all day	School Council Fundraiser - Swap Clothes day - more information to follow
WB 16.5.22 - all week -	Y2 SATs Week
18th May 2022 - 9:15am -	Y5 Mass in Church (Y5, Y6 parents welcome)
20th May 2022 - 9:15am -	Y1F Class Assembly in school (Y1F parents welcome)
24th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -	Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class
24th May - 7:00pm -	Y6 children Confirmation Mass
25th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -	Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class
25th May 2022 - 9:30am -	Whole School Mass in Church for Ascension and crowning of Mary (parents too)
26th May 2022 - 8:45-10:00 -	Reception parents maths workshop with the children in class
27th May 2022 - 9:15am -	Y1L Class Assembly in school (Y1L parents welcome)
27th May 2022 -	Break up for Whitsun week

Do not book holidays during term time

This is a reminder that 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. Term dates are on this newsletter and on the website.



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

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**

Half-Term:

Monday 30th May to
Friday 3rd June 2022

Summer Holidays:

Start Monday 25th July 2022

Attendance and Punctuality: –

Good attendance, after the disruptions of the last two years, continues to be a school and government priority. During Parent consultations, staff will be giving out your child's attendance this term and discussing any concerns. 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 Miss Price or Mrs. Davis.

Week 4th April – 8th April

Class	YRF	YRL	Y1F	Y1L	Y2F	Y2L	Y3F	Y3L	Y4F	Y4L	Y5F	Y5L	Y6F	Y6L
%	95%	99%	99.7%	98%	94%	95.3%	96.9%	99.3%	97.9%	95.5%	90.6%	95.3%	90.3%	94.3%
Lates	5	2	3	2	4	3	4	1	4	2	3	1	4	3
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.6%		School Target				97%		

Well done Y1F: - our Attendance Champions



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

Year RL	Sarah	always trying her best and growing in confidence each day
Year RF	Theo	a confident performance in our Easter Bonnet parade
Year 1L	Maria	good behaviour and effort
Year 1F	Anthony	super manners and effort
Year 2L	Mussie	always trying hard
Year 2F	Aayansh	marvellous maths work
Year 3L	Valentina	resilient effort in her learning and working really hard all week
Year 3F	Kaiden	thoughtful answers and discussion points during Holy Week
Year 4L	Mykey	excellent portrayal of the Chief Priest in our Garden of Gethsemane story
Year 4F	Adrian	having a constantly bright and sunny demeanour, bringing joy to others
Year 5L	Julian	his perseverance and hard work in class
Year 5F	Andrew	asking very thoughtful questions during RE lessons
Year 6L	Branden	leading the stations of the cross so beautifully
Year 6F	Kyle	always working so diligently in every lesson

