



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs L. J. Yorke M.Ed.

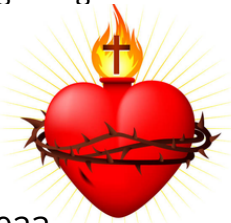


St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Our theme for the Summer term is: 'Solidarity and the Common Good'

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



Dear parents and carers,

23rd June 2023

This week has been Refugee Week and children all around the country have been learning about what it means to be compassionate to all people - particularly those who have left their home country through worry of persecution and war. We have linked our learning to also encompass arts week and I have seen some fabulous art work and poetry too. Thank you to so many of you who supported our Parent Inspire. The verbal feedback received so far is that every body had a wonderful time. I do hope it was valuable to have the opportunity to work alongside your child/ren, in the school day and in their learning environment and I welcome any comments to support future planning for events in school. It is wonderful too that we have been awarded the School Games PE certificate, for the second year running, achieving the GOLD award. Again, this is a massive achievement. A massive thank you to our staff who apply for these awards, whilst organising special weeks, trips and days in school. We have much to celebrate! It is unfortunate that our Sports Day can no longer take place on 7th July due to strike action. Instead we are hoping to host a Sports Award afternoon to celebrate all of our sporting achievements and parents will be invited. Transition day has now moved to 12th July. SLT are in the process of deciding the classes that your children will be in next year and which class teacher they will have - this is revealed to the children on transition day. If the decision is made to mix the classes, I will write to you ahead of the transition day to give advance notice. We are currently collecting data and writing school reports - the plan is to email reports this year so please make sure that the office has your most up to date email address (for both parents). Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Matthew 9:38

*"The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few,
so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to His harvest."*

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- as disciples of Jesus, we all have a mission to share God's love
- Jesus' example guides us in all we do and say, and the Holy Spirit inspires and empowers us

Dear Jesus,

Open our hearts to your love so that we may love.

Open our eyes so that we can see those in need.

Open our hands to continue your work.

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Year 6 Mass - SS. John Fisher and Thomas More

On Wednesday, Year 5 led us in our Mass remembering the martyrs St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More.



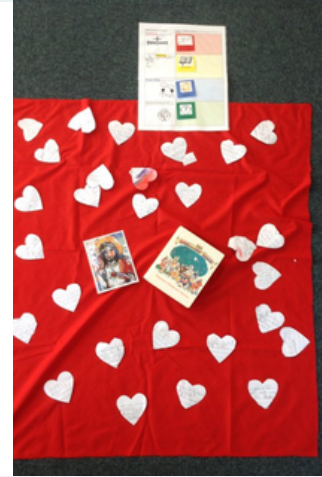
Whole School Mass in Church - 29.6.23 at 9:30am - SS. Peter and Paul

Our next Mass in Church will be on Thursday 29th June 2023, starting promptly at 9:30am.

Children from across the year groups will be leading our Mass and all children and staff will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend - please sit in the old part of the Church.

Reception news: -

Reception class have been enjoying their RE lessons this week.



Year 1 news: -

Year 1 loved visiting the library. They have returned books, taken new books out and listened to some stories. They have also been writing poems about how to be a good friend.



Year 2 news: -

Year 2 tested the strength of different structures as part of their DT project and have been working hard in their computing lessons this week.



Year 3 news: -

Year 3 have been working on their sprinting techniques during athletics.



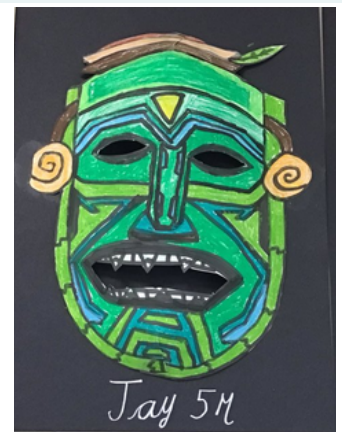
Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been exploring how sound travels by using string telephones.



Year 5 news: -

Year 5 have made wonderful Mayan masks.
They used oil pastels and black markers to really make them stand out.



Year 6 news: -

Year 6 had fun creating periscopes this week! It helped them to understand how light is reflected.





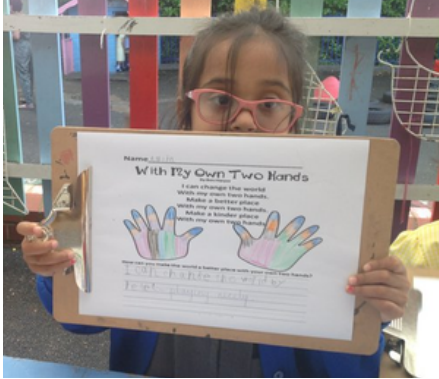
Refugee Week 2023 – WB 19.6.23

School of SANCTUARY AWARD Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary

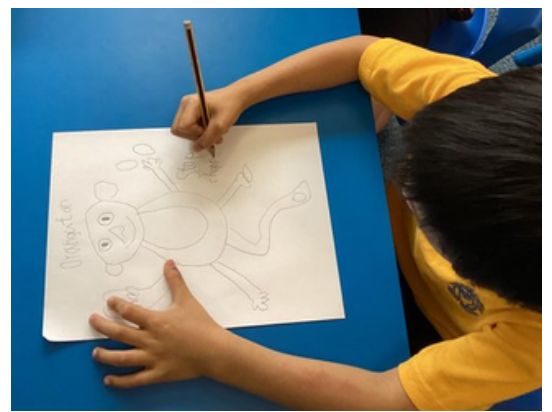
Celebrating what compassion looks like in action as we extend love and compassion widely to all.



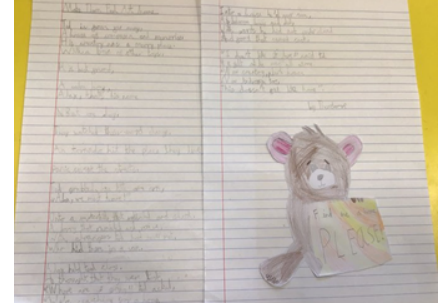
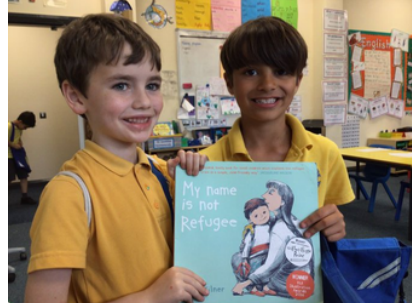
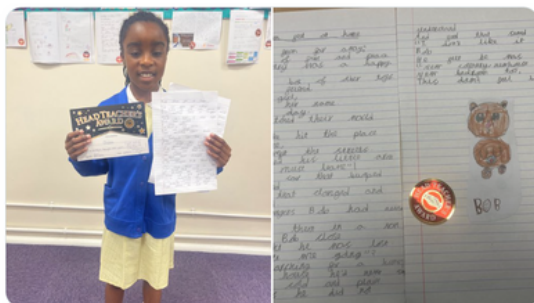
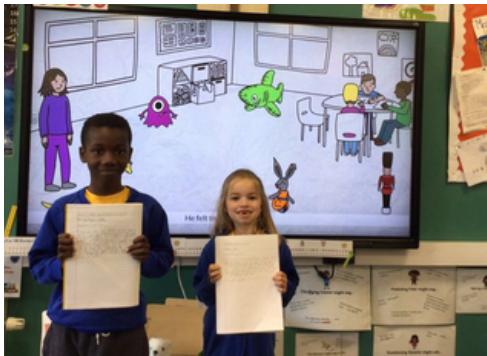
EYFS led their own Collective Worship in small groups and thought about how we can show kindness to others.



Year 1 have been busy studying the story 'The Journey Home', by Frann Preston-Gannon. The children have designed posters about the animals that had to leave their homes, just like refugees.



Year 2 have been thinking about ways we can welcome refugees and make them feel at home. This week they have written poems and welcome letters to share their compassion and empathy.



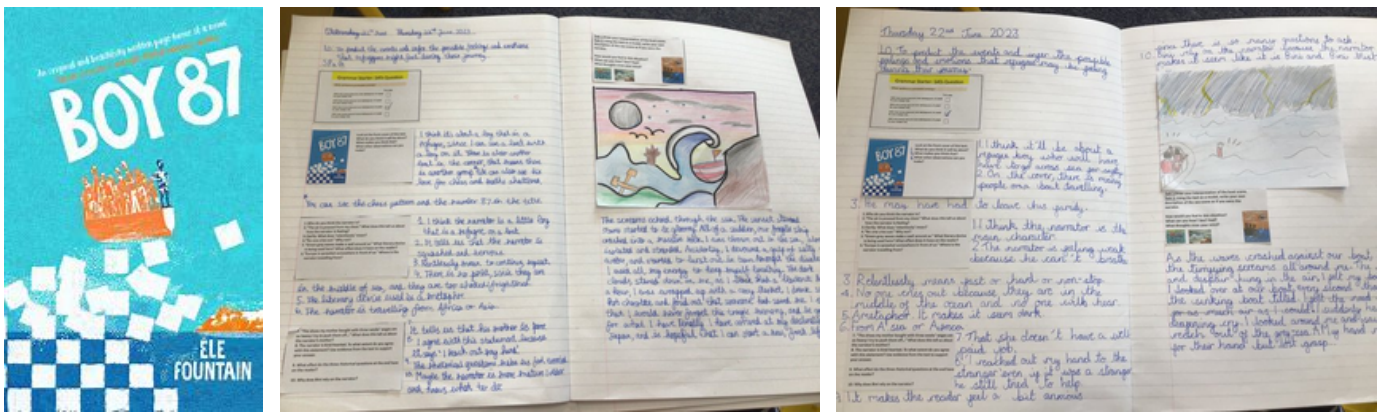
Year 3 created comic strips to represent the thoughts and feelings of refugees after fleeing to start a new life. They also created heartfelt hugs to let refugees know that they are always welcome and loved.



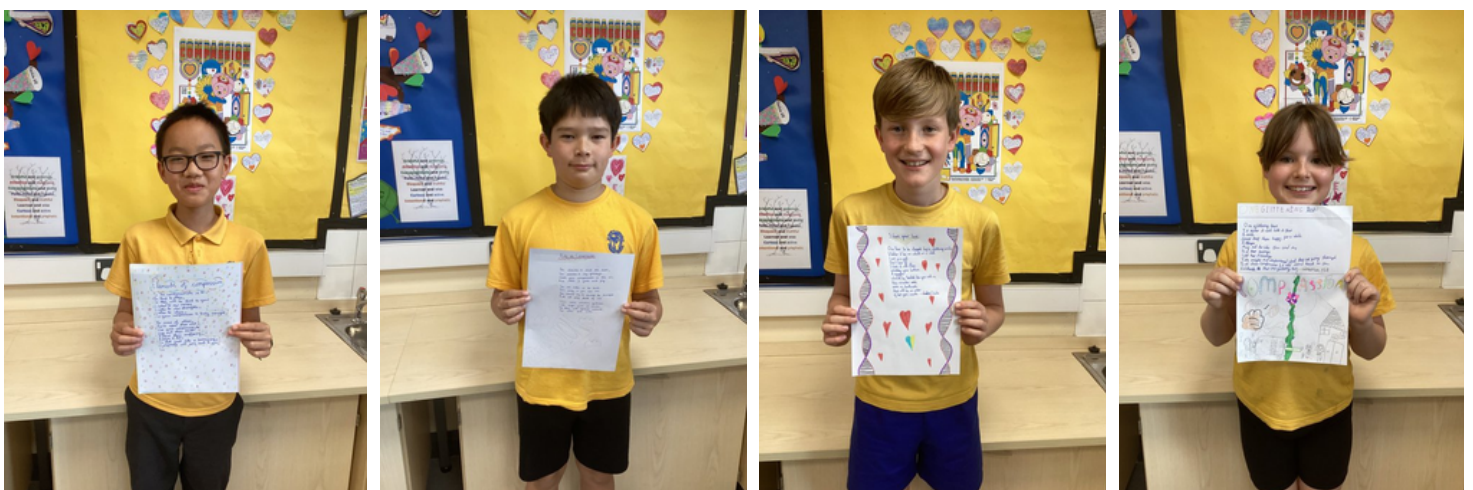
Year 4 have been thinking about 'empathy' for refugee week. They filled in shoes with welcoming thoughts and intentions for the refugees.



Year 5 discussed feelings and emotions of refugees who flee their country on the basis of the book 'Boy 87' by Ele Fountain.

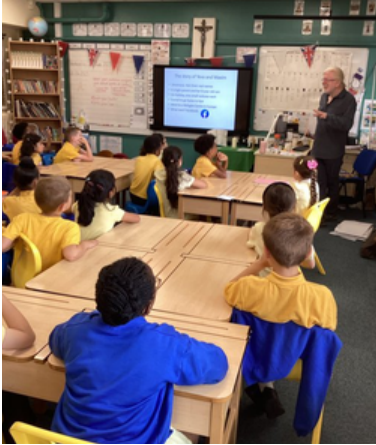


Year 6 wrote beautiful pieces of Compassion poetry in their English lessons. They know that being compassionate means we have to take action to help ease someone's suffering.



Special Visitors

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Hutchinson, who came in to school to talk about how they welcomed a family from Ukraine into their home.



And to Lera for speaking about her experience of leaving Ukraine to come to England and Gemma for sponsoring her. Powerful questions were asked from our compassionate children wanting to know more about a refugee's lived experiences of leaving home.



Sharing Assembly

On Friday afternoon, the children shared their Refugee learning with other classes - led by Year 6 who shared the poetry that they had written.



Love your neighbour

Jesus, friend and brother,
You know what it is like
to be hungry and thirsty.

You know what it feels like
to be a stranger who is made unwelcome.

You know the suffering of all
who have lost everything.

We pray that by welcoming refugees
we may show love for our neighbour
and be closer to you.
Amen.



Year 2 and Year 6 gathered in the prayer garden sharing their beautifully written poems and letters, reminding us that simple acts of compassion can make a big difference to the lives of refugees!



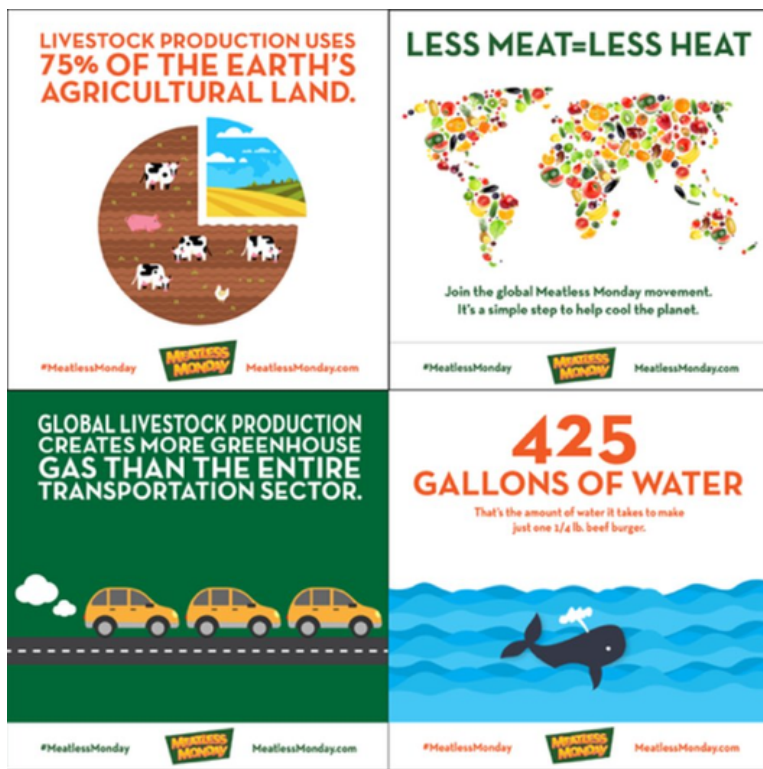


Parents and children Inspire workshop - Tuesday 20th June 2023
 To celebrate 'parents day', we hosted a special play-based Inspire workshop in school. The workshop was so well attended and a wonderful day was had by all.



*The children had a marvellous time.
 Here are some pictures from the day.*





Livesimply

Our children (and staff) are change makers!

This week, your Live Simply challenge, is to have a meat-free day!

Can you have a meal without any meat?

Perhaps you could do 'meatless Monday'.

You can even share your super meals by tweeting us!

Other News

RE: National Education Union Strike:

Strikes continue to go ahead nationally and regionally for teachers in England on the following dates: -

- Wednesday 5th July 2023*
- Friday 7th July 2023*

As previously mentioned, the vast majority of class teachers are NEU members and have helpfully let me know of their intention to strike. Therefore, school will only be partially open and will be closed to most classes.

GAME AWARDS

We are very proud to achieve the Gold Award for our commitment to PE, Physical Activity and School Sports.



Bottles for Parish Fete - WB 26.6.23

The Parish Fete is on Sunday 2nd July. The Parish have asked for a donation of bottles for the Fete. If you're happy to donate please bring bottles to the main office and we will hand over for the Fete. Thank you.



Y3 trip to Coventry Transport Museum - 27.6.23

Year 3 will be learning about different methods of transport and how transport has progressed over time by going to the Coventry Transport Museum on Tuesday. On the day of the trip, children will need to wear their School Uniform: polo top and trouser/skirt or summer dresses their school top and cardigan / jumper and they should wear school shoes.



All children will need to have a packed lunch too. The cost of the trip includes: entry to the museum, a tour of the exhibitions and a Victorian cycle workshop. Please make sure that your child is in school on time for the trip. Children will be back before the end of the school day.



Y2 trip to Arboretum - 28.6.23

Year 2 are off to the arboretum on Wednesday as part of their topic work.

Please ensure children are dressed for the outdoors. More information will be included in the letter from the teachers.



Reception Assembly - 30.6.23 - 9:15am

Reception will be performing their assembly for parents on Friday at 9:15am. We look forward to seeing you all there.



Are You Considering a Career Change?

Train to teach in local schools supported by our shared values and community

● Inspire

● Teach

● Excel

PGCE and QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) in a one year, school-based programme

Come on a school experience day to find out more:



🌐 bctsa.org

🐦 @bctsa_training

📷 @bishopchallonertsa

📘 bishopchallonertsa

🎵 @bctsa_training

☎️ 0121 441 6175



Bishop Challoner Training School Alliance

Primary and Secondary courses and long-term career development in our local family of schools



The overall welcoming spirit of BCTSA is what led me to choosing to train there. I felt a real warmth of support which made me feel comfortable and confident.

Rachel, BCTSA Health and Social Care trainee, 2022-2023



This June, The Wildlife Trust are encouraging people to reconnect with nature.

How many can you join in with?

Tag us in @StMaryB17 and #30DaysWild

Let's go 30 Days Wild



To help you go wild this June, we've come up with 30 ideas!

This is just a guide - feel free to adapt any of these activities to your lifestyle, or come up with your own. It's completely up to you. For inspiration, take a look at what others are up to by keeping an eye on #30DaysWild on social media, and joining the 30 Days Wild Facebook group.

Look, touch and smell

01 Look for a feather, flower, bee and butterfly

02 Feel a smooth leaf, lump of moss and wind on your face

03 Smell wild herbs or a flower

04 Listen to water flowing, birds singing and bees buzzing

Move in nature

05 Swing on a branch, hug or climb a tree

06 Exercise in nature

07 Play a game outdoors

08 Have a picnic

09 Go on a nature treasure hunt

10 Splash in water

11 Visit a nature reserve, park, garden or beach

Discover nature

12 Go on a mini beast hunt

13 Identify a bee, fly or a bee fly

14 Count and identify wildflowers

15 Learn five facts about your favourite bird, mammal or insect

16 Speak up for nature - take part in a campaign

17 Camp out or go to a Big Wild Weekend event

18 Take the Big Wild Quiz

Help nature

19 Reduce plastic waste

20 Put out a water dish or make a mini pond

21 Sow wildflower seeds or feed the birds

22 Make a leaf pile, log pile or bee home for wildlife

23 Raise money for wildlife with a sponsored walk

24 Leave a patch of long grass and dandelions to grow for wildlife

25 Draw, paint or write about your favourite creature

Connect to nature

26 Take time to admire the beauty in nature

27 Find what makes you happy in nature

28 Talk to a friend about what you love in nature

29 Tell a wild story about nature

30 Share the best bits of 30 Days Wild with friends and family!



Take a photo, draw or write about nature, tell someone or share on social media #30DaysWild

Parish News



St. Mary's Parish Fete is next

Sunday 2nd July, from 12 noon to 3pm

...with Italian mobile pizzeria (child-size), mobile beer bar, hotdogs, prosecco (all in gardens behind Priory), stalls of every sort in the Parish Halls (bottles, empanada, jewellery; for children: ice-lollies, games, bubbles, face painting, story telling,.... Like to come in fancy dress (Royalty theme!).

Stay to clear-up? - eternal reward!



New St Mary's Parish Youth Club for Years 7 and 8

Planning will begin for this in late September, with training led by the Diocesan Kenelm Youth Trust for volunteers/parents via Zoom and in person. Year 6 parents see Fr John if interested!

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



We have an upcoming **NED** assembly on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

NED's Mindset Mission is a character education program that centres around three important messages that have lifelong relevance: **N**ever give up, **E**ncourage others and **D**o your best.

During the assembly, the children will learn about the importance of these three life skills while also enjoying storytelling, magic, humour and yo-yo tricks.

The assembly is given to school for free based on the yo-yo sales from a previous school. We too will be selling the yo-yos and the money raised will help another school to have this behaviour assembly free of charge.

Children may take their yo-yos home with them once purchased.

Children will be able to use the yo-yos in school, but only in our lunchtime club.

Only at this time will they be permitted to be out in the school day.

Hi,
I'm NED!



Hello families!

NED's Mindset Mission is a positive behaviour assembly visiting our school!

A world-class performer takes our students on a 45-minute journey filled with storytelling, illusions, yo-yo tricks and humour.

NED's message and memorable friends inspire students, promote academic achievement, and support our school goals. NED will become a positive role model at both school and at home.

Never give up **E**ncourage others **D**o your best®

A yo-yo is both a mindset tool and tangible reminder of NED's message. While learning to yo, children will make mistakes, try again, & improve. Read more at www.MindsetMission.com/yo-yos.

Our school yo-yo sale

Our school received this assembly at no-cost because another school paid-it-forward to us. We want to help pay-it-forward too, and you can help by purchasing a NED-messaged yo-yo.

SALE DATES: _____ TIME: _____

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: _____



Yo-yo designs and colors may vary.

Make cheques payable to our school. Prices include tax (where applicable).

Joyful June 2023

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month

2 Say positive things in your conversations with others

3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it

4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it

5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down

6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings

7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good

8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share

9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently

10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them

11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it

12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone

13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side

14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you

15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it

16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way

17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful

18 Look for something good in a difficult situation

19 Get outside and find the joy in being active

20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity

21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement

22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh

23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to

24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for

25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others



26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it

27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy

28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people

29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today

30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

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.

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 12th June – 16th June

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	96.3%	94.7%	97.7%	99%	99%	99%	97.7%	92.3%	98.3%	95.7%	95.1%	97.6%	94%	97%
Lates	18	6	6	10	6	6	16	7	11	8	12	2	4	10
Whole School Attendance so far this year						95.7%			School Target				97%	

Well done Y1F, Y2E and Y2G: - our Attendance Champions

Dates for next term

Summer theme -

Summer 11 Virtues

WB 26.6.23

27th June 2023 - all day

27th June 2023 - 9:00am

28th June 2023 - all day

29th June 2023 - 9:30am

30th June 2023 - 9:00am

30th June 2023 - 9:15am

4th July 2023 - 9:00am

5th July 2023 - all day

5th July 2023 - 10am and 1pm

7th July 2023 - all day

7th July - 1:00pm

7th July 2023

11th July 2023 - 9:15am

11th July 2023 - 1:45pm

12th July 2023

12th July 2023 - all day

12th July 2023 - all day

13th July 2023 - 2:00pm

14th July 2023 - 9:00am

14th July 2023 - 2:00pm

19th July 2023 - all day

19th July 2023 - 9:30am

21st July -

Solidarity and the Common Good

Intentional and Prophetic

Request for bottles for the Parish Fete can be brought in to school

Y3 trip to Coventry Transport Museum

Y2G visit to Harborne Library

Y2 trip to Arboretum

Whole School Mass for SS Peter and Paul - parents welcome

Y2E visit to Harborne Library

Reception Year group assembly for parents

YRT visit to Harborne Library

Strike day - school will only be open for some year groups

New Reception cohort parent meeting in hall - children meet their teachers

Strike day - school will be open for some year groups

YRB visit to Harborne Library

Reports will be emailed to parents (Reception-Year 5)

Y1 Mass in Church - parents welcome

Sports Awards Presentation in St. Mary's Church

Reports will be emailed to parents (Year 6)

Transition day - children will meet their new teacher/class for next year

New Reception cohort transition meetings with parents / class teachers

MATILDA Performance for parents

Y1F visit to Harborne Library

MATILDA Performance for parents

New Reception cohort transition meetings with parents / class teachers

Year 6 leavers Mass (Y6 parents welcome)

Break up for Summer holidays

Early finish time

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KS1 classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

Star of the week

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

Year RB	Eliab	<i>For always listening to his teachers and trying his best!</i>
Year RT	Esme	<i>for brilliant math learning on our shape hunt this week!</i>
Year IF	Aryana	<i>For a fantastic writing all about penguins.</i>
Year IL	Rina	<i>For trying os hard in her writing!</i>
Year 2E	Lucy	<i>For a huge improvement in her writing - Well done!</i>
Year 2G	Chidalu	<i>For a wonderful refugee week poem!</i>
Year 3L	Isabella	<i>For polite manners.</i>
Year 3T	Isla	<i>for being a supportive friend and a great role model to all!</i>
Year 4J	Kaya	<i>Showing excellent determination in work and being helpful to others!</i>
Year 4M	Tiffany	<i>For her hardworking attitude in everything she does!</i>
Year 5F	Samuel	<i>Always working hard and leading the class beautifully in mediation.</i>
Year 5M	Indiana	<i>Exceptional effort and enthusiasm with his writing and leading class prayer</i>
Year 6O	Hyabel	<i>For joining in with our refugee week fantastically</i>
Year 6R	Orla	<i>For amazing acting skills during our production rehearsals and setting an example to everyone.</i>

