



Archdiocese of Birmingham

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

Telephone: 0121 464 2141

Email: [enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk)

[www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk)

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.

### October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Families and Community'

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



18th October 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Every week, I look at all the wonderful learning that has taken place and find it so hard to capture this in my short message to you all. I suppose, my highlight for this week must be The Reception class welly walk - the children had so much fun on their Peppa pig walk and enjoyed walking through Autumn leaves and muddy puddles. We are so thankful to the sponsorship money that has been raised so far in support of this.

Any money given will go towards purchasing outdoor clothing for the children so that they can continue to enjoy our outdoor area whatever the season.



Please check the dates section of this newsletter carefully as there is a lot going on next week with: the book fair being in school, parent consultation evenings, harvest collection, flu jabs and photos. Please look for the day that your children go to the library so that the children remember to bring in their library cards and can change their library books. Also note that we are closed to children on Friday as it is a staff INSET day.

Class newsletters will go out again at the beginning of next half term so that you have all relevant dates for your child's year group.

Thank you so much to those of you who have so far donated to our harvest collection. The children will be taking our donation to SIFA fireside after our Harvest Mass on Wednesday. We still have a target of 420 items - which is one item off every child. If you can support, please bring in your donation Monday or Tuesday next week.

We look forward to welcoming our parents in to school on Tuesday and Thursday evening for parent consultations. I do hope that you're just as pleased with the progress that your children make as I am. The vehicle gates will remain closed during parents' evening - please do not obstruct these gates in anyway when coming to your appointment.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and we wish you a very relaxed weekend.



**Mrs Yorke**



# Catholic Life



## *This week's Gospel and Prayer*

Mark 10:25

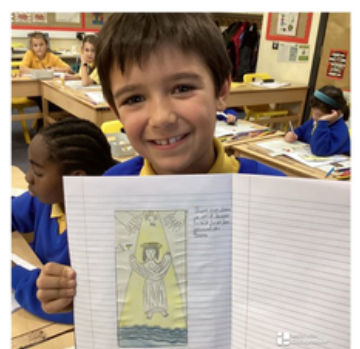
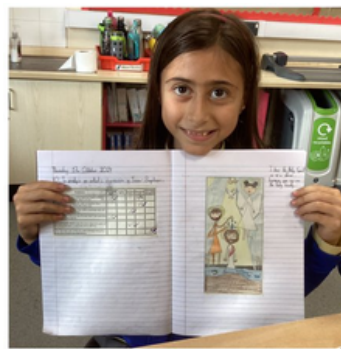
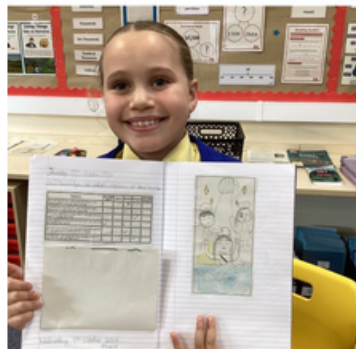
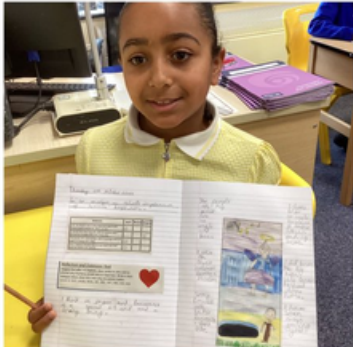
*'It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.'*

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- Loving God and loving others is more important than loving things.
- By following Jesus, we build up treasures in Heaven.



*Year 5 children have been creating their own artistic impression of Jesus' Baptism in their RE lessons*



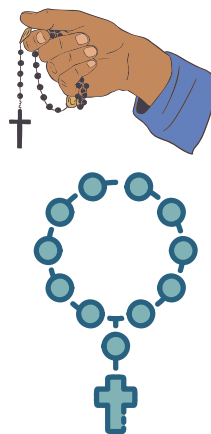
## Next week's Mass: - Reception Welcome Mass - Harvest

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 23rd October 2024**, starting promptly at 9:15am. Reception children will be leading our Mass and their Year 6 buddies will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



## *Prayer at home*

*Well done children for praying at home with your families this week...*



Year 1 Mass - 16.10.24  
- St. Luke

Thank you Year 1 for reading and singing so beautifully in Mass on Wednesday and teaching us all about St. Luke. Fr Hilary's homily told us that we can use the letters of Luke's name to be like him: - loving, understanding, kind and empathetic.

# Child-led prayer



Year 3 children led their classmates in prayer which focused on this week's Gospel. The children prayed for a fairer world.



Year 4 children asked their peers to reflect on the example given to us by St. Teresa of Avila and how we could follow her example.



Year 6 children focused upon the miracles of Jesus - they used video, music, questions, prayers and pictures.



Year 2 children chose to pray in our prayer and their focus was St. Luke.

St. Luke stands for **L**oving, **U**nderstanding, **K**indness and **E**mpathy.



Fr Hilary helped our Reception children to learn all about the importance of baptism and special prayers that might be said.

# *Sporting Success*



*Our U11s football team have had a wonderful start to the season, playing two games this week! Our first game on Monday, we had a 3-0 win and our second game last night, a 5-0 win. Of course winning isn't everything. What makes me exceptionally proud of them has been the comments from other schools about how incredible the children are at communicating with one another and working as a team.*

*The whole of the school are behind you boys and we can't wait to see how the rest of the season goes.*





# The Book Fair is Here!



The Book Fair has arrived at St Mary's and will be open now after school for the next few days for you to purchase some books!

The Scholastic Book Fair is a fantastic opportunity for children to buy quality books while raising money for the school at the same time...

We were able to buy >70 books for the school after the last Book Fair and we'd love to be able to do this again!

The Book Fair will be open on the following dates/times:

Friday 18th October - 3.15pm to 4pm (Hall)

Monday 21st October - 3.15pm to 4pm (Hall)

Tuesday 22nd October - At Parent Consultations

Wednesday 23rd October - 3.15pm to 4pm (Hall)



Children will have the opportunity to browse the Book Fair during the school day but purchases will only be possible on the above dates/times. The Book Fair will be cashless, and we will have a card reader available too.

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME TO the BOOK FAIR!

AND EARN FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL

TOM GATES FIVE STAR STORIES by Liz Pichon

ZOMBIE SEASON by JUSTIN WEINBERG

OH MAYA GODS! by Maz Evans

SPEAK UP! by Tom Knight

Illustration from Dog Man © Dav Pilkey. When Cookie Crumbled © Tom Knight. 2023

## October - Pray the Rosary

As we are in the month of October, we are praying the rosary in school. This is a good time to pray and meditate on our Lord's life, faithfully witnessed by Our Blessed Mother. The rosary is the recitation of five decades consisting of the Our Father, 10 Hail Marys and the 'Glory Be'.



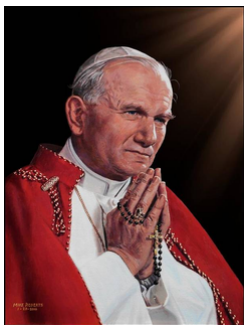
## Black History Month - Enrichment event Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October

We have an exciting Enrichment Event in school on Monday and Tuesday next week, in order to celebrate our Black History Month learning. And it has been wonderful that our parents want to get involved providing food and offering to talk to us about home traditions. If you want to get involved next week.... just let us know



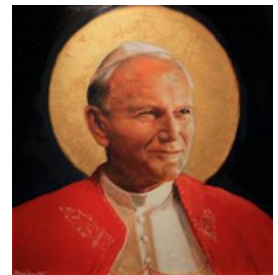
## Flu immunisation day: Monday 21st October

NHS nurses will be in school on Wednesday to administer the flu vaccine.



On Tuesday 22nd October, we will be celebrating Saint John Paul II, christened Karol Józef Wojtyła, St. John Paul II was Bishop and Pope (1978-2005). He led an extraordinary and inspiring life and made many reforms.

**Children who are in St. John Paul II House Group - can come in to school wearing red on this day!**



## Year 4 Harborne Library Visit - 12.10.24

Year 4 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

4J will leave at 9:00am

4M 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 4 staff know.



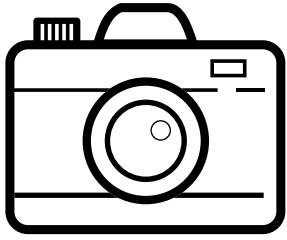
## Parents' Consultation Evening

Don't forget  
parents'  
evening!

*Parents' evening appointments will be carried over two days - Tuesday 22nd October 2024 and Thursday 24th October 2024. All appointments take place in the school hall.*

## Photo day

Wednesday 23rd October



Group and sibling photos will now take place on the 23rd October. Please log into your gateway to consent for sibling photos. Consent is open until the 17/10/24 at midnight.

Any responses after this will not be counted and your children will not have a sibling photo taken.

Please make sure on the 23/10/24 that all children are in full uniform. Please speak to Mrs Thomas if you have any questions.

## School Closed - INSET

Friday 25th October 2024

School is closed for children on Friday next week as it is a teacher INSET day. Children will return to school on Monday 4th November at normal time.

## First Communion / Confirmation programmes

Anyone with a child in Year 3 or above wishing to make their First Communion or in Year 6 or above wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2025, are now able to collect a pack from the Parish Office. Packs can be collected at drop-off (8:30am-9:00am) and at the end of the school day (3:00-3:30pm). Please return completed forms by **6th November**.

## St Mary's Catholic Primary School

### Reception 2025

### Open Day



Reception 2025 Parents -

Would you like to come and see our school in action?



# Reception

Please contact us to book a slot:

Morning Tour— 10:30—11:30

Afternoon Tour—13:45—14:45

Contact Email:

[enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk)

Call: 0121 464 2141



**SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER**

**12.00  
to  
3.00pm**

**ST MARY'S PARISH / PTA**

**CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**PARISH HALLS  
VIVIAN ROAD, HARBORNE**

- \* Santa's Grotto \*
- \* Bottle Tombola \*
- \* Chocolate Tombola \*
- \* Christmas Stockings \*
- \* Mulled Wine & Mince Pies \*
- \* Festive Sandwiches & Drinks \*
- \* Stalls: Books, Jewellery, Toys, Fancy Goods,  
Glass, China & Pottery, Cakes,  
Jams & Chutneys \*

**Free Admission (£4 for Santa's Grotto)**



## October half-term

This wonderful club is being run on Thursday of half-term week.  
Best suited for KS2 children. Details below: -



**New Partnership**

**SUCCESS EDUCATION**  
TURNING THE IMPOSSIBLE INTO POSSIBLE

# LEGO CODING SESSION

**In partnership with  
F1 Arcade Birmingham**



**2.5 hours of fun filled activities with a Formula 1 theme.**

**All attendees will get to create and code fantastic F1 themed builds whilst also getting to race in the state of the art simulators at F1 Arcade**



Sign up  
using link



## SESSION INFORMATION



10:00am - 12:30pm



Thurs 31st  
October



2 Chamberlain Sq,  
Birmingham B3 3AX

For further information  
[johnpaul@successeducation.org](mailto:johnpaul@successeducation.org)

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

If you have a concern that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following staff members as quickly as possible:



Amy Davis	Louise Yorke	Rachel Jones	Rachel Richards	Sharon Tame	Laura Noone	Jade Preedy
Deputy Headteacher	Headteacher	Senior Teacher	EYFS Lead	School Counsellor	AHT	AHT
Lead DSL	Deputy DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL	DSL

Alternatively, email [DSL@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:DSL@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk)

## 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 14/10/24-18/10/24**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	98.6	95.3	97.3	100	100	96.6	96	98	99.3	95.3	95	98.3	96.3	98.6
Lates	0	3	3	6	3	3	1	3	0	2	4	1	1	0
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.4%			School Target				97%	

Well done 1F and 2E: - Our attendance champions!

Autumn theme -

Autumn 1 Virtues

WB 21.10.24

21.10.24 and 22.10.24

21st October 2024 - all day

22nd October 2024 - am

22nd October 2024 - all day

22nd October 2024 - 3:30-6:00

23rd October 2024 - 9:15am

24th October 2024 - 3:30-6:00

24th October 2024 - normal time

25th October 2024 - all day

Families and Communities

Curious and Active

School Book Fair in school - please support our book fair

PTA enrichment event in school for all children

Year 6 flu vaccination in school

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

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

Parent Consultation Evening

Reception Welcome Mass (with Year 6 buddies) - Parents welcome

Parent Consultation Evening

Children finish today for October half-term (normal finish time)

INSET day - School closed to children

# Dates for this term



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

Year RB	Allegra	Creating a beautifully presented video of her prayers after having the prayer bag.
Year RT	Nikki	Making fantastic progress in her phonics this half term!
Year IF	Azrael	Working incredibly hard in maths this week!
Year IL	Buraq	For an excellent effort and trying his best in all that he does.
Year 2E	Zhimu	For her wonderful behaviour and kindness
Year 2G	Emerson	Fantastic behaviour and always trying his best!
Year 3L	Aaron G	Having a fantastic attitude to learning and for always trying his best.
Year 3T	Janssen	Showing fantastic behaviour during our school trip to Lapworth Museum!
Year 4J	Amalie	For her Exciting Writing - a letter in role as Nancy - you sounded just like her!
Year 4M	Oscar	Excellent effort in variety of subjects!
Year 5F	Elsie	Great presentation to the class .
Year 5M	Patrick	An amazing attitude towards his learning.
Year 6O	Brigid	For living out our school mission through everything she does.
Year 6R	Adam	For his wonderful efforts and fabulous progress in swimming.

