



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

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Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

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.

September is dedicated to Mary.

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

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



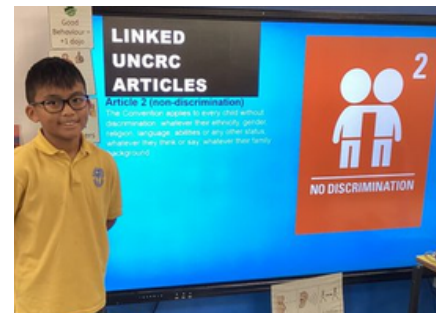
27th September 2024

Dear parents and carers,

This morning, we had a lovely house retreat, which was planned and led by our House Captains. It was all about our House Saints and linked to our over-arching theme of families and communities and British Values. I am so incredibly impressed with how well the school representatives are leading our school priorities. The children attending Harborne library for the consultation morning were also a massive credit to you and the school.

Thank you children.

Here are some photos from today's retreat: -



A few parents have asked about the best way to communicate with school now that we no longer have e-schools. As an SLT, we are currently working on a communications policy which should help you with this but for now, the best way to pass on a message is:-

- 1) speak to a member of SLT, who is on the blue gate every morning
- 2) send an email in to enquiry or phone enquiry, with a message to be passed on
- 3) speak to the teacher at the end of the day at pick up
- 4) request a meeting with a teacher (or SLT member) through email or phoning school

All messages are passed on to the most relevant member of staff. If a reply is needed, you should receive this within 3-5 days (or on day 1 if it is an urgent concern or safeguarding issue - ask to speak to a DSL).

Information for parents about learning and progress is formally reported once a term through parents' evenings. We are also trialling a half-termly newsletter, where you will receive key information about the year group, and their curriculum. Other information about homework will also be communicated. As a whole school approach, you can support your child at home by doing daily reading, spellings and TT Rockstars.

Please rest assured that if the school has any additional concerns i.e. if a child is needing extra support with their work, we will contact you - but otherwise assume that your child is making expected progress and you will receive a fuller update at October's parents' evening.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Yorke



Catholic Life



This week's Gospel and Prayer

Mark 9:35

'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last and servant of all.'

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn that:

- 'Greatness' isn't about winning or being the best
- Jesus sets us an example to follow: to be great in God's sight, we must put others first
- We must really listen to others and think about their needs/how they feel
- Help and look after each other



Dear God,
 Thank you so much for all you have done for me. Help me to show your love to other people by putting them first. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Year 3 Mass - 25.9.24
- St. Therese of Lisieux

Year 3 children and Fr Hilary taught us all about the importance of loving God and others in little ways; in the importance of praying for others and how we can be small but still achieve great things.



Next week's Mass: - Y5 Mass - St. Faustina

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 2nd October 2024**, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 5 children will be leading our Mass and Year 6 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



Catholic Social Teaching:

Children's Voices are heard at the Harborne Library Consultation... 24/09/2024



School Representatives 2024-2025

CAFOD Club



Play leaders



Our newly appointed Play Leaders had a training morning this week at Bishop Challoner. They have learnt how to initiate and lead playground games and will be running these during our OPAL lunchtimes! We just need the rain to stop now!



School Representatives 2024-2025

Prefects, Head Boy and Head Girl



What do our Head boy (Thomas) and Head girl (Katy) have to say, in their first letters to the children...?

Hello everybody,

My name is Thomas and I'm in class 6R and I am so proud to have been chosen as Head Boy.

In my role as Head boy, I am looking forward to helping around the school, helping people to make the right choices and encouraging everyone to uphold the school values. I will lead in a positive and enthusiastic way so that anyone from Reception up to Year 6 will be able to share their ideas with me.

I care about the environment and I would love to look after it like it says in *Laudato si*, so if you have any ideas about how to use our world's resources with care, please speak to me!

Let's work together to use our God given gifts to continue to make St Mary's the best school it can be!



Share ideas!



St. Mary's
Catholic Primary School

Will all visitors
please report to
the School Office



Hello my name is Katy and I am in 6O. It is a privilege to have been chosen as Head Girl at St Mary's.

Since starting in Reception, I have always tried to be involved in every aspect of school life. I love to take part in choir, netball, football and serving on the altar at mass.

As Head Girl I aim to do my best, to strive for excellence and to make the school the best it can be. I will always try to be a friend to everyone and encourage others to do the same, whilst making sure everyone is treated fairly. I will represent all students making sure their voices are heard.

I am excited for the coming year and what we can all achieve as a school family in our fund raising and community life.

Katy

St. Mary's
Catholic Primary School

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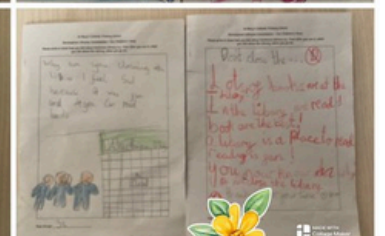
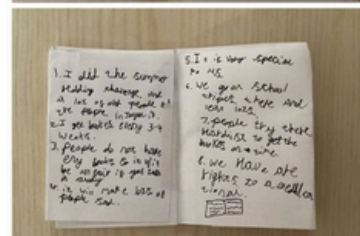
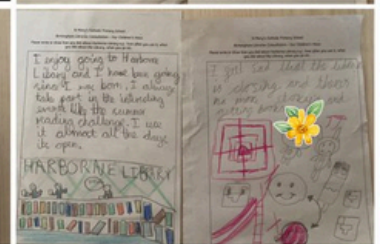
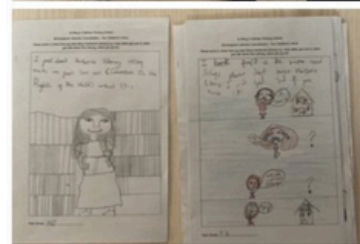
"I am a St. Mary's child, and I strive for Excellence"

And in their first item of business, the prefects have met with Mrs Yorke to discuss how we can further improve our lunchtime offer and play times.



“I am a St. Mary’s child, and I strive for Excellence”

Catholic Social Teaching: Children’s Voices are heard at the Harborne Library Consultation... 24/09/2024





TT Rock Stars Launch Day! 30.0.24

On Monday 30th September, we are having a TT Rock Stars launch day in school! Everyone should come in to school dressed as a rock star and please give £2 donation, which will go towards buying Maths resources for the children. Following our launch day, use the login details to support the children with their maths homework over the upcoming weeks.



October - Pray the Rosary

Next week, we enter the month of October – and we will be 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'.

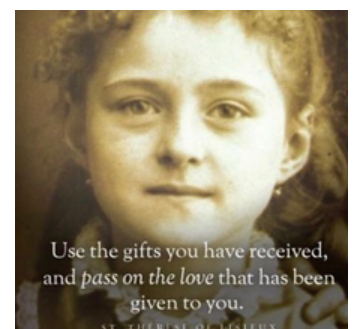
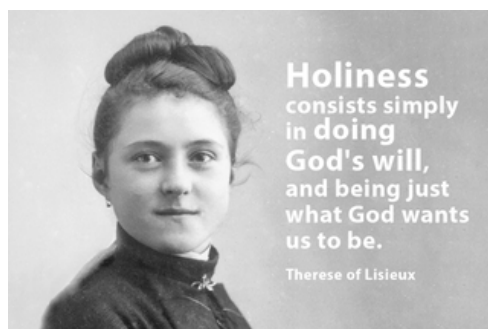


Black History Month

In October we learn about black role models and inspiring people. We celebrate all races and cultures and the children will have the opportunity to celebrate their own families, cultures, traditions and backgrounds – please send in anything your children could show and talk about to support our learning.



3T non-school uniform day - 1.10.24
Class 3T will be celebrating the life of their class saint - St. Therese of Lisieux - with a non-school uniform day and a special day in school on Tuesday 1st October 2024.





Year 4 Harborne Library Visit - 1.10.24

Year 4 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

4M will leave at 9:00am

4J 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.

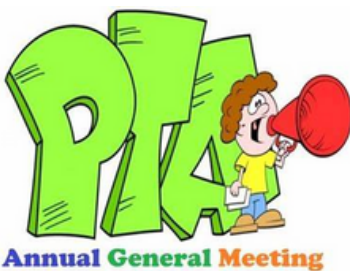
National Poetry Day - Thursday 3rd October 2024

Thursday 3rd October is National Poetry day and the theme this year is 'counting'. We look forward to reading, listening to and enjoying poetry on this day and writing some of our own in our English lessons.



Italian themed lunch - 3.10.24

On Thursday 3rd October, we are having a special themed lunch in school. If you would like your child to have school dinner on this day - log in to your gateway and consent. If they normally have school dinner - you don't need to do this. The cost for those who pay for school dinner is £2.65. It's going to be a yummy occasion!



The first Annual General Meeting of the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) of the New school year will be on **Thursday 3rd October at 3:30pm**. Children of St. Mary's can be looked after in school if you need this option. We look forward to welcoming new parents who would like to join the PTA in supporting the school run events throughout the school year.



SF non-school uniform day - 4.10.24
 Class SF will be celebrating the life of their class saint - St. Faustina - with a non-school uniform day and a special day in school on Friday 4th October 2024.



IF non-school uniform day - 4.10.24
 Class IF will be celebrating the life of their class saint - St. Francis of Assisi - with a non-school uniform day and a special day in school on Friday 4th October 2024.



As part of Year 1's feast day celebration...

Year 1 prayer service for parents - 4.10.24 9:00am
 Year 1 are inviting parents, grandparents, family members to join them in a special prayer service in school.
 Dedicated to St. Francis

Upcoming dates for your

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Reception 2025



Open Day



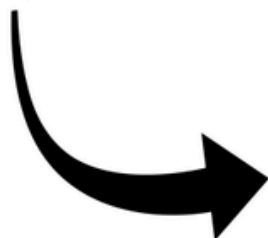
Reception 2025 Parents -

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

Please contact us to book a slot:

Morning Tour— 10:30—11:30

Afternoon Tour—13:45—14:45



2024



Reception

Contact Email:

enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Call: 0121 464 2141



October collection for harvest - SIFA Fireside

Throughout October, we will be collecting for our harvest festival and supporting SIFA fireside. Here are the items to donate to school if you are able to support our charity work.



Feminine Hygiene Products

Socks and other Foot-care Items

Person Hygiene Items such as:

Shower gel, soap, deodorant, combs, hairbrushes, baby wipes, hand cream, chap sticks, tooth brushes, tooth paste

New and unopened long life items such as:

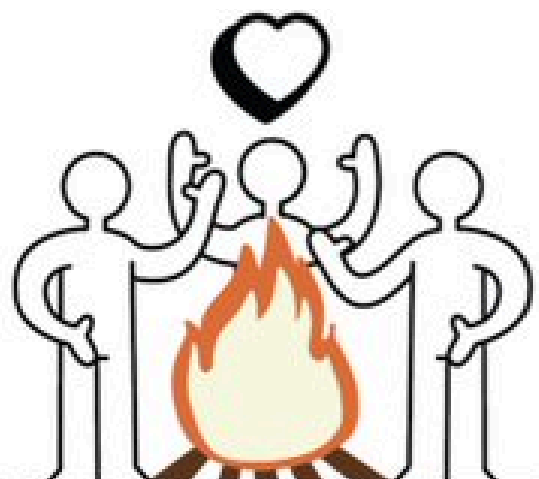
Granola bars/snack bars, easy open cans (with pull tabs), bottles of water, ready to eat meals, biscuits, crackers

Good quality used clothing such as:

Gloves, scarves, blankets, hats, sleeping bags, warm clothing (jumpers, trousers, vests, coats etc)

Birmingham, you're not alone

SIFA Fireside, 48-52 Allcock Street, Birmingham B9 4DY
Registered charity number: 1049728



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

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 23/09/24-27/09/24

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	95	97	97.3	87	99	97.3	96	100	97.6	99	99.3	97	97.3	99
Lates	4	2	2	6	4	5	3	0	3	4	3	5	4	0
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.4%		School Target				97%		

Well done 3T: - Our attendance champions!

Dates for this term

Autumn theme -

Autumn 1 Virtues

30th September 2024

October 2024 - all month

October 2024 - all month

October 2024 - all month

1st October 2024 - all day

1st October 2024 - am

2nd October 2024 - 9:15am

3rd October 2024 - all day

3rd October 2024 - lunch time

3rd October 2024 - 3:30pm

4th October 2024 - all day

4th October 2024 - all day

4th October 2024 - 9:00am

WB 7.10.24

8th October 2024 - am

9th October 2024 - all day

9th October 2024 - 9:15am

10th October 2024 - all day

11th October 2024 - 9:15am

15th October 2024 - all day

15th October 2024 - am

15th October 2024 - am

16th October 2024 - am

16th October 2024 - 9:15am

18th October 2024 - all day

18th October 2024 - 6pm

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

x-table Rockstar launch day - dress as a rockstar!

Pray the Rosary

Black History Month

Collection for Harvest - please send food and self-care items in for our harvest

Y3T Non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Therese of Lisieux

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

Year 5 Mass in Church (Y6 to attend) - Parents welcome

National Poetry Day Competition

Themed Lunch in the canteen

PTA AGM meeting

Y5F Non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Faustina

Y1F Non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Francis

Year 1 Prayer Service for parents

Dyslexia Awareness Week

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

School Photo Day

Year 4 Mass in Church (Y3 to attend) - Parents welcome

Hello Yellow World Mental Health Day - wear yellow

Year 6 Year Group Assembly

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

Year 5 visit to Harborne library (9:15 5M and 11:00 5F)

Y3L - Lapworth museum visit

Y3T - Lapworth museum visit

Year 1 Mass in Church (Y2 to attend) - Parents welcome

Y1L Non-school uniform day for St. Luke feast day

PTA Fundraising - Children's disco

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 Paul 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

Star of the week

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

- Year RB Josphe For his incredible effort in blending and sounding out words during guided reading
- Year RT Sakura For being a bright and positive member of RT
- Year IF Daphne For working consistently hard in every subject!
- Year IL Shindara Excellent effort in all areas of his work!
- Year 2E Zoey-Justina For an excellent start to life in Year 2
- Year 2G Anicet For being so well behaved this week!
- Year 3L Theo For always listening carefully, following instructions and trying his hardest, in everything he does!
- Year 3T Hannah For always ensuring that her work is presented beautifully!
- Year 4J Victoria For settling so well at St Mary's and being a great role model.
- Year 4M Yadiel Excellent role model; always ready to learn; living the virtues of curious and active.
- Year 5F Clara For her fantastic effort and leadership skills demonstrated at the Play Leaders training
- Year 5M Pariza For working consistently hard in every subject and always striving for excellence
- Year 6O Kitty For making wonderful links between the Ten Commandments and our school mission statement
- Year 6R Harry For his enthusiasm and thought provoking questions in History.

