



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

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.

## September is dedicated to Mary.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Family and Communities'  
Our virtues for this half term are: - Compassionate and Loving



16th September 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Following on from Education Sunday, our week has followed the theme of 'Enlightening the Mind', taken from Ephesians 1: 17-18. This week, we have been praying for all staff that feed, nurture, support and teach the children 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. We also have enjoyed Roald Dahl day in school, celebrating the author's characters and stories. Children are now beginning their campaigns to become school councillors and the elections will be next week. There are many opportunities offered at St. Mary's for the children to take on extra responsibility and represent their peers and School Council is just one element of this. I look forward to finding out who has been selected.

Miss Price

### This week's Gospel and Prayer

Luke 15: 1-10

"I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner"

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- that we can be lost and found too
- we are very precious to Jesus
- we can always say sorry and Jesus will find us

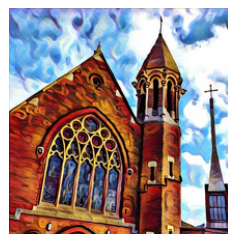
Dear Jesus,  
I'm sorry for when I go my own way and become lost.  
Thank you that I am precious to you.  
Thank you that when I say sorry, you will search for me and you will always find me!  
Amen

### Catholic Life in School

#### Year 6 Mass - Holy name of Mary

On Wednesday, Year 6 led us in our assembly dedicated to the Holy name of Mary.

The children created a beautiful image of our Lady for the offertory.



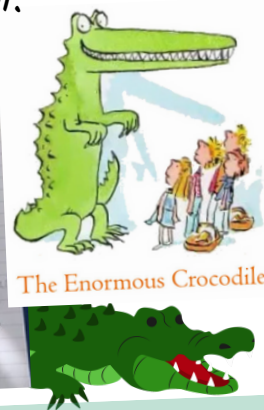
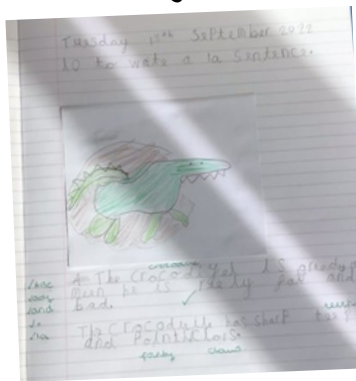
#### Year 4 Mass in Church - 21.9.22 at 9:15am - St. Matthew

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 21st September 2022, starting promptly at 9:15am. **Year 4 children** will be leading our Mass and Year 3 children will attend too. All parents are welcome to attend.



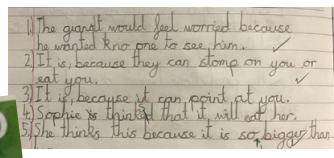
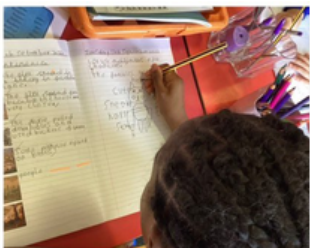
# Roald Dahl Day

The children enjoyed Roald Dahl day in school.



Reception created their own art work and characters after reading 'The Enormous Crocodile'.

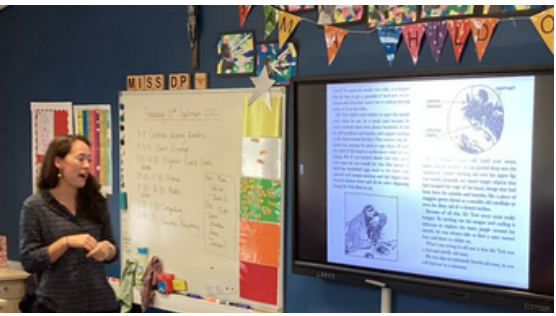
Year 1 read the story 'The Enormous Crocodile' by Roald Dahl and wrote sentences, describing the crocodile!



Year 2 thought up ambitious adjectives to describe their 'fantastic' animal.

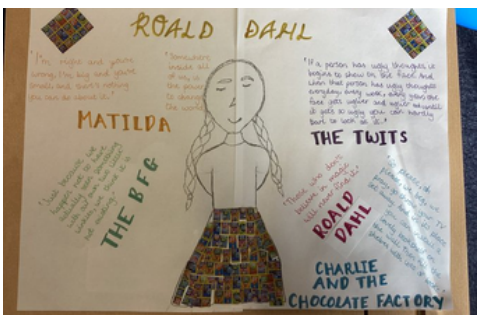
Year 3 did their best rhinoceros impressions to show how Roald Dahl described the antagonist, Miss Trunchbull, in his book Matilda

Year 4 enjoyed learning all about the BFG and showed fantastic comprehension skills when discussing the book.



Year 5 explored the creations that Mr Twit would create in Charlie's Chocolate Factory but who would dare to try one of his 'delicious' creations?

Year 6 mashed up two very entertaining stories for Roald Dahl Day and made new exciting stories for their teachers to read.





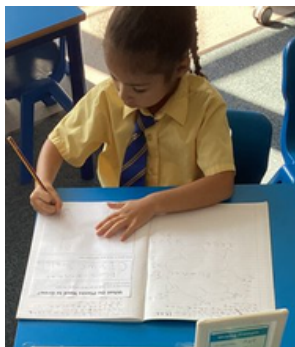
*Reception news: -*

Reception class have enjoyed their outdoor learning this week.



*Year 1 news: -*

Year 1 are observing how cress grows in their Science lessons.



*Year 2 news: -*

Year 2 investigated the properties of different materials in Science.



*Year 3 news: -*

Year 3 enjoyed their quick cricket lessons.





### Year 4 news: -

Year 4 have been archaeologists, digging up roman artefacts.



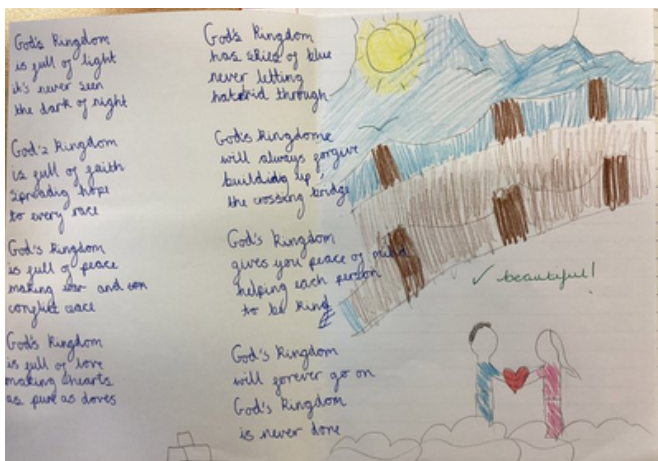
### Year 5 news: -

Year 5 historians worked to chronology order events from the Anglo-Saxon era.



### Year 6 news: -

Year 6 classified items in Science and played 'What am I' using their knowledge of classification.



## Building the Kingdom

*A truly stunning start to Year 6's topic work. The children discussed and drew their interpretation of God's Kingdom. This will be linked in their learning to families and communities both in Ancient Greece and Modern Greece*



Mrs Choudary from Bishop Challoner and one of our ex-pupils, William, came in to talk to Year 6 about life at Secondary School and how important it is to visit open evenings!

Bishop Challoner's open evening is next Wednesday at 6:30pm (book tickets online).



**BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE**



# OPEN EVENING

**Wednesday 21st September 2022**  
6pm - 8.30pm

To book your place visit  
[www.bishopchalloner.org.uk](http://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk)

**GCSE** 87% 4+, 70% 5+ in English and Maths

**A Level** 23% of A level grades at A\*/A  
56% of A level grades at A\*/B  
79% of A level grades at A\*/C

**A Level Destinations**

- 76% attending university with 31% of those at Russell Group Universities
- 9% in apprenticeships, employment or Further Education
- 12% voluntary work/gap year
- 3% other

For admission enquiries email: [admissions@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)  
For special educational needs enquiries email: [send@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:send@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

*KS2*

## Time Travellers at St Mary's

Fun with friends and making a range of creative artworks are just some of the inspiring activities your child will enjoy in our Create Club. Your child will experience a fantastic range of cool and funky art activities and create artwork linked to this term's theme:



**When:**

Thursday 22nd September – Thursday 20th October 2022 (5 weeks).

**Cost**

All materials are included. The half-term cost is £30 at £6 per week.

**How to book**

Please book and pay online at:

[www.thecreationstation.co.uk/emma-mccalla-john](http://www.thecreationstation.co.uk/emma-mccalla-john)

Use the school postcode of **B17 0BE** in the finder

**My Details are:**

Emma McCalla-John 07557449874

email: [emmamccallajohn@thecreationstation.co.uk](mailto:emmamccallajohn@thecreationstation.co.uk)



### Staff news

Miss Price will be getting married in three weeks time on Saturday 1st October 2022.

Once married, Miss Price will be taking her new husband's name and will be known as Mrs. Yorke.



**School Closed -  
Monday 19th September 2022**

Monday 19 September, the date of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral, will be a national bank holiday.

School is closed to staff and children on this day.

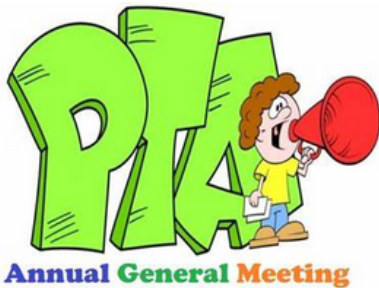


**Super Science Learning  
Tuesday 20th September 2022**

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 22nd September at 6pm**. We look forward to welcoming new parents who would like to join the PTA in supporting the school run events throughout the school year.

**School Council Elections**

The elections for class representatives of the school council are next week. Our School Councillors make a massive difference to their learning and social environment and it is a great opportunity to learn about extra responsibility. If your child is interested in making a difference and to be 'the voice of their peers', please support their campaign to be elected.



Their first official duty as School Council Reps will be to attend the Macmillan Coffee Morning in support of Cancer Research on 30th September.  
Reminder: if they have previously been a School Councillor, they cannot run again.



**Year 1 - Fairytale dress-up day  
Friday 23rd September 2022**

To launch their new topic, Year 1 are encouraged to come in to school next Friday dressed up as a fairytale character.





### Ukraine Support

In support of the Ukrainian Para-medics, there will be six J.S.Bach Cello Recitals by Ulrich Heinen in St Mary's Church, at 4.00pm, starting Saturday 24th September. Donations can be made for medical and surgical supplies delivered directly to paramedics in Lviv weekly by our driver. Or see St Mary's Church website for our Justgiving page.



### Children's Liturgy - 9:30am Mass

Year 2 and below are all welcome to attend the children's liturgy, including toddlers and babies, to be accompanied by an adult. Please go straight in to the Parish Centre and you will come into the Mass at the Offertory. Year 3 upwards to stay in Mass please.



### What do Catholics actually believe? Or do?

For the puzzled and the curious, or for those faced with their children's questions: Mummy what should I say in Confession? Etc. the *About Being Catholic* program (ABC) begins with a guided tour of the Church Thursday 29th September 7.30pm, Note: it's not about becoming Catholic. No books, no tests, - just voice your questions, doubts, irritations etc. See Fr John if interested.

## Reminders

### Eschools

Eschools is a platform that teachers use to communicate with parents and set homework.

This is checked regularly by teachers but not necessarily daily.

**Eschools is not the most efficient way to communicate with the Leadership team - please contact enquiry email or phone school for more urgent matters.**

If your child needs a new password for Eschools, please contact the class teacher.

If a parent needs a new password, please email school on

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

Again, this may take a few days to reset.

We encourage parents to keep their passwords safe so that they do not miss any key information.



### School Website

We continue to keep our school website up to date.

Any policies ratified by governors can be found on the website under **key info**

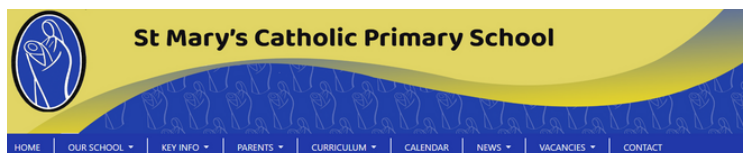
We have **recently updated our behaviour policy** which can be found in this section.

Our most recent assessment information can also be found under

**key info -> exam and assessment results**

Term dates are found in our **parents** section

Please take time to familiarise yourself with the website as most information can be found here.





## ***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.***



## ***Curriculum Workshops***

We would like to invite you to your child's Curriculum workshops. Separate letters will be sent out and they also appear in the 'dates' section of the newsletter. If you are unable to attend, you will find all the information including any PowerPoints used on the curriculum pages of the website.



## ***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.

## ***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.

## ***Labelling of clothing with child's name and class name***



Please label all belongings for your child (including lunch boxes / water bottles / school bags / clothing...) Items that are labelled are returned to your child's classroom when they are left somewhere else in school. Items that are not labelled are placed in the parent shelter. To ensure that no items are lost, label everything.

## ***Y6 applications for Secondary Schools -***

All children in Year 6 should have received a letter before the holiday with details on how to apply for a Secondary School place for September 2023. Online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website at <https://leadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/prefs.php>

*If you need any assistance with this, please come into school and we will be happy to help.*

***Please ensure that you apply online before the closing date which is 31st October 2022.***

***Offer day is 1st March 2023***



## Additional school clubs

We have several school clubs running in school

### Before school clubs

Wednesdays (7:45–8:45) – Karate – For Y4, Y5 and Y6

Thursdays (7:45–8:45) – Karate – For Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4

Fridays (7:45–8:45) – Karate – For Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4



### After school clubs

Mondays (3:30–4:30) – Netball for Y5 and Y6

(3:30–4:30) – Football for Y5 and Y6 (boys)

Tuesdays (3:30–4:30) – Create Club for KS1 (starting after half term)

(3:30–4:30) – Football for Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 (girls)

Wednesdays (3:30 – 4:30) – Football for Y3, Y4 (boys)

(3:30 – 4:45) – Chess – For Y3

Thursdays (3:30 – 4:45) – Chess – For Y4, Y5, Y6

(3:30 – 4:30) – Create Club for KS2 (starting WB: 19.9.22)

(3:30 – 4:40) – Football for Y1, Y2 (boys and girls)



### Coats

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

### Praying at home

Please see link below for the monthly Ten Ten R.E Newsletter (September addition). The information shared on this newsletter links to the children's Collective Worship in class.

[www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/](http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/)

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





## School Dates - 2022-2023

<b>Autumn Term</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Spring Term</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January - Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February - Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Summer Term</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April - Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
	<i>Half-term</i>
	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June - Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July

### INSET DAYS

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

2 further inset days to be confirmed

## 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.*

*Term dates are on this newsletter and on the website.*

## Attendance and Punctuality: -

*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 Miss Price or Mrs. Davis.*

*We will announce the attendance for the previous week in this section of the newsletter each week.*

### Our attendance for last week was -

Week 6<sup>th</sup> Sept – 9<sup>th</sup> Sept

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O	
%	98.3%	97.3%	99.1%	97.5%	97.5%	100%	96.7%	98.3%	97.9%	96.7%	99.2%	98.7%	92.5%	93.8%	
Lates	2	0	2	10	2	6	7	9	4	1	6	4	0	7	
Whole School Attendance so far this year						97.4%		School Target				97%			

Well done Y2G: - our Attendance Champions



# Dates for this term

## Autumn theme -

19th September 2022 - all day

21st September 2022 - 9:15am

22nd September 2022 - 6:00pm

23rd September 2022 - all day

26th September 2022 - 2:00pm

28th September 2022 - 9:15am

30th September 2022

## October 2022 - all month

1st October 2022 - 1:00pm

From 3rd October onwards -

3rd October 2022 - 2:00pm

4th October 2022 - 3:15pm

5th October 2022 - 9:15am

6th October 2022 - all day

10th October 2022 - all day

10th October 2022 - 2:00pm

11th October 2022 - 3:30pm

12th October 2022 - 9:15am

14th October 2022 - 9:15am

WB 17th October 2022 - all week

18th October 2022 - 3:40pm

19th October 2022 - 9:30am

20th October 2022 - 3:40pm

21st October 2022 - all day

WB 24th October - all week

1st November 2022 - 1:45pm

2nd November 2022 - all day

2nd November 2022 - 9:30am

2nd November 2022 - 1:45pm

3rd November 2022 - afternoon

4th November 2022 - 1:45pm

8th November 2022 - 1:45pm

9th November 2022 - 9:15am

## Families and Communities

Bank Holiday - Queen Elizabeth II state funeral

Y4 Mass in Church (Y4, Y3 parents welcome)

PTA (Parent and Teacher Association) - Annual General Meeting

Y1 Fairy tale dress up day

Y6 Curriculum Workshop

Y2 Mass in Church (Y2, Y1 parents welcome)

Macmillan Coffee Morning

## Black History Month

Choir singing

Collection for our harvest begins

Y2 Curriculum Workshop

Reception and KSI film club

Y5 Mass in Church (Y5, Y6 parents welcome)

Poetry day in school

World Mental Health Day

Y1 Curriculum Workshop

KS2 film club

Y3 Mass in Church (Y3, Y4 parents welcome)

Year 6 Assembly

Book Fair in school

Parents' Evening

Reception Welcome and Harvest Mass

Parents' Evening

School closed for children - INSET day

October half term holiday

Y5 Autumn Inspire

Flu immunisation day

Whole school Mass for All Saints and All Souls

Y3 Autumn Inspire

New Reception parents 2023-2024 open afternoon (YR parents welcome)

Y2 Autumn Inspire

YR Autumn Inspire

Y1 Mass in Church (Y1, Y2 parents welcome)

# Star of the week

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

Year RB	Reena	coming in to school really well and settling in well
Year RT	Guadalupe	being so polite and kind to both children and teachers
Year IF	Estelle	always trying her hardest and using beautiful manners every day
Year 1L	Janelle	always being polite and working hard in every lesson
Year 2E	Darren	being a hard worker who tries his best in every lesson
Year 2G	Chidalu	marvellous retelling of Noah's Ark
Year 3L	Mustafa	brilliant attitude and always being ready to learn
Year 3T	Emiliano	putting his all in to everything that he does
Year 4J	Abigail	showing excellent perseverance
Year 4M	Helena	always trying her best in everything that she does
Year 5F	Henry	for his hard work and being an example of resilience
Year 5M	Benedict	his positivity, hard work and always giving 100% in lessons
Year 6O	Andrew	fantastic description in English of Theseus meeting the Minotaur
Year 6R	Jackson	sharing his excellent knowledge on Ancient Greece in topic

