



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.

### March is dedicated to St. Joseph

Our theme for the Spring term is: 'Dignity of Work'  
Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Attentive and Discerning'



Dear parents and carers,

28th March 2025

You will have received a letter today explaining new **food waste recycling legislation**.

In order to fully comply with this, we need children who bring lunch in from home, to take all food waste and packaging home with them in their lunchbox, rather than disposing of this at school. I thank you for your support with this and apologise for inconvenience caused, but it is also a good way of checking how much food your child is eating at lunchtime.

#### **School meals**

For those children in Y3 to Y6, who pay for school meals, I wish to inform you that the cost will increase to £2.75 per meal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 - this increase is given to us and is in line with inflation.

#### **Closing for Easter break and Kidz.comm**

We are finishing on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March at the earlier times of 1:40pm (Reception classes); 1:45 (KS1 classes); 1:50 (siblings) and 2:00 (KS2 classes). Kidz.comm are open on this day from 1:30pm - 5:30pm - please note earlier finish time.

#### **Mothers' Day Inspire**

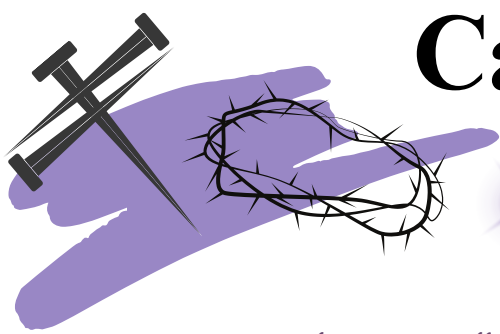
We have received wonderful feedback from those of you who attended the Mothers' Day Inspire event in school yesterday. Most parents enjoy the range of activities on offer; being able to spend time with the children in the school environment; having opportunity to purchase refreshments; and were very complimentary about the staff. Areas to improve included: hosting events so that siblings can attend together; and continuing to showcase a range of areas of the curriculum. The event was incredibly well attended and enjoyed by the children. Thank you to our PTA, who work so hard for the school, and give up their time too at these events.

To all our mothers, mother-figures and our heavenly mother Mary - may God's blessing be on you all and we hope that you have a lovely day on Sunday; and for our families celebrating Eid al-Fitr, we wish you many blessings throughout the year - Kullu aa'min wa antum bikhair.

Mrs Yorke



# Catholic Life



John 9:38

*'He said "Lord I believe", and he worshipped Him.'*

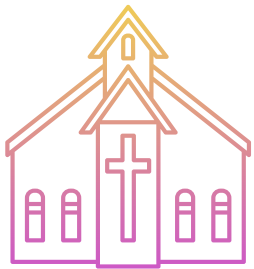
Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn that:

- the Year of the Jubilee is an opportunity to share our joy and grow our friendship with God
- During Lent, God calls us to draw closer to Him by reaching out to others
- We can be 'Pilgrims of Hops' by working together for a fairer world.



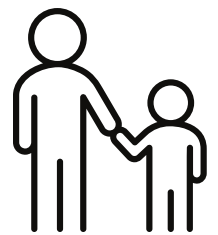
Year 5 Mass - 26.3.25  
- Third week of Lent

Year 5 led a beautiful Mass this week on prayer reflecting on the importance of speaking to God for His strength, guidance and wisdom.

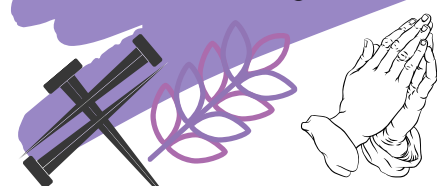


Our next Mass: – **Reception Mass – 4th week of Lent**

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 2nd April 2025**, starting promptly at 9:15am. Reception class will be leading this Mass with support from their Year 6 buddies. All parents are welcome to attend.



## Lenten Prayer bags



## Charity

**£371** raised so far

We have walked 155.6km of our 200km target, for CAFOD this Lent - please continue to sponsor us!

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-marys-catholic-primary-school-fundraising-page>



# Catholic Social Teaching Building the Kingdom The Dignity of Work

Our CAFOD club have been busy working today - they have cleaned the Prayer Garden and made plans to plant some Spring bulbs.



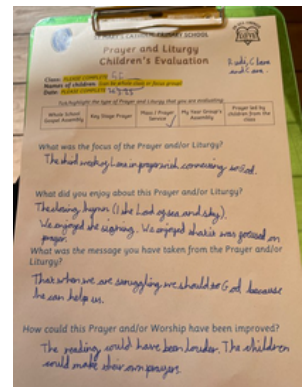
## Prayer



Year 6 led their parents in a poignant prayer service about the example and strength of St. Oscar Romero this morning.



Year 4 led prayer focusing on scripture for almsgiving and ways to do this during Lent. This was followed by guided meditation where the children sat in silence and listened to what Jesus says to them in moments of stillness.





# Mother's Day



*On Thursday, Reception to Year 5 held their Mothers' Day Inspire Workshops to celebrate and show their love to their mothers and important female figures in their lives. Thank you to all the parents who attended, the staff for their hard work and the PTA for laying on the delicious refreshments.*

*Reception and Year 1 did gardening and crafts. They planted sunflower seeds and stuck together the parts of a plant!*



*Year 2 made some beautiful paper flower bouquets for their Mums!*



*Year 6 have made crosses with their parents to represent their chosen Confirmation Saint.*



*Year 3 made Egyptian collars using a running stitch and crossstitch to decorate their creations!*

*Year 4 took part in a Modigliani inspired art workshop and created some lovely keepsakes for the future!*



*Year 5 created some marbled paper and wrote some beautiful poetry dedicated to their mothers.*



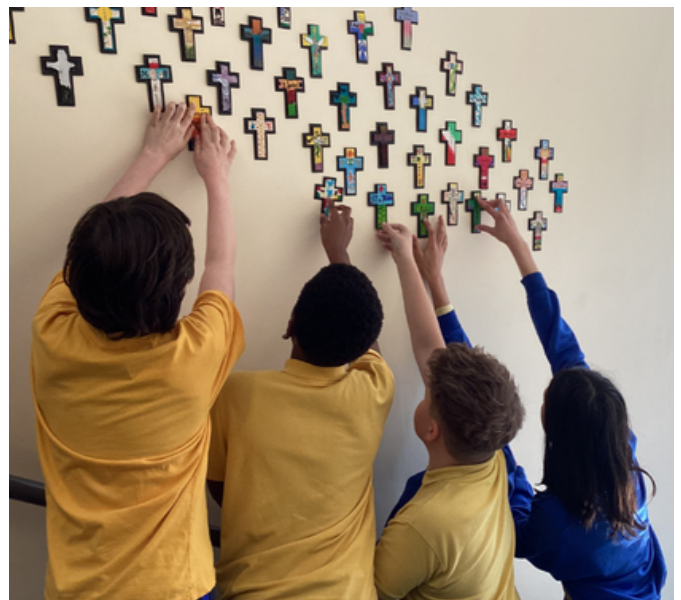
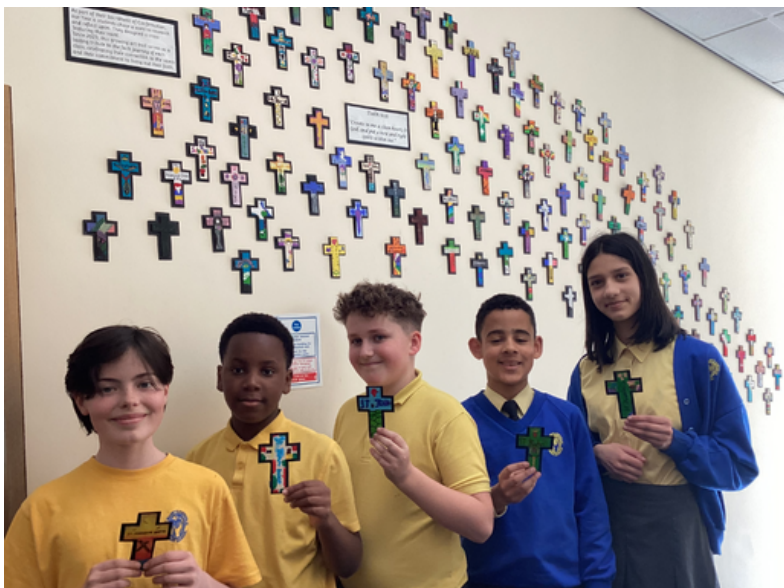
*Thank you*



# Year 6 Confirmation Workshop



*Year 6 took part in their Confirmation Workshop this week. With a parent or adult, they designed and painted a wooden cross in dedication to their chosen Confirmation Saint. The crosses will be part of a special display in school.*



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 24/03/25-28/03/25**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	97	98.6	98.6	95	98.6	99.3	92	98.3	96.3	92.6	98.3	98	96.5	96
Lates	5	4	0	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.6%	School Target					97%		

Well done 2G: - Our attendance champions!

Spring theme -

Spring 11 Virtues

1st April 2025 - am

1st April 2025 - pm

2nd April 2025 - 9:15am

3rd April 2025 - pm

8th April 2025 - all day

9th April 2025 - 9:30am

10th April 2025 - 9:00am

11th April 2025 - all day

WB 14.4.25

17th April 2025 - 11:00am

17th April 2025

Dignity of Work

Attentive and Discerning

Year 3 visit to Harborne library (8:45 3L and 10:15 3T)

Parent Consultation Evening

Reception Mass in Church (with Year 6 buddies) - parents welcome

Parent Consultation Evening

Year 2 school trip - Coal mining tour

Whole School Mass - parents welcome

Reception prayer service for parents

Year 3 school trip to Birmingham Art Gallery

Holy Week

Year 6 Stations of the Cross in Church for KS2 and parent

Break up for Easter Holidays

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KS1 classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

Dates for this term



Year RB	Roman	For being a kind friend and for striving for excellence across all his learning!
Year RT	Micaiah	For trying really hard with his phonics.
Year IF	Cayshen	For being creative with his adjectives in writing and being fantastic in his role as spiritual counsellor.
Year IL	Pablo	For reading the Mothers day inspire prayer beautifully and clearly.
Year 2E	tina	For her brilliant writing!
Year 2G	evan	For being such a helpful and kind member of the class.
Year 3L	Paris	For her super attitude to learning and always listening attentively
Year 3T	maya	For her fantastic work in RE this week, comparing her own attributes to Jesus'.
Year 4J	Alvin	For fantastic focus in all of his learning
Year 4M	Alex	For being an excellent role model in his attitude to learning and participation in lessons
Year 5F	Xavier	For his fantastic attitude to work and being a helpful member of the class.
Year 5M	Michael	For improving his handwriting and working hard in English
Year 6O	Seth	For consistently putting 100% effort into everything he does
Year 6R	Violet	For trying hard to really focus and apply herself in class

