



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.

### July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus

Our theme for the Summer term is: 'Stewardship'

Our virtues for this half term are: - 'Attentive and Discerning'



Dear Parents and Carers,

10th July 2026

It's been an exciting week in school, filled with fun, creativity and joy. Year 5 parents/carers enjoyed hearing their children perform in the ukulele concert on Wednesday. They played a range of songs including modern pop songs – it's wonderful that these lessons enable every child to play and perform a tuned instrument. We're very grateful to Mr Cheung of the Strings Club for his tuition and commitment to St Mary's.

The week culminated with the Year 6 production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' and it was spectacular! Every child played a part, whether on stage or an essential part of the backstage or front of house crew and I am so proud of them all. Thank you to the Year 6 team, Mme Baille and Mr Key for all their hard work. I am sure that this production will be as much of a cherished memory for the children as it will be for us.

I hope by now you all have received your child/children's end of year reports. This year, we have used our new data platform (Insight) for the reports and I hope you like the new format. Unfortunately, due to the delay in the release of the KS2 SATs results, we were not able to finalise the Year 6 reports but these reports will be sent out as soon as the DfE publish the SATs results, which is anticipated to be on Thursday.

As we enter the final week of the school year, there is always a mixture of emotions felt among children and staff. We will shortly say goodbye to our Year 6 cohort, children who are moving to new schools and staff members. There is also great excitement about the imminent summer holidays, which will bring rest, fun and the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. This will be a special week in school, and we'll be making the most of our time together before the summer break.

A reminder, the children finish early on Thursday as follows: 1:40pm for Reception, 1:45pm for KS1, 1:50pm for Siblings and 2pm for KS2.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Yorke.

# CATHOLIC LIFE



## This Week's Gospel

***"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest."***

**Matthew 11:28**

Reflecting on this week's reading, God wants us: –

- Know that resting is necessary and good
- Give our concerns and worries to Jesus
- Remember that Jesus shows us a simple way to live



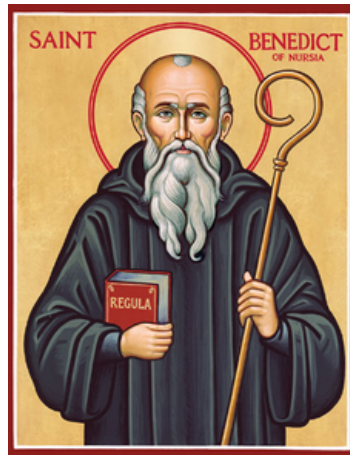
O Lord You invite me to come on to You  
when I am overladen in all that I do,  
When I grow weary bearing my heavy load  
You call me to rest as I travel on this road.

You call me to come to You to find real rest  
You invite me to Your side to be richly blessed,  
You ask me to be yoked to You on life's way  
I can learn from Your gentle way day after day.

To be yoked to You Jesus I humbly pray  
by faith Your sweet merciful grace to me display,  
Come Lord Jesus give rest to my inner soul  
in Your soothing grace my harried mind now console.

## This Week's Mass – Year 2 Mass – St Benedict

Year 2 led a beautiful Mass on Wednesday celebrating St Benedict. Fr Hilary gave an insight homily reflecting on the power of listening, encouraging the children to hear, think and act.



## Our next Mass – Whole School Mass on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 9:30am – Leavers Mass

We will join together next Wednesday as a whole school to celebrate the end of another successful school year and ask God to bless our leavers. Our families are invited to join us in Church at 9:30am. After the Mass, Year 6 Parents/Carers will stay in Church to watch the leavers slideshow with their children.



# CURRICULUM LEARNING



Year 4 worked hard making, baking biscuits and designing boxes for them this week in DT.



After testing their ideas, Year 2 worked together to build their final chairs. They shared ideas, solved problems as a team and used what they had learned about strong structures to create fantastic designs.



Year 6 enjoyed their last Art lesson at St Mary's with Mme Baille.



Year 5 explored persuasive language and made their own adverts about 'Paragon' the robot.



As part of their Understanding the World learning, Reception watered and nurturing their sunflowers ready to donate them to Focus Birmingham.

# YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

## JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

Year 6 proudly performed *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* to their families this week. We are so proud of them - it was amazing! Thank you to all the children for their commitment and hard work, to their families for their support and to our staff, including Miss Flynn, Mrs Cole, Mrs Nguyen, Mme Baille, Mr Key and more, for all their efforts.



YOU'RE A STAR

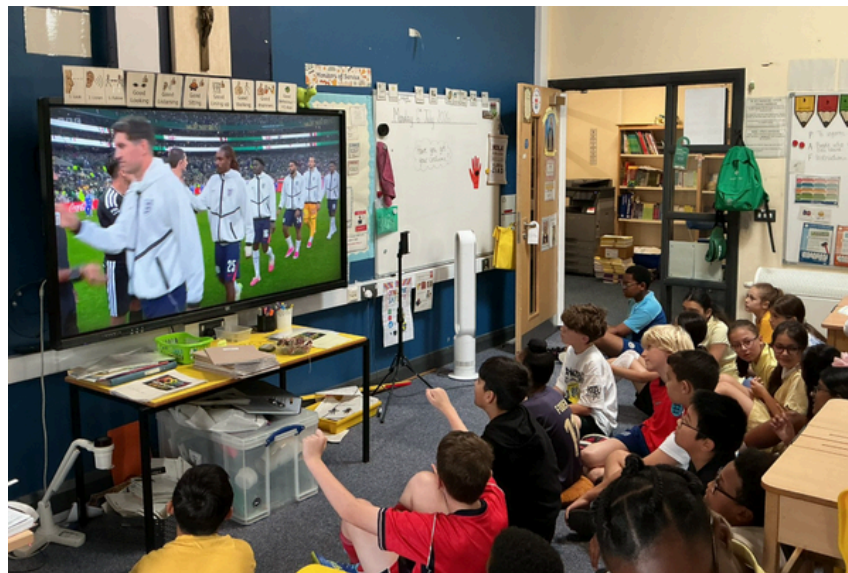


# STAYING COOL WHILE LEARNING AND ENJOYING TIME OUTSIDE



## World Cup Football Fun!

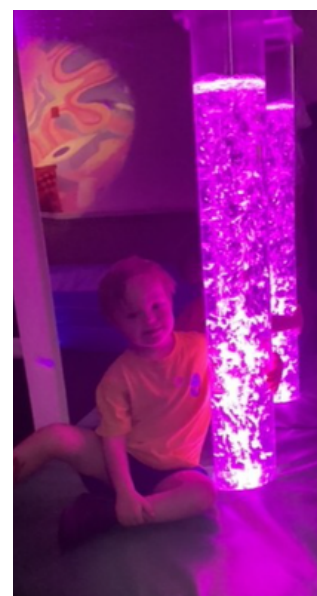
*On Monday morning, children watched a recording of the England v Mexico game in school. It was an exciting match and despite the red card, England battled through to win 3-2 at the Azteca. Cheers echoed through corridors every time England scored and it was a fantastic atmosphere in school. All the best to England today against Norway! Come on, England!*





*On Friday, Mrs Russell, Mrs Tomson and Sean visited a local charity, Focus Birmingham, to donate the sunflowers that Reception have grown for Down Syndrome awareness as part of their 'Fantastic Finish'. The sunflowers will now be planted in the charity's sensory garden and will bring joy and enrichment to their clients.*

*Focus Birmingham is an independent local charity that strives to make lives better by creating opportunities for people with care and support needs, so that they feel empowered to live life to the full, and unlock their potential*



*Focus Birmingham are also holding their annual Summer Fete this Saturday from 12pm to 3pm.*



### Where

Focus Birmingham, 48 Woodville Road Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9AT



### Family fun that changes lives

Join us this summer for a vibrant, inclusive day supporting people living with sight loss and complex disabilities.

**Saturday 11 July 2026**

Enjoy a vibrant, inclusive day packed with activities for all ages:

- Games, stalls and a lively tombola
- Bouncy castle and family-friendly fun
- Homemade treats, refreshments and plenty of cake
- Arts, crafts and interactive experiences
- Raffle with fantastic prizes
- Entertainment and plenty of surprises throughout the day

## Year 6 Leavers Mass

9:30am on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

We will be celebrating Year 6 and their time at St. Mary's with a whole school Leavers Mass on Wednesday

All parents and family members are able to attend this Mass. For the Mass, we will ask parents to sit in the old part of the Church.

After Mass, the rest of the school will leave and return to have break time. Year 6 will remain in the Church and parents will join them to watch their slideshow of memories in the Church.

This will be when we hand out presents too.

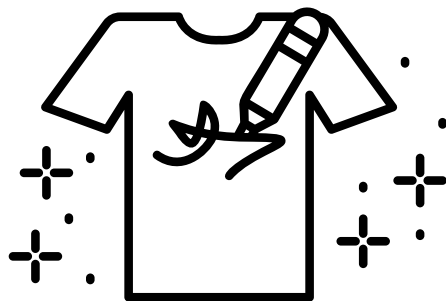
The rest of the school / siblings will watch the slideshow in their classrooms.



MAY GOD  
GUIDE  
your steps

## Year 6 Shirt Signing - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July (all day)

Shirt signing will take place on the final day of term. We also continue to encourage parents, staff and children to join us in the guard of honour as they leave school for the final time as Year 6 pupils. Collection times of all children are in red in 'dates for this term' - all children will need to be collected by 2pm and then Year 6 (and any staff leavers) will come out.



## Year 6 (and leavers) Guard of Honour

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2pm

Year 6 and leavers will leave the school building for the last time through a 'Guard of Honour' at 2pm on Thursday.

Parents and families are welcome to join the farewell outside the black gates.



# CELEBRATING SUCCESS



We're so proud of Phoebe who competed in the Dance World Cup in Dublin this week. We can't wait to hear how you got on. Well done, Phoebe for using your God-given gifts and talents.



Well done to all our children, including Simona and Daphne, who graduated recently from Birmingham Royal Ballet's Dance Track, The children put on a special class for parents and received their certificates and t shirts.

Cara, Josie, Danny and Thea were part of the winning netball team in the Little Netters end of season tournament last weekend. Cara and Danny got leavers awards and Danny also won the coaches' player award. Well done, netballers!



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 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:



**Laura Noone**  
Lead DSL  
DHT

**Louise Yorke**  
Headteacher

**Jade Preedy**  
AHT

**Rachel Jones**  
Senior Teacher

**Sharon Tame**  
School  
Counsellor

**Rachel Richards**  
EYFS Lead

**Shania Birchenall**  
SENDCo

## 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.



**ST MARY'S**  
**Attendance matters**  
Every child, every day

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. Noone.

### Attendance

**Week 06/07/26-10/7/26**

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	95	94	97	96	97	95	92	94	97	94	96	98	95	99
Lates	4	1	1	4	5	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	1	5
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.5%		School Target				97%		

Well done 60: - Our attendance champions!

# Dates for next half term

Summer theme -

Summer 2

14th July 2026 - 9am

14th July 2026 - all day

15th July 2026 - 9:30am

16th July 2026

Stewardship

Attentive and Discerning

Year 2 Prayer Service for parents

St Alphonsa House Feast Day - wear own clothes

Year 6 Leavers Mass (Whole School) - 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

Year 6 shirt signing on final day in school and 2:00pm guard of honour

17th July 2026

20th July 2026

21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

{ **INSET Days (CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL)**

## Next Year's Term Dates - 2026-2027

<b>Autumn Term</b>	<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>Spring Term</b>	<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>Summer Term</b>	<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>
	<i>Half-term</i>
	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>

### School Closed:

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027 - May Bank Holiday

### INSET DAYS

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026
  - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2026
  - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2027
  - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2027
  - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2027
- 1 more INSET day to be confirmed

# Star of the week

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

- Year RB Harry For creating a brilliant boat during DT!
- Year RT Chris and Emily For brilliant boat making!
- Year 1F Jax For his thoughtful contributions and reasoning skills in Maths lessons
- Year 1L Lamysah For an increase in independence during learning time and break times. Well done!
- Year 2E Promise For being a kind and wonderful member of 2E
- Year 2G Luka For wonderful reading in Mass!
- Year 3L Rahzayne For his super effort in Art lessons!
- Year 3T Edward For working hard and persevering and he has been making a great effort in his handwriting.
- Year 4J Teuta For her lovely psalm in RE. Well done!
- Year 4M Aaron B For working hard to improve his handwriting.
- Year 5F Amalie For her continuously beautiful RE learning
- Year 5M Reese For always setting a great example to others, in both her learning and behaviour. Well done!
- Year 6O 6O For their fantastic performance of 'Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat!
- Year 6R 6R For their fantastic performance of 'Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat!

