



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

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'



4th October 2024

Dear parents and carers,

We had an exciting start to the week with our TT Rockstars event in school. The children and staff made such a good effort with their costumes and it was such a fun day of maths learning in school. I've included some photos in today's newsletter as everybody looked fabulous. I hope that the momentum will carry on for this and that the children will continue to learn their times tables at home by using their logins to access their Timestable Rockstars account regularly. Being fluent with multiplication and division facts will really support your child with their maths as they move up the school.

We are now in the month of October, and so we will be praying the Holy Rosary. Thank you to our Spiritual Council who have created prayer bags to help focus your prayer time as a family, at home. When your child receives the bag, please remember to return it the following day. If you're able to, post pictures of prayer at home on our X page or send them in via the enquiry email. The Spiritual Council are also leading a Rosary Club on a Monday throughout October and we can pray for special intentions during this time.



Yesterday, we celebrated National Poetry Day and this year's theme was 'counting'. The children had a day in school where they could appreciate reading poems, including performing them out loud and writing their own versions. I have read some lovely examples of children's poetry in their books this week.

Today, we celebrated the feast day of St. Francis (4th October) and we had a lovely prayer service in the hall, led by Year 1, who reminded us of the teachings of St. Francis and Pope Francis to look after God's beautiful creation. We have also been celebrating the feast day of St. Faustina (5th October) and Year 5 led us in an inspiring Mass to celebrate her. It has been a very busy and exciting start to October and so much good learning has taken place.

Yesterday, the PTA met and we welcomed new members from our Reception parents who have joined. This is indeed good news. We rely on our PTA for so much of our vital fundraising, extra-curricular opportunities and improvements to the school environment. The PTA means so much to us as a school and we are thankful for everything that they do. If you have time to support, please get in touch with your class rep. Thank you,

Mrs Yorke



Catholic Life



This week's Gospel and Prayer

Mark 9:40

'Anyone who is not against us if for us.'

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

- Jealousy can stop us from celebrating and encouraging others.
- Jesus asks us not to stand in the way of others' attempts to do good.



Dear God,

You invite me to follow what You say and do,
 as Jesus did when He was on Earth.
 Forgive me for the times when what I have said,
 or what I have done, or failed to do,
 have not matched my belief in You.
 You invite me to love You and love others.
 Help me to do this today both in what I say,
 and in what I do.
 Help me to act with love today.
 Amen



Year 5 Mass - 2.10.24 - St. Faustina

Year 5 led our Mass this week in the school hall. Mass was dedicated to 5F's class saint - St. Faustina. Thank you to so many of our parents, grandparents and carers who joined us for this special celebration.



Next week's Mass: - Y4 Mass - St. John Henry Newman

Our next Mass in Church will be on **Wednesday 9th October 2024**, 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.



Prayer Life:

Thank you Year 1 for leading us in our special prayer service to St. Francis this morning. And thank you to all the parents who came to pray with us and support us.



Feast of St Francis of Assisi

St Francis loved nature and believed God wanted people to care for creation. He called all animals his 'brothers' and 'sisters', and is said to have been able to calm wild beasts. He wrote a famous prayer giving thanks to God for the sun, the moon, the water and the earth.

We can all learn from St Francis to love and look after our world, and care for creation.



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

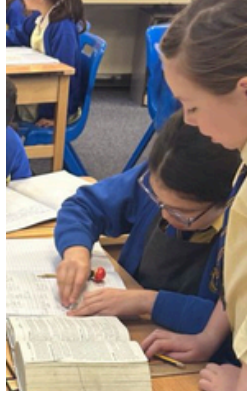


4 REASONS TO PRAY THE ROSARY

IT'S BIBLICAL

The Rosary contemplates the great mysteries of the Christian Faith; each mystery has its source in the Holy Scriptures.

*In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen*



IT HELPS US BE HOLIER

This prayer has been a great help to many in their path to holiness when prayed with devotion.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women and
blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us
sinners, now and at the hour of our death
Amen*



THE VIRGIN HAS ASKED US TO

In several Marian apparitions (as Fatima), our Mother has asked us to pray the Rosary for the world's salvation.

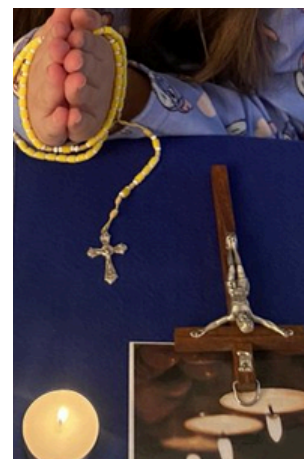
*Glory Be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be, world without end.
Amen*



IT WEAKENS THE DEVIL

The Rosary has the effect of weakening the action of the devil in the world and in our lives.

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done;
on Earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
Amen*

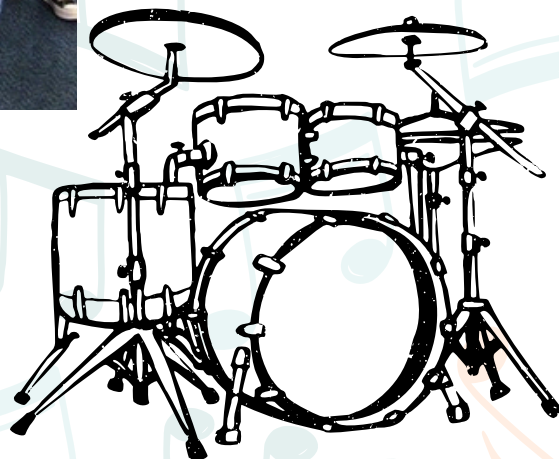


*Times
Tables
Rockstars
Launch Day
Monday 30th September*



*Launch day!!!
The children 'rocked' our
Times Table Rockstars
Launch day in school on
Monday. We had so much
fun learning maths in school
and learning more about the
TT Rockstars App.*

*Encourage your children to
log in every day to support
them in improving their
times tables. This will be
the children's maths
homework over the
upcoming weeks.*

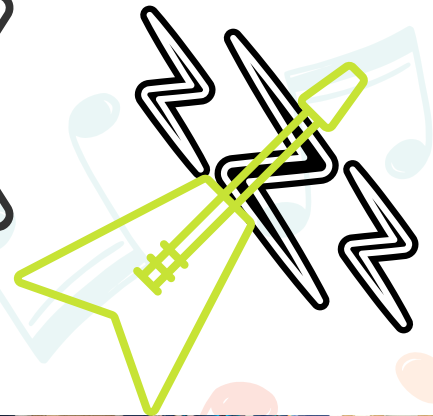




*Even the staff got involved!
We wish we could come to work as Rockstars every day!*



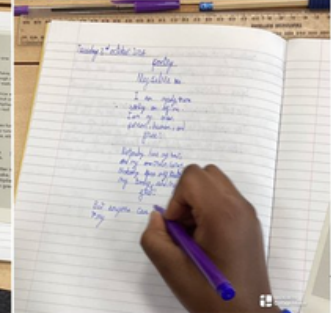
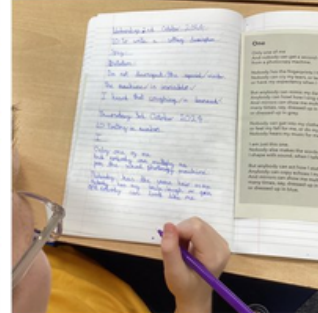
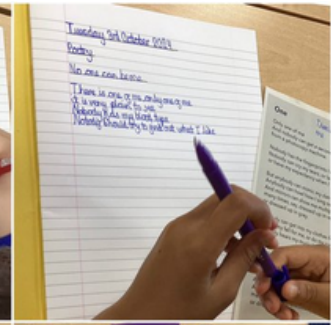
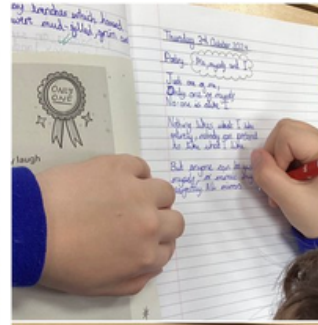
R★CK



Thank you to Miss Price for all your hard work in organising such a fun Maths day in school.

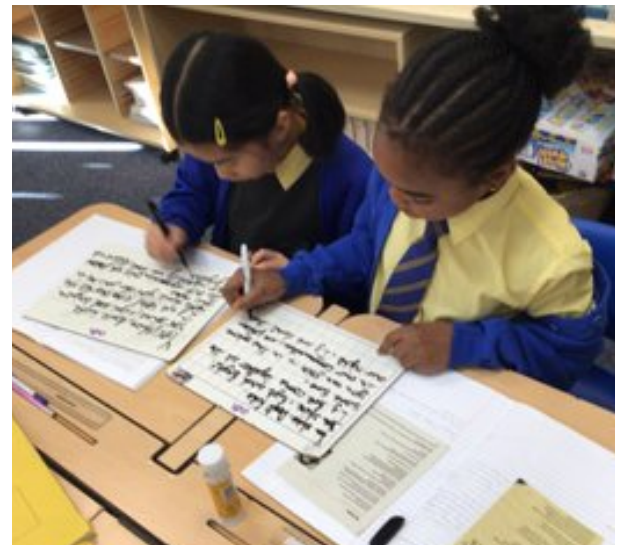
National Poetry Day

Thursday 3rd October 2024

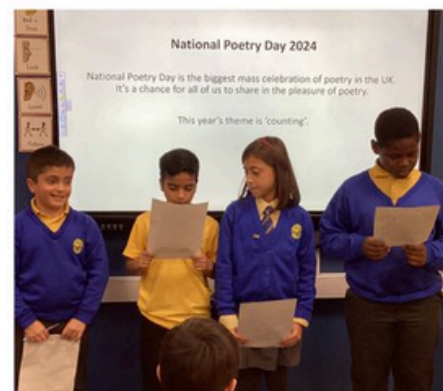


All the children wrote beautiful poems based upon James Berry Poet's poem 'One'.

On this day, the children performed poetry out loud, improving their Oracy skills. They then used the performed poem as a model to write their own.



Reading, writing and performing poetry is fun.



The children just enjoyed reading poetry for pleasure.

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.



Dyslexia Awareness Week

We will be discussing dyslexia next week as part of our commitment to embrace diversity and building self-esteem for our children. This year, the focus is 'What's your story?'. Some of our KS2 children, who have a diagnosis of dyslexia will be sharing their stories to help us understand what learning might look like for those who have dyslexia.



Year 6 Harborne Library Visit - 8.10.24

Year 6 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

6R will leave at 9:00am

6O will leave at 10:45am

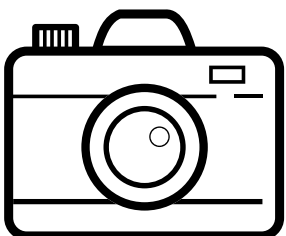
If you are a parent who would like to attend and support walking to and from the library, please let the Year 6 staff know.



Full school uniform for photo day next week - Wednesday 9th October 2024

Photo day

Wednesday 9th October will be school photo day in school. Children will be having their individual photos, photos with siblings (who attend St. Mary's) and class photos. It is important that children come to school on this day in full school uniform. If it is normally a PE day for your child, they just need pumps / trainers to change in to.



Get ready for Photography Day on

Wednesday 09/10/2024
at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Look out for the order form
coming home with your child



www.schoolphotographs.co.uk

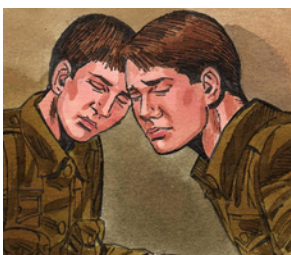


World Mental Health Day - 10.10.24 all day

Thursday is world mental health day and we are encouraging all children and staff to say #helloyellow, and to wear yellow this day in school. The more wild the yellow outfit the better - think minion / banana / giraffe...

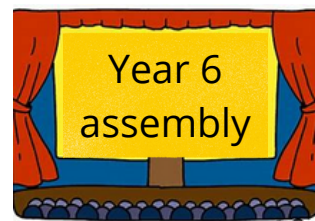
We believe in our young people and want them to know that how they feel matters. Our pastoral team are always available for the children to talk to and we have strategies to support all our children express how they feel.

It is okay to feel certain ways - how we express ourselves is what is most important! And it is okay to not feel okay sometimes.



Year 6 Assembly - 11th October 2024

We are looking forward to welcoming parents of all Year 6 children into school next Friday 11th October for their year group assembly based on their family and community theme and their WWI learning and reading.



St.Mary's School PTA are hosting our autumn

PUMPKIN PARTY

ST.MARY'S PARISH CENTRE



FRIDAY OCTOBER 18TH 2024, 6.30-8.30PM
DRESS UP, COME ALONG & HAVE LOTS OF
FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS!

Tickets-CHILD £4 ADULT £2
DISCO, TOYS, FOOD, CRAFTS, SWEETS & LOTS OF FUN!

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



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:

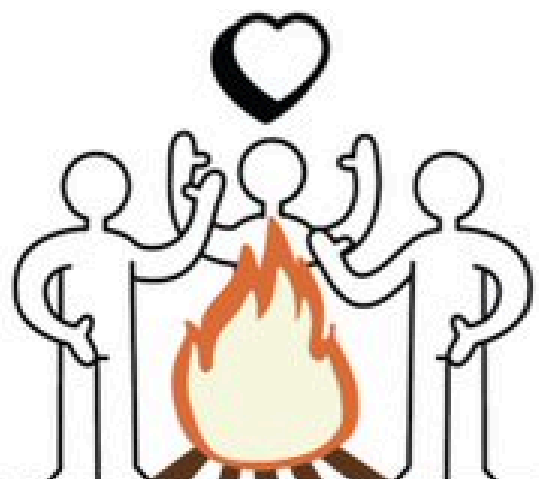
Granola bars/snack bars, easy open cans (with pull tabs), bottles of water, ready to eat meals, biscuits, crackers

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 30/09/24-04/10/24

| Class | YRB | YRT | Y1L | Y1F | Y2E | Y2G | Y3L | Y3T | Y4J | Y4M | Y5M | Y5F | Y6R | Y6O |
|--|-----|------|-----|------|------|-------|------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| % | 96 | 97.3 | 88 | 97.3 | 97.6 | 96.3 | 95.6 | 99 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 96.3 | 99.6 | 98.3 |
| Lates | 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Whole School Attendance so far this year | | | | | | 96.4% | | School Target | | | | 97% | | |

Well done 4M and 5M: - 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 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

Star of the week

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

| | | |
|---------|-------------|--|
| Year RB | Jess | Being a positive role model by always showing brilliant listening skills and readiness for learning. |
| Year RT | Raniyah | For being a kind and caring friend |
| Year 1F | Nathan | For his persistence in writing and phonics |
| Year 1L | Edward | Showing excellent listening and beautiful manners |
| Year 2E | Patryk | For his hard work and excellent attitude to school life |
| Year 2G | Jahmi | Working really hard in English! |
| Year 3L | Estelle | Having excellent manners and behaviour and always trying her best in everything she does! |
| Year 3T | Chimmaramma | Being an incredibly kind and helpful member of the class |
| Year 4J | Keira | For her creative ideas in English. Her writing was a joy to read |
| Year 4M | Alarna | For being an active member of class discussions |
| Year 5F | Mariam | Always setting a wonderful example of reverence during prayer time. |
| Year 5M | Fera | Her amazing artwork and always striving for excellence in everything she does |
| Year 6O | Ethan | Working really hard on his classification key in science |
| Year 6R | Benjamin | For his excellent effort in English lessons this week |

