



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.

November is dedicated to the Holy Souls.

Our theme for the Autumn term is: 'Dignity of the Human Person'

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



6th November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that everybody had a lovely half-term. The purpose of today's newsletter is mainly to give you some key information and dates as we move in to the next half term. Please find the list of dates towards the end. I would also like to thank everybody who donated to our Harvest Festival. Your generosity will help those who use SIFA Fireside for support when times are difficult, and we are extremely thankful for the support we have for our charity work. I would also like to thank everybody who attended our Parent Consultation Meetings and the feedback we received through the parent questionnaire. We received 94 responses. I will share the results and comments made and we will continue to make improvements. That being said, the feedback was extremely positive and we feel very supported.

Mrs Yorke

This week's Gospel and Prayer

Matthew 22: 12

"The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted."

Reflecting on this week's Gospel message we learn:

- true greatness is putting God first before ourselves or other things
- Being humble also means focusing on others more than ourselves

*Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!*

*Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!*

Amen

Catholic Life in School

Reception Welcome Mass - 25.10.23 - Harvest

Reception children were officially welcomed in to the school family in their harvest Mass - complete with a guard of honour held by the entire school.



Whole School Mass - Remembrance

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 8th November 2023, starting promptly at 9:30am. All children and staff will be attending Mass. All parents are welcome to attend.



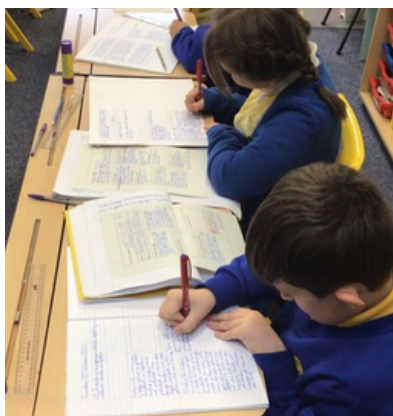
Black History Month



Reception class have been creating beautiful art work in the style of Alma Thomas.



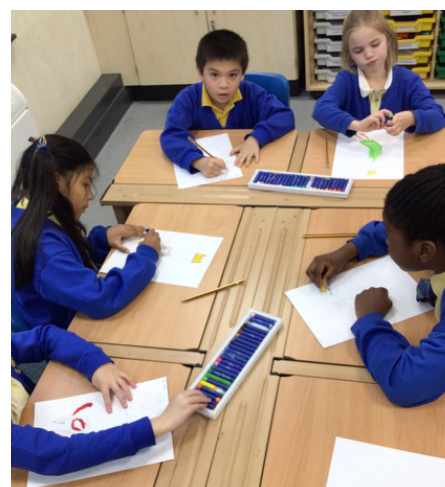
Year 5 wrote newspaper articles reporting on cultural divide in South Africa and painted beautiful, vibrant 'Zinnias in a pot' inspired by Clementine Hunt.



Year 4 designed and printed their own Kente Cloth designs



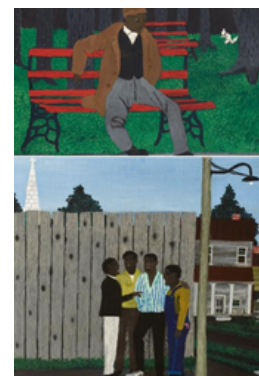
Year 3 created artwork in the style of Jean-Michel Basquiat



Year 1 made African masks



Year 6 learnt about Horace Pippin and the impact of his naive art in 1938



The children enjoyed a themed Caribbean menu

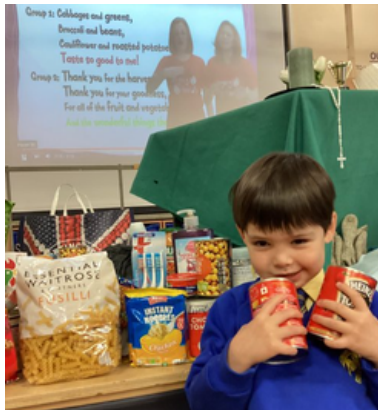


Year 2 created art work in the style of artist Bernard Hoyes

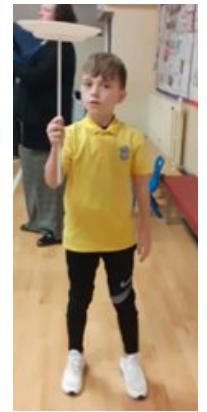
Harvest Donations for Fireside

Thank you all so much for your kind donations to our harvest collection.

In our final week of term, the children took the donations to SIFA Fireside, B9 4DY.

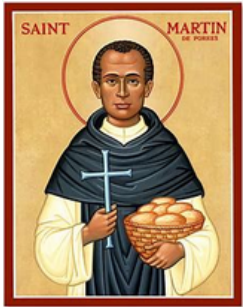
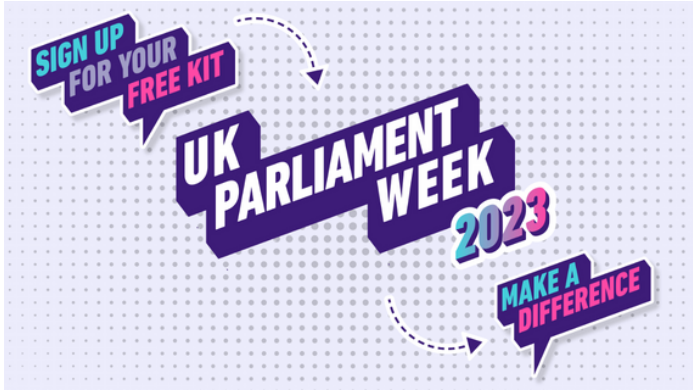


Thank you to our PTA for organising our special event day in school on the last day of the half-term. The children really enjoyed learning a range of circus skills.



UK Parliament Week - WB 6.11.23

Our School Council have signed up to take part in UK Parliament Week. The children will be learning more about Politics and will be supporting with school and community issues – such as parking... They will be around at the end of the school day to dissuade illegal and irresponsible parking. Please support them with this cause.

**4M Feast Day - St Martin De Porres - 6th November**

We will celebrate 4M's class Saint feast day on Monday 6th November.

Children in 4M can come to school in their own clothes on the day that we return to school and will be doing lots of fun activities learning about St. Martin De Porres.

**Year 4 Harborne Library Visit - 20.10.23**

Year 4 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

4J will leave at 9:00am

4M 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.

**Year 4 prayer service for parents - 10.11.23 9:00am**

Year 4 are inviting parents, grandparents, family members to join them in a special prayer service in school.

Dedicated to St. Martin De Porres

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Open Day 2023



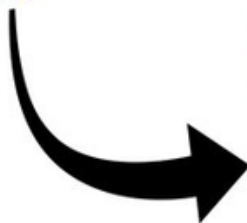
Reception 2024 Parents -

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



St. Mary's PTA Annual Christmas Wreath making Workshop

Join us in St. Mary's Parish Hall from 7PM

on Wednesday 29th Nov

£25- EVERYTHING INCLUDED,

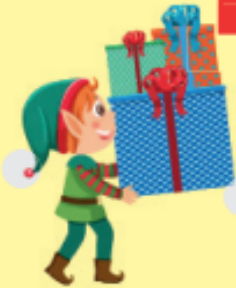
just come along to create your own wreath and

Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie!

Supporting our local Birmingham children this Christmas

Toy Appeal

Christmas 2023



Scan to donate

Please give new toys (unwrapped) for our local children in Birmingham for all age groups ranging from 1-15 years



COLLECTION DATES:

Monday 6th November - Thursday 14th December

Irish TV are visiting St Anne's Parish Centre, B12 OPA on Thursday 14th December



 Birmingham Irish ASSOCIATION



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



What does the pastoral team do?

It is the responsibility of everybody to keep your child/ren safe in school. The Pastoral team meet fortnightly to review attendance, pastoral concerns, parent concerns, behaviour, online use, SEND needs, vulnerability for families, finance worries... and so forth... and we offer support following this. It is our job to support each child in their time at school, including supporting mental health and well-being and offering the time for children to give their perspective about what needs to change in school. This often takes place through whole class learning, pupil questionnaires, focus groups and 1:1 conversation. Children are aware of times when they can speak to our school councillor and we have a drop-in session 'talk to me Tuesdays' that every child can access. If at any time, you need support as a family, have any concerns, or need to discuss any behaviour worries, please speak to a member of the pastoral team so that we can help. We can only help if we know about it.

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.

Dates for this term

Autumn theme -

Autumn 11 Virtues

6th November 2023 - all day

WB 6th November 2023

WB 6th November 2023

6th November 2023 - all day

7th November 2023 - am

8th November 2023 - 9:30am

9th November 2023 - all day

9th November 2023 - 4:00pm

10th November 2023 - 9:00am

WB 13th November 2023

WB 13th November 2023

13th November 2023 - all day

13th - 15th November 2023

14th November 2023 - am

14th November 2023 - 2:15pm

15th November 2023 - all day

15th November 2023 - 9:15am

16th November 2023

17th November 2023 - all day

WB 20th November 2023 - am

21st November 2023 - am

22nd November 2023 - all day

22nd November 2023 - 9:15am

24th November 2023 - 9:00am

24th November 2023 - 10:00am

25th November 2023

28th November 2023

29th November 2023 - all day

29th November 2023 - 7pm

5th December 2023 - 3:30-4:30

6th December 2023 - 3:30-4:30

7th December 2023 - 3:45-4:45

7th December - all day

8th December 2023 - 9:30am

Dignity of the Human Person

Attentive and Discerning

Children return to school at normal time

Poetry Week for Remembrance and Holy Souls

Parliament Week

Year 4M non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Martin de Porres

Year 3 visit to Harborne library (9:15 3T and 11:00 3L)

Whole School Remembrance and Holy Souls Mass in Church (Parents welcome)

Social Media Kindness Day

U11s boys' football match

Year 4 Prayer Service for all Year 4 parents

Interfaith Week

Anti-bullying week

Odd Socks Day for Down Syndrome Awareness

WOW Active PE sessions

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

Phonics Early Reading Workshop for parents

Year 6R non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Rose of Lima

Year 6 Mass for Year 6 parents in school hall

St. Mary's Open Day for Reception class 2024 (10:30) or (1:45)

PTA non-uniform day in support of Parish Fete - bring sweets/bottles

Road Safety week

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

#RED WEDNESDAY - taking action to help persecuted Christians in Africa

Year 2 Mass in Church (and Year 1 classes attend) - parents welcome

Year 5 Year group Assembly

Year 3 Mass in Church (and Year 4 classes attend) - parents welcome

Parish Fete

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

INSET Day - school closed to children

Annual Wreath making workshop in Parish Hall - £25

PTA event - KS1 Christmas Disco in school hall (children only)

PTA event - Reception class Christmas Disco in school hall (children only)

PTA event - KS2 Christmas Disco in school hall (children only)

Christmas jumper day

Whole School Mass - Feast of Immaculate Conception in Church (Parents welcome)

13th December 2023 - all day

13th December 2023 - 9:00am

15th December 2023 - 9:30am

15th December 2023 - 6:45pm

15th December 2023 - 7pm

18th December 2023 - am

19th December 2023 - 2:15pm

20th December 2023 - 2:15pm

21st December 2023 - 2pm

22nd December 2023 - 9:30am

22nd December -

Year 3L non-school uniform day for their class Saint - St. Lucy

Year 3 Prayer Service for all Year 3 parents

Reception Nativity in Church (for parents)

Choir sing for Carols by Candlelight - meet at school 6:45pm

Carols by Candlelight in St. Mary's Church (all welcome)

Theatre Show in school for the children 'Sinbad the Sailor'

Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity in School Hall (parents welcome)

Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Assembly in School Hall (parents welcome)

Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Carol Service in Church (for parents)

Whole school Christmas Mass for all children, staff and parents

Break up for Summer holidays

1:40 finish time - Reception classes

1:45 finish time - KSI classes

1:50 finish time - sibling group

2:00 finish time - KS2 classes

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

Year RB	Harlem	trying really hard with all his learning this week
Year RT	Raghuveer	having an excellent first week at St. Mary's
Year IF	Reino	concentrating really hard with his reading
Year 1L	Aaliyah	always trying her best
Year 2E	Vaanie	trying extra hard in her writing this week
Year 2G	Tomas	fantastic improvement and effort with writing over the half term
Year 3L	Amalie	always being a fantastic role model and trying her best in everything she does
Year 3T	Oscar	superb resilience in learning and showing others how to live out the virtues
Year 4J	Paulos	sharing all his wonderful RE knowledge during lessons
Year 4M	Ted	brilliant interpretation of Picasso's artwork
Year 5F	William	excellent Maths work and work ethic across the curriculum
Year 5M	Helena	making excellent progress in her handwriting
Year 6O	Victor	excellent participation in Maths
Year 6R	Benedict	amazing enthusiasm in all areas of his learning this half term

