



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

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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.

September is dedicated to Mary.

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

25th September 2026

Cultural Week

What a wonderful week we have had celebrating Cultural Week and our whole-school focus on belonging. It has been a joy to see our children proudly sharing their heritage and identity through beautiful traditional dress, thoughtful presentations, fantastic home learning and conversations about the different cultures, traditions and experiences that make our school community so special. Alongside these celebrations, children have reflected on the rights of the child, helping them to understand that every child has the right to be valued, respected, heard and to feel that they belong. Thank you to our families for embracing the week so enthusiastically and for helping us celebrate the wonderfully diverse community that makes St Mary's such a special place.

Academisation Consultation

Parents and carers will have received a letter today outlining the plans for the academisation of St Mary's and the wider development of a new Catholic Multi Academy Trust. A copy of the letter can also be found on our school website. The proposal is for St Mary's, alongside three other voluntary aided schools, to join with Emmaus Catholic MAC, Lumen Christi Catholic MAC and Our Lady and All Saints Catholic MAC to form the new St Michael the Archangel CMAT from September 2027. The aim is to strengthen Catholic education through greater collaboration, shared resources and expertise, while ensuring that each school retains its individual identity and strong connection with its local community. A formal consultation is now taking place, and parents, parishes and members of the wider community are invited to share their views by 12 noon on 13 November 2026

Whatsapp groups

We are very fortunate to have such a supportive and engaged parent community at St Mary's. Our year-group WhatsApp groups, supported by PTA representatives, are a great way to share reminders, useful information and celebrate the many wonderful things happening in school.

A gentle reminder that any worries or concerns are always best brought directly to school, rather than discussed within WhatsApp groups, so that we can listen, provide the full context and offer support where needed. An SLT member is on the gate every morning, and you can always speak to your child's teacher or contact the school office. Sharing concerns or speculation in group chats can sometimes cause unnecessary worry, so thank you for helping us keep these spaces positive, supportive and reflective of the wonderful community we have at St Mary's and the children who continue to thrive within it. Every family signs a home-school agreement when joining St. Mary's and the correct use of social media and communication platforms is an essential part of this agreement.

An Incredible Community effort

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA and to all of our families for their incredible support of our fundraising and charity work this week. Our Film Clubs raised a fantastic £505 for the children of St Mary's, while our Macmillan Coffee Morning raised an amazing £1,006.68 for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Coffee Morning was a true community effort, with cakes generously donated by our families and the event supported and led by our School Council, PTA and Parish. It was a fantastic example of the strength of our community and just how much we can achieve when we work together.

Macmillan contacted us to say, "We can't thank you all enough for your 'TEA'-rrific support for Macmillan with your Coffee Morning event. With the amount you've all raised, you could fund a Macmillan Nurse for 3 and a half days." What an incredible achievement! We are enormously proud of our children for playing such an important part in supporting others and incredibly grateful to everyone who donated, baked, volunteered or simply came along for a cup of coffee and a slice of cake. Thank you, St Mary's, for once again showing what a caring, generous and special community we are.

Our next PTA meeting is on Monday 28th September in the School Hall and any parent is welcome to come along and join us.

Keeping Our Children Safe – Safe Parking

I need to once again ask all parents and carers to think very carefully about where and how they park at drop-off and collection times. This week, a parent reported an extremely worrying near miss involving a child and a vehicle attempting to park close to a junction near school. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but it is a stark reminder that it only takes a moment for a serious accident to happen.

I completely appreciate how busy the roads around school can be and that finding a parking space is not always easy. However, convenience can never come before the safety of our children. Parking on or too close to junctions and crossing points can significantly reduce visibility for children, families and drivers, creating unnecessary risk at the busiest times of the school day.

Please help us by parking safely and considerately, even if this means parking a little further away and walking the final part of your journey. I would also ask that we treat one another with kindness and respect if concerns are raised. Ultimately, we all want the same thing: for every child to arrive at and leave St Mary's safely. Thank you, as always, to the vast majority of our families who park responsibly and help us to keep our children safe.

Our new school website

We are delighted to celebrate the launch of our new St Mary's website! We hope it gives families and visitors a real sense of the happy, vibrant and special community we are so proud of. Please do take a little time to explore the site and, in particular, watch our school video, filmed last summer, which beautifully captures our children and life at St Mary's. The website will continue to grow over the coming weeks as we update individual pages and add even more information, photographs and celebrations of school life. We hope you enjoy exploring it and seeing everything that makes St Mary's such a wonderful place to belong. <https://www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk/>

INSET day on Friday

A reminder that Friday 2nd October is an INSET Day, **so children will not be in school on this day.**

For families who require childcare, Kidz.comm will be open from 7.30am to 5.30pm. Places can be booked directly with Kidz.comm by texting 07999 864777.

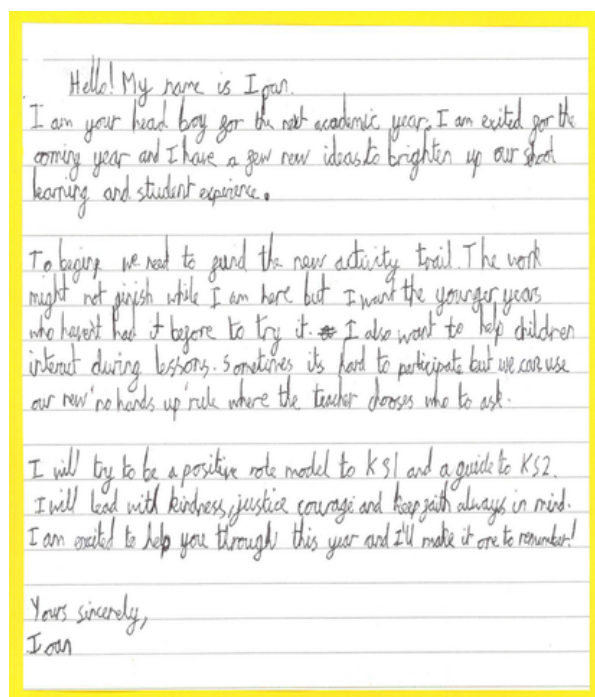
We hope our children enjoy their long weekend, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday!

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter and our new website,
Mrs Yorke, **Headteacher**

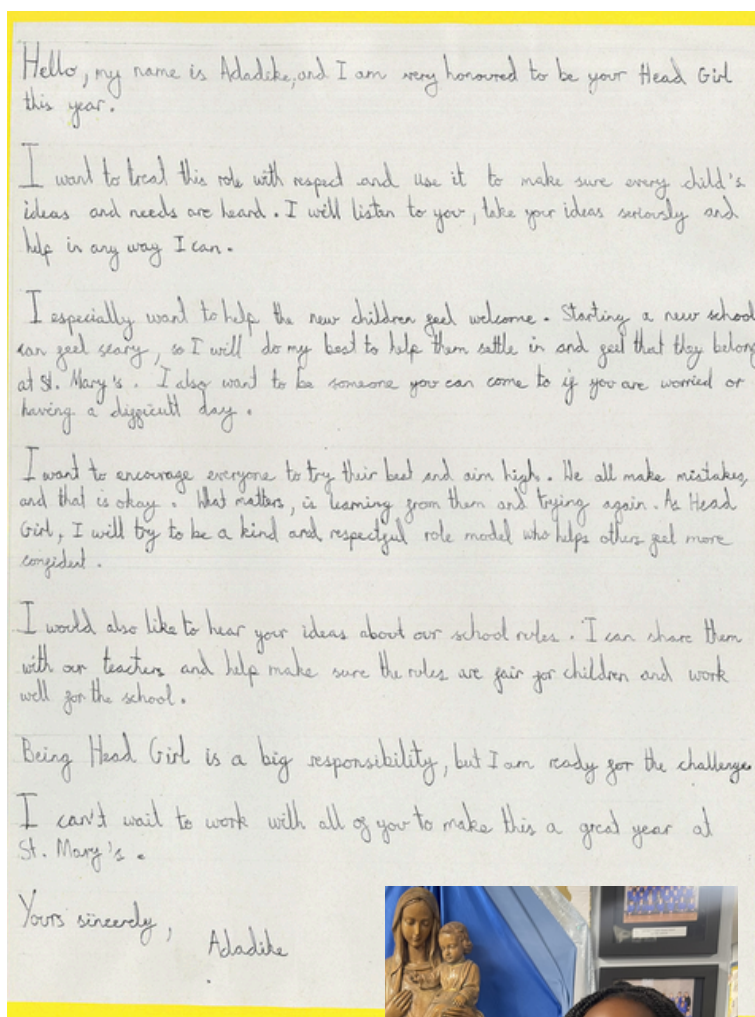
Meet our newly appointed Prefect Team



Meet our newly appointed Head Boy and Head Girl



(left) Head boy (Ioan)



(right) Head girl (Adadike)

CATHOLIC LIFE

This Week's Gospel

"Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.'

Matthew 20:15-16

God wants us to: –

- **Remember** that He is just and that He is true to His word;
- **Accept** His generous love;
- **Understand** that no one earns His love, God gives love freely to all who want to receive it;
- **Respond** to His gifts with thanksgiving



This week's Mass – Y6 Mass – Our Lady of Walsingham



This week, Year 6 led a beautiful Mass led a beautiful Mass celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. The children reflected on how our Lady both has a home in this country and also in their hearts.



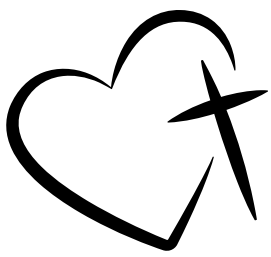
Please note that there is no Mass next week as the priests are all away on their retreat. Year 3 parents are invited to come to the school for a prayer service instead at 9am on Wednesday 30th September.



Our next Mass – Year 5 Mass – 07.10.26

Votive Mass of St. Faustina

Our next Mass in Church will be on Wednesday 7th October 2026, starting promptly at 9:15am. Year 5 will be leading our Mass and Year 6 children will also be in attendance – all parents are welcome to attend.



CATHOLIC LIFE

Child-Led Prayer

Year 5 prepared and led prayer about belonging and how God asks us to respect and welcome all people to mark the end of a wonderful Culture Week in school.



A group of Year 2 children led prayer beautifully, reflecting on belonging and how we should always include other children.



Our newly appointed Prefects also gathered to plan Monday's Celebration of the Word Assembly - they have some great ideas and will be incredible prayer leaders this year.



A message from Fr. Hilary

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have decided to face one of my fears and I need your help!

Recently, I heard about an inspiring 90-year-old parishioner, who completed a zip wire challenge. Her courage made me think: if she can do it at 90, perhaps I have no excuse!

So, on **Tuesday 13 October**, Fr Anil OSA and I will take on the Zip World Challenge to raise funds for the much-needed refurbishment of St Mary's Parish Centre.

Our Parish Centre has served generations of children, families and the wider community.

We want to ensure that it remains a welcoming place for generations to come.

We will take the leap — but we need the St Mary's school community behind us!

Please sponsor us by scanning the QR code.

Whatever you can give will make a difference, and please share our appeal with family and friends.

Thank you for your support — and please keep Fr Anil and me in your prayers on 13 October!

With every blessing,
Fr. Hilary OSA and Fr. Anil OSA

St Mary's Catholic Church HARBORE

One Community One Mission A Brighter Future

THE AUGUSTINIAN ZIP CHALLENGE

TAKING THE LEAP FOR ST MARY'S PARISH CENTRE

ZIP WORLD

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2026

Higher for a Brighter Tomorrow

Fr Hilary OSA Fr Anil OSA

Two Friars. One Big Challenge. A Brighter Future.

SUPPORTED BY OUR AUGUSTINIAN BROTHERS
Fr Ian OSA | Fr Laurence OSA | Fr Sean OSA

SCAN TO DONATE

A SPACE FOR PEOPLE Welcoming all generations

A STRONGER COMMUNITY Supporting faith and life

A BRIGHTER FUTURE Refurbishing for tomorrow

Our Parish Centre has served generations of our community. Now it needs significant refurbishment so it can continue to be a place of welcome, faith, friendship and service for many years to come.

Please sponsor Fr Hilary and Fr Anil as they take on Zip World. Every donation makes a real difference.

Thank you for your support!



CULTURAL

Awareness Week

Belonging



Every class took part in an African drumming workshop this week!



Children used their oracy skills to share their culture with their peers.



The children created belonging trees to show how they belong to St Mary's



Cultural Dress Celebration Day



"In India, white represents peace and the cows that give us fresh milk. Orange represents the flowers. I like sharing about India with others" S in Year 3

"It's important to celebrate where we are from and where other people are from" G in Year 4



Macmillan Coffee Morning

£1006.68 raised



Our School Councillors represented St Mary's admirably at the Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Parish Centre on Thursday – they truly demonstrated the thriving school and parish link that we cherish and were impeccable role-models. Well done, children!



Curriculum Learning

A snippet of all our wonderful learning this week...



Year 1 have been reading and recognising numbers to 20, using counters to represent different amounts. The children worked hard to match numbers to quantities and build their understanding of number sense through practical, hands-on learning.



Year 3 used their oracy skills this week, working with their partners to edit their exciting writing.



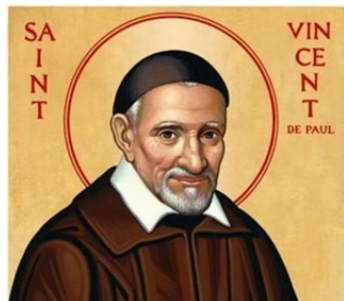
Year 6 wrote a setting description in English focussing on descriptive language and 'show not tell'.





PTA AGM - 28.09.26

The PTA AGM is taking place on Monday at 8am in school. Everyone is welcome and it's a great opportunity to hear about the year's achievements, find out how funds have supported the school, and get involved with future events.



St Vincent de Paul House Retreat - 28.09.26

On Monday, we are celebrating St Vincent de Paul, the French, 17th century priest known as the patron of Catholic charities for his apostolic work among the poor.

Children who are in St. Vincent De Paul House Group - can come in to school wearing white on this day!



Year 4 Harborne Library Visit - 29.9.26

Year 4 will be visiting Harborne Library next Tuesday.

4M will leave at 8:45am

4J will leave at 10:15am

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.



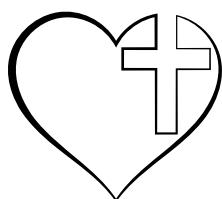
Play Leaders Training - 29.09.26

A group of Year 5 pupils will attend Play Leaders Training at Bishop Challoner Secondary School, travelling to and from the venue by bus. Children should come to school in their P.E. kits and bring a packed lunch, snack, and drink.



Year 3 Prayer Service - 30.09.26

As there is no Mass this week, Year 3 parents/carers are invited into school for a prayer service at 9am on Wednesday 30th September.



Year 1 Prayer Service - 1.10.26

Year 1 will be holding their prayer service at 9am on Thursday 1st October in the school hall. Parents/carers are warmly welcome to attend.



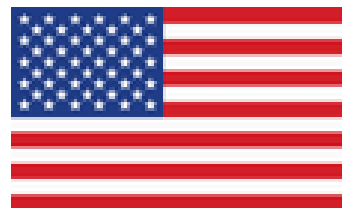
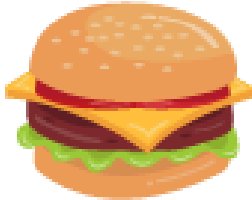
INSET Day - 2.10.26

School is **closed** all day for staff training on Friday 2nd October. School will re-open on Monday 5th October.

Special American Themed Lunch – 01.10.26

On Thursday 1st October, there will be a special American themed lunch in school.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, you do not need to sign up for this meal. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and usually has packed lunches but would like a hot meal on this day, please sign up on School Gateway.



American Themed Lunch Thursday 1st October

**Beef burger or vegetable burger
with bap**

Chunky chips

Beans or sweetcorn

**American pancakes with toffee,
strawberry, or chocolate sauce**

Fresh fruit salad

Assorted salad

Yummy





School Fund

Our School Fund is a vital source of income for our school.

It pays for the 'extras' such as Inspire workshops, curriculum resources, Christmas activities, theatre or performances as well as subsidising school trips.

These 'extras' are enjoyed by all year groups at St Mary's throughout the year.

As we have been accepted as a charity for tax purposes, we can claim the tax on donations to school fund from parents who are UK taxpayers, if those parents sign a Gift Aid Declaration. This means that for every pound you give we get an extra 25p from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further. Contribution to School Fund is entirely voluntary and we are very grateful to those parents who regularly support the school in this way.

However, in the last few years the amount of school fund received has dropped quite significantly. There are probably many reasons for this, but perhaps the most obvious is remembering to send in a donation every year, half term or term.

Several parents make their contribution by standing order
and we are very grateful to them all.

Please consider this option, as consequently, by setting up a standing order, for say £2 per month per family, you will guarantee the school a monthly income on which we can reclaim tax and not have to think about it again whilst your child is at St Mary's.

If you feel unable to sign up to a monthly payment, why not pay £20 per year via SchoolGateway or a one-off bank transfer, again with a Gift Aid Declaration, if applicable. All we ask in this instance is that you send us your completed declaration form in an envelope clearly marked with the name of your child and the value of your donation.

This is an essential book-keeping requirement of the Inland Revenue.

A Gift Aid declaration and a standing order form, have been emailed to you alongside today's newsletter. Where appropriate, please complete and return them to school or if you prefer you can come in to school and fill in a hard copy.

Account Name: St Marys School Fund – Gift Aid

Account

Sort Code: **30 – 19 – 14**

Account Number: **03595246**

As always, we are extremely grateful for the support that we receive from the parents at St Mary's and appreciate you helping us be able to put on these events and treats for the children, which hopefully make their time at St Mary's more fun and memorable.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the school.

We wish for you to be assured of the confidential manner in which the school will treat your details.

There are several open evenings taking place to support Secondary School choices – here are a few that have been sent to our enquiry box for your information....

Guernsey Arete Duke of Edinburgh Belgium Valencia Rome Paris Poland Lourdes		Masses Prayer Services Reconciliation Retreats Prayer companions Liturgy Leaders Lourdes Rewards Community and Belonging Weeks
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OPEN EVENING

Thursday 17th September 2026, 6pm - 8pm.

OPEN MORNING

Tuesday 22nd September 2026, 9.10am - 10.00am.

See the school in action!

SATURDAY OPEN MORNING

Saturday 3rd October, 9am – 12pm.

Opportunity for an individual tour of the school.

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School
Saturday 3rd October, 9:00am – 12:00pm



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
SEMPER FIDELIS

Called as God's Family, we strive to achieve our personal best, by living and learning in Christ.



OPEN MORNING

Saturday 3rd October 2026
9.00am - 12.00pm

Forming Christ-centered pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

PREBOOK A PERSONAL TOUR VIA EVENTBRITE
EVERY FAMILY WELCOME

We will be offering personal tours of the school site, there will be an opportunity to hear from the Principal and staff and you will be able to discover the wonderful education that is awaiting you and your child, as part of the Hagley Family.



EMMAUS CATHOLIC MAC
Our journey with Christ

Hagley Catholic High School
Saturday 3rd October, 9:00am – 12:00pm

CLUBS Before School

	Mini Athletics	Mondays 8:00 - 8:45am	Years 1-5
	Karate	Wednesdays 7:45-8:30am	KS1 + KS2
	Karate	Thursdays 7:45-8:30am	KS1 + KS2
	Karate	Fridays 7:45-8:30am	KS1 + KS2

£4.75 per session

£5 per session

£5 per session

£5 per session

CLUBS After School

	Young Engineers	Mondays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Years 1-6
	Girls Netball	Mondays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Years 5-6
	Mixed Football	Mondays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Years 5-6
	Chess	Mondays 3:30 - 4:45pm	Year 3
	Mixed Football	Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Year 1
	Create Club	Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:30pm	KS1
	Mixed Football	Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Years 3-4
	Chess	Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:45pm	Years 4-6
	Mixed Football	Thursdays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Year 2
	Create Club	Thursdays 3:30 - 4:30pm	KS2
	Chess	Thursdays 3:30 - 4:45pm	Years 4-6
	Choir	Fridays 3:30 - 4:30pm	Years 3-6

£15 per session

£5 per session

£85 per term

£125 annually

£85 per term

£40.50 per
6 week block

£85 per term

£125 annually

£85 per term

£40.50 per
6 week block

£125 annually

£2.50 per session

Karate

We are delighted to support Josh from USK Karate at St Mary's. Josh has worked with our school for many years and will be delivering exciting karate assemblies for each year group next week, with children bringing home a flyer with further information.

If your child is interested in giving karate a try, Josh is offering a free trial session. Karate sessions take place here at St Mary's, with both morning and evening sessions available, making it easier for families to find a time that suits them. A fantastic opportunity for children to try something new, develop confidence and keep active!

USK KARATE
Respect. Discipline. Confidence.

FREE TRIAL SESSION

BUILD CONFIDENCE
IMPROVE FOCUS
MAKE FRIENDS
GET ACTIVE

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
MORNINGS AVAILABLE
(Drop off from 7:40)

WORKS OUT AS
£5
PER SESSION

CONTACT JOSH
07824442833

USK KARATE
Respect. Discipline. Confidence.

THURSDAY EVENINGS
AT
ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

5:30 - 6:30
AGE 5+

6:30 - 7:30
AGE 11+

2 FREE TRIAL SESSIONS
(USUALLY £25 PER MONTH)

★ **FREE MEMBERSHIP & SUIT**

TRY BEFORE YOU JOIN!

CONTACT JOSH
07824442833

October Half-Term Holiday Club at St Mary's - Strings Club



The Strings Club will be bringing their award-winning Holiday Camps to St Mary's this October half term, during the **week beginning 26th October**. Their fun-filled, screen-free days combine music with creativity, wellbeing and lots of opportunities to make new friends. Children can enjoy guitar, violin or ukulele sessions, alongside art, drama and creative workshops, energetic games and outdoor activities.



Children attending for more than one day can also benefit from free instrument hire, so no previous musical experience or instrument is needed. Even better, St Mary's families receive 10% off The Strings Club Holiday Camps all year round. Simply use the code **STMPRI26** when booking.



Coats

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



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. .

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.



Parking

We ask for everyone's commitment to safe driving and parking around school.

Please do not: –

- stop or park on double yellow lines,
- stop in the middle of the road,
- stop or park on the zig zag lines outside of school
- block the school entrance,
- obstruct dropped kerbs meant for pushchairs,
- obstruct side roads such as Vivian Close.



Parking opposite the school is particularly dangerous for families crossing the road.

We work closely with the Council and Police, and fines may be issued. Any person of the community can photograph inconsiderate or dangerous parking and report...

We have an allocated police officer – PC Anthony Henry, badge no 30847, who is leading 'operation snap' <https://betterstreetsforbirmingham.org/op-snap/> where you can report directly to the Police

Or report directly to the Council –

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report_an_illegally_parked_vehicle

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. You can claim any items needed from the parent shelter. To ensure that no items are lost, label everything with child's name and class.





The Book Fair is Coming!



The Scholastic Book Fair is a fantastic opportunity for children to buy quality books while raising money for the school at the same time...

We are able to buy many for the school after our book fairs and we'd love to continue doing this!

The Book Fair will be open on the following dates/times:

Friday 9th October – 3.15pm to 4pm (Hall)

Monday 12th October – 3.15pm to 4pm (Hall)

Tuesday 13th October – At Parent Consultations

Wednesday 14th October – At Parent Consultations

Friday 16th October – 3:15pm to 4pm (Hall)



Children will have the opportunity to browse the Book Fair during the school day but purchases will only be possible on the above dates/times. The Book Fair will be cashless, and we will have a card reader available too.

Other Messages



Kidz.comm will be **OPEN on the upcoming INSET day (02/10/26) from 7:30am to 5:30pm**

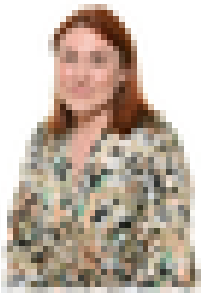
Please text 07999 864777 to book directly

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.

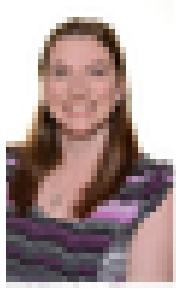
Pastoral Team

If you require any support from school please speak to a member of our pastoral team

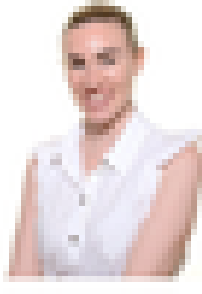
If you have a concern that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following staff members as quickly as possible:



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



Safeguarding Update:

Misogyny - What parents/carers need to know

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 has identified misogyny as a safeguarding imperative. The guidance recognises that misogyny sits on a continuum and, left unchallenged, can escalate to sexual harassment and sexual violence. Tackling underlying misogynist attitudes can prevent future harmful or abusive behaviour.

So why do parents/carers of primary school-age children need to be aware of this issue?

Research suggests that children's attitudes towards gender are fully formed by age 7. Early support and education are crucial in helping young people experience a healthier childhood and tackling misogyny at its roots.

So what can parents/carers do?

Digital literacy is especially important in this area. Teaching young people to think critically, question the sources of the information they consume, and challenge generalisations, will reduce the risk of harm.

Create an open dialogue with your child. Take an interest in their interests and remain curious about the content they consume. Check in regularly and let them know you'll always lend an unjudgmental ear.

Be a positive role model. Show that you are willing to understand and support them whenever they need it. Helping your child feel heard will reduce the risk of them seeking solace elsewhere.

Source – The Children's Society

If you have any concerns or wish to discuss any of this advice further, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Noone (DSL) or a DDSL within school.

ATTENDANCE



Did you know that missing just 10 days of school a year (equivalent to one day every two weeks) can reduce a child's chances of meeting expected standards in reading, writing, and maths by 30%?

Every day at school counts!

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for a child's success in primary school. Being present and on time each day helps children build strong learning habits, stay on track with lessons, and develop a sense of responsibility. It also supports social development, as children form friendships and learn teamwork through consistent classroom interaction. Missing school or arriving late can lead to gaps in learning and make it harder for children to catch up. Encouraging good attendance and punctuality from an early age sets the foundation for lifelong learning and success. If you need any support with attendance or punctuality, please speak to Mrs Noone.

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 a member of the SLT team. 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 21/09/26-25/09/26

Class	YRB	YRT	Y1L	Y1F	Y2E	Y2G	Y3L	Y3T	Y4J	Y4M	Y5M	Y5F	Y6R	Y6O
%	96	98	96	99	98	97	97	99	99	97	99	99	98	93
Lates	0	3	1	2	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	0	1	3
Whole School Attendance so far this year						96.4%		School Target					97%	

Well done 1F, 3T, 4J, 5M and 5F: - Our attendance champions!

Dates for this half term

Autumn theme -

Autumn 1 Virtues

28th September 2026 - all day

28th September 2026 - 8am

29th September 2026 - am

29th September 2026 - pm

30th September 2026 - 9:00am

October 2026 - all month

October 2026 - all month

October 2026 - all month

1st October 2026 - lunch time

1st October 2026 - 9:00am

2nd October 2026 - all day

5th October 2026 - all day

6th October 2026 - am

6th October 2026 - 2:30pm

7th October 2026 - 9:15am

7th October 2026 - 2:30pm

9th October 2026 - all day

9th October 2026 - 9:15am

WB 12.10.26

13th October 2026 - 3:30-6:00

14th October 2026 - 9:15am

14th October 2026 - 3:30-6:00

15th October 2026 - all day

16th October 2026 - all day

21st October 2026 - 9:15am

22nd October 2026 - am

22nd October 2026 - all day

23rd October 2026 - normal time

Families and Communities

Compassionate and Loving

Children in **St. Vincent de Paul House** - wear white non-school uniform

PTA Annual General Meeting

Year 4 library visit - 4M (8:45) and 4J (10:15)

12 Year 5 children to attend Bishop Challoner for Play-leader training

Year 3 prayer service in school for St. Therese - for Y3 parents

Pray the Rosary

Black History Month

Collection for Harvest - please send food and self-care items in for our harvest

Themed Lunch in the canteen

Year 1 Prayer Service for parents

INSET day - school closed to children

Grandparents' Day

Year 6 library visit - 6R (8:45) and 6O (10:15)

RHE talk for parents - KS1

Year 5 Mass in Church (Y6 to attend) - Parents welcome

RHE talk for parents - KS2

Mental Health Day - wear yellow

Year 6 Year Group Assembly

School Book Fair in school - please support our book fair

Parent Consultation Evening

Year 1 Mass in Church (Y2 to attend) - parents welcome

Parent Consultation Evening

Photo Day - Children in full winter uniform please

Children in **St. Teresa of Avila** House - wear blue non-school uniform

Reception Welcome Mass (with Year 6 buddies) - Parents welcome

Flu vaccinations in school

Children in **St. John Paul II House** - wear red non-school uniform

Children finish today for October half-term (normal finish time)

Term Dates for this year

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

School Closed:

- Monday 3rd May 2027 - May Bank Holiday

INSET DAYS

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
 - Friday 2nd October 2026
 - Friday 12th February 2027
 - Monday 28th June 2027
 - Wednesday 21st 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	Matthew	<i>For his careful counting in maths!</i>
Year RT	Makkah	<i>For being a fabulous role model for others!</i>
Year IF	Tin Lam	<i>For always trying her best in every lesson and being such a positive role model for the class. Well done!</i>
Year IL	Emily	<i>For being. Fabulous role model to her class mates!</i>
Year 2E	Lilah-Grace	<i>For giving everything a go even if she finds it tricky. Well done!</i>
Year 2G	Aoife	<i>For working hard and always showing confidence during class discussion. Well done!</i>
Year 3L	Nandi	<i>For being a wonderfully hard-working, polite and respectful member of our class!</i>
Year 3T	Oliver	<i>For showing kindness and respect to everyone!</i>
Year 4J	Jayden	<i>For constantly striving for excellence and being a role model to others!</i>
Year 4M	Nathan	<i>For overcoming his nerves and delivering a reading in assembly as Rights Respecting Monitor. Well done!</i>
Year 5F	Belle	<i>Excellent contributions to class discussions.</i>
Year 5M	Mieke	<i>For constantly striving for excellence and being a role model to others. Keep it up!</i>
Year 6O	Milo	<i>For his fantastic participation and effort in class discussions</i>
Year 6R	William	<i>For writing a fantastic diary entry in Exciting Writing. You are a wonderful author!</i>

