



## ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*'Providing a Christ centred setting whereby everyone can live out the messages of Jesus with love, understanding and care'*  
St Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy Company and St Mary's are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment

Designated Child Protection Officers: Ms O' Beirne, Mrs Broomfield, Miss Mosley, Mrs Brereton and Mrs Berry.  
Child Protection policy available at [www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk)

October 2017



### Harvest

At harvest, we share God's abundance with our neighbours. 'We plant the seeds that one day will grow'. These words are from a prayer that remembers Blessed Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador who was brutally murdered because he tried to help the poorest people in his country. Any gardener, or farmer, knows this instinctively: that nature is abundant, as God's love is abundant.

Blessed Oscar Romero regularly preached how "God wants a society where we share the good things that God has given for all of us". Archbishop Romero also pleaded for us "not to tire of preaching love; as love is the force that will overcome the world".

I would like to thank everyone who sent in donations for our Harvest Festival which took place on Friday 6th October. We managed to raise around £40 for CAFOD, and the remaining food donations were given to the SVP food bank.



### OFSTED



As you know, we were visited by Mrs Crookes on Wednesday 27th September for a one day inspection. Her report has now been published and I am very pleased to say that we continue to be judged as a good school. A copy of the report is now available to view on our website in the "Parents Info" section. <https://st-mary-bh.sch.life/page/detail/inspections>

### Friends of St Mary's

We are extremely grateful to the Friends of St Mary's for their very generous donation of over £2,500.00 which has enabled us to place an order for our new stage. The stage should be arriving shortly after the half term holiday, in plenty of time for our Christmas performances.

We are also grateful to everyone who has helped to organise and run our Fancy Dress Disco. This has proved to be very popular and we are sure that the children had a wonderful time. The Friends of St Mary's are always interested in hearing from family members who can spare a little time to support the events that they organise. If you would like more information then please contact the school office.



### Attendance



As you know, good attendance is very important to us here at St Mary's and we are working hard to make sure that all children attend school as often as possible. I understand that children cannot help being ill, but I would urge parent to do their best to ensure that medical and dental appointments are made for outside of school hours. I am no longer able to authorise holidays taken during term time. Please see our attendance policy on our website for details of fixed penalty notices which are now being issued by Dudley for holiday absences.

I would like to welcome Mr Weston who is supporting the school during this year for matters relating to attendance and punctuality. Please see below for the attendance figures for each class so far this term.

Reception	96.24%	Year 4	98.19%
Year 1	94.04%	Year 5	96.73%
Year 2	93.19%	Year 6	97.35%
Year 3	96.96%		

### Rosary Week

In the Catholic tradition, October is the Month of the Rosary. Thank you to everyone who came into school this week to share the Rosary with their children in the Marian Garden. If you are interested in reading more about the Rosary, then a newsletter from Ten:Ten Resources can be found in the Catholic Life section on our website.

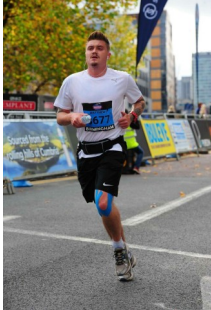


## **Birmingham Marathon**



A huge congratulations to Mr Bird and Mr Savary who ran the Birmingham Marathon on Sunday 15th October to raise money for our new school learning hub. This is an amazing achievement. Several members of staff went along to cheer them on. If you have sponsored them, please let Mrs Hambridge have your sponsor money. It is not too late to make a donation on the just giving page shown below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/matt-savary>



## **Well Done!**

During the summer holidays, Maisie in Year 4 worked hard to raise money for a charity called "Leslie's Care Packages for the Homeless". She collected donations of unwanted items and held a sale which enabled her to raise £170 for the charity which will be used to support people who are at risk of being made homeless. If you would like more information about the charity then go to [www.lesliescarepackages.org](http://www.lesliescarepackages.org)



Lanis in Year 3 has recently had her long hair cut off which she has donated to the Little Princess Trust who provide real hair wigs to children suffering with hair loss.

I am also very grateful to Chloe in Year 3 who has donated a selection of lovely books to the school which will be wonderful for a range of uses.

It is lovely to know that the children of St Mary's have such generous spirits and think of others in a variety of ways.

## **October half term activities**

As usual, there will be lots of events and activities taking place during the half term holiday. If you are looking for something to do then take a look at the website below for more information:

<http://fis.dudley.gov.uk/fsd/>

There will also be sessions taking place at Sixes and the Crystal Leisure Centre.:

Sixes	Monday	5:30—6:30pm	ages 4-6
	Tuesday	6:00—7:00pm	ages 7—12
	Wednesday	6:00—7:00pm	ages 7—12
Crystal Leisure Centre	Thursday	6:00—7:00pm	ages 4—12 Multi sports.

**Ms O'Beirne  
Principal**

### ***Academy Prayer***

*Lord, fill our hearts and minds as we move forwards together. Enable us to work with one another to ensure that our community continues to develop and grow, for the benefit of all Amen*

### ***Academy Motto***

*In Jesus we live learn and serve.*



This list of dates may be subject to changes or additions. If this is the case we will let you know as soon as possible. All dates are also available on our website.

Event	Date	Time
Last day of school. Break up for Half Term holiday	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	3:00pm
School re-opens for staff and children	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	8:50am
<b>English workshop for Year 6 parents</b>	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	2:25pm
<b>English workshop for Year 5 parents</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	2:25pm
Flu vaccinations for Rec to Y4	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	All day
<b>English workshop for Year 2 parents</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	2:25pm
Remembrance Mass with Father Des – Year 4	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	9:10am
<b>English workshop for Year 1 parents</b>	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	2:25pm
Confirmation for Year 6 at St Mary’s Church	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	7:00pm
Advent Mass with Fr Des – School Council	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	9:10am
Pre-School and Reception Christmas Play	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am
Pre-School and Reception Christmas Play	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	1:45pm
Y1 and Y2 Christmas Play	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	1:45pm
Y1 and Y2 Christmas Play	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	6:30pm
Christmas Mass – Year 6	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	9:10am
Christmas Lunch	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00pm
Carol Service	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	9:10am
<b>Last day of term for staff and children</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>3:00pm</b>
<b>2018</b>		
Staff training day. School closed for children	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	All Day
School re-opens for children	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	8:50am
<b>English workshop for Year 3 parents</b>	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	2:25pm
Unity Week	18 <sup>th</sup> —25 <sup>th</sup> January	
<b>English workshop for Year 4 parents</b>	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 6 parents</b>	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 5 parents</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 4 parents</b>	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 3 parents</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 2 parents</b>	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	2:25pm
<b>Maths workshop for Year 1 parents</b>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	2:25pm

