



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, Miss Mosley, Mrs Brereton and Mrs Berry.
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk



March 2018

Easter



Reflecting on the Liturgy of Palm Sunday, Pope Francis contrasted the joy of the people who celebrated Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with the cries of those who want to silence him. The Pope says that we can imagine that among those in the crowd who sang and shouted as Jesus entered Jerusalem would have been such people as the prodigal son, the healed leper. These people cannot but help to praise the person responsible for restoring their dignity and their hope, making it possible for them to trust again. But there is another group present as well. The joy of those who have been touched by God's mercy is unbearable and intolerable for others Pope Francis points out. This prompts another kind of shouting. It comes from those wishing to twist realityinvent stories. In the end, they disfigure the face of Jesus and turn him into a 'criminal. And so the celebration of the people ends up being stifled. The conclusion of Pope Francis' homily was directed to the young. He pleaded with them not to succumb to the attempts of their elders to silence them.

"Dear young people, the joy that Jesus awakens in you is a source of anger and irritation to some, since a joyful young person is hard to manipulate," he says. Pope Francis recalls the words of Jesus to the Pharisees who wanted to silence his disciples. To "Teacher, rebuke your disciples," Jesus replied, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out" (Lk 19:39-40).



We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 20th April in aid of the Friends of Alfie Johnson. This local charity supports children with disabilities. If you would like to support this event, children are asked to wear pink or blue, or pink and blue, and donate £1.

World Book Day. A parade in the hall at break time gave everyone the chance to see the wonderful costumes of favourite book characters. Thank you to everyone who donated.



Pyramid Music Concert at Birmingham Town Hall. The event, which involved Year 5 children from all of the Hagley pyramid school was a great success, the children were a credit to the school. Although it was a very long day, they were so well behaved.

The Friends of St Mary's



Because of the phenomenal support they have received from parents and children, The Friends of St Mary's would like to give something back. They will be treating all children to a healthy breakfast at break time on Thursday 29th March. Each class teacher will be given a form to fill in so that children can pre-order from a choice of toast, crumpet, pancake or raisins. At the end of the day, each child will also be given a small chocolate treat.

Sponsored Bounce - Friday 18th May. This will take place during the day- we will have two trampolines in school. This year there will be one sponsor form per family. Forms will be sent out after Easter and we ask you to return them to school by Wednesday 2nd May.



Two bouncy castles will be available after school for 50p a go. Siblings who attend other schools are welcome to join in the fun.

Advance notice - the Summer Fayre will take place after school on THURSDAY 5th JULY. More details to follow next term.

School Life



Important information about our text messaging service. You should have received a letter explaining that we will no longer be subscribing to Teachers2Parents messaging service. Please ensure you have downloaded the app 'School Life Official' to your phone as this is the only way you will be receiving messages from April. If you need help with login details please contact Mrs Beese via the school office.



International Day of Happiness Conference. Miss Wooldridge and 4 children attended this local event alongside children from other schools. As you can see from the photograph, they had a great time.



Lucy from Father Hudson visited the school on 21st March and told us the story of the work of Father Hudson. We look forward to receiving the Good Shepherd collection boxes in the first week back after Easter. Thank you to everyone who has returned them already.

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Maths and English Workshops and for supporting Parents' Evening last week. I hope you found the meetings useful.



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 parents 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. Mr Paul Weston, our Attendance Support Officer, will continue to monitor attendance and will issue letters to parents to alert them when their child's attendance falls below 95%, 93% and 90%.



Top 3 class attendance figures for the Spring Term

First place	Year 4	97.13%
Second place	Year 5	96.61%
Third place	Year 3	95.09%

May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life.

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.

Other Dates for your Calendar

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 for staff and children	Thursday 29th March	3:00pm
School re-opens for staff and children	Monday 16th April	8:50am
Y1 class Mass	Friday 20th April	9.00 am
Y5 Assembly	Wednesday 25th April	9.00 am
Whole School Mass led by Y5	Friday 27th April	9.00 am
Commitment Mass (Reconciliation)	Sunday 29th April	9.00 am
Y4 Assembly	Wednesday 2nd May	9.00 am
School Closure—INSET	Thursday 3rd May	
Reception class Mass	Friday 4th May	9.00 am
Bank Holiday	Monday 7th May	
Y3 Assembly	Wednesday 9th May	9.00 am
Whole School Mass led by School Council	Friday 11th May	9.00 am
Walk to School Week	From 14th May	
SATS week—Class Mass led by Y5	Friday 18th May	9.00 am
Sponsored Bounce	Friday 18th May	
First Holy Communion Parents' Evening 2 Church Hall	Wednesday 23rd May	7.30 pm
Year 1 Assembly	Wednesday 23rd May	9.00 am
INSET DAY	Friday 25th May	

To find future term dates for planning holidays, please see the Parents' Information section on our school website.

