



The Rosary School October Newsletter



What a busy and exciting October we have enjoyed at The Rosary! The month has been filled with wonderful learning, exciting activities and plenty of sporting activities, giving our children the opportunities to develop their talents, work together and represent our school with pride.

Prayer has been at the heart of this month. The children have particularly loved praying the Rosary alongside pupils from across our MAC family of schools, sharing special moments of reflection and growing together in faith.

After all their hard work and enthusiasm, the children and staff are ready for a well-deserved rest! Thank you to all our families for your continued support. We wish you all a happy, peaceful and restful half term break.

Our Catholic Faith - Our Lady of the Rosary



During October we have turned our thoughts towards the Rosary and the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Through this very special devotion to Mary we are helped to meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation – the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In saying the Hail Mary we join Mary in prayer knowing that she is intimately linked with her Son in all the mysteries of his earthly and heavenly existence. The rosary helps us grow in the hope that God will bring us to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.

We have turned towards Our Lady of the Rosary this October and asked for her intercession for all our needs and especially for peace in our troubled world.

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Sunday Gospel



Some of the leaders gathered together. One of the leaders was an expert in the Law and he asked Jesus a question to try and catch him out. “Teacher,” he said, “which is the greatest commandment in God’s Law?” Jesus replied, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. But there is a second commandment like it, that is: ‘You must love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the teaching of the Law and the Prophets follows from these two commandments.”

In this Gospel, we are reminded that our love for God is also made known through the way that we love others. Whenever we love and care for one another we can be sure that God is with us. This half term let us each find a special way in which we can show our love for God and for each other. Perhaps we can show and tell family members how much we love them through unexpected acts of kindness; being peacemakers; praying for others, particularly anyone whom you may find difficult to like; looking for a chance to help others.

Attendance



A Parent Guide to School Attendance

The Rosary Catholic Primary School

A message from us

At The Rosary Catholic Primary School, we know that every child's journey is different, and that family life can sometimes make school attendance challenging for you,

We also know something very clearly: **when children are in school every day, they feel more confident, learn more and are happier and more settled in school.**

We see this every day in our classrooms and playgrounds.

This short guide explains how we support attendance, what we ask of families, and what happens if attendance becomes a concern. Most importantly, it explains how we will always work with you to support your child.

Why coming to school every day matters

When your child comes to school regularly, they:

- settle into routines that help them feel safe and ready to learn
- build friendships and feel part of school life
- learn in small steps without missing important learning
- grow in confidence and independence

When children miss school, they can find it harder to keep up in lessons, feel less confident in class and feel less connected with their friends.

We understand that children may be off school from time to time. What matters most is that we stay in close contact and work together so that their attendance does not become a concern.

Promoting good attendance

At The Rosary Catholic Primary School, we actively promote attendance every day.

We do this by:

- welcoming children warmly each morning so they feel they belong
- making sure school is a safe, positive and happy place to be
- talking with children about why coming to school matters
- celebrating good and improved attendance
- keeping families informed so you always know how your child is doing
- contacting you early if we notice any worries or patterns

We want children to feel proud of coming to school every day. We want you to feel proud of your child's attendance too!

What we ask from families

We ask for your support with a few simple but really important things:

- please send your child to school every day unless they are genuinely unwell
- please make sure they arrive on time
- please contact us on the first morning if your child is absent
- please avoid holidays during term time
- please talk to us early if attendance or punctuality becomes difficult for you as a family

We will always work with you, you are not on your own.

School times and the school day

To help your child have the best start to the day, please see our school timings below:

- **School gates open:** 8.15am for breakfast club and 8.30am for class
- **School day starts at:** 8.45am
- **Registration closes:** 9.00am **Arriving after this time will mean your child is recorded as an absence**
- **Afternoon registration:** 1.35pm
- **School day ends:** 3.30pm

Children are expected to remain in school for the full school day unless we have agreed otherwise.

Arriving on time is really important, it helps children to quickly settle and to feel ready for learning.

Contacting us about absence

If your child is going to be absent, please let us know on the first morning.

You can contact us:

- **Phone:** 0121 464 4519]

Please include:

- your child's name

- reason for absence
- expected return date (if known)

If we do not hear from you, we will contact you. This is part of our responsibility to keep children safe.

If your child is unwell

We know it can be difficult to decide whether your child should stay at home.

As a guide:

- **Fever/high temperature:** children should stay at home until better
- **Vomiting or diarrhoea:** children should stay off for 48 hours after symptoms stop
- **Mild coughs and colds:** children can usually attend if they feel well

If your child has a minor condition such as head lice or a cold sore, they can usually still come to school.

If you are unsure, please contact us, we are always happy to advise.

Appointments

Where possible, please arrange medical and dental appointments outside of school hours.

If this is not possible:

- please let us know in advance
- provide evidence if requested
- keep time out of school as short as possible

We expect children to attend before and after appointments where appropriate.

Holidays during term time

We understand how important family time is and how expensive family holidays are in school holiday period.

However, term-time holidays are not allowed unless the circumstances are truly exceptional. This is because children miss important learning and routines that are difficult to catch up on.

Leave during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must be requested in advance (usually at least one month).

Unauthorised holidays may result in a penalty notice and if repeated further legal action.

If you need to request leave during term time, please:

- complete a **Leave of Absence Request Form** (available from the school office)
- submit the request at least **one month in advance** wherever possible
- include full details of the reason for the request and dates required
- wait for written confirmation from the school before making any arrangements

Please do not assume a request has been approved until you receive confirmation from the school.

When attendance becomes a concern

If your child starts to miss school regularly, we will always try to support you early.

We follow three steps:

1. Early contact

We will speak with you to understand what is happening and how we can help.

2. Attendance support

If needed, we will agree a simple plan together to help improve attendance.

3. Further support

If attendance does not improve, we may need to involve Birmingham City Council and legal action. This is always a last step and only happens when support has not led to improvement.

Our aim is always to work with you first.

Understanding attendance

Even small amounts of absence can add up quickly:

- **95% attendance** = around 2 weeks, 10 days or approximately **40 lessons missed** in a year
- **90% attendance** = around 4 weeks, 20 days or approximately **80 lessons missed** in a year
- **Below 90%** = significant loss of school time

We will always let you know early if we are concerned.

Our expectation is that children attend school at least **97% of the time**. This is the equivalent of around **6 days of absence across the whole school year, or about 2 days per term**.

Of course, our real aim is even higher than this. We want every child to be in school **every day, 100% of the time**, so they do not miss out on any of their learning or school experience.

Being on time

Being on time to school is really important for it helps your child:

- start the day calmly
- feel settled and ready to learn
- avoid missing important learning

Even regular small delays can add up to a lot of missed learning over the year.

If your child arrives after the register closes, this may be recorded as an absence.

When attendance is affected by other factors

We understand that some children may find attending school more difficult due to:

- anxiety or worries about school
- medical needs or long-term illness
- additional learning needs
- family circumstances or difficulties at home

If this is the case, please talk to us. We will listen and work with you to put the right support in place.

Keeping children safe

If a child is not attending school and we are unable to contact families, we may need to take further steps to ensure the child is safe. This may include home visits or contacting other agencies.

This is always done with care and with your child's wellbeing as our priority.

We are here to help

If you have any concerns about attendance or punctuality, please contact us as early as possible.

School Attendance Champion: Mrs Robinson and Mrs Norris

Our Attendance Team: Mrs Robinson and Mr Perkins

Phone/email: 0121 464 4519

When you contact us, we will:

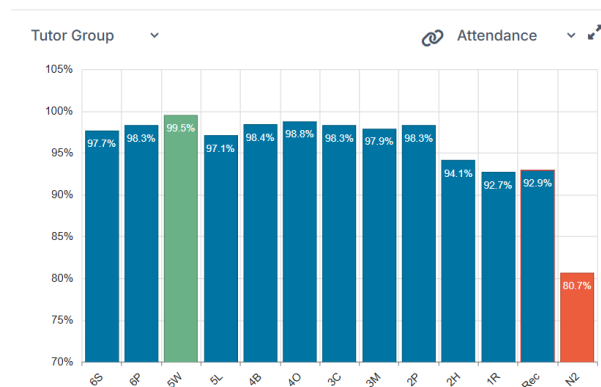
- listen carefully
- try to understand what is making attendance difficult

- work with you to find solutions
- support your child to attend regularly

We want every child to feel happy, safe, and able to succeed in school.

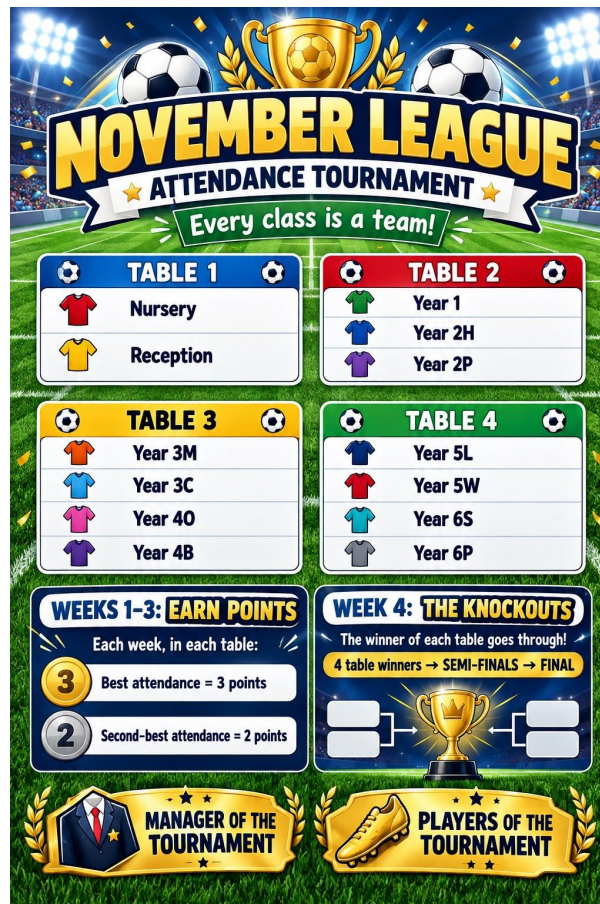
Please note: This is a summary guide to help parents understand attendance expectations. Our full Attendance Policy, which contains more detailed information, can be found on the school website.

October Attendance Figures



A huge congratulations to all our families who have made a real effort to ensure that their children are in school every day and ready to learn. Your support makes such a positive difference to your child's learning, friendships and wellbeing.

We are delighted with October Streaks and how many children have made an effort to be in school everyday on time. Well done to everyone who has achieved the full October Streak. We hope you enjoy wearing your own clothes!



The November League – Every Day Counts!

Our November attendance challenge is bringing football fever to The Rosary! Every class has been placed in a group, where they will compete to earn points and work towards lifting the **Winners' Cup**.

Teamwork is the key to success, with everyone working together to be **in school, on time, every day**. We will check attendance figures daily, with the winning class in each group earning **3 points** and the second-placed team having the chance to earn **2 points**.

At the end of Week 3, we move into the **knockout stages**! The winning class from each group will progress to compete against the other group winners for the ultimate prize—the **Winners' Cup**!

There will also be opportunities to celebrate our **Player of the Game** and **Manager of the Tournament**.

Get behind your child's team and support them to attend school every day. **Every child counts, every day counts, and every team needs its players!**

Punctuality

Attendance & Punctuality – Every Minute Counts

Being on time for school is extremely important. Learning begins as soon as children arrive, and even small amounts of lateness can quickly add up to lost learning time. For example, just 5 minutes late each day can result in several days of missed learning across the year. We want every child to have the best possible start to their day and not miss valuable learning opportunities.

Our school offers a **Breakfast Club from 8:15am**, providing a calm and positive start to the morning. School gates open at **8:30am**, and all children should be in school and ready for **registration by 8:45am**.

Arriving on time helps children to:

Settle into their learning calmly

Build good routines and habits

Feel confident and ready for the day ahead

Avoid missing important teaching at the start of lessons

Children who attend regularly and arrive on time are more likely to achieve well, build strong friendships, and feel part of the school community.

We appreciate your support in ensuring your child arrives at school on time every day.

For further information about attendance and how it is supported across the city, please visit:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20014/schools_and_learning/1502/school_attendance_advice_for_parents

Parking

We would like to remind all parents and carers about the importance of safe and considerate driving and parking around the school.

At the start of the school year it is easy to forget the importance of road safety especially when rushing to drop and pick up children from different schools. We have already seen vehicles stopping in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up children which has led to some children running across the road between cars which is extremely dangerous and creates a real risk of a serious accident.

In addition, there have been instances of cars parking on the pavement. This not only obstructs access but also makes it very difficult—and unsafe—for families with pushchairs or young children to pass. There have already been incidents, and we are concerned for everyone's safety.

Please be aware that the police have been informed and may monitor the area.



Black History Month

During October, we have celebrated the achievements and contributions of Black people and explored the importance of equality, respect and belonging. Through our learning, children have reflected on challenging racism, valuing diversity and standing up for others.

This supports our work as a Rights Respecting School, particularly **Article 2: non-discrimination, Article 12: respect for children's views** and **Article 29: education that develops respect for others**. We have also looked at **Article 30** where we have learnt that every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live. in our Catholic belief in the dignity of every person, we encourage all children to help build a community where everyone feels valued, included and heard.



We're excited to continue supporting the 'We can' charity that transforms empty drinks cans into real change! By collecting and recycling aluminium cans, the organisation raises funds to support local food banks—helping provide meals for families in need.



We have a number of jumpers and cardigans that are in a very good condition. Please see the office staff if you require a jumper or cardigan for your child.



E-safety tips from Mr Yasir



Each month we look at the latest guidance and support for parents navigating a digital world. This month's topic is AI.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming a regular part of children's online experiences. From chatbots and homework apps to creative tools, AI can offer exciting opportunities for learning and play.

But it also brings risks, especially when children aren't sure what's real, who they're talking to, or how AI works.

Many parents and carers feel unsure about how to explain AI to children. This guide offers practical advice to help families talk about AI in ways that build understanding, encourage curiosity, and keep children safe.

What is AI?

AI stands for Artificial Intelligence – computer systems that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence. Children may already be using AI without realising it, as many popular tools and platforms now include AI features.

Examples include generative tools like ChatGPT, Copilot, and Gemini, which can help with writing, coding, and problem-solving. And the Snapchat AI chatbot, that interacts with users in real time.

Common AI examples include:

- chatbots that answer questions or simulate conversations
- generative tools that create images, stories, or music
- deepfake technology that can produce realistic but fake videos or voices
- AI summaries on search results which offer a quick answer with links to sources.

It is becoming increasingly common for AI to be built into popular apps, devices and websites. It's important to check which apps and services your child uses and whether they include AI features.

Opportunities with AI

When used safely and responsibly, AI can support children's development in several meaningful ways.

Creative tools that generate art, music, or stories can inspire imagination and self-expression, helping children explore ideas and build confidence.

AI-powered learning apps also support core subjects like spelling, maths, and coding, often adapting to individual learning styles and offering personalised feedback.

Games and platforms that use AI can encourage strategic thinking and problem-solving by presenting challenges that require planning and decision-making.

And AI can improve accessibility for children with SEND through features like speech-to-text and tailored learning pathways, helping to remove barriers and promote inclusion.

What are the potential risks of AI for children?

While AI can be fun and helpful, it also poses risks that children may not fully understand. So it's smart to be aware of these potential pitfalls.

- Manipulation – AI can be used to create convincing but false content, which may influence children's beliefs or decisions.
- Misinformation – AI-generated answers or videos may look accurate but contain errors or misleading information.

- Identity confusion – children may struggle to tell whether they’re interacting with a real person or an AI system.
- Exposure to harmful content – some AI tools may generate inappropriate or upsetting material.
- Cyberbullying and harassment – AI can be used to mimic voices or create fake messages which could be used to cause harm and distress.
- Privacy and data security – AI tools often collect data, and children may not know what’s being stored and shared
- AI-generated abuse and sextortion – in rare but serious cases, AI can be misused to create abusive and illegal content.
- AI-generated sexualised or abusive images – some children may use AI tools to create fake [nude or sexualised images of others](#), often referred to as 'nudification' or 'deepfakes'. Even if the image is not real, it can cause serious emotional harm, reputational damage, and may be illegal if it involves anyone under 18.

Eight practical ways parents and carers can support children

By learning about AI, talking openly with your child and agreeing boundaries, you can help them use it safely and confidently. **1. 1. Explore the apps and websites your child uses**

This helps you see where AI appears, from games to homework tools. Look for labels like ‘AI-generated’, fast prompt-based responses, or content linking to sources.

2. Talk about what AI can and can’t do

Explain that AI can be useful but isn’t always accurate. Ask your child simple questions such as “Do you think this answer makes sense?” or “Why do you think this was suggested?” to build understanding.

3. Watch out for AI-generated content

Encourage children to question anything that feels unusual, such as distorted images or unnatural movement. Remind them not everything online is trustworthy and to check reliable sources. Spotting AI content will become harder over time as the technology advances.

4. Explore AI tools together

Try tools like image generators or learning apps as a shared activity and talk about how they work and where they get their information.

5. Set boundaries and expectations

It can help to agree as a family on when it's ok to use AI for schoolwork and reinforce that it supports learning, and doesn't replace it. Make clear that using AI to harm others, such as bullying or creating fake messages or images, is unacceptable and can have serious consequences.

6. Help your child understand what's appropriate to share

Explain that AI tools aren't trusted adults. Encourage them not to share personal information and to come to you or another adult if they're worried, rather than relying on AI for support. They can [get support from Childline](#) on the phone, by email or through one-to-one online chat.

7. Model positive behaviour and critical thinking

Show how you question and use AI responsibly. Thinking aloud about accuracy, sources and fairness can help children develop good habits and feel confident asking for help.

8. Know what to do if harmful or fake content is created about your child

If you discover fake or abusive AI content involving your child, act quickly. Save evidence, report it to the platform, and seek removal. You can request for it to be removed from the internet through our [Report Remove tool](#). Contact the police if needed and reassure your child while taking action

Remember if you are unsure, please contact the school and speak to Mr Yasir for advice.

Dates for the diary

23rd October: Finish for Half Term Break

2nd November: Return to school

2nd November: November League Table for Attendance starts.

4th November: Girl's Football Match

5th November: Rosary v Paget Football Match

6th November: Own Clothes for 'Together We Shine Festival'. £1.00 donation.

12th November: Rosary v St Bernadette's.

13th November: Together We Shine Festival 2.30-4.30pm.

17th November: School Photography Day.

18th November: WM Police Workshop for Y5

19th November: Chess Tournament

23rd November: Y6 Residential
24th November: Panathlon Competition
25th November: Y6 return from Residential
1st December: HSBC Workshop for Y6 and Y3
2nd December: HSBC Workshop for Y2 and Y3
2nd December: Boy's Football Tournament
4th December: School Closed INSET Day
9th December: MAC Advent Service
15th December: Virtual Santa Visit
16th December: Y6 Trip to RAF Cosford
18th December: Finish for Christmas Holidays

School Notices

Earrings

Can I please remind parents that children are only permitted to wear a small gold stud to school and these need to be removed for PE, in line with our Health and Safety policy. Thank you to all the parents who support school with this policy.

Contact Details

If any of your details have changed recently can we please ask that you contact the school office. This could be a change of address, or a change of phone number or perhaps a change in emergency contact details. We will then update our school records accordingly. If you wish to change the names of people on the pick-up list please contact the school office.

School Website

Please refer to the website to find out information about the school and events that are taking place in school. It is possible to sync the school calendar to your mobile phone.

Parking Arrangements

We have been fortunate to have secured arrangements to use the Mosque car park. The carpark will be open for parents to use from 8.30am until 9.15am each morning and from 2.45pm until 3.45pm every afternoon except Friday. Can we once again stress the importance of using this facility rather than parking on pavements, blocking gates and using the corner of roads. **DO NOT USE THE CHURCH CARPARK FOR PARKING.**

Once again we have a number of cars that are being parked in such a way that may endanger the lives of children including double parking. The police have issued a number of tickets to drivers and will continue to monitor parking and driving on Bridge Road. If you see anyone parking or driving dangerously you can take a picture and share on the website below.

<https://nextbase.co.uk/national-dash-cam-safety-portal/>

This can be used to prosecute drivers.

Free School Meals

If you feel your child is entitled to free school meals please contact Mrs Mahmood and she will do an online search. This will enable families to access HAF events free of charge during the holidays.

Play Equipment

Can I please remind parents that the play equipment is not for use at the end of the day especially by young children. Please keep your children with you and don't allow them to use as we do not have adults to supervise and there is a risk of accidents happening.

Early Help Offer

Please remember to visit our Early Help Offer on the school webpage where you will find information about the support we can offer as a school. If at any point you need additional support please see myself, Mrs Banks or any member of our pastoral team.

<https://www.rosaryrc.bham.sch.uk/early-help-offer/>

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child please contact a member of our safeguarding team. Information can be found on our webpage.

<https://www.rosaryrc.bham.sch.uk/safeguarding/>

My Family Coach

There are times when we all need help with parenting. My Family Coach is a free online service with lots of videos and advice on how to support children at each stage of their development. Please take some time to view the resources available to support with the many challenges of parenting. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>

Community Notices



ChatHealth

Do you know where I can get some health advice?

The School Health Support Service can help students with all kind of things like...

Relationships, mental health, alcohol, bullying, self-harm, smoking, drugs and healthy eating

Text the School Nurse for confidential advice and support on **07480635485**

We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting **STOP** to our number. Please respect your school's mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rate.

Let's Celebrate!

Nursery

What a wonderful first half-term we have had in Nursery! The children have settled in well, embraced new routines and made lots of new friends.

In RE, we have continued learning about God's Wonderful World. The children have explored how they can care for the world around them, as well as how they can look after themselves.

We enjoyed an autumn walk, during which the children searched for signs of the season and collected autumn treasures. They enjoyed being creative then used leaves to create colourful prints using a variety of paints and created their own leaf pictures.

The children have also been very creative, making their own musical instruments from recycled water bottles. They had great fun playing their instruments and singing their favourite nursery rhymes together.

We are very proud of everything the children have achieved and look forward to another exciting half-term!





Reception

Reception have had a wonderful half term and the children have all settled beautifully into life here at The Rosary. We are so proud of the tremendous progress they have made already!

We have been busy developing our phonics skills and are becoming more confident in recognising sounds and using them in our learning. We have also shared lots of wonderful stories together, including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. The children loved creating maps to follow the family's journey and even invented their own new parts of the story! We explored lots of exciting vocabulary to describe the journey, using words such as *whirling* and *swirling* to bring our storytelling to life.

Autumn has provided plenty of opportunities for exploration and adventure. We have enjoyed lots of nature walks, discovering the changes happening around us and collecting natural materials. The children had great fun using their treasures to create their very own Stick Men! We have also been experimenting with clay, carefully shaping hedgehogs and creating our own unique masterpieces.

In RE, we have been thinking about our wonderful world and discussing how we can all work together to care for and look after it. The children have shared some lovely ideas about how we can make a difference.

In Maths, we have enjoyed singing number songs, exploring numbers in different ways and developing our mathematical thinking. Our children are certainly becoming Marvellous Mathematicians!

We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved this half term. We hope everyone enjoys a restful holiday, and we cannot wait to continue our learning journey together when we return! God Bless







Year 1

Year 1 explored Pope Francis' letter 'Laudato Si' and reflected on how we can be good stewards of God's wonderful creation. We began by taking a walk around our local environment, looking for examples of good and poor stewardship and thinking about how we can make a positive difference. We then drew around our hands and identified small, meaningful actions we could take every day to care for our common home.

To share our learning, we used puppets to educate our peers about the importance of protecting our environment and how plants and animals depend on us to care for the world around us. We discussed practical ways to make a difference, including picking up litter, even when it has been dropped by someone else. Through these activities, we learnt that we all have a responsibility to look after God's creation and that we can make a difference by doing little things with great love every day.

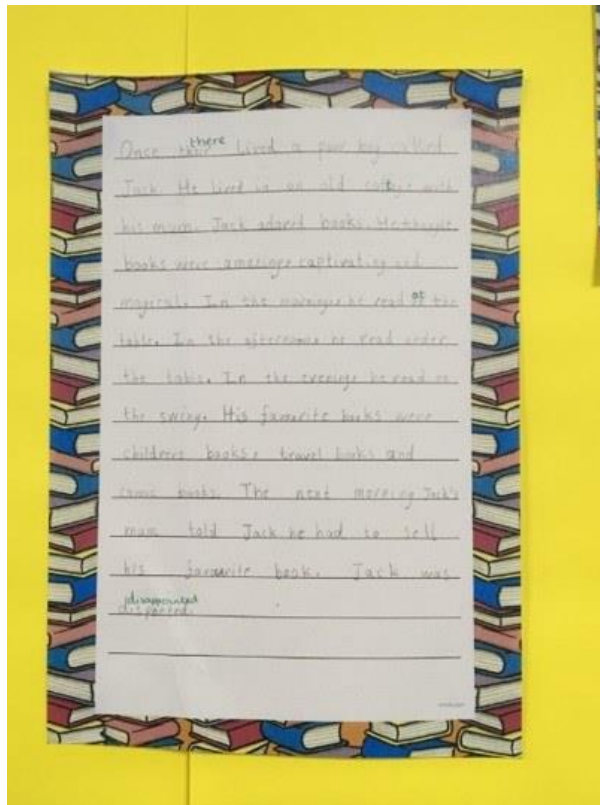


Year 2

Year 2 have been immersed in the wonderful world of storytelling this term! We have been exploring Little Red Reading Hood and using Jane Considine's approach to inspire and develop our own imaginative versions of Jack and the Bookstalk. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring these stories, using them as inspiration to create their own exciting characters, settings and storylines.

A particular focus has been on developing a rich and varied vocabulary to make our writing more engaging and descriptive. The children have enjoyed discovering and experimenting with new and ambitious words, including treasured and cherished, thinking carefully about how these words can be used to convey feelings, describe characters and bring their stories to life. We have also been exploring how carefully chosen words can help our readers to picture the action and become immersed in the world we create.

It has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence as young authors, taking inspiration from familiar tales while adding their own creative twists. They have shown great enthusiasm for sharing ideas, exploring new vocabulary and using their imaginations to craft stories that are full of detail and personality. We are so proud of their developing writing skills and look forward to seeing where their storytelling adventures take them next!





Year 3

A Star in a Jar ★

This half term, Year 3 have been enjoying the magical story *Star in a Jar* by Sam Hay.

The children have been using their imaginations to retell the story from the star's perspective, exploring how the little star might have felt when it was lost, discovered by Tom and longing to return home.

We have been developing our creative writing skills by using descriptive vocabulary, powerful feelings, dialogue and personification to bring our stories to life.

The children have worked hard to become thoughtful writers, planning, writing and editing their work to make their stories even more exciting. We are very proud of their creativity and enthusiasm!



★ Our Learning This Half Term

★ A Star in a Jar

★ This half term, Year 3 have been enjoying the beautiful story *The Star in a Jar* by Sam Hay.

The Story ★
The Star in a Jar is a magical story about a little girl who finds a star and keeps it in a jar. The story helps us think about belonging, kindness and what happens when something is taken from its home.

From the Star's Perspective ★
We have explored the story from a different point of view – the star's perspective. We imagined how the star might feel when it is taken from the sky, what it sees, and what it longs for. This helped us to use our imagination and write with empathy, thinking carefully about the star's feelings and its journey.

Our Writing ★
The children have produced some fantastic writing, using powerful vocabulary, expanded noun phrases, personification and dialogue to bring the star's voice to life. They have described the night sky, the feelings of being lost and the kindness shown by Tom, using creative and ambitious language.

What We Have Learned ★
★ To explore a story from a different perspective.
★ To use descriptive vocabulary and powerful language.
★ To show feelings and emotions in our writing.
★ To use features such as dialogue, personification and expanded noun phrases.
★ To plan, edit and improve our writing.

We Are So Proud! ★
The children have shown wonderful creativity, imagination and empathy in their writing this half term. Their stories capture the magic of the star's journey and show how much they have enjoyed exploring *The Star in a Jar*.

We are incredibly proud of the work the children are doing in RE. We wanted to share the psalm of L Shah in Y3C, an amazing piece of creative work.

“O Lord, how wonderful is our earth.”

“I marvel at the glorious blue sky, clouds and the shining sun.”

“You have made the beautiful precious plants and tall green trees. ”

“Help us to care for other people and protect our earth.”

“May we protect our animals and our world.”

Year 4

Year 4 have been very busy this October! From each student learning how to play either a flute, baritone or trumpet, to creating incredible independent pieces of work centred around the Iron Man, to becoming proficient in making their own 3D animations. Year 4 have particularly enjoyed conducting the many experiments in Science, including investigating the melting point of chocolate.

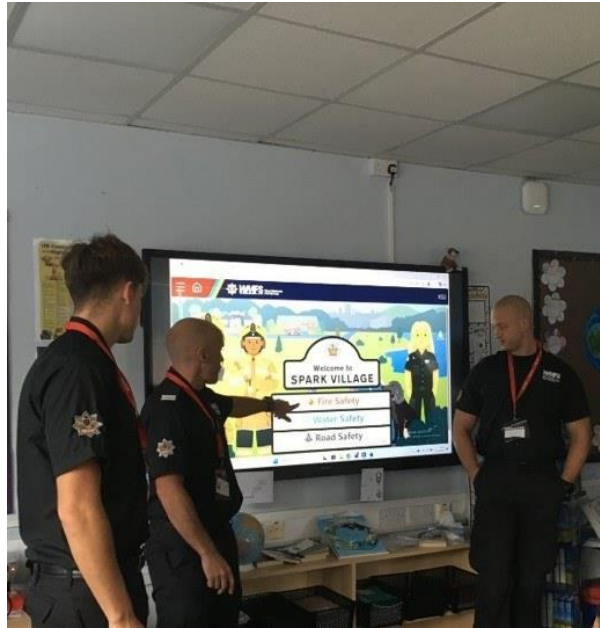
We were blessed to have the opportunity to come together as a year group to reflect on Galatians 3:28 and thank God for the wonderful diversity of His creation. Year 4 also thoroughly enjoyed the OneLife Assembly, another opportunity for all students to collectively worship and express The Rosary's strong sense of community. Here the students all sang, prayed and laughed together.

While reflecting on our community and our local area, in History we have been studying how Birmingham and its heritage has been interesting impacted by the Anglo-Saxons. Year 4 were shocked to learn that Birmingham was once called Mercia!

In Geography, Year 4 have been studying how the UK is different from the rest of Europe, and in French we are learning how to introduce ourselves. Despite studying the differences, in Relationships and Health Education Year 4 have concluded that even though we are all different, God loves us all the same. Au revoir!







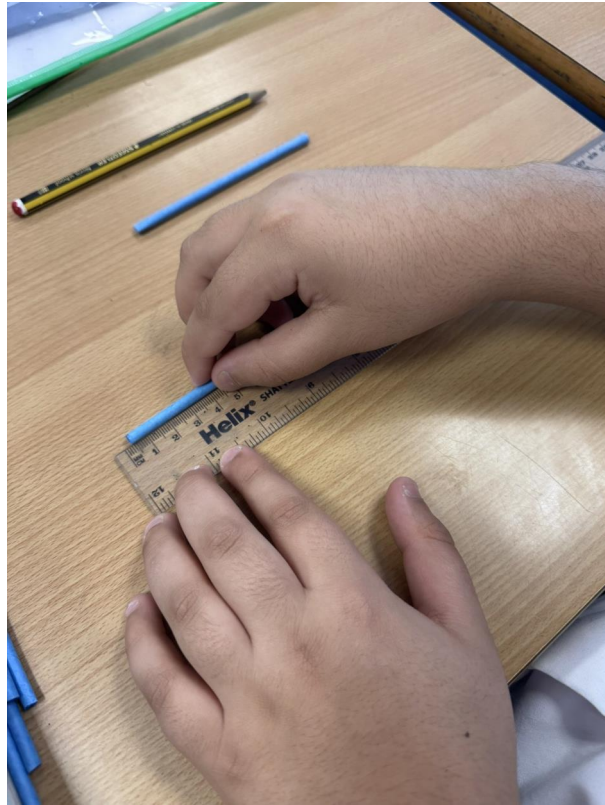
Year 5

Year 5 have had some very busy and exciting weeks of learning! In English, we have begun exploring non-fiction writing as we prepare to write our own imaginative transmissions from another planet. What interesting information will we share with our readers?

In Maths, a huge well done to all the children who have improved their times table scores. It is wonderful to see their hard work paying off, with regular practice at home and on TT Rockstars making such a difference. Keep it up!

In Science, we are getting ready to explore our new topic of forces. In Geography, we calculated our own carbon footprints and thought carefully about how we can make more environmentally friendly choices. We discussed how we can all be better Stewards of Creation by caring for and protecting the world around us.

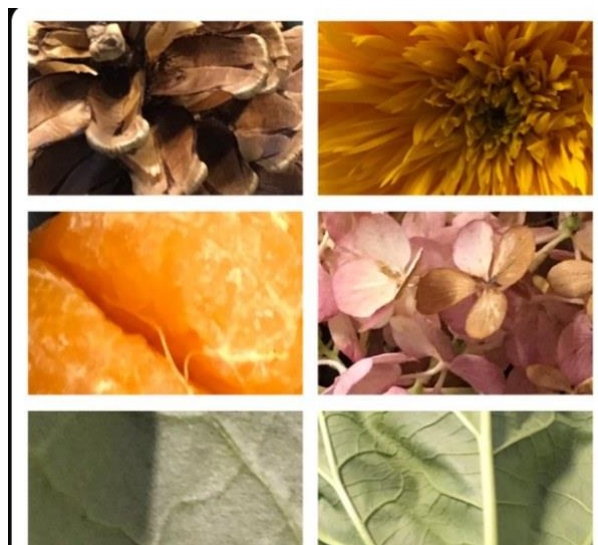
In DT, we have designed and created prototypes for our bird feeders. We are looking forward to bringing our designs to life after the holidays! To help us with this project, please continue to send in **large, empty water or pop bottles and milk bottle lids**. Thank you so much for your support and for helping us to reuse materials creatively.



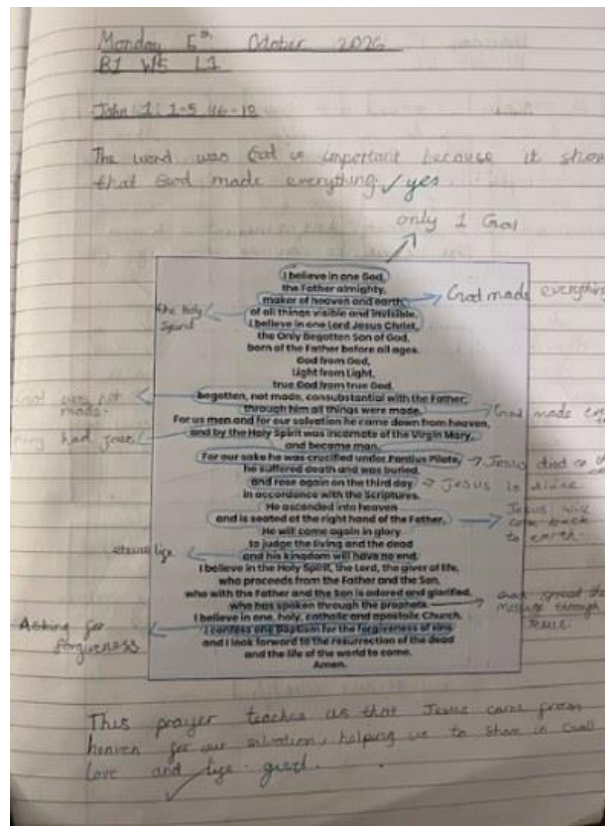
Year 6

In DT, pupils will soon be making their own upcycled bag from an item of old clothing. If you have something the pupils can use (T-Shirt would be perfect) then please send it in. In preparation we looked at the structure of a common shopping bag and made them unique with our decorations.

Also in Art, the pupils have been looking at the beauty of Creation with macro photography. Don't they look great.



During our RE lessons, we have been learning about how Jesus brings us new life and hope by repairing our relationship with God. We have also explored how Catholics believe that God is the Creator of everything and how this belief can work alongside scientific ideas about the beginning of the universe and evolution. In addition, we have discovered that the Bible often uses poetry, symbols and metaphors to teach important truths about life, creation and our relationship with God. We are very proud of our RE work and the thoughtful explanations we have written to show our understanding.

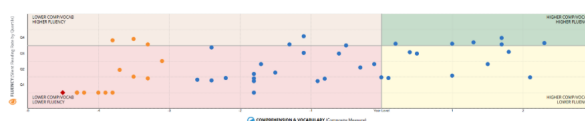


In our History lessons, we have been learning about how the Second World War affected people's lives and the impact it had on our local area. We used both primary and secondary sources to investigate the past, ask questions and draw our own conclusions from the evidence.

We have continued to learn about globalisation in Geography lessons and how countries around the world are connected. We have explored how communication helps people share information across the world and how trade allows goods to be bought and sold between different countries. We have developed a better understanding of how our world is linked and how people's lives can be affected by events in other places.

READING PLUS

All pupils in Year 6 have access to a wonderful Internet based package – Reading Plus - to support their reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary. All pupils have individual log on details and are expected to undertake approx. 2 or 3 sessions (15 mins each) as homework. The pupils have their log on details – please speak to the class teachers if you require a replacement.



Leaderboard	
Top Classes - Total Avg. Reading Lessons (SR)	
1. 6S	5.7
2. 6P	3.6

Come on Year 6P – try to knock 6S off the top spot!

Together We Shine Festival!

Preparations are well underway for our exciting **Together We Shine Festival**, taking place on **Friday 13th November, 2:30–4:30pm!**

Our fantastic Festival Team have been busy sharing ideas, planning activities and getting creative to help make this a wonderful celebration for our whole school community.

Families can look forward to a fun-filled afternoon with a talent showcase, music and dancing, a photo booth and a Fun Zone packed with exciting activities, including bracelet making and games! There will be plenty of opportunities to have fun together, celebrate our children's talents and spread a little kindness and joy.

The festival will also raise money for **HCPT**, supporting its work in bringing children and young people to Lourdes for a special holiday filled with friendship, fun and unforgettable memories. We will be having a home clothes day on 6th November to help raise funds.

Look out for tickets going on sale after half-term! We can't wait to welcome our families for an afternoon where we can all shine together.



Remembrance Day

What is Remembrance Day?

Remembrance Day is a special time when we remember and honour the brave men and women who have served and sacrificed their lives in wars and conflicts to protect our freedom. We wear poppies as a symbol of remembrance and gratitude.

Please support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

During the first two weeks of November, we will be supporting the **Royal British Legion** by selling **Poppy Appeal merchandise**. Every purchase helps to raise money for veterans, serving personnel and their families.

Please see the **suggested donation amounts** below.

Thank you for your support in helping us remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

Snap band (various colours)  £1 each	Pencils, rubbers, sharpeners, rulers  50p per item
2026 pin badge  £2 each	Reflector  50p each
Paper poppy  20p minimum donation	Zip pull (various colours)  50p each

Year of Reading



On 8th October, we took part in a **Guinness World Records** attempt! Throughout the day, every child and adult in school spent 10 minutes reading, and our total number of participants was submitted to the National Literacy Trust. We are excited to find out whether we helped set a new world record for the most people reading together. Watch this space!

