



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7AB

Head Teacher: Mr M. Aldred.
Chair of Governors: Mr D Teague.
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Week beginning September 26th 2016.

Thought for the week:

“Make time for the most important things, people.”

Dear Parents,

Family Mass. A final reminder that *everyone is invited to our Mass this Sunday the 25th. Both Father Simon and I extend a warm welcome to everyone to come along and join us.* This Mass will be an ideal opportunity to welcome Father Simon to our parish, to say hello to all our new families and for all of us to start our new year together as a school family. Bishop Byrne is coming along to the Mass on Sunday so please do your utmost to come and support our school and parish as we begin 2016-2017 together.

Assembly. This week Mr Barton led the school with our first “Gospel Values” assembly of the year. This morning he concentrated on being *curious and active* in all we say and do. Mr Barton told the children the story of Mother (now Saint) Teresa’s life, she said once that we don’t have to do great things but we can do the little things well. Indeed this is one of the quotes from St Teresa in our main corridor and something that would enable all of us to be curious and active this half term.

Year of Mercy. We are still in the Year of Mercy (it concludes in November) and throughout the year we have talked about, displayed and focussed upon the different aspects of what it means to be in the Year of Mercy. This morning Y6 visited St Chads Cathedral and took part with lots of other schools in a special Liturgy. Thanks to Miss McCarron and Mr Barton for overseeing this.

Class Mass. Thank you to Y2 for our Mass this morning, next week (30th) will see Y6 lead our KS2 Mass.

Sacramental Programme 2017. Mrs Hayes will write to Y3 and Y6 next week with all the dates and times for Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation now that all the dates have been settled. We are making some refinements to the programme this year so please make sure you receive a letter. If by any chance you have not received a letter by next Friday please call into the school office for a copy.

Reception 2017. We have only just started this year and the process for next year has now begun. The On line admissions website is already open and this term will see lots of schools host their open days/afternoons (ours is on **November 17th at 1.30pm**). Families have until December 4th to make their application with April 2017 being the time when offers will be sent out. At St Margaret Marys we already have **40** children that have applied for places. Bearing this in mind it is **ESSENTIAL** that families who seek a place in our school next year fill in a supplementary information form (downloaded from the website or collected from the school office). A substantial proportion on the list for 2017 are also baptized Catholics so if anyone is seeking a baptism for their child then they need to speak to Father Simon as a matter of urgency (0121 373 0069) after one of the weekend or daily Masses. Please can I ask anyone who has or knows someone that has a child of school age for September to please take note of the above; in particular if your child is not currently a baptized Catholic, I am also always available to discuss any of the above in school.

Safeguarding. It is of the utmost importance that all our children are kept safe. At school we have received a significant amount of training about how to make our procedures as robust as they possibly can be. All the staff received further training on Wednesday evening after school and all relevant policies are displayed on the website. *It is the duty of EVERYONE to keep our children safe, “if in doubt raise it!!”*



Extra Curricular Clubs. The clubs are now in full swing so could I please ask that arrangements for collecting the children are made clear to the office and or Mrs Logue. If someone turns up to collect a child and we don't know who they are we will not let the child/children leave school. It can be a difficult conversation asking people to wait whilst we clarify the situation. To avoid any such misunderstandings please pass on any relevant information to the office.

School Expansion. Formal notices of our intention to expand were posted around school and in the press this week. Do take the time to read it and ask any questions you may have.

Lovells Building contractors. On Wednesday I met with representatives of Lovells, the contractors who are building the houses next to school. The work is progressing at a significant pace and some of the houses will be completed before Christmas. I wanted to remind everyone that during this period there will be an inevitable increase in traffic so please take extra care (particularly on Dovedale road). Building sites are also dangerous places so please make sure the children stay away from the site both during the week and at weekends. Lovells are coming into school to deliver an assembly in October about the work that is ongoing and we will be taking some children to visit the site after Christmas.

Extra Curricular Clubs: Week beginning Monday September 26th 3.15pm-4.00pm

Day	Club	Year group	Teacher
Monday	Netball	Y5&6	Miss Dunne
Monday	Computing	Y4	Miss McCarron
Monday	RE	Y3	Mrs Hayes
Tuesday	D+T	Y2D	Mrs Attwood
Tuesday	Dance	Y1	Mrs Gray
Wednesday	Gymnastics	Y4	Fit 4 Schools
Thursday	Art	Reception, Mrs Crossen's class	Mrs Crossen
Thursday	Maths	Y3	Miss McGeechan
Thursday	Sport	Y5/6	Mr Barton
Thursday	Science	Y2B	Mrs Bryan

Attendance for week ending September 23rd 2016.

Year Group	% Attendance
Reception H	99%
Reception C	96%
Y1F	99%
Y1M	100%
Y2D	97%
Y2B	97%
Y3	92%
Y4	98%
Y5	99%
Y6	91%
Weekly Average	96%

Happy Birthday: Kelsie Martin, David Latowski, Nijah White, Vicandria Greene and Violet Todd-Wesley.

Please pray for: Please remember the Coney family at this sad time for all of them. Please also pray for Father Simon and his family. Father Simon will be formally welcomed to St Margaret Marys on Sunday at 10.00am Mass.

Many thanks for your co-operation and support with these matters.

M. Aldred Head teacher

