



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

Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7AB

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**Week ending October 21st 2016.**

**Thought for the week:**

**“Self-praise is no recommendation”**

**School Mass.** Thank you to Y4 for leading our Mass this morning. On our return to school we will be entering that period when we think about all those people in our families and beyond that have died. We will be setting up a Book of Remembrance in the school hall and asking all the children to reflect and think about those that are no longer with us. We will also be reflecting on all the Saints and the example they set us. We will consider their lives and think about how we could be more like them. To mark All Souls/All Saints day (s) Mass will be slightly different on our return, KS1 will have a prayer service in the school hall led by Mrs Hayes whilst KS2 will attend Mass on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November (not Friday) to mark All Souls Day.

**Blessing of the classrooms.** Thanks to Father Simon for coming over to school on Monday to bless each classroom. As the Year of Mercy enters its final month it was lovely of Father to give of his time so generously in blessing each classroom.

**Half Term Break.** School closes for the half term break today **Friday October 21st** at the normal time. We reopen for the second half of the autumn term on **Monday October 31st** again at the normal time.

**School Dinners.** Unfortunately there are still too many families building up large debts when it comes to paying dinner money. **Please can this money be paid on Mondays and every week.**

**Parents Evening Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.** Please make sure you have your appointment on the relevant evening.

**Secondary Transfer 2017.** A final reminder for all parents of children in Y6, the online web site for secondary admissions opened back on September 1<sup>st</sup> and this half term has seen open days/evenings take place at secondary schools across the city. **The final date for families to submit preferences is Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>** School places will then be considered by the local authority with places offered to parents electronically or via post on **March 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.** Families then have until **March 16<sup>th</sup>** to accept or decline the place offered. **Please can I ask any Y6 parents who have not already done so to submit their preference forms before the deadline.**

**Harvest Assembly** Thank you for all the tins, we had a wonderful assembly on Wednesday (please see Twitter) and all the tins have now gone off to support the homeless of our city at the St Chads sanctuary. One of our governors Mr Boylan plays an active part supporting the sanctuary project so I am delighted we have been able to support his work. Thanks to Mr Barton for overseeing the assembly.

**Y5 Class Assembly** Thank you to Mr Barton and Y5 for their lovely assembly this morning.

**The Great Spaghetti challenge 2016.** Mrs Hawthorn and her intrepid team of cooks have asked me to advertise the “Great Spaghetti Challenge”. The plan is for school children across the country to eat enough spaghetti from here to Italy (1,500 miles). To do this 171,000 children need to take part and we are going to try and do our bit. Please have a school dinner on Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup> (the menu is displayed in the parents noticeboard) and join in trying to eat enough spaghetti to stretch all the way to Italy.

**School Drive.** Can I ask all drivers that use our school drive (especially for Breakfast Club) to please exercise great caution when entering/exiting the school. As the mornings are now beginning to get darker can I please ask everyone to be mindful that children may be coming up/down the drive.



**Music Week 2016.** This week has been Music week in school. We began with Mr Ifill on Monday with his fabulous drumming workshops; the children have each had a composer to focus upon and today has seen us end the week with our Y6 Brass concert with Mr Birnie. Music week is always a highlight as are Mr Birnie's concerts. Thanks to everyone for joining in so enthusiastically and special thanks to Mrs Hayes for organising the week.

**School Feast Day.** A note of thanks to Miss McGeechan for all she did last Friday in organising a super day in school. Cake sales, bouncy castles and visits from local MP's were just some of the highlights. Thank you Miss McGeechan.

**Extra Curricular Clubs: Week beginning Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 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 Hayes class	Mrs Crossen
Thursday	Maths	Y3	Miss McGeechan
Thursday	Sport	Y5/6	Mr Barton
Thursday	Science	Y2B	Mrs Bryan

**Attendance for Half Term ending October 21st 2016.**

Year Group	% Attendance
Reception H	98%
Reception C	99%
Y1F	98%
Y1M	96%
Y2B	98%
Y2D	97%
Y3	96%
Y4	97%
Y5	98%
Y6	96%
<b>Half Termly Average</b>	<b>97%</b>

A note of congratulations to 1F, Y3 and Y5 who all had 100% attendances last week- a fantastic effort!!

**Please Pray for:** Our school family over the half term.

**Mrs Sinead Killoch.** It is with much sadness that I have to write and tell everyone of Mrs Killoch's decision to leave our school for pastures new. She began her time with us as a lunchtime play leader and has more recently worked one to one with some children across KS2. Mrs Killoch will be missed by all of us, in particular by those children she has worked so effectively with. She leaves with our best wishes for the future and with our gratitude for all her hard work and commitment during her time at St Margaret Marys.

**Congratulations** To our Nursery and Reception children on completing their first half term at school.

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

M. Aldred Head teacher

