

loving helpful
attentive curious
faith-filled learned wise
generous eloquent grateful
intentional prophetic discerning
truthful compassionate active



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Week beginning Monday November 20th, 2017

Thought for the week:

“Making the wrong decision avoids the problem of indecision”

Assembly. Our week began with a reflection on Remembrance Sunday. We talked in assembly about its significance and the symbols surrounding this time of year. I challenged the teachers and children to think of things they were good at remembering and some things they were not so good at remembering. At the end of assembly we watched a short film about Remembrance Day and agreed that this day was a day that we should always remember and never forget.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Y3W and Y3R Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th December.

The programme begins with a workshop on *Thursday November 30th at 1.30pm in school.*

School Mass. Thanks to Y5 for leading our Mass today thanks also to Mr Barton for organising the readers. Our next Mass will be on *Friday November 24th at 9.15am, it will be led by Y4.*

Family Mass Sunday December 3rd at 10.00am. *Our next “family mass” takes place on Sunday 3rd, on behalf of Father Simon I want to extend a welcome to everyone to come along.*

Buildings update. The new entrance has now been completed on the car park. I hope everyone agrees that it is a significant improvement on what was there before. I have been promised that signage will be installed shortly and that the kerb will be dropped by the exit to the car park very soon. I am indebted to the city council for helping us get this first phase of our improvements well and truly underway.

Anti-Bullying Week 2017. *“Bullying is when you hurt someone deliberately more than once”.* This can take many forms and in our world today an all too common type of bullying is what we call Cyberbullying. We have spoken often about the Internet and all the positives it brings into all our lives, we have however re-enforced the SMART rule as an effective way to behave and act when using the Internet. We spoke about age limits with reference to social media and sadly how sometimes issues arising from this can be brought into school. I urge EVERYONE to be vigilant when allowing your child/children access to the internet and any associated social media. There are many benefits but there are also numerous dangers. I now have conversations with children and parents that can often begin with anecdotal evidence arising from a “fall out” of some sort on social media. Please be aware of age limits and please also be aware of what and who your child/children are interacting with on line. Please have a look at the web site, at our e safety section, many thanks to Miss Dunne and our school councillors for leading our assembly yesterday, a major theme of their assembly was that we are “all unique” and “all different” this uniqueness should be celebrated and welcomed by everyone.

“Trusted Adults”. We have spoken to the children about “trusted adults”. We talked about who in school the children could talk to if they were for example worried, poorly or frightened. Each year group has a display of their “trusted adults” and we have displayed photographs of “trusted adults” across school. Knowing who to trust and who to talk to is another way that our school can show that it is a “Telling School”.



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Y1 trip to Castle Bromwich Gardens. Thanks to Mrs Chandler, Mrs Fernandez and their team of helpers for leading Y1's visit on Tuesday. It remained mostly dry and the children enjoyed their trip.

Breakfast Club. As the darker mornings are now well and truly upon us please can I ask all those dropping their children at school for breakfast club to exercise great caution when coming up or exiting school via the drive. We have had a couple of near misses recently so please can all those concerned be extra vigilant.

Y2 trip to the Buddhist Temple. Miss Dunne led Y2 on their now annual visit to a Buddhist temple on Wednesday. The welcome we receive is always warm and heartfelt. Thanks to all concerned.

Y5 trip to Café Ceramica Mr Barton and Y5 enjoyed their "clay and play" session yesterday, indeed Y5 were a credit to take out of school.

Gardening Club. With the help of Father Simon and Halls Garden Centre (for providing the daffodils) the gardening club planted daffodils all around our new entrance on Wednesday. Hopefully come the springtime we will be able to enjoy the fruits of their labour. Thanks also to Mrs Jennens Bull for overseeing our "budding gardeners".

Nursery places 2018. School is now accepting applications for a full time place in Nursery next September. The process is simply call into the office and the staff will direct you to complete the relevant form. Can I stress the need to fill in one of our forms to secure a place for next September; school already has names on the list so please make sure you complete the form if you require a Nursery place for 2018.

Professor McGinty. Y6 were the recipients of a visit midweek when Ancient Egypt was brought to life by the time travelling historian professor McGinty. His visits are always educational, interactive and entertaining, if you want to know more about professor McGinty and what he gets up to visit www.profmcginty.co.uk

Attendance for week ending November 17th 2017

Year Group	% Attendance
Y1F	94%
Y1C	96%
Y2L	98%
Y2D	100%
Y3R	99%
Y3W	99%
Y4A	98%
Y4P	97%
Y5	99%
Y6	97%
Weekly Average	98%

Please pray for: Please pray for Y3 as they continue their preparations for the sacrament of Reconciliation in December. Please also pray for anyone in our school family that is no longer with us during this month of November.

Happy Birthday: Lucas Thompson, Triumph Cubaka, Shelly-Mai Brennan, Lacey Dowd, Cian Bushell, Amy Smith, Nathan Bristol, Lewis Rendell, Erick Stepanyan, Aleena Aichaoui, Beulah Iyire and Solyana Tsegai

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

M. Aldred
Head Teacher.



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