



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Week ending Friday May 25th 2018

Thought for the week:

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

First Holy Communion 2018 Our First Holy Communion programme is now over for another year. Over the last two weekends we have been blessed with glorious weather and three wonderful occasions. To all the boys and girls many congratulations, to the families concerned thank you for your support. To Father Simon thank you for your patience and understanding and to all the staff at school, thank you for everything you have done over the last two weeks in particular. We will review this year's programme after half term and begin planning for 2019, we will write soon to all the relevant families (currently in Y2) with all the details about how First Holy Communion 2019 will be organised.

For now, to all the boys and girls that made their First Holy Communion this year Congratulations! Many thanks also to Y3 for their lovely assembly this morning, thanks again to Miss Ward and Miss Riley for **EVERYTHING**.

Y5&Y2 Mass. Thanks to Y5 & Y2 for leading Mass this morning, on Friday 8th June our Liturgy will be led by KS 2.

Term Dates. School breaks up for half term today **Friday May 25th**, returning on **Monday June 4th**. School breaks up for the summer holidays on **Friday July 20th at 1.00pm**, please also note that there are two more Teacher Days this term **Friday June 22nd and Friday July 6th**.

Reception 2018. 2018 has been the most difficult year to date securing places for everyone that wants to come to St Margaret Marys. A number of families had been placed in a very difficult position because of applying late or not applying correctly. This resulted in a number of siblings not initially securing places in school. After intense discussions we are now in a position to resolve the “problem”. School will be admitting an extra 12 children into Reception for 2018. For 2019 however this situation cannot arise again as I'm not sure “intense discussions” will be enough to secure any extra places. The overwhelming majority of children coming to school are baptised Catholic children (78% of the original 45 children are baptised catholic children) this will be the same next year; *so can I please urge anyone who has a child of school age 2019 that wants to discuss baptism to please speak to myself or Father Simon (373 0069)*. A further reminder also that a place in our Nursery does not automatically mean you will be offered a place at school, so please can I ask if anyone has any questions/queries please come and see me.



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Extra-Curricular Clubs. A reminder that due to the building works both at the front/rear of school **we will have to suspend all clubs after half term.** There will be additional vehicles/machinery and work going on after half term which unfortunately means it will prove very difficult to run clubs after school safely. This will only be for the last half term and come September, everything will return to normal as the building work is due for completion at the end of the summer holidays.

GDPR. Families may have seen, heard or read about the new General Data Protection Regulations that are due to come into effect at the end of May. All schools hold data and we have been challenged to respond to this to make sure that we are compliant with the new regulations. There are a number of steps we need to follow along this process the first of which is to point you in the direction of our website where you will be able to find our “Privacy notice”. This is a document that outlines what data we hold, how we store it and who we share it with and why. Schools need to store, share and file data to enable us to fulfil our statutory duty so please do take a look at it and if you have any questions relating to it don’t hesitate to contact me.

Building Update. The playground at the rear of school is now almost complete, the doorway to provide access to it is to be completed during half term so all things being equal the children will be playing there on our return.

Car Park. On a separate note I have a meeting scheduled for the first week back with representatives from the city council. This will be to consider the final stage of improvements to the car park adjacent to church and any other landscaping issues that need attending to around the school entrance. I will update everyone as the council’s plans/timetable on our return after half term.

Attendance for the half term ending May 25th 2018

Year Group	% Attendance
Rec F	97%
Rec W	94%
Y1F	95%
Y1C	96%
Y2L	96%
Y2D	99%
Y3R	96%
Y3W	98%
Y4A	96%
Y4P	94%
Y5	99%
Y6	96%
Weekly Average	96%

Many thanks for your support and cooperation with these matters.

M. Aldred Head Teacher



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