



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Letter to parents Thursday July 16th 2020

Dear Parents,

September 2020. This will be my last letter to everyone to mark what has been an eventful year to say the least. The school has undergone an Ofsted inspection and is currently continuing to try to steer a course through the Coronavirus crisis. All of what we once knew as “normal” no longer exists and as we prepare to welcome everyone back in September, we are still very much unsure about what lies ahead. September 2020 will be as “normal” as we can possibly make it but there will be new ways of doing things that all of us are going to have to get used to. Please use the letter I sent last week as a point of reference and do keep checking the homepage of the website for any changes/updates. Can I personally thank every family for their support throughout the year but in particular during the last four months. We have literally been learning as we have been going along at times so to everyone a huge thank you for your patience and understanding. Can I thank the governors for their unstinting support for the school and myself. Knowing that I have such a dedicated group working alongside me has been a source of great comfort, especially in recent times. To the entire staff team, I need to say an enormous thank you. Timetables/rotas and ways of working have all changed recently and challenged each and every one of us in different ways. To every member of the staff team, many thanks for all you have done to support the school and myself.

We return to school on Wednesday September 2nd for Y1-Y6, with the main change being that Y5 and Y6 will now enter and leave school via the mains school entrance. There will be teething issues in September and once more, I ask for your patience as we try to work through things. Sometimes you can only really see if something works after you have tried it so please bear with us. The aim as I say is to make it as normal as we possibly can for the children. Certain aspects of school life will have to be compromised initially but hopefully sooner rather than later everything can return to what it was before the end of March. Finally, if anyone wants to talk about any aspect of our return to school in September then please don't hesitate to contact me.

In the table overleaf, there is a reminder of our class groupings for next year:



SCHOOL
MEMBER



2019-2022

Healthy Schools



Bronze



Current Class	Class for 2020 - 2021
Reception/ Ms Rathbone	Y1J with Mrs Jones
Reception/ Ms Monaghan	Y1P with Ms Parkes
Y1/Mrs Jones	Y2M with Ms Mochan
Y1/ Ms Parkes	Y2H with Mrs Heslegrave
Y2/ Mrs Heslegrave	Y3A with Mrs Attwood
Y2/ Ms Mochan	Y3P with Ms Pritchard
Y3/ Ms Pritchard	Y4C with Mrs Coates
Y3/ Mrs Coates	Y4B with Mr Barton
Y4/ Mrs Young	Y5Y with Mrs Young
Y4/ Ms McInerney	Y5M with Ms McInerney
Y5/ Mrs Attwood	Y6M with Mr Mulligan
Y5/ Mr Mulligan	Y6Mc with Ms McCarron

School Meals update. A reminder that the Free School Meal vouchers for the summer holidays will be with those relevant families from Friday 17th July onwards. From September, the cost of a school dinner will be £2.40 per day or £12 a week. Unfortunately, *Breakfast Club will not be operating in the autumn term; hopefully we will be able to reinstate it sometime in 2021.*

First Holy Communion/Confirmation. I met with Father Simon on Tuesday and we discussed potential ways of organising First Holy Communion next year. I will send out dates/arrangements to both Y3 and Y4 early in the term.

Y6 Leavers 2020. Sadly, and not in the way I would have wanted, we have now said goodbye to Y6. The current cohort leaving St Margaret Marys have been a credit to teach not just this year but also throughout their entire time with us. It is such a pity that their time with us ended in the way it has. I want to wish them all well in the future and the best of luck at their new schools. The receiving secondary schools are very lucky to be getting such a talented group of students. Thanks also to Mr Barton/Ms McCarron for all their hard work with our leavers. *A special note of thanks to any parents who are “leaving us” for the last time this week. Thank you for entrusting your children to our care and I wish you well in the future.*

Mrs Tai. Shamey is leaving St Margaret Marys for pastures new tomorrow. I wish her well and on everyone’s behalf thank her for everything she has done during her four years with us.

Please pray for: Everyone connected with St Margaret Marys School and parish.

Finally, the last few months have been incredibly difficult for all of us for many different reasons. What was once a certainty is now very much uncertain. The future cannot be planned for in the way we always have been able to. I hope that the autumn will see school get back to a more normal way of working and I hope to once more to be able to welcome everyone back to St Margaret Marys in September.

Many thanks for your understanding and patience with all these matters.

M Aldred. Head teacher.



SCHOOL MEMBER



Bronze

