



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

Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7AB

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**Week beginning Monday December 19th 2016.**

**Thought for the week:**

**“The worst of all deceptions is self-deception”**

**ADVENT 2016.** Mr Barton and I spoke to the children on Monday about a number of things. We talked about “Gaudete Sunday” as we lit the pink candle on our Advent wreath. A candle of joy, a candle that marks us moving into the second part of Advent when we get ready for Jesus being born on Christmas day. Mr Barton talked in assembly about the Gospel Virtues we have been focussing on through the year and we remembered those people that find this time of year difficult. We discussed together that for some families this is a difficult time, a time of sadness for lots of different reasons. I told the children that as we continue our preparations it is important we remember those that are anxious, sad worried or lonely this Christmas.

**Whole School Mass.** To mark the end of term the whole school will be going across to Church on **Tuesday 20th at 9.15am**. Everyone is welcome to join us as we continue our Advent preparations. During this Mass the Y3 children who made their First Confession will be presented with their certificates.

**Christmas at St Margaret Marys Church.** Father Simon and his family will be spending their first Christmas in Perry Common this year. I know I can speak on his behalf in inviting as many of you as possible to Mass over the Christmas period. The times of Mass are:

*Christmas Eve special crib service for children 3.00pm.*

*Christmas Eve Mass at 6.30pm.*

*Christmas day Mass will be at 10.00am.*

Please do your utmost to attend and remember that “Jesus is the reason for the season”

**Christmas Dinner Day 2016.** A reminder that next **Tuesday 20th** will see our traditional Christmas dinner served to over 300 children and staff. The tables will be decorated in the dining hall and the children will have a super lunch particularly enjoying pulling a cracker! Mrs Hawthorn our cook will be in school very early, she and her team work extremely hard each year to produce a lovely dinner for all of us. To her and her team (Mrs Savings, Mrs Farrell and Mrs Gillam) Thank you in advance for our Christmas Dinner!

**Nursery Nativity.** Thanks to our Nursery children for their lovely Nativity (am & pm) on Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs Whitty, Mrs Graham, Mrs Mills and Ms Rowley who helped to tell us the Christmas story.

**Y1 Christmas Concert.** Yesterday Y1 performed for us their Christmas concert. The children (as always) were a credit and told us their story beautifully. Thanks to Miss McGeechan, Miss Finn and their team for organising a lovely production.

**Y2/3 Concert.** Thanks to Mrs Bryan, Mrs Chandler, Miss Dunne, Mrs Attwood and their team of helpers for their Christmas concert on Thursday. Once again the children were a credit to all concerned, we will definitely have to get a bigger hall!!

**Y4 to Y6 Christmas concert.** Thanks to Y4, 5 and 6 for their Christmas concert. Thanks to Miss McCarron, Mr Barton and Miss Ward for all their efforts, a truly fitting way to take us all into the weekend.

**Brass Concert.** Thank you to Mr Birnie and our brass players for their uplifting concert on Wednesday. Mr Birnie always ends the term in spectacular fashion. Wednesday was no exception. Thank you to all concerned.



**“Wind in the Willows”** All of KS2 went to the theatre on Tuesday to see “Wind in the Willows” Mr Barton said they were a credit to take out. A live theatre experience cannot be beaten and I’m delighted everyone had such a good time.

**“The Bear”** Our Nursery class went to the MAC on Tuesday to see “The Bear”. Once again everyone had a great time, thanks to Mrs Whitty and her team for overseeing the visit. Nursery also went out to the farm yesterday to meet up with someone from the North Pole, a lovely experience for everyone.

**End of Term.** School closes for the Christmas holidays at **1.00pm on Wednesday December 21<sup>st</sup>**. The children return to school at the normal time on **Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017**.

**Polesworth Abbey.** Our traditional visit to Polesworth Abbey took place at the start of the week. Our annual visit allows the Reception children an opportunity to see a real life nativity scene. A truly magical experience for all of our Reception class. Thanks again to Mrs Whitty and her army of helpers for leading the visit.

**Christmas Dates 2016.** Please find below some key dates and times for the final week of this term:

19/12/16	Christmas jumper day with school uniform Special visitor from the North Pole in school visiting KS1!!
20/12/16	Whole school end of term Mass Christmas dinner day Non uniform – Christmas Theme
21/12/16	End of Term, school closes at 1.00pm. 9/1/17 children return to school.

**Extra Curricular Clubs:** These finished last week for the autumn term, many thanks to all the teachers for their hard work and dedication over the last 15 weeks. Thanks also to everyone that came along to any of the clubs this term; they will begin again on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**Christmas Raffle 2016.** *Father Simon will be conducting the draw after Mass this Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>) Good Luck to everyone that bought a ticket.*

**Attendance for the Term ending December 16th 2016.**

Year Group	% Attendance
Reception H	95%
Reception C	98%
Y1F	97%
Y1M	97%
Y2C	97%
Y2D	97%
Y3	96%
Y4	98%
Y5	98%
Y6	96%
<b>Termly Average</b>	<b>97%</b>

**Happy Birthday:** Ethan Samuels, Tymoteusz Szczudlyk, Kevyn Jumanan, Marcel Stobbe, Bethlehem Mekonnen, Elochukwu Onyiuke, Ihurmoeke Esezobor and Natalie Kola.

**Please pray for:** Our school family/parish throughout Advent.

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

M. Aldred Head teacher