



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

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**Week beginning Monday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017.**

**Thought for the week:**

**“He has the right to criticise if he has the heart to help”**

Dear Parents,

**The Epiphany.** Monday saw the spring term begin and in many ways the Christmas season draw to a close. We marked this with our assembly when for the final time this year the children looked at our crib in the hall. Our focus was the three visitors that brought Gold Frankincense and Myrrh. Gifts fit for a king, gifts for a king born in a stable. I spoke to the children about how in many ways the different visitors that came to the stable in Bethlehem like the three kings or the shepherds for example, demonstrated that Jesus came for all of us. Regardless of whom we are or where we are from Jesus came at Christmas for everyone.

I want to write and thank everyone for their efforts at the end of last term. We once again marked Christmas as a school family, remembering that “Jesus is the reason for the Christmas season”.

**Family Mass Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 10.00am.** Please do make a note in your diaries of our next Family Mass.

**School Mass.** Due to the snow we didn't go across to Mass this morning, so our first of 2017 Mass will be for KS2 and led by Y5. This will be next ***Friday (20<sup>th</sup>) at 9.15am.***

**Sacramental Programme 2017.** Letters will be coming home shortly about First Holy Communion in May. Due to the numbers involved we will have to have two masses at 9.00am and 11.00am. I am most grateful to Father Simon for his help with this as otherwise I'm not sure everyone would actually fit in the church. Mr Barton will write to all Y3 parents next week with all the details.

**School Expansion Update.** Everything is more or less in place for the work to begin. As always with these things the process can be somewhat frustrating and seem a little slow moving. However I am now assured that this side of the Easter break work should begin on our expansion project. This will have implications before during and after the building is completed. As soon as I have definite timescales I will write and let everyone know.

**“What the Ladybird heard...”** Our first week back saw KS1/EYFS visit the Town Hall to find out what the Ladybird heard. Many thanks to Mrs Chandler/Whitty for overseeing the visits.

**School Closures.** Hopefully it won't happen, but in the unlikely event of school having to close because of snow local radio stations, the school website and group texts will let everyone know.



**Home/School Letter.** *This letter will be the final one sent home to everyone as a paper copy.*

We are aiming to reduce our carbon footprint so from next week we will be sending the letter to everyone via email. When I wrote about this last term I asked everyone to make sure that the office had an up to date email address. The same applies now, please let the office know (if you haven't already) your most up to date email address. Some hard copies will be retained in the main office, it will be published online via the website and it will also be displayed in the noticeboard. Electronic copies will be sent out beginning next Friday January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Reception Class 2017** If you know anyone who has not yet submitted their application form for a place in our school for next September please follow the advice below as a matter of urgency.

*“Urgent – Parents/carers who have a child who was born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 need to make an application for their child to start Reception Class in September 2017. The quickest and easiest way to make an application is online at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or by contacting a member of the School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service on 0121 675 0555.”*

**Extra Curricular Clubs.** These begin next week (**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**). There are some **changes** for the term ahead the details of which are in the table below:

**Extra Curricular Clubs: Week beginning Monday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 3.05pm-4.00pm**

Day	Club	Year group	Teacher
Monday	Computing Club	Y4	Miss Dunne
Monday	Maths Club	Y6	Miss McCarron
Tuesday	D&T Club	Y2	Mrs Attwood/Mrs Croft
Wednesday	Gymnastics club	Y3	Fit 4 Schools
Thursday	Art Club	Reception	Mrs Crossen/Mrs Whitty
Thursday	Sports club	Y5/6	Mr Barton
Thursday	Science Club	Y1	Mrs Bryan/Miss Crowton

**Spring Term 2017.** We break up for half term on **Friday February 17<sup>th</sup>**, returning on **Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> February** at the usual time. We break up for the Easter holidays on **Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>**, returning for the summer term on Tuesday **April 25<sup>th</sup>**.

Mrs Logue will write to everyone with a list of all other relevant dates for the term ahead.

**Happy Birthday:** Millicent Swaine, Victoria Croft and Shirah Samuels.

It is with much sadness that I have to write and tell everyone about two former pupils of our school. Sadly Tyra Hamilton (Tyra left our school in 2011) and Katie Widdowson (Katie left our school in 2004) both passed away over the Christmas holiday. Both were so young and had so much to look forward to. I would ask everyone to remember Tyra, Katie and their families in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

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

M. Aldred Head teacher

