



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM  
**ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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### Week beginning Monday December 9th 2019.

#### Thought for the week:

**“Stay Awake and Be Ready!”**

Dear Parents,

**ADVENT 2019.** The season of Advent began last weekend and we started our week with an assembly all about this season of preparation. I spoke to the children about the symbolism surrounding the wreath and Charlotte in Y3 came up and lit our first purple candle, a candle of “Hope”. I also spoke about the two distinct parts that make up Advent, firstly waiting for Jesus to come again and waiting to celebrate his birth on Christmas day. Together we talked about what we could do to make sure we were ready, we said we could follow the Walk with Me calendar, we said we could say our prayers and we talked about going to Mass. We then all made an Advent promise; we said that we would welcome Jesus into our hearts this Advent remembering, “Jesus is the reason for the season”.

**Family Mass.** A huge thank you to everyone that came to support school/parish on Sunday. It was lovely to see the church so full and it was equally special for Y3 to go up on to the altar and commit to their sacramental journey by reciting a prayer together. I want to thank Connie Eve and Yafaet for reading, thanks to Pru and Valentina for taking the gifts up at the offertory and to the choir for coming along in such numbers, thank you. Many thanks to Mr Barton for overseeing everything and a special thank you to all the Y3 children that came; it was a truly fitting way of starting our Advent journey together. Finally, a big thank you to all the staff that came along to support the children, I am very lucky to have such a dedicated group of teachers to work with.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation 2019.** Congratulations to all the children in Y3 who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. Our thoughts after Christmas will soon turn to First Holy Communion but before that, well done to everyone. Many thanks to Mr Barton for organising the services and thanks to Father Simon for his input. Special thanks to all of our Y3 families for your support in getting the children prepared and thanks to Mrs Coates/Ms Pritchard for helping get the children ready. Congratulations Y3!

**School Mass.** Thank you to Y5 and Y2 for leading our Mass this morning, **there is no Mass next week but our final Mass of the term will be on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> led by KS2.**



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**Reception Nativity 2019.** Christmas preparations can now officially begin after Reception told the Nativity story to their friends and family this morning. Well done to all the children and many thanks to Ms Rathbone, Ms Monaghan and their team of helpers for a lovely production. A footnote to the above is that I hoped everyone noticed the beautiful costumes on show this year. Mrs Olkowska made these and I hope you agree they add so much to any play/production. Many thanks to Mrs Olkowska.

**Nursery trip to Ash End Farm.** Thanks to Ms Winchurch and her team of helpers on Wednesday for taking our youngest children to Ash End Farm. Everyone had a super time.

**Y2 visit to the Buddhist Temple.** Promoting respect and tolerance of other faiths is always something we have actively promoted so many thanks to Ms Boughen and Ms Mochan for taking Y2 to visit a Buddhist temple earlier this week. These trips are always informative and are an important part of our work in promoting “British Values” and our Jesuit Virtues.

**Music Service Filming.** Thanks to all those that took part in the filming last week with the Music Service there was some excellent musicianship on display.

**School Council Assembly.** Thanks to Carlton, Kim, our Councillors and Ms McCarron for an informative assembly yesterday, an assembly promoting respect and tolerance, well done to everyone.

**End of Term.** School breaks up for Christmas on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. The children return on Monday January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Attendance for the week ending Friday December 6th 2019**

Year Group	% Attendance
Rec M	90%
Rec R	90%
Y1J	93%
Y1P	98%
Y2B	94%
Y2M	98%
Y3C	99%
Y3P	95%
Y4M	98%
Y4Y	100%
Y5A	94%
Y5M	98%
Y6B	95%
Y6M	99%
<b>Weekly Average</b>	<b>96%</b>

**Happy Birthday:** Ruby, David B, Shalom, Z’Naya and Shayden.

**Please pray for:** Everyone in the St Margaret Mary family.

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

M. Aldred Head teacher



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