



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM  
**ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7AB

Head Teacher: Mr M. Aldred  
Chair of Governors: Fr. Simon Ellis  
Parish Priest: Fr. Simon Ellis

Tel: 0121 464 6355 Fax: 0121 464 8558  
E-mail: enquiry@stmgtmry.bham.sch.uk  
Website: www.stmgtmry.bham.sch.uk  
Twitter: @StMargMaryRC

### Week beginning March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

#### **Thought for the week:**

**“Kind words do not cost much yet they accomplish much”**

Dear Parents,

**Welcome Back!** We are now precisely half way through the school year; I hope everyone managed some kind of break last week. All relevant dates for the half term ahead can be found on our website.

**LENT 2020.** Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) saw the start of Lent. It is the ideal time to think of those less fortunate than we are and to do something about it. The season of Lent lasts 40 days; this reminds us of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness. During this time Jesus grew stronger. Lent offers all of us the same opportunity to grow stronger as our journey of faith continues. At Mass/prayer services, the children received ashes on their foreheads to mark the beginning of the Lenten season, a season that lasts up until Easter. During Lent we traditionally think of those less fortunate than ourselves, as a result on Monday we are starting a collection of male and female toiletries to present to St Chads Sanctuary. *If you have any toiletries of any description that you can spare, please send them in on Monday so we can then transfer them to those in most need in our city.*

**Family Mass Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am (Please note the change of date).** Our “Family Mass” for this term will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup>. All of Y3 and Y6 (Confirmandi) need to be present however it would be lovely to see each year group represented in the choir as we mark the beginning of our Lenten journey.

**Gospel Virtues.** Mr Barton introduced our two new virtues for the half term on Monday “Faith filled” and “hopeful”. Thanks to Mr Barton for a lovely assembly.

**School Mass.** Our next Mass will be on Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> and this will be a KS1 Mass.

**Phonics Meeting.** Thanks to Mrs Hesgrave and those that came along on Tuesday to our phonics update, I hope the session proved helpful.

**Coronavirus.** You will have seen the news about coronavirus and the spread of the virus across Europe and beyond. It is important to realise that the infection for most people is not serious, including children. The chances of catching the virus is also currently low in the UK. The best



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advice to stop it spreading is to “wash your hands with soap/sanitiser and if you need to sneeze then catch it in a tissue, throw the tissue in the bin and wash your hands to “catch it, bin it and kill it”.

**Library Lunch Visit.** Thanks to those that could come along to lunch yesterday.

**School Dinners.** From Monday, *the dinner/sandwich numbers will be calculated on a Monday only*. Currently there are too many children changing between dinners and a packed lunch on a daily basis. This can lead to misunderstandings about dinner money owed, it can lead to food being wasted and it can prove to be a real headache for the office and kitchen to organise. From Monday please can I ask that you support school in ensuring your child/children has dinners or a packed lunch for the full week, our system will then reflect this and the problems mentioned above will, in theory lessen. Obviously, Friday (Pizza and Chips day) will remain separate as long as the office is notified 24 hours prior to Friday that your child will want to change from sandwiches to dinners on Friday only. Please support school in picking dinners or packed lunches on a weekly and not a daily basis, all up to date and relevant menus can be found on our website. Thank you in advance for your help and support with this matter.

**World Book Day.** School is celebrating “World Book Day” next Wednesday (4/3/20). Y6 however will celebrate it on Tuesday due to the Confirmandi visiting St Chads on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Please come dressed as your favourite book character for the day.

**Attendance for the week ending Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Year Group	% Attendance
Rec M	95%
Rec R	94%
Y1J	97%
Y1P	96%
Y2H	97%
Y2M	99%
Y3C	95%
Y3P	97%
Y4M	98%
Y4Y	98%
Y5A	99%
Y5M	97%
Y6B	92%
Y6M	99%
<b>Weekly Average</b>	<b>97%</b>

**Please pray for:** Marian McBride RIP.

**Happy Birthday:** Dhian, Esrom, Daniel, Mason and Connie-Eve

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

M. Aldred Head Teacher.



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