



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 Monday October 5th 2020

Thought for the week:

“Don’t burn your bridges you may need to cross them one day in the future”

Dear Parents,

Autumn 2020 I met with all the staff on Wednesday and we reflected together about how quickly our first month back in school has gone. Yesterday was the 1st of October and today we marked five weeks back at school since our return on September 2nd.

I thanked everyone for their hard work in settling the children back into school routine/life, logistically it has proved very challenging trying to keep year groups separate and everyone’s support and help with this continues to be much appreciated.

Coronavirus. *A plea to everyone to continue following the guidelines given to all of us. Please remember to socially distance with each other and if you need to call into the school office please make sure you are wearing a face covering. Please try to contact school via telephone/ mail only if you can, and please keep re enforcing the messaging around personal hygiene with your child/children. If your child/children are poorly please keep them at home and of course if they have the symptoms of Coronavirus please seek a test. We all need to do our bit to keep the school open for everyone; your continued support with this is much appreciated.* In the unlikely event, you need to visit school we now have a QR code in the main entrance for those with smart phones to use. Simply “check in” using the NHS COVID-19 App if you do need to come into school.

As I write this letter there have been no positive tests for Coronavirus in school and long may this continue. I have written previously about the process we will follow if this changes so if your contact details have changed **PLEASE LET SCHOOL KNOW IMMEDIATELY**. There are still a number of contact numbers that are “not being recognised” when school rings the telephone number we have. Please update your details if you need to as a matter of urgency.

October Half Term. School breaks up for half term in three weeks on Friday October 23rd. *Reception to Y6 will now return on Thursday November 5th (a day later than originally planned). I do apologise for any inconvenience this may cause). This will not affect Nursery starting, as they will come to school on Monday November 2nd as planned.*

Sacramental Programme 2020-2021. Our first group of Y4 children will be making their First Holy Communion next Friday. Please keep Shae, Megan, Charlotte, Sesuna and Violet in your prayers.



SCHOOL MEMBER



Bronze



Reception 2021-2022. Remarkably, we have to start the process of applying for Reception next year very soon. The advice I have received is as follows:

“Parents to visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application by 15 January 2021 (the final closing date). We would strongly recommend that you ensure you read the ‘Primary School Admissions Criteria 2021 Information’ prior to submitting your application. Online applications will receive an immediate email confirmation when the application is submitted. Those online applicants who have not provided an email address will not receive an acknowledgement so it is very important that you include an email address. If you have not received an acknowledgement by 15 January 2021, then you should call Children’s Services on 0121 303 1888 to confirm that your application has been received. Online applicants that submit their application with a valid email address will be sent an offer by email on 16 April 2021. Parents/carers that submitted an online application without a valid email address will be sent an offer letter by first class post which should arrive from 16 April 2021 and should be delivered by the end of that week”

Harvest Assembly 2020. We are joining in with schools across the country for a “virtual Harvest assembly” next Thursday the 8th October. Each class will be designing a box and everyone will be asked to donate a tin. If everyone gives one item of food, we will have nearly 400 things to eat for those less fortunate than ourselves. Please donate some food if you can.

Parents Evening 2020. Following advice, sadly, Parents evening will not happen this term in the way it normally operates. We are going to issue a “Report Card” now to every child, which Mrs Logue will write more about shortly. I hope that after Christmas we can host a more “normal” face to face parents evening as we normally do.

Virtual Learning 2020. Please follow, use and comment on the individual year group Twitter feeds we have created. If we ever have to “close” a year group, work can be accessed via this portal. I am grateful to all the staff for updating and maintaining the respective year group feeds.

School/Church Car Park. As the darker evenings and mornings become a reality please can I once more urge everyone to exercise great caution when using the car park. Now staff have to park there, space is very much at a premium. Unfortunately, one of our signs asking people to park considerately was damaged this week after a car collided with it; please do take care if you have to use the car park.

Perry Common Recreation Ground. Please take extra care when coming to school if you use the entrances at the rear that head out on to the park. I spoke with the contractors this week who informed me that some heavy machinery would be working within vicinity of the school in the coming weeks and months. This is to enable all the “finishing off” to be done in the park that has been extensively delayed for a number of reasons. Do please be vigilant.

Please Pray For. All those about to make their First Holy Communion.

Many thanks for your support and cooperation with all these matters.

M Aldred. Head teacher.



SCHOOL
MEMBER



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