



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 12th 2020

Thought for the week:

“If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you have succeeded”

Dear Parents,

First Holy Communion 2020 Congratulations to Charlotte, Megan, Shae, Mason, Sesuna and Violet who all made their First Holy Communion this morning. With everything we are all trying to deal with it was nice to be able to focus once again on the children receiving Jesus for the first time. The current Y4 were unable to receive the sacrament back in May due to the lockdown, so it really was important that that this was rectified as soon as possible. Over the next five weeks, the remainder of Y4 will make their First Holy Communion in small groups as per the guidelines.

I want to thank all the families for supporting school with this, I know it is not what any of us wanted but like many things in 2020 events have rather overtaken everything. Many thanks to Mr Barton for organising the Liturgy, to Father Simon a huge thank you for supporting school. Making sure our Y4 children could make their First Holy Communion this term was a priority and I am delighted, with Father's help, we have managed to make that happen. I look forward to group 2 next Friday.

Coronavirus. A reminder 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/e 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.

As I write this letter, you will no doubt be aware that very sadly we had to close a year group “bubble” earlier this week. We received news on Wednesday morning that we had a positive test for Coronavirus within school and a year group has now been asked to self-isolate for 14 days. I want to formally put on record my sincere thanks to all the parents in the particular year group affected. I am acutely aware that for many families the next two weeks will be problematic and childcare arrangements will need to be organised. I had hoped we might be able to reach half term without the need for any interruptions, sadly, this has proved not to be the case. The



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Individual year group Twitter feeds were set up for any such eventuality and work for all year groups can be accessed via this platform. Any problems please contact school.

Finally, I want to thank the staff for helping school manage this process. It is a worrying time for all of us and we all need each other's support to help steer a course through the difficult times that may lie ahead.

October Half Term. School breaks up for half term on Friday October 23rd. ***Reception to Y6 will return on Thursday November 5th. This will not affect Nursery starting, as they will come to school on Monday November 2nd as planned.***

Reception 2021-2022. For families with children of school age in 2021 please see the below:

“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 took part in the virtual CAFOD assembly yesterday, thanks to Mr Barton for overseeing this initiative. Thanks for all the tins that have been donated, your support will be much appreciated by those less fortunate than ourselves.

School/Church Car Park. Please can I ask that children are not dropped off at the bottom of the school drive. With the older children now entering and exiting school this way, it is vitally important that the bottom of the school drive remains clear of vehicles. Stopping at the bottom of the drive can also hinder families heading to the rear of school, especially those with younger children and pushchairs. Please can I ask for your help and support in keeping the school drive clear at all times.

Perry Common Recreation Ground. A further reminder to 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 and have made their First Holy Communion.

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

M Aldred. Head teacher.



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