



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

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Week beginning Monday October 19th 2020

Thought for the week:

“We didn’t get this far only to come this far”

Dear Parents,

First Holy Communion 2020 Congratulations to Zion, Gabriela, Makoborero, Liliana and Oliwia who all made their First Holy Communion this morning. Many thanks to the parents concerned for their understanding and patience and again my thanks to Father Simon and Mr Barton for all their hard work.

School Feast Day 16th October St Margaret Mary Alacoque. Our school celebrates its patron, St Margaret Mary today. St Margaret Mary Alacoque was a nun of the order of the Visitation of Holy Mary. She was a devout, humble and selfless person who is a role model to all of us. In these challenging times, we can use her example as an inspiration. As a school we would normally all attend Mass, sadly, we cannot do this but we have marked the day with extra treats and some time for us all to reflect on the all too brief but extraordinary life of St Margaret Mary Alacoque. Every year group has put up a display about St Margaret Mary outside their classrooms and every year group has completed some work about her life. *Please also note there is a special Mass in Church this evening at 7:30pm to celebrate our feast day. Father Simon has invited Fr Giles Goward the Rector from Oscott College to come and preach. Do go along if you can.*

Remembering. Next week school will start selling poppies to help remember those that paid the ultimate sacrifice. After half term, we will be entering the month of November when we are encouraged to remember all those that have died and are no longer with us. Mr Barton will oversee a Book of Remembrance in the school hall. This is something we do every year. We cannot gather properly in the hall at the moment, but each class will put the names of loved ones in the book and we will remember them throughout November. If you would like anyone remembered in school next month please send a note in for Mr Barton’s attention.

Coronavirus. *The Government introduced and outlined their new three-tier system of local restrictions this week. Birmingham has been designated as Tier 2 “High risk”. From a school perspective however nothing has really changed, schools will remain open in England with local outbreaks being managed similarly to the way we have managed Y2 over the last two weeks.*



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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.

Y2 return to school next Tuesday (20th), thank you again to everyone that has supported school during the last fortnight. To the families of children in Y2 in particular thank you for your understanding. To the staff for updating work on the Y2 Twitter feed and to Mrs Hawthorn for supplying the “food parcels” many thanks. I hope that we can reach half term with no other year groups having to close.

October Half Term. School breaks up for half term next *Friday October 23rd*. *Reception to Y6 will return on Thursday November 5th*. *Nursery begin school on Monday November 2nd*.

Harvest Assembly 2020. Thank you for all your donations, we have been able to send a substantial amount to Father who will oversee their distribution to those in most need. Particularly now with all we are living through your generosity is much appreciated.

School/Church Car Park. I have written many times about the need to exercise great caution if you have to use the car park next to Church. This is even more important now that the darker mornings and evenings are upon us. The staff also have to use this facility to free up playground space in school. It looks like this may well be the case well into 2021.

Unfortunately, we had yet another near miss this week when a child was nearly knocked over by a car reversing. Please can I ask that if you do not need to use the carpark then please don't. **If however you do need to park there, please allow extra time and please take extra care.** Your support with this matter is much appreciated.

Family Worker. I was delighted last week to welcome our new Family Worker, Ms Jemma Farrell to St Margaret Marys last week. Jemma has replaced Charlotte Spencer and is working with us every Thursday and Friday. Jemma's role is wide reaching and varied, she brings a wealth of experience and expertise with her in her new role. If you would like to know more or think you may need some help/support from Jemma then please talk to Mrs Logue.

Virtual Learning. A reminder that every year group has an individual Twitter feed. Examples of work to do for each year group can be accessed via this feed and you don't need a Twitter account to use it. Simply visit the school website, on the homepage you will see all the tweets school has made, click on the @StMargMaryRC tab (blue writing at the top of the Twitter feed) and you will then be able to see every individual year group. There are some good activities you can do at home with your child/children so please do use it; if you have a Twitter account please follow the relevant year group(s). Well done and thank you to those families in Y2 that have sent work in via this interactive tool, some of the drawings and work about St Margaret Mary looked fantastic.

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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