



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

Head Teacher: Mr M. Aldred
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Weekending Friday December 18th 2020.

Thought for the week:

“Today a Saviour has been born for us, he is Christ the Lord”

Dear Parents,

Christmas at St Margaret Mary's Church.

The times of Mass are:

Christmas Eve special crib service for children 4.00pm.

Christmas Eve Mass at 11.30pm.

Christmas day Mass will be at 9.30am and 11.00am.

St Stephen's Day Servers Guild Mass 10.00am

Tomorrow we will place baby Jesus in the crib, normally this would be done with everyone together in the school hall. This year our crib has been placed at the entrance to the dining hall so that at least the children will get to see it when they arrive for their lunch. Whilst unable to place Jesus in the crib in the way we would normally do, we are still able to see the crib and remember, “Jesus is the reason for the season”. Father Simon extends a welcome to everyone to join with our parish this Christmas, please see the times of Mass above.

End of Term. School closes for the Christmas break **3.00pm tomorrow Thursday December 17th** the children return at the usual time on **Monday January 4th 2021**

Christmas Week. Thank you to all the staff for their work in making this week as special as we can. Thank you to Mrs Hawthorn and her team of cooks for their lovely dinner yesterday, special mention also to Dave our crossing warden. Dave stands out in all weather crossing the children safely across Perry Common Road. Special mention must go to Father Christmas; he gave up a couple of hours in his busy schedule to visit school today for which all of us is very grateful.

Foodbank Donations. Many thanks for all your donations today, this Christmas more than any other it is important to think of others. Donating treats, gifts and food is a really good way of doing this.

Attendance awards. Well done to those children receiving an award tomorrow, the overall attendance in school has been good despite everything we have had to deal with. Congratulations to all concerned.



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FSM Vouchers. The vouchers for those entitled are now available to be redeemed. The homepage of the school website has all the information you need about how to access the vouchers but as always contact school if you are experiencing problems. Many thanks to Mrs Coney and Mr Connaughton for everything they have done in getting the vouchers out to everyone.

Please pray For: Anne Ellis RIP and all her family at this sad time for all of them. Please also keep in your prayers Anne Forrest as she continues her recovery.

Coronavirus checklist for the Christmas break.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Parents will need to notify school via the e-mail address enquiry@stmgtmry.bham.sch.uk. This e-mail address will be monitored throughout the day.

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact-tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

Finally, this has been the most challenging term I think our school has ever had to face. We have had to deal with things none of us ever thought we would have to. To each and every member of staff I want to offer my thanks and admiration for everything they have done over the last 15 weeks. I am very lucky to have such a dedicated group of people to work with. The pressures and challenges of this term have been immense and it is important that I formally recognise the outstanding effort of all concerned.

I want to also thank every family for their support for St Margaret Marys since September. Your understanding and patience during what is still an ever-changing landscape continues to be much appreciated. I suspect that the first part of 2021 will continue to be challenging but hopefully better times lie ahead for all of us.

On behalf of the governors I want to wish everyone a Happy and peaceful Christmas holiday. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2021.

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

M. Aldred Head teacher



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