



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Holy Week beginning Monday March 29th 2021

Thought for the week:

“Alleluia Alleluia He is risen on Easter day”

Dear Parents,

Holy Week 2021. Rather unusually, school is in session during Holy Week this year. This week tells the story of Jesus arriving into Jerusalem amidst much fanfare and waving of palms. However, within a week he was arrested, crucified, died and rose again for all of us. It is a remarkable story that without which our school and parish family would not exist. Next week school will suspend the normal timetable; each class will devote their time and work to the events that make up Holy Week. In advance I would like to thank Mr Barton for organising the week and to Father Simon for his input. In the past we have been able to invite families into school for prayer services, sadly due to the restrictions we are not able to do this in 2021. I would however urge you to go to our parish church, acknowledge the end of Lent, and mark the beginning of Easter. Below are the times of services/masses in our church, so please go along.

HOLY WEEK AT ST MARGARET MARY CHURCH 2021

27th March 6:00pm Vigil Mass with blessing of palms.

Palm Sunday, 28th March, 9.30am and 11am Mass

Maundy Thursday, 1st April, 7.30pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Good Friday, 2nd April 2pm Stations of the Cross; 3pm DIVINE LITURGY.

Holy Saturday, 3rd April 11am 'Świecenie potraw Wielkanocnych'

3rd April 8.30pm EASTER VIGIL MASS

EASTER DAY, 4th APRIL 9.30am and 11am MASS

Sacrament of Reconciliation 2021 for Y3. On Monday, Y3 will make their First Confession. Unfortunately, due to restrictions only Mr Barton and I can be present. Please keep all the children in your prayers as they take their first step on their journey to receiving Jesus for the first time in June/July.

Coronavirus/National Day of Remembrance. This week in school, we have marked 12 months since we were first asked to go into lockdown. Since then so many families have



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been deeply affected and are continuing to grieve for the loved ones they have lost. The children made and recited prayers and spoke openly about how lockdown has affected them this week. Indeed, as a school community the return to school this time has been more challenging, with lots of families and staff dealing with a number of different issues. As a country, we seem to be making our first tentative steps back to some kind of normality however, I felt it was very important that we stopped and reflected earlier this week, and thought about all those people that have been so tragically affected by Coronavirus. School has erected a plaque in the prayer garden in memory of those no longer with us and each year the children can use it as a focus of remembrance. I will upload images of the plaque on to our Twitter feed for everyone to see.

FSM Vouchers. The vouchers will be emailed out in the final week of term (hopefully on Wednesday 31st March) to eligible families. The vouchers are eligible for the two weeks of the Easter break. The office will text relevant families as and when the vouchers will be accessible.

New Head teacher. The governors have now begun in earnest the selection process for a new Head teacher for our school. Father Simon will write to everyone next term when any decisions have been made.

Mrs Heslegrave/Ms Parkes. When school returns after the Easter break Mrs Heslegrave and Ms Parkes will be working predominantly from home. Coronavirus guidance has informed school that every precaution must be taken with those expecting babies and if possible, they are to work remotely. As a result, Ms Winchurch will be teaching Y1 in the summer term whilst Ms Travers is returning from her maternity leave to take Y2. Ms Parkes and Mrs Heslegrave will still “be around” however, advice is that they should now start to reduce contact. Both are expecting their babies before we break up for the summer holidays and I know you will join with me in wishing both of them the very best at this most special of times.

Summer Term Teacher Days. School will be closed for all pupils on *Wednesday April 28th and Friday June 25th. Please make a note in your diaries.*

Easter egg Raffle. The draw will take place in each classroom next Thursday (1st) with all the money-raised going to CAFOD, there is still time to buy tickets 50p each.

Shakespeare Week. Many thanks to everyone that sent entries into school to mark Shakespeare week. There were some creative designs and many children had obviously worked very hard, well done to everyone!

Easter Holiday. School breaks up for the Easter break on **Holy Thursday April 1st at 1:00pm. School returns for the summer term on Monday April 19th.**

Please Pray For. All those affected by the pandemic in our school, parish and family.

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

M Aldred. Head teacher.



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