attentive by Curious
faith-filled by Wise
generous of Grateful
eloquent discerning
intentional compassionate





## ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7AB

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## Week beginning Monday May 24th 2021 Thought for the week:

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a short step"

Dear Parents,

<u>First Holy Communion 2021.</u> Congratulations to Faith, Zara, Ugonna, Chisom and Ymad who all made their First Holy Communion today. That now completes all of Y4, congratulations to everyone and many thanks to all the Y4 families with their support over the last 12 months.

After the half term break, Y3 will begin to make their First Holy Communion in small groups across a number of Fridays. The arrangements that are in place will remain as they are regardless of any potential easing of lockdown measures nationally. Two parents only please and any siblings in school can attend each Mass. Trying to predict where the country will be over the next six weeks is impossible thus making changes very difficult. I also believe that it is the fairest way of trying to organise the masses and to make changes seems unfair on families who have already made their first Holy Communion this year and last. **The most important factor is that the children will receive Jesus for the first time this year and not have to wait a further 12 months like some families and children have.** A reminder to Y3 families that if they want to spend the day celebrating together after mass then please feel free to do so. I look forward to the first group of Y3 children on the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Coronavirus. Last week was the one of the few times in the last two years when I have not had to write about coronavirus in the home/school letter. Since our return after Easter, no year group bubbles have had to close and there have been no positive cases. School will continue to operate with certain restrictions up until the summer break. Planning to ease what school currently has in place is impossible due to the obvious uncertainty surrounding variants of the virus, (the latest variant has now been discovered in a school in Shropshire) The key is for everyone to continue playing their part so every year group in school can remain open up until July. The end of year arrangements will be compromised slightly and like last year, certain things will not be able to happen. The plan however is to make it "as normal as we can" and make sure all year groups stay in school up until the summer break.













<u>School Reports.</u> Next week the children will be bringing home a report. It is not a traditional end of year report because sadly, so much time has been missed again this year and no formal assessments have taken place. It is however, a method by which current strengths can be celebrated and areas that could be worked on at home shared.

I hope that next year school reports will be able once more to mark an entire year and we can host once more parent consultation evenings.

**FSM Vouchers May half term.** The local authority have now sent school all the relevant information needed to distribute the vouchers. The aim is to send them out on Wednesday  $(26^{th})$ . Please check your inboxes and if you have a problem please call school. The process is one that has been followed before so hopefully there will not be any issues.

<u>Mrs Heslegrave/Ms Parkes.</u> Both Mrs Heslegrave and Ms Parkes leave us next Friday to begin their maternity leave. I am sure you join with me in wishing them both well at this most exciting time. School looks forward to welcoming them both back in 2022.

<u>Summer Term.</u> School will close for the Whit holiday on Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>, reopening on Monday June 7<sup>th</sup>. The school year ends at 1:00pm on Friday July 16<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that school will be closed on Friday June 25<sup>th</sup> for teacher training.

## Attendance for the week ending May 21st 2021

Year Group	% Attendance
Rec M	96%
Rec R	93%
Y1J	93%
Y1P	98%
Y2H	96%
Y2M	95%
Y3A	92%
Y3P	98%
Y4B	93%
Y4C	98%
Y5M	97%
Y5Y	99%
Y6M	96%
Y6Mc	97%
Weekly Average	96%

Please Pray For. The children making their First Holy Communion.

Please also pray for Elaine Hird RIP. Elaine taught here in the 1990s and sadly passed away recently. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

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

M Aldred. Head teacher.











