



Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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Headteacher: Miss H.M. Cusack M.Ed.



28<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Parent

### **LENT – Ash Wednesday**

Tomorrow we begin our journey of Lent 2017. This holy season reminds us of our continuous need for repentance and conversion and should be a time to change, develop and grow our “inner attitude, the inner condition of our hearts”. Let us begin with **Mass at 10:00am (Church)** and in receiving the mark of the ashes open ourselves to the moments of grace which begin this journey.

### **Lenten Charities**

Please see the attached poster which identifies how we will live the Corporal Works of Mercy this Lent and support our two chosen charities – the children will enjoy some fun in the process! My thanks to Mr Clinton for organising these fundraising events. Our chosen charities this year are HCPT (Handicapped Children’s Trust) and St Mary’s Hospice – chosen by our pupils.

### **Stay & Pray every Wednesday!**

Please join us for our Lenten Meditation each Wednesday morning – perhaps you could adopt this as part of your Lenten determination to develop your ‘inner attitude’. We begin at 9:00am for a maximum 10 minutes from **8<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **World Book day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

As you know, the children can come in dressed as a character from a favourite book, which they should bring into school on the day.

**We request that each child brings in 50p for wearing their alternative to their usual school uniform and we will put this donation towards our Lenten charities. Thank you, in advance, for helping to support these worthy causes in this way.**

### **Lost property – a tale of twenty water bottles!**



As you can see, there is a box of unclaimed, unlabelled water bottles sitting in the foyer opposite the office window. We are sure that most of these are re-usable if they have a good clean.

Please come and claim one (or two) if you recognise them as being your child’s or if you have lost one and wish to replace it.

### **Thought for this week**

**‘I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.’**

Matthew 25:31

### **e-safety tip of the week**

Passwords should never be disclosed to anyone. It is good practice to change them regularly but make sure you can remember them!

### **Schools facing Funding Crisis**

We cannot impress upon parents enough how the cuts to all schools will impact upon their children’s education in primary and secondary phases and more immediately, here at St Mary’s. We contacted you before half term and asked you to lobby your local MP/ complete the questionnaire. If you have not done so, please follow this link: [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com) find your MP and send them a letter - we have provided a letter template on our website alongside this week’s newsletter - please put in your address and sign. Thank you - your child will be most grateful!

### **Sleepover – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

So far, 57 of the children (Years 5 and 6) have signed up for the sleepover to raise money for St Basil's (a charity supporting homeless youth in Birmingham) and the deadline for any others who wish to take part is tomorrow, 1<sup>st</sup> March. The sponsor forms are now with the children and we would like these back by the 17<sup>th</sup> March please. Thank you to Mrs Tame for organising this and to all the staff who have signed up to help.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Our Y3 children will be making their first 'Confession' on Saturday morning – we ask that you pray for them as they make this very important step in their faith. There is a parent meeting tonight – details should be with you.

### **Parent Consultations March 2017**

You can book your appointment to meet with your child's teacher from 4:00pm tonight. If you have forgotten or mislaid your login please email [forgottenpassword@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:forgottenpassword@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk) where Mr Clinton will provide you with the details. Once retrieved please keep in a safe place. Thank you.

**REMINDER** \_ this is the ONLY way for you to book your appointment – if you require access to a computer please let me know and we can make one available to you.

Yours sincerely,

*H M Cusack*

H. M. Cusack  
Headteacher