



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

Telephone: 0121- 464 2141 Fax: 0121-464 8312

Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss H.M. Cusack M.Ed.



22nd October 2019

Dear Parent

Y2 Class Mass – THURSDAY 24th October

Miss Adams' class will celebrate their class mass on Thursday this week due to the school being closed to the children on Friday (see below). All welcome!

School CLOSED on Friday 25th October. The teaching staff will be over at Bishop Challoner School while the Support staff will enjoy some training at St Mary's.

Clocks go Back!

This weekend we officially end British summer time. The clocks should be moved back one hour in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Faith WEEK: A week to focus on other faiths and cultures

Last week, a selection of our classes visited places of worship important to the faiths in our local community: children from our school visited St Chad's cathedral for a deeper understanding of the history of our own faith, as well as St Peter's Church in Harborne, the Central Birmingham Mosque, a Buddhist Pagoda and Singers Hill Hebrew Congregation Synagogue.

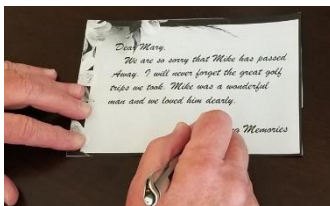
This was to address the findings of our recent Section 48 inspection report, which was to begin to "develop pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of other faiths and cultures appropriate to their age and stage of development". Further to this though, it was to explore the local community and to deepen the children's understanding of who they are being called to be. We are in the process of overhauling our curriculum and this understanding – who God is calling the children to be and how they can be the leaders of tomorrow – is central to this.

November – Holy Souls - Liturgical focus

As you are already aware, November is the month when the Catholic Church remembers the dead. The month is dedicated to the Holy Souls. It is the month when both All Saints Day and All Souls Day is celebrated. Our celebration is of the life that was lived and acknowledges those who have 'gone before us' – especially our parents – live in us still.



1. In school, our class prayer tables will be decorated for this month with flowers, icons and photographs of our loved ones. We invite families to send in their pictures for our 'amor eterno' prayer focus.



2. Additionally, via the class teacher, please send in names of people in your family that you wish to be remembered in a special way. These names will be placed in our school prayer book and celebrated during this month.

3. Finally, as a way of launching our topic and giving the children a reference point, we will begin our celebration this week by watching the Disney Pixar film 'Coco'. This film is a PG but has been suitably vetted. If, for whatever reason, you do not wish your child to see this film, please make an appointment to come into school to discuss this.



Parking and Conservation

Some parents drop off their children to the adjacent Kidz.comm club by car. Please DO NOT LEAVE CAR ENGINES RUNNING and upsetting the parish community. The pollution is dangerous and we want our priests and children (and staff and parents) to remain healthy and enjoy as much clean air as possible. **Drivers will be asked to turn their engines off. Repeat offenders will be refused entry.**

We have evidence of **dangerous parking** with the number plates of cars being given to us. These will be processed and passed to the police for further action.

The registration numbers that have been noted on two occasions are: **PX58 YUU and MJ19 EEP.**

This is extremely dangerous parking and has no concern for the children and parents who have to walk across the roads and for cars who have to manoeuvre around them. PLEASE have more consideration for the safety of the whole community.

Thank you to the two parents who provided this information over the past two days.

Rubery Swop Shop

This worthy cause has come to our attention:

"Rubery Swop Shop is an organisation that provides free school uniform for those in need. In the last 3 months they have received over 450 orders and have subsequently provided uniform to 580 children. Any donations of preloved coats, uniform, school shoes, trainers, wellies etc. would be very gratefully received and can be dropped off at CC Balloons Shop in Rubery Village or Northfield Fire Station. For further information, visit their website www.ruberyswopshop.co.uk"

A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds.

A good deed is never lost;

**he who sows courtesy reaps friendship,
and he who plants kindness gathers love.**

Saint Basil

Yours sincerely

H M Cusack

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Headteacher