



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



29th November 2016

Dear Parent

Stay & Pray for Advent:

Over the next three weeks, each Wednesday morning at 9:00, we invite you to share in our school meditation with Y2-Y6. It is a wonderful and spiritually rich experience. All welcome.

Thought for the week:

Can you think of two things that God has promised us? (See Matthew 28:20, 18:20)

Walk with Me Advent 2016

8th December 2016 – Immaculate Conception:

Next Thursday (8th) to celebrate this wonderful feast of Our Blessed mother, we shall be holding Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our school hall. All children will spend some time before Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament, to attune their hearts to His as well as offering prayers for family, friends and for our unsettled world. Please join us for this most powerful and sacred time of prayer. The Blessed Sacrament will be available immediately after 8:30 Mass until 11:45am.

KS2 Theatre Trip – Friday 2nd December 2016

Our juniors are off to see 'Treasure Island' at the Rep on Friday. Thank you to all those who are supporting the children and to Mr Clinton for organising this visit. It should be an enjoyable and eventful occasion.

'Pizza Friday' – those junior children who have already paid for pizza this Friday and are going to the theatre – will now have this meal on the last day of term. *They will, therefore, not need to bring in a packed lunch on that day (i.e. 21st December).*

Sickness in school:

If your child is vomiting or has diarrhoea please **do NOT send them into school**. They must not return until they have experienced a clear 48 hours since their last bout of the symptoms. It really is terribly irresponsible to send children to school who are experiencing these symptoms. Last week we had a couple of children who had to go home as soon as they arrived. Inevitably this becomes a community problem with other children and staff picking up the sickness bug – and the cycle goes on. Please be considerate to the needs of your child and of our school. Thank you for your support.

Parking problems:

If you witness a parent parking illegally on Vivian Road (or the private roads that adjoin Vivian Road), please DO NOT confront them. We have had two recent incidents of a parent being challenged too forcibly - this creates upset and friction in the community. We recommend that you bring this issue straight into school. A member of the Senior Management Team will do their best to speak to the persons involved to resolve the matter without the upset that can so quickly arise otherwise.

Christmas Fayre

The PTA would like to extend their deep thanks to all who contributed to the success of the Fayre in any way through making contributions or attending on the day or both!

Well Done to our Chess Champ:



Ralphie (Y3) played chess for the Warwickshire Under 9s County Chess Team at the weekend against Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire. Warwickshire won the Under 9s section and Ralphie won all 3 of his games that he played. The event was again organised by Alex Holowczak – many thanks to him. Well done Ralphie!

Growing in Virtue:

We have had made some bespoke cards, based on the Virtues that are a focus in our Catholic schools, to help support the children in recognising how they are living these wonderful virtues in their everyday lives. The cards will be posted home in tribute for some exceptional behaviour, thoughtfulness, courtesy, etc. that has been recognised during the school day/week. Please be aware that they will not be distributed for what is expected on a daily basis within school. We hope you will look forward to receiving these cards over the coming years.

E-safety TIP of the week:

It's a good idea to use a nickname rather than your real name when chatting online. A nickname means your friends will recognise you but a stranger won't be able to guess anything private about you.

Weather & School Closures – a reminder as the temperatures fall!

Should inclement weather mean that the school may need to be closed, please use the school website for updates etc. We will also attempt to contact local radio stations – this has proven fruitless in previous years due to the amount of schools contacting them. ***The most reliable information will be via our school website and Twitter account.***

Yours sincerely,

HM Cusack

Helena Cusack,
Headteacher