



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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31st March 2020

Dear Parent

March is dedicated to St Joseph

The God who Speaks to us...

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Reports and Targets for Children

The teachers are currently working on a brief review of your child's work and performance to the time of closing. Please bear in mind that these 'reports' do not even cover two full terms. The targets for learning are a crucial focus for their home learning. We recognise that the children must develop self-discipline and also to be encouraged to work while we are closed – potentially until the end of this school year.

We are planning on providing the 'reports' before, or immediately after, what would have been the official Easter holidays.

EASTER Holiday:

While the school building will remain open for the children of the key workers we currently have on our list – the Teachers will be taking a rest/reprieve from planning and uploading work from Good Friday until (and including) Friday, 24th April. They will not respond to children during this time either so please do not be upset if you hear nothing. Our feeling is that teachers and children (and, dare I say, the adult supporting them at home) need a mental break from school work.

Online working will resume, in force, on Monday 27th April. Thank you to all those who are making sure their children are working.

Pictures of children working from home: Thank you if you have submitted some photos – we welcome more!

Timetable at home. ideas for structure/routine to consider

Morning: 9.00 – 12.00 ~ start the day with our **school prayer** (see website but the children should know it); **Maths/ English** activities (as set by their teacher); include **meditation** at 11.00 (5 minutes – the children know the way 'into' this) and a break for garden activity or a walk outdoors;

After lunch: 1.00 – 3.00/4.00 ~ **topic work** and/or **practical activities** (as set/suggested by teacher or your own ideas – there are many ideas on the internet in response to the Covid-19 lockdown); **reading** (a daily 'must' please); **physical activities** (please note the Joe Wicks daily exercise on You Tube). Thank you to all who are responding – it is vital the children keep a pattern of learning and 'doing' – it will allow for an easier transition back to school routine.

School Website

Please see our website for updates and weekly newsletters.

Yours sincerely,

HMCusack

Fifth week of Lent

One word frees us of all the weight and pain in life. That word is LOVE. (Sophocles)

