



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Parent

**The Month of April is dedicated to the Eucharist and the Holy Spirit**

**Holy Week 2019** – please join us each morning in the school hall from 9.30am –  
**ALL** welcome.

**On Thursday, our Y6 Stations of the Cross are in the church starting at 9.30 a.m.**  
**On Good Friday, at 12.00 p.m. in the church, our Year 6 children will lead the Parish in the  
Stations of the Cross.**

## **Holy Week Mass:**

Our Y4 – Y6 children have attended the midday Mass on Monday and Tuesday. The midday Mass tomorrow, Wednesday, is a Requiem and we shall not be going. Therefore, **we invite the children to attend 8.30 morning Mass.** Please encourage your child to complete this part of this most holiest of weeks before the Sacred Triduum begins with the Mass of the Last Supper on Thursday evening.

## **Lenten Charities**

Thank you for the cakes that were sent in for our Reception and Y6 fundraising last week. We had enough goodies to feed a small country! Your generosity of heart is wonderful, thank you so much.

## **Mr Blaney – visits the Philippines 16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April**

At the time of you reading this letter, Mr Blaney will be airborne, on his way to the Philippines with the Columban Missionaries. This was an invitation, via the Diocese, to participate in mission outreach to this part of the world.

The Columban Fathers have worked in the Philippines since 1929. Mr Blaney and five others have responded to this year's 'Invitation to Mission'.

The team will assist in a number of Columban community projects, including working with vulnerable and abused children in the PREDA project. Mr Blaney aims to make links for our school with some of the projects and we will then look for ways to support these in the future.

Please use the link below to learn more about the Invitation to Mission 2019.

<https://columbans.co.uk/invitation-to-mission-2019>

During the visit, the group will write a diary blog about their experience, which will be shared at:  
[www.columbans.co.uk](http://www.columbans.co.uk).

## **Swimming – Summer Term**

Beginning on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May (first day back after Easter) it is our Y4 children who will be going swimming. They will need their swimming kit with them on first day back i.e. 7<sup>th</sup> May.

## **End of Term**

Please remind your child (as we will) that all PE kits, inhalers etc are taken home over the Easter break. Spacers, water bottles need to be washed out before being returned. Thank you.

## **Uniform**

When we return after Easter the children should be wearing their summer uniform which means no trousers for the girls. Thank you.



### May – Month of Mary

We will be setting up our May altar as soon as we return after Easter. If you wish to donate some flowers, in Our Lady's honour, please send them into school via the school office. Thank you.

### Forward Notice – School Closure

We have been approached by the elections office to be a Polling Station on 23<sup>rd</sup> May for the European Elections. If this goes ahead – we will be closed to children and staff on that day.

### Attendance this Term

YRL	96.9	YRF	95.9
Y1L	97.6	Y1F	98.9
Y2L	97.9	Y2F	98.0
Y3L	95.7	Y3F	97.8
Y4L	96.7	Y4F	97.6
Y5L	96.1	Y5F	97.5
Y6L	94.8	Y6F	95.6

The overall school attendance figure currently stands, this term, at 96.9% - we aim for 98%. Well done to Y1F – a superb 98.9%.

Y6 classes need to be sure they are suitably fit for their final term which is full of preparations for Y7 including induction days. They also have a residential and a sleepover in school.

**Confirmation – in May is a big highlight.** Perhaps less favoured is the end of Key Stage Statutory Assessments (SATs) which take place in the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> May – full attendance is expected.

### Holy Week Prayer:

*Lord Jesus, teach me to love you and my neighbour  
free of guile and self-deception - honestly, openly and freely.  
Teach me also to love your cross  
by which you have redeemed the world.*

Walk with Me – Tuesday of Holy week 2019

May I, on behalf of all staff and governors, wish you all a blessed Easter. Enjoy the break and keep smiling. Thank you for your support, love and prayers.



Yours sincerely

*HM Cusack*

Helena Cusack,  
Headteacher