



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.



18th December 2018

Dear Parent,

Christmas Mass and End of Term

We shall have our end of term Mass in St Mary's Church on Friday 21st December at 9.30am. As we end the term, let us thank God for all the goodness we have been given and pray for strength to overcome any times of sadness or difficulty. We pray particularly at this time for our bereaved families.

Carol Service – Wednesday 19th December – 19:00.

Please come and share with our Y4, Y5 and Y6 children who will support the countdown to Christmas Day in a most fitting way. All children from these classes should return to school between 18:15 – 18:30 to prepare themselves. School uniform please!

Our Final Stay & Pray this Advent

Please join us on Wednesday morning for our final whole school Meditation. We begin at 9.00 for approximately 10 minutes. A great way to start the day.

Goodbye to Mrs Hall

Mrs Hall is retiring from her role as lead of Zacchaeus Club. The Club will cease to run. We have been so blessed over many, many years to have the insight and deep faith that Mrs Hall has shared with us. So many of our children have benefited enormously from her love, support and listening ear. She has lived her vocation well and we are so much better because of her. May God bless and reward her and may she enjoy her retirement and begin to take things a little easier. On behalf of staff and children - thank you for everything!

Mrs Nicholls: we also say goodbye to Mrs Nicholls at the end of term. Mrs Nichols was brought in on a temporary basis and now that Mrs Davis has returned we have to say farewell as a colleague, but not, of course, as a parent. Many thanks for stepping in when needed and we are so grateful for everything.

Mrs L Davis we also say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Davis as she begins her maternity leave. The baby is due in mid-January and we wish her and her husband all our love and best wishes as they prepare for this most important event. So many thanks to Mrs Davis for her excellence in leading our maths curriculum and for the enormous contribution she has made to the lives of so many of our children by her outstanding teaching. May God continue to bless her as she becomes a new mother.

Advent Charities 2018

We have two charities that we are supporting this Advent:

- 1] Francesca – a little girl with a life limiting and very rare brain disease. Her family need support with some of the basic essentials – so we have offered to provide support here.
- 2] The Christina Edkins Memorial Fund – Christina (16 years old), a cousin to our Head Girl, was killed on her way to school five years ago. The family's fundraising now supports other victims of knife crime, the Police (via knife amnesties), as well as the Children's Hospital. We are pleased to be able to support this most important Charity of our times. Thank you in advance for your support, care and generosity.

Final collection will be after the Carol Service on Wednesday 19th December.

Spring Term INSET Days:

Our final two INSET days are now booked for 18th & 19th March 2019 – this means that the school will be closed to the children on these two days.

*Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest
thing in the world -
stronger than hate, stronger than evil,
stronger than death
and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem
two thousand years ago
is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love?

Then you can keep Christmas.*

Breaking up for Christmas

The children, after enjoying parties and some enjoyable visits, will break up on Friday. Please collect your children in good time. Thank you, as always, for your generosity and support over this term and for your good wishes and gifts. We are all immensely grateful.



May we all find the joy of this Holy Season, in our homes and among our loved ones –
“**Joy is the echo of God’s life in us.**” (Blessed Columba Marmion).

Wishing you all the greatest of joy throughout 2019!

Yours sincerely

H M Cusack

H M Cusack
Headteacher