



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



24<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent

## November is dedicated to the Holy Souls



During the month of November, we remember our beloved dead.

**The souls of those who die in grace go no further from us than God. And God is very near.**

### Christmas Celebrations 2020

The children will be recorded on 11<sup>th</sup> December and the 'performances' / services will be uploaded to a private YouTube channel. You will need a password to log in (which will be provided). However, to keep in line with Data Protection (& GDPR) regulations, we will need to send out a slip for you to grant permission for your child to participate. Failure to return the slip will mean your child will not take part as, by law, we need **affirmative** consent – we cannot assume consent.

Reception – Nativity

Y1 – Y4 – a repertoire of readings and carols

Y5 – Y6 – Christmas Carol Service – it is our intention to do this 'live' at 7pm (all being well).

## The God Who Speaks...

**"I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."**

### Christmas Dinner 'day' -

We will be offering the children a Christmas dinner on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. All who already have school dinners will be automatically included. Those who choose to opt for a school dinner on this day should book in advance – **please confirm via e-schools, no later than Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**.

**We encourage all children to wear a Christmas jumper on the day too to add to the festivities.**



### Children's Christmas Parties:

YR Christmas parties - 14th Dec

KS1 Christmas parties - 15th Dec

LKS2 Christmas parties - 16th Dec

UKS2 Christmas parties - 17th Dec



Children to wear own clothes for party. Thank you!



### ADVENT - PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

**Light a candle in the church on your way home from school.** Fr John will arrange for the candles to be left on the table in the front entrance of the church (a cost of 10p per candle would be appreciated). The candles are taken to the crib, set up as usual beside the baptismal font, where the children can experience some quiet preparation in the silence of their hearts for Christmas. The candles represent Jesus, the Light of the

Ordinary Time – Week 34: Blessings on Him who comes in the name of the Lord



World, coming among us and will be visible for all who enter the church during this holy season.

**The idea is that during the first week of Advent the children are invited to light ONE candle; second week of Advent light TWO candles and so on.**

### **Contacting SMT via e-schools**

Please note that SMT **cannot access emails that have been sent in this way**. If you have done so and not received a response, this is why. Please email to [enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk) should you wish to send a message to any member of our SMT. Thank you and our apologies if you thought we were just ignoring you.

**Punctuality – Arriving at School:** As we have now reverted to our normal opening time there is the expectation that all children arrive on time for 8.43 – to begin their school day at 8.45. Children not in by the stated time will now be marked as late and punctuality will be monitored. **It is really important to help the children to develop good habits.**

### **Message from PTA**

PTA are holding a Christmas raffle on December 17th, all donations will be greatly welcomed and appreciated. Tickets will be going home with your child later this week.

### **Admissions – 2021**

Please ensure that you have returned the SIF (Supplementary Information Form) if you have a child who you want to register for St Mary's in September. This form is an essential element of our admissions.

Our virtual tour is now available to view on school website.

Yours sincerely,



H M Cusack  
Headteacher