



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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4th October 2016

Dear Parent

Y2D Class Mass – Friday 7th October 2016

Please join us for our very first class mass of this school year. Our Y2D class is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary and their mass coincides with the feast on 7th October. Please join us and you are all welcome. Mass begins at 9:15am.

Rosary Sacks:

The children began bringing home the October Rosary sack yesterday. Alongside praying **one decade of the Rosary** as a family we ask for your support in encouraging your child (and perhaps mum and dad too) to think about what they have done better or differently or additionally during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. The answers may surprise you!

Chicken Pox ALERT

One of our pupils has been diagnosed with a rare childhood condition which is being treated and managed by the Children's Hospital. Due to the nature of the condition she cannot be in the presence of any child with Chicken Pox. **Therefore if your child or any of their younger siblings gets Chicken Pox it is imperative that you inform us at school so that we can protect our one pupil.**

Thank you for your support in this very serious matter.

Thought for this week – words that bring consolation ...

It is easier for God to hold back anger than mercy.

St Augustine

School Book Fair

My thanks to Mrs Woulfe for organising our annual Book Fair. The books are being delivered on Friday 14th October for one week. All children will be allowed time to view the books in advance to see which books they would like for themselves. There will also be opportunities for parents to browse and buy after school during the week.

e- safety tip of the week:

Think of a password that is easy to remember for you but difficult for anyone else to guess! It is good practice to have a mixture of numbers and letter, as well as lower case and capital letters.

Mr Blaney – In Sweden!

Mr Blaney is visiting Sweden this week on a work related excursion organized by the Birmingham Catholic Primary Partnership. The visit allows a mutual sharing of experiences and approaches to better the outcomes for pupils in both countries. There are a number of senior staff from local Catholic schools on this trip. Hopefully Mr Blaney will be able to bring something back that will enhance our school environment or practice.

Many thanks for the many packets, tins, bottles and fresh produce that was donated last week for the Fireside Centre – a wonderful example and address to the corporal works of mercy! The Fireside Centre were overwhelmed by your generosity and needed to make two trips to collect all the goods. Thank you!

THRASS Parent Workshop

We had a wonderfully supported THRASS workshop for parents last night. My thanks to all staff who stayed to support the workshop. Special thanks to Mrs Russell who organised and led the training.



Mrs Russell and Mrs Hammond:

Both Mrs Russell and Mrs Hammond finish this week to begin their maternity leave. We wish them both a safe confinement and look forward to meeting the new life they will bring forth. Both staff members intend to return to school before the end of this academic year. May God bless them and keep them and their babies safe.

KS2 Theatre Trip

We are still awaiting permission slips for some children to attend this arranged visit to the Theatre on 2nd December. Failure to return this permission will result in your child staying in school. Please send in by Friday of this week – 7th October, with payment please. The Theatre has to be paid in advance.

Code Club

This begins again tonight. The children know who they are and this session will go on for 10 weeks until the end of term. A new club will open for a new group of children in January.

Chess Success – Superb!

Congratulations to Ralphie Howett in Year 3JC who represented St Mary's and Staffordshire County in the Silver Plate Chess Tournament in Oldham. Ralphie came a superb joint second in the Under 8s, placing him amongst the top 20 boys in the UK for his age group.



Ralphie, together with Alex Howett and Rayan Kunnummal competed for the school in the Coventry Junior Chess Open on Saturday. Ralphie narrowly missed out on the gold medal, winning all but one of his matches when he was just beaten in a gruelling match against the Warwickshire county champion. Well done to both Alex and Rayan in the Under 10s section who both brought home bronze medals. Many thanks to our chess coach, Alex Holowczak for organising the tournament.

Thursday 20th October - Individual/Siblings School Photographs

The school photographer will be in on Thursday 20th October. Pre-schoolers with their siblings should arrive for 8.30 so that a family photo can be taken. All other siblings within school will be managed as routine.

After School Clubs

Due to parent meetings, there will be **NO after school clubs on Wednesday or Thursday** next week. This includes: Solihull Moors sports; dance; etc.

A Message from Father John

Father John is holding a guided tour of St Mary's Church on Thursday evening at 19.30pm. All welcome to attend.

Yours sincerely,

HM Cusack