



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



14th July 2020

Dear Parent

July is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood

End of School Year Mass – Y6 leavers:

Our mass on Friday will be held in church at **10.00**. The mass will be celebrated in thanksgiving for this year and for our Y6 leavers.

Only **Y6 children and up to 2 parents** will be allowed to attend the mass due to the restrictions that remain in place – staff will act as stewards and direct people to seats / clean the church following the mass.

Y6 children in school will meet their parent outside the church to walk in together – the children will be lined up for 9.50.

Y6 children who intend to participate in this mass, who are not attending school, will go straight to church with their parent and once mass is over will leave to return home. Face masks are compulsory for all children and adults. We need to know numbers of all attending, so please let us know by Thursday at midday. No children / younger siblings should attend. Thank you.

The God who Speaks to us – a message for all our leavers.

**I led them with reins of kindness,
with leading strings of love.**

Goodbye:

As you are already aware – we say 'goodbye' to Mr Blaney, Mrs Dale and Mrs Healy – all of whom are retiring at the end of this school year.

Mrs Dale and **Mrs Healy** have worked here for 25 years and been wonderful examples of love, goodness and dedication to many, many children over the years – even children's children! To say they will be missed is an understatement.

Mr Blaney has been a much influential and treasured member of our school family for over 16 years and 15 of these as our Deputy Headteacher. His going is such a loss but we thank God for all that he has given over the years and I want to thank him for the guidance and support he has given to me, personally – it has been my anchor throughout the years.

Due to the circumstances we find ourselves in, we cannot say 'goodbye' as we would wish and as they most certainly deserve. However, our intention is to have a Mass (please God) in September with a celebration, so that you will all get the chance to say your goodbyes too.

We also send our best wishes with **Miss Walker** who is leaving us to move to another school and thank her for what she has brought to our Y2 children.

15th week in Ordinary Time



Term Dates 2020/2021

Please find our finalised term dates for the next academic year on our school website – *Parent* tab. Thank you.

Summer Holidays

St Mary's will not be open to any children during the official summer break i.e. from 18th July until the children return on Thursday 3rd September. Thank you.

Regulations as to how the children will enter school will be updated on our school website during August and certainly before the children return – dependent on what initiatives the Government provide us with as circumstances change (and hopefully improve). **PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR UPDATES on the COVID-19 Tab of website.**



Sacrament of Confirmation – will be conferred on those children who have taken up this invitation – on Tuesday and Thursday this week. Like so many things at the moment, it is not ideal circumstances and while the sense of 'celebration' may be missing – **the Holy Spirit will be ever present.** Please pray for these children as they take this important step in their life of faith.

SCHOOL DINNERS

We have reviewed our dinner provision and listened to your views about us providing a hot meal. Please see the proposed menu which we have planned for September. It may be subject to some change. In the current circumstances / regulations that we must adhere to, there is only one hot option per day – but there will be a cold meal option as an alternative each day. **The children will be asked to select the hot or cold option every morning so that the kitchen can prepare.**

Kidz.Comm are pleased to announce that they will be re-opening [on Thursday 3rd September](#) for before and after school care. In line with Government guidelines, changes will be made to operational methods and these changes form part of the on-going risk assessment. Please contact the Parentline on [07999 864 777](tel:07999864777) for further information. Parents who were registered and attended during March this year will be contacted by email during the early part of August with regards to the new changes and working practices.

End of year reports

Parents are reminded that teachers sent parents a report that detailed their child's attainment at the time of the school closure via our e-schools learning platform. Targets for the core subjects were also given and children should work on these over summer ready for our September return.

Finally, on behalf of all governors and staff, I wish you all a safe, healthy and blessed summer break.

I thank our staff who have worked willingly and with huge dedication over these past few months in challenging circumstances – they have all done their very best to ensure that the children keep learning. The messages of support from so many parents have been a real boost and we thank you, also, for helping to keep us going. May God continue to bless us all.

Yours sincerely,

HM Cusack

Helena Cusack
Headteacher