



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
ST. MARGARET MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Week beginning Monday February 12th 2018.

Thought for the week: "Living Lent 2018".

Dear Parents,

LENT 2018. Next Wednesday February 14th (Ash Wednesday) sees the start of Lent. Pope Francis wrote that

"Lent is a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through fasting, prayer and charitable giving".

Indeed it is the ideal time to think of those less fortunate than ourselves and to do something about it. The season of Lent lasts 40 days; this reminds us of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness. During this time Jesus grew stronger, Lent offers all of us the same opportunity to grow stronger as our journey of faith continues.

Ash Wednesday. Our next school Mass will be next *Wednesday 14th* to mark the beginning of Lent, Y2-Y6 will gather in church whilst EYFS and Y1 will lead a prayer service in school. At Mass/prayer service the children will receive ashes on the foreheads to mark the beginning of the Lenten season, a season that lasts up until Easter Day at the beginning of April.

School Mass. Thanks to Y1 for leading our Mass this morning.

Building Update. Work on the expansion of school begins on **Monday February 19th** (half term week). From after half term accessing school via the drive will not be possible. Any families that use the breakfast club will need to park on the car park and walk up the drive, visitors to school will need to do likewise. I will write separately to all Breakfast Club users next week but in the interests of everyone's safety the school drive will not be open until all the work has been completed in July. Due to the nature of the work and the fact that it will be happening in two different places (behind school and next to Y1) the contractor sought to restrict the use of the driveway when we met on Monday. Across the front of school different machinery will be moving and operating so your understanding and patience is much appreciated.

Half Term. We break up *Friday February 16th*. We all return to school on *Monday 26th February* at the usual time. A further reminder that we break up for the Easter holidays *on Thursday March 29th* at 1.00pm. We return for the summer term on *Tuesday April 17th* at the usual time.



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Y6 and Cadbury World. Y6 began the week munching their way through various bars of chocolate and discovering the history that surrounds the Cadbury factory in Bourneville. Thanks to Miss McCarron for organising the trip, thanks also to the team of helpers that accompanied the class and to Y6 themselves who were terrific ambassadors for our school.

Safer Internet Day. Tuesday saw school mark “Safer Internet Day”. A day when school reflected on the positive things the internet can bring but also the importance of staying safe on line. All too often we hear, read and see the harmful effects of on line gaming, social media and various websites. I would urge all parents in the strongest possible terms to be vigilant and aware of how the internet is being used at home by children.

Parents Evening Spring 2018. These will take place next *Wednesday February 14th* and *Thursday February 15th* Mrs Logue has written to everyone with the details.

Y5 Parents Evening. A reminder to Y5 that Mr Barton will unfortunately not be back with us by parents evening so I will reschedule a date when he returns. As soon as I know when he will be back I will write to all Y5 parents. Thanks to all of Y5 for their understanding and patience with this matter.

Y4A Class Assembly. Some advance notice that Y4A class assembly is next Friday February 16th at 9.00am in the school hall.

School Bank. The bank reopens *at 8.30am on Tuesday February 13th* in school. Please call in and join up, Mr Connaughton will be more than happy to help/advise you.

Teacher Days The dates of our remaining Teacher Days this year are **April 16th, June 22nd, July 6th and July 23rd.**

Attendance for week ending February 9th 2018

Year Group	% Attendance
Y1F	96%
Y1C	95%
Y2L	98%
Y2D	96%
Y3R	98%
Y3W	99%
Y4A	94%
Y4P	94%
Y5	95%
Y6	97%
Weekly Average	96%

Happy Birthday: Lewis Nicholls, Sesuna Meron and Isabelle Thompson.

Please pray for Our school and parish as Lent 2018 begins.

Many thanks for your co-operation and support with these matters.

M. Aldred
Head Teacher.



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