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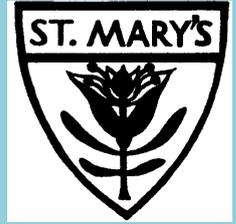


Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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*God is at the centre of our lives and as a school community we try to grow in
love and care by following the example of Jesus*

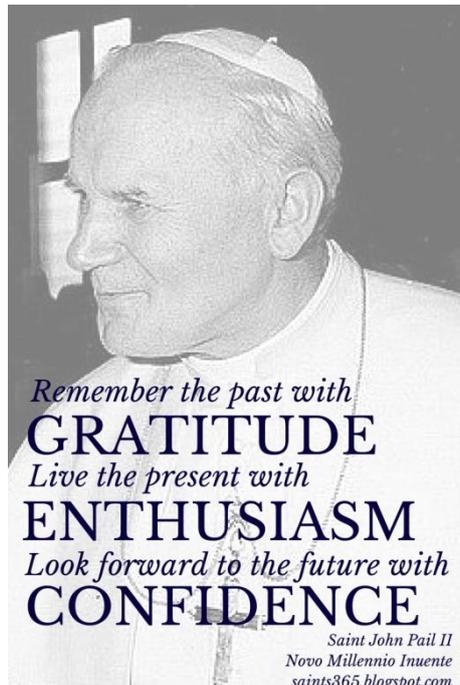


Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents,

The excitement shown this week as many of the classes have returned to the Hall for lunch has been delightful. I never imagined pupils at St Mary's being so excited at eating a meal in the Hall but then again it has been seven months since many of them last ate in there. Also very cheering were the bright colours for CAFOD which also raised money for a really good cause. Thank you to everyone for their donations and dressing up! Next week is our last week before half term and I would like to remind everyone that Friday is an INSET Day and we will be closed for children. School reopens for the new half term on Monday 2nd November.

Our word of the week is...GRATITUDE



Talking with teachers

I would like to remind everyone that in order to preserve social distancing I have asked staff **not to hold face to face discussions** with parents at the end of the day. If you have a question please use dojo in Key Stage 1, email or call the office and the member of staff will get in touch.

Year 2- Dress up in bright colours for CAFOD

Thursday 22nd October will be **Year 2's** dress up in bright colours day- what a way to finish the half term with a blaze of colour!

Reading books

Thank you to everyone who returned books today. New books will be issued on Monday. Don't worry if you forgot or couldn't find the book this morning- **next Friday is fine**. Please **do not** bring books in on other days.

INSET day next week!

Friday 23rd October is an INSET day. St Mary's will be **closed to children!**

Remembrance Day poppies

We will be **collecting donations** for the Royal British Legion's **Poppy appeal** the **first week back** however we will **only** be giving the poppies to the children on the Friday before Remembrance Day to minimise the possibility of sharing Covid 19.

Parents evening

Unfortunately we cannot do our normal autumn Parents' evening to update you on how your child has settled back into school. Instead we will be offering an autumn update on paper shortly after half term with opportunity to call if you require clarification on any aspect.

Shelter closed

From next week the shelter will be cordoned off as current research indicates that even outside it is not safe to congregate in significant numbers in such a small area.

Arrivals and departures after half term

After half term we will be reducing the number of entry times and look to build on the success of the first half term. The pupils have adapted beautifully to a regime featuring rather more hand washing than this time last year!

The new times will be:-

- 8.45am arrival for Reception, Yrs 1,3 and 6
- 8.55am arrival for Yrs 2, 4 and 5
- 3.05pm collection for Reception, Yrs 1,3 and 6
- 3.15pm collection for Yrs 2, 4 and 5.

This division will ensure that classes which share a cloakroom should not overlap. Please could you continue to drop all children with the earliest pupil and collect with the latest pupil to be dismissed. The change also means that parents and children should not be waiting in the rain for such a long time.

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Best wishes for a lovely weekend

Mr J Shingler

Headteacher

