



# Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Earlsbury Gardens, Birchfield, Birmingham B20 3AE

Tel: 0121 356 4721 email: enquiry@sacredheart-sch.net

Executive Principal: Mr. G M O'Hara

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you and well done!

It has been an incredibly tiring half term for families, children and staff at Sacred Heart. We have had so many obstacles put in our way, but each time, we have worked together to give children the best possible experiences we can through supporting each other and remote learning. As parents, it is not easy teaching children at home and many of you are also working your own jobs alongside them. We know it is impossible to recreate the learning they receive in school outside of the classroom. As a school, we have been overwhelmed with how children and parents have adapted to this situation and the incredible leap in technological skills for many of us. **There will be no remote learning for the children during half term but we will set our usual holiday research projects online- have a good rest!**

You have done an incredible job- you and your children should be extremely proud of yourselves!

**“Lord, open my heart, mind and ears to receive your Word.”**

One day a man who had leprosy came to Jesus because he wanted to be healed. The man knelt in front of Jesus and said, “If you want to, you can heal my leprosy.” Jesus was filled with compassion and said, “Of course I want to.”

Then Jesus reached out to touch him and said, “Be healed!” At once the man’s leprosy disappeared and he was healed. Before sending the man on his way Jesus said firmly, “Don’t tell anyone about this. Just go and show yourself to the priest, and take an offering to the Temple as commanded by Moses, and everyone will know that you have been healed.” But, instead, the man went and told everyone what had happened. This meant that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay out in the country. Even so, people would still come to him from everywhere around.

*Adapted from Mark 1:29-39 The 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time*



*“We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion.”*

St Vincent de Paul

Heavenly Father

We pray for those people who need a lot of help for what they are going through and we ask help for their suffering.

We ask you to bring them into your hands and treat them with care.

We pray for the sick to get better and to be healthy.

Please look after and keep in your heart the family and friends of anyone who has been affected by disease, war and illness.

Take them into your heart and heal them as much as you can with you always and forever.

Amen

**This week’s prayer- written by Africa Beauty in Year 6**





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## The Wednesday word is

### Compassion

### Season of Lent



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, which starts our preparation for Easter. Lent is a special time when the Church invites everyone to examine their lives, to make Lenten promises and make a fresh start with God and with each other. It's a time to make a change for the better by turning away from things which are wrong for ourselves or others. During this time, we encourage children to pray, fast and give alms. This year, we will be supporting the children through their spiritual journey remotely. This does not make it any less important for us as a Catholic school. The following ways will help your child to reflect and turn away from their wrong doings during Lent.

#### At home as a family

##### Walk with Me calendars

These calendars will be emailed to all parents today and will also be on Google Classroom. Please use these to give your child a focus each day during Lent and take part in the activities suggested.

##### Sponsored activity for Father Hudson's care homes

Our fundraising this year will be focused on raising much needed funds for Father Hudson's care homes who do so much for Birmingham communities. Please find out more about this charity below.

<https://youtu.be/UjY9ocfMYgw>

Your child will be sent a sponsorship form to collect and raise as much money as possible by the good deeds that they do. They can record their efforts on the jamboard created for them on Google Classroom.

##### Creating a reflective prayer area at home

Sadly, we cannot send home our Lenten prayer bags as usual so we would like children to create their own quiet prayer space at home. We will add details about this to Google Classroom. It would be lovely if you could send photographs in for their teachers to see.

##### Easter Basket Blessing

Mrs McGrory has kindly offered to support the children in school, and at home, in making Easter Baskets. These will be blessed as part of a Polish tradition which many of our families may be familiar with.

#### At home and at school

##### Live streamed Mass each Friday

The children in school will celebrate Mass virtually every Friday and we encourage children at home to do the same via the link below. This is such an important part of our journey through Lent and we will be asking the children to reflect on the Gospel afterwards in a special way as we do in school.

<http://www.htrc.org.uk/>

##### CAFOD Interactive Lenten calendars

The children will begin their morning welcome videos by using the CAFOD resources which give the children a clear worship focus each day. You are more than welcome to use this resource as a family at home too.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Lent-resources-for-children>





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## Parent Questionnaire- Remote Learning

Please remember to complete the questionnaire sent to all families regarding our remote learning provision. Your opinion really matters to us and we want to ensure that we can celebrate its success and improve our methods where possible.

## Certificates this week

The following children have been commended by their teachers and teaching assistants for their wonderful work at home this week. Laila, Daoud, Niyah, Kwame, Noah and Levi.

## Raffle tickets winners

The children who have won the raffle ticket competition so far will have their reward posted to them this week.

All staff have been adding raffle tickets to their jars for children's effort at logging on at home and 'turning in' work where they can. Congratulations to these children. Elime, Abigail, Diarra, Aftanna, Liban and Shaquari.

Congratulations children- we will make sure you receive your certificate or your £5.00 raffle treat. Please continue to support and encourage your children to earn their raffle tickets for a chance to win the special prize each week. (Children will receive raffle tickets for completing work- not for purely logging on to Google Classroom.)

## Staff training day- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Please remember that school is closed for all children on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** for staff training. There will be no remote learning on this day. School will reopen on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February for **critical worker children and vulnerable pupils**.

Thank you for your support this half term  
Please stay at home and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Mr G M O'Hara  
Executive Principal

Mrs G Elliott  
Acting Head of School

Mrs D Cooper  
Acting Vice Principal

