



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

19th March 2021

Dear Parents,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of the grain of wheat, which dies to produce a rich crop, to show us that his death was necessary if many were to receive eternal life. Through this Gospel Jesus is also encouraging his disciples to follow him – to give him first place in their lives. This message is for each one of us too. Jesus wants us to make following him our most important priority. Choosing to follow Jesus is not always easy; it demands commitment. But it helps us to keep growing in love and leads us to happiness in this life, and in the life to come.

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



Jesus said, “Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves their life loses it; anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. Whoever serves me, must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour them. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all people to myself.” By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Adapted from John 12: 20-33 The 5th Sunday of Lent, Year B



“Lent is a journey during which the Lord asks us to follow three steps: almsgiving, prayer, and fasting.”
Pope Francis

The Wednesday word is Follow

The Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis has declared a special ‘Year of St. Joseph’, starting this week on 19th March 2021 and lasting until 26th June 2022. This began today with the Solemnity of St. Joseph. Scripture records that St. Joseph was a carpenter and for this reason he is known as the patron saint of workers. He is also the patron saint of unborn children, fathers, travellers, refugees and a happy death.

To mark this occasion, the children of Sacred Heart have sent cards, crafts and prayers to the children of St. Joseph's, Sutton Coldfield. Thank you to the children in Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 for your thoughts for others on their special feast day.

St. Patrick's Day- Fundraising for Father Hudson's

Thank you for your generosity in donations for Father Hudson's on St. Patrick's Day this week. Please continue to encourage your children to raise as much money as possible through their sponsored activity. We will begin to collect money in during the last week of term.





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Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nicholls

Please find attached, with this newsletter, a message from Cardinal Vincent Nicholls. Tuesday 23rd March has been designated as a National Day of Reflection to mark the anniversary of the first national lockdown with a minute's silence at midday and doorstep vigils of light at 8pm. Please take the opportunity on this day to reflect and pray for better times to come.

Birthday Parties

We will be continuing to celebrate the birthdays of children who have unfortunately had their birthdays during lockdown. On **Friday 26th March**, all children may wear their own clothes to school so they can celebrate together with their friends.

Reading books

Thank you for your support in listening to your child read at home. Please remember that children must read every night and reading books must be brought to school every day.

Punctuality

We have a number of children who are developing concerning patterns in poor punctuality since returning to school. Arriving at school on time is just as important as attending each day.

Poor punctuality can lead to your child to:

- feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- missing the beginning of vital lessons and interventions
- missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future.

If your child is 10 minutes each day...this is how it affects their schooling.

Missing just...	That equals...	Which is...	Over 13 years of schooling that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes a day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes a day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

If your child's level of punctuality is of serious concern, we will offer advice and support. If you have concerns about your child's punctuality, please contact the school urgently as we may be able to assist you.

We would like to thank those parents who make sure their children are punctual for school and therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.





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Gospel Virtues

This half term, the children are learning to be **attentive and discerning**. They are growing to be **attentive** to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Congratulations to the following children for living out these virtues: Adela, Chiamaka, Justus, Nicole, Abena, Chinassa and James.

Commendations

The following children have been commended by their teachers and teaching assistants for their wonderful work in school: Sokhna, Daoud, Tanjima, Aftanna, Michael, Chiemena and Richmond.

Presentation Awards

Well done to the following children who have shown such pride in the presentation of their work this week. Inaaya, Chizitelum, Raphael, Remi, Prince, Rahya and Kian.

Prayer to St Joseph



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mr G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs G Elliott
Acting Head of School

Mrs D Cooper
Acting Vice Principal

