



# 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

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents,



This week is Holy Week and this coming Sunday is Easter Sunday. This is the day when the Church throughout the world especially remembers and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus - his rising in glory. Ask your child what they have been learning at school about Holy Week and Easter Sunday. It may help your child if you tell them something else that you know, or have experienced, about Easter.

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



Before sunrise on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance and that the tomb was empty. Mary ran to Peter and another disciple (John) and said, “Someone has taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him.” The disciples ran together to the tomb. But John, running faster than Peter, arrived first and looked into the tomb but did not go in. Peter, however, went into the tomb and he saw Jesus' linen burial cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had been over Jesus' head; this was rolled up in a place by itself. Then John also went into the tomb; he saw and he believed. Until this moment they had failed to understand that Jesus must rise from the dead.

*Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 4th April 2021. John 20:1-9 (Easter Sunday)*



*“Let us prepare to celebrate Easter in the joy of God! Christ is risen! Christ is alive!”*

Pope Francis

**The Wednesday word is  
Easter**

## Holy Week events

Thank you to the staff and children in KS2 who performed ‘Born for This’ during Holy Week so reverently and movingly. They really showed us how much Jesus gave for us all in dying on the cross to save our sins. It was lovely that Father Stephen could come to school and celebrate this with us via Zoom. The recording of this, and of Mrs Badland's and the Faith Ambassador's beautiful Stations of the Cross, can be watched on Google Classroom.





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## Start of the school day

To increase the opportunities for learning at the start of the day, the school day will start **from 8.50am each morning from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April**. The gates will be open from 8.40am and the children will make their way into school at this time with an adult.

Please ensure your child is in school by this time as letters will begin to be sent for children who are repeatedly late. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## Easter services at Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Please make every effort to attend church over Easter. Father Stephen would love to see our families celebrating in person. If you cannot attend church, Father is encouraging families to attend on-line with the Archbishop at St. Chad's Cathedral using the following link.

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

## Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Church mass times

Good Friday-	3.00pm
Holy Saturday-	8.00pm
Easter Sunday-	10.00am

## Sacramental Celebrations

We are praying that children in Years 3 and 4 will be able to celebrate the most important Sacrament of receiving their First Holy Communion at Church on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May during 10.30am mass**.

Children in Years 5 and 6 will also be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 4.00pm**.

Sadly, due to ongoing restrictions, we will not be asking our school community to come and join us in celebration, However, please keep these children in your prayers as they prepare and pray for them on their special Sacramental days.

## Lenten almsgiving- Father Hudson's Care Homes

We have been overwhelmed with our family's generosity in donating money for The Father Hudson's Good Shepherd appeal via the Easter egg raffle, sponsored activities and non uniform days. You and your children have raised an incredible £292.00 for this worthy cause. We appreciate this so much as we fully understand that many families are struggling financially themselves. This is truly faith in action. Thank you.

## Google Classroom- Holiday Homework Projects

Children have made great progress and have worked extremely hard this half term and we wish to keep this momentum going over the holidays. All children will be set homework projects on Google Classroom to keep them learning and busy over the holidays. Any children without devices at home will be provided with paper based homework projects. These projects will really help to build on your child's knowledge of new topics before returning to school so it is very important that they complete as much as possible.





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## Accessing symptom-free tests

Parents and carers, and anyone else living with a school age child or young person, are among the priority groups being given access to free home lateral flow testing kits to test themselves.

Information on how to access these can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

All are strongly encouraged to have a lateral flow test at a local testing site prior to starting home testing, to know how a test is undertaken. **Twice weekly testing will help detect hidden asymptomatic cases and help keep pupils and staff safer in school.**

By ordering tests to your home, you will be readily prepared to conduct tests within your family regularly. It would also reduce the amount of time children are absent from school waiting for test results to be returned as these lateral flow tests give a result in 30 minutes.

## Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline opening hours over the Easter holidays

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline will be open every day over the Easter holidays to answer any questions you have about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care. Over the bank holiday weekend (Friday 2 April to Monday 5 April), lines will be open from 10am to 4pm.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Have a very happy and holy Easter break.

Thank you for all of your support his half term.

Yours sincerely

Mr G M O'Hara  
Executive Principal

Mrs G Elliott  
Acting Head of School

Mrs D Cooper  
Acting Vice Principal

