



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher
Mrs. D. Linley
Almond Croft, Great Barr, Birmingham B42 1NU
Tel: 0121 357 9892



Week Ending 27th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we unveiled our new school library and I am pleased to say that the children LOVE it! During dinner time I asked some of the children what they thought of the library and this is what they had to say about it;

"I like it because you read a book and instantly get lost in your imagination." by Shanice

"I learned a lot about the weather in the new library, there's lots of non-fiction books to read." By Harry

"It feels as though we are stepping into a book." By Rayan

"There's loads of amazing books and we get to improve our reading." By Elena

A big thank you to the children, staff, governors and friends of St. Mark's for supporting the new library project – we are very fortunate to have a fantastic team of people supporting our school to make it the best it can be!

Have a good weekend!
Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

Attendance for this week:



Class	Attendance	Lates	Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	90%	1	Year 4	89.3%	3
Year 1	90%	3	Year 5	89.7%	2
Year 2	88%	2	Year 6	88.7%	1
Year 3	89.7%	6	School	89.3%	18



Congratulations and Well Done!

We would like to say a big well done to the following pupils for receiving an award in our Congratulations assembly this week. Keep up the great work!



- Reception:** Isaac & Julia
- Year 1:** Rosie & Ava
- Year 2:** Nasri & Zara
- Year 3:** Joshua & Aimee
- Year 4:** Teigan & Rayan
- Year 5:** Aadam & Erin
- Year 6:** Meisha & Charlie



- Thursday 3rd October - Mass led by Year 4
- Thursday 10th October – No Mass
- Thursday 17th October – Harvest Mass led by Year 3
- Thursday 24th October – Mass led by Year 6



Safeguarding Update

Safeguarding



In order to keep our children safe at St. Mark's, we have regular fire drills and lockdowns to ensure that should we ever have a real crisis – the children and staff will know what to do. This week we had a fire drill and I am pleased to say that it went very well but as always, we review and improve practice.

Lesson learned: To help teachers check that all the children are present in the line, the children now line up in alphabetical order.

New DSL



Mr. Hemmingway, our deputy headteacher is now one of our school's Designated Safeguarding Leads so should you have any concerns regarding the welfare or protection of children in school – you can approach him about this. Other safeguarding leads in school include; Mrs. Linley, Mrs. Dykes and Miss Allen.

Keeping children safe before and after school



It has come to my attention that young children are being allowed to run freely around the school grounds before and after school while parents stand by chatting. Please keep young children attached to you as the risk of a child or children going missing at these times is far greater than any other time in the school day. Thank you.



Reading Questionnaire



Thank you to those of you who have completed and returned the school reading questionnaire. If you haven't already done so, could you return your form to the school office. Your opinion is important to us and we do act on parental feedback. Many thanks!

EU Settlement Scheme

Parents/Carers of pupils who are EU, EEA or Swiss citizens need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 2020.

If you're an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK. The deadline for applying will be 30 June 2021, or 31 December 2020 if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

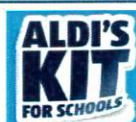
The EU Settlement Scheme is now open. You can [apply now](#) if you meet the criteria. It is free to apply to the scheme. Please follow link below: -

<https://apply-for-eu-settled-status.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

If your application is successful, you will [get either settled or pre-settled status](#)

To find out more about settled or pre-settled status, please visit: -

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>



We have signed up to Aldi's Get Set to Eat Fresh scheme. For every £30 you spend, collect a GB sticker and we will put it on our school chart. If we can fill the chart, we could be in for £20,000 to spend on school PE equipment. This would be invaluable and the children would love it.



Please help us to achieve our goal and start collecting the stickers now and ask family members to join in with collecting too!





Macmillan Cake Sale – WOW!



A huge thank you to all of you for supporting the Macmillan cake sales this week. We will let you know how much we raised in next week's newsletter.

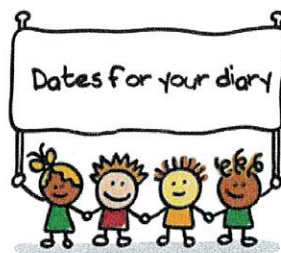
A WOW! moment from today's cake sale was hearing some children say, 'you can keep the change'. This demonstrates children at St. Mark's living out the virtues of Grateful and Generous. Those children were rewarded by Mrs. Linley today for such generosity. Well done children!

Lunchtime arrangements and dinner money



If parents wish for their child to change their lunch time arrangements (e.g. from packed lunch to school dinner or vice versa) the **school office must be informed** providing two weeks' **notice**. Meal choices cannot be changed on an ad-hoc basis. The available options for lunchtime arrangements to choose ONE from are; 1) packed lunch, 2) school meals or 3) packed lunch Monday to Thursday with Pizza Friday.

Can we also remind all parents to pay their dinner money via their ParentPay account every Monday to avoid falling into arrears, thank you.



School Term Dates

Autumn 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
Tuesday 3 rd September To Friday 25 th October -Half Term- Tuesday 5 th November To Friday 20 th December	Monday 6 th January To Friday 14 th February -Half Term- Monday 24 th February To Friday 3 rd April	Monday 20 th April To Friday 22 nd May -Half Term- Monday 1 st June To Friday 17 th July

Dates for Diaries

- Welcome service - **Friday 4th October**
- Creative workshop week for parents - **week beginning 14th October**
- Parents evening: 3:30 – 6pm – **Wednesday 23rd October**
4:30 – 6:30pm – **Thursday 24th October**
- Year 2 class assembly – **Friday 25th October @ 2:30pm**
- Teacher Training Day – **Monday 4th November**
- St. Mark's Annual Open Day for Prospective Parents – **Thursday 7th November from 10.30am**

*For your
Diary*