



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher
Mrs. D. Linley



Week Ending 20th December 2019

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope you all have a very magical Christmas and New Year. On behalf of St. Mark's school staff, I want to thank you all for the many lovely cards and gifts we have received.

As Christmas approaches, it can be easy to get distracted by all the shopping, the decorating, the baking, and the celebrating. We can so quickly forget that the true reason for celebration in this season is the birth of our Lord and Saviour; Jesus Christ!

Have a lovely Christmas, please stay safe and we will look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 7th January.

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

Attendance for this week:



Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	76	3	Year 4	93	5
Year 1	96	3	Year 5	91	1
Year 2	98	5	Year 6	97	3
Year 3	96	3	School	92	23



MASS AT HOLY NAME CHURCH

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

6.00pm: First Mass of Christmas (Family Mass)

8.30pm: Christmas Carols followed by Mass of the Night

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

8.30am Mass of the Dawn

10.30am Mass during the day

Thursday 26th December

10.30am Mass for the Feast of St Stephen, Patron Saint of Altar Servers.



Br Andrew looks forward very much to welcoming you all to Mass. Please do come and join us, especially for the children and family Mass on Christmas Eve.

We wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.



Parking and Congestion - PCSO's in action!

Well done to our Year 5 PCSO's who graduated this week. They have learned a great deal on the Junior Police Community Support Officer programme. I felt very proud this week hearing them make their pledge to serve and protect the school community.

One of the issues that we have had here for some time is parents parking inappropriately. Since the yellow cones have been introduced - parking has improved, but there are still some parents choosing not to park in a safe area and we have had a few near misses. To improve the parking outside the school, our Junior PCSO's

will be on patrol in the mornings with Mrs. Linley and Mr. Hemmingway and they will be issuing parking tickets to any parents parking inappropriately. Please support us by parking safely at all times!



Parent Governor Vacancy

An exciting opportunity has arisen. The Governing Body currently have a vacancy for a parent governor.

Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school.

Through the children, they have a first hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view.

This enables parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school.

The role is a necessary part of ensuring the good functioning of school leadership. Governors set the ethos of the school and drive for continuous improvement, and they also oversee financial performance and ensure money is well-spent.

If you are committed and interested in supporting and further developing St. Mark's school, please nominate yourself to become a parent governor by contacting the school office for a nomination form.

There is no set skills set that marks out an ideal parent governor and ideally, we want governors from a range of backgrounds, occupations and with a range of interests to ensure St. Mark's has a full and varied governing body board. Training and support will be given to the elected parent governor.

Please contact Mrs. Hussain in the school office for more information.



SMF CHRISTMAS DISCO



St Mark's was really rocking to the Christmas Beat at our Christmas Disco. Lots of children came along for a dance, and a sing-a-long. Many thanks to the staff and especially the SMF for their tireless efforts – we are very grateful for their hard work in supporting our school.

Christmas Productions

Thank you to all the parents that attended the Infant Nativity and Junior Carol Concert. It was lovely to see so so many of our St. Mark's school, parish and wider community attend in such high numbers. Seeing so many of you attend means everything to the children, as alongside the staff they put so much time and effort to creating something so powerful and meaningful.

Christmas
Carol
Concert

Money raised from:

SMF - £ 748.89

Xmas Carol Concert - £36.05



Lunchtime arrangements & 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.

Can we also remind all parents to clear their dinner money balances must be cleared before the start of the Spring term (Sunday 5th January 2020).



YEAR 6 SAT'S BOOSTER SESSIONS

BOOSTER SESSIONS - will be taking place on a weekly basis (Tuesday) week commencing 14th January 2020.



FATHER CHRISTMAS

Thank you to Father Christmas who visited this morning the children were very excited and can't wait for his next visit at Christmas.

Goodbye and Good Luck!

Today we say goodbye to Miss Allen and Ms. Ward. We wish them every success for the future and we will keep them in our hearts and prayers.

Dates for Diaries:

- Y6 SAT's booster meeting – Monday 13th January at 3.30pm
- Teacher Training Days - Monday 6th Jan 2020 and Friday 17th Jan 2020



SCHOOL BREAKS UP – FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2019 – RE-OPENS TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2020

Following parent feedback and in an attempt to reduce paper wastage, we are asking all parents how they would like to continue receiving the school newsletter. Currently, pupils take home a copy of the newsletter. The newsletter is **also** always available on the school website for parents to refer to.

If you would **instead** prefer to receive your newsletter by **email** than your child taking home a paper copy, please complete the slip below and return to the school.

I would like to receive the school newsletter via email

Name of Child/ren:

Class:

Name of Parent:

Email address: (please print).....

