



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Friday 9th October 2020

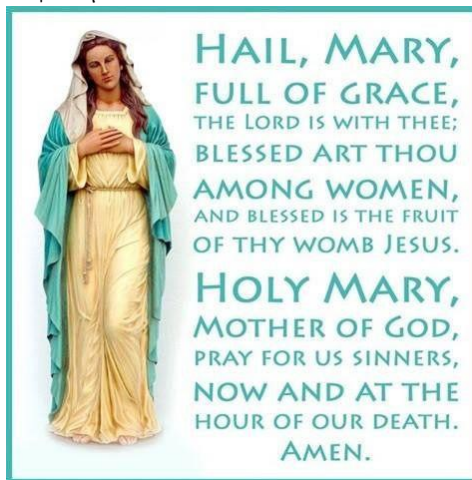
Dear Parents,



Please click on the following link to access this spiritual resource to share with your family and friends:

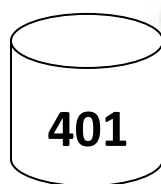
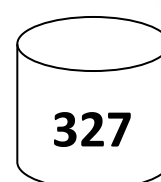
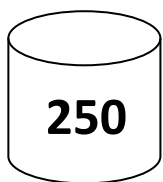
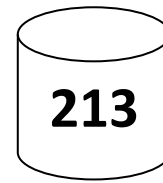
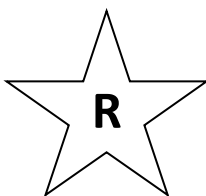
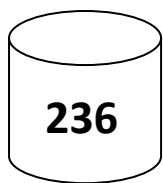
<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/messenger?pid=MTA101634&v=6.6>

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary and during this month, we will be thinking about Our Lady and Spiritual mother, Mary. We have been praying the Holy Rosary prayer in school on a daily basis and we are encouraging you to join us in prayer.



Please continue to stay safe and have a good weekend,
Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

STAR AWARDS – Well done to **YEAR 1** for earning the most stars this week!!



POP BAND AWARDS – The following children have achieved their **WHITE** pop band award:

Kiya (Y6)
Harpreet (Y1)

Rhia (Y6)
Julia (Y1)

Desmond (Y6)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH : This month your children will be learning more about Black History and gaining an increased awareness of why this month has been dedicated to Black History. We have dedicated a week in school whereby children will complete a range of activities related to this important area of the curriculum, this will take place from Tuesday 20th October to Friday 23rd October.



Our older children will gain a deeper understanding of the origins of Black British History and how this has positively shaped society. In addition to this, workshops have been organised to engage children in African drumming and Mrs. Beresford has been busy organising a delicious Caribbean menu to serve to children on **Wednesday 21st October.**

(If your children would like to try the Caribbean menu that will be served in celebration of Black History month, please let the school office know and pay for a school dinner via Parent Pay by Wednesday 14th October.)



Pupil Progress Update

We will not be conducting a parents' evening in the Autumn term as we have done in previous years. This is because the risk of Covid-19 posed to staff and children would be too great. In place of parents' evening, we will be sending out a pupil progress update via email to you on: **Friday 23rd October 2020.**

This update will give you a summary on your child's well-being, behaviour, findings of their baseline assessments for Reading, Writing and Maths and targets for your child to work on at home. Teachers will be contacting some parents for telephone meetings to discuss some children's learning and progress in more detail. You will be contacted if your teacher would like a telephone meeting with you. These will take place the week beginning Monday 2nd November.

FLU VACCINATIONS: THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2020

Your child is due to receive a nasal flu vaccination offering protection against winter flu. We have sent the NHS consent forms home with your child this week. Please read the information attached to the consent form and complete the consent form stating whether you **DO** or **DO NOT** require your child to have the nasal flu vaccination and return back to school **ASAP** and at the very latest by: **Friday 23rd October 2020.**



SMART WATCHES: The use of **Smart Watches** is **not** appropriate in **school** due to risks of misuse, loss, and damage. Therefore, we do not allow any child to wear one.



ROADWORKS: During the half term holiday between 24th October to 1st November, there will be roadworks being carried out on Kingsdown Avenue.

REMINDER:

This is a polite request to parents, who allow their child to be collected by a sibling, that they should be aged 16 or over and to inform the school office regarding this. Can I also please remind any Year 6 parents, who allow their child to walk home on their own, that we must receive parent permission. Many Thanks.



YEAR 6 CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

On Thursday 8th October, Year 6 had a visit from James Trewby who works for Columbian Mission. He delivered a workshop to the children about climate change. The morning started with a zoom call with Marj, who is a missionary in Fiji. The children really enjoyed asking her questions and found out about what life is like as a missionary. On reflection, the children said: *"She lives in voluntary poverty, she chose to have a simple life so that she can help others."* Rhia. *"Marj helps people. She promotes peace, justice and integrity."* Moiz. *"Climate change is effecting Fiji because cyclones have got worse and they kill people now. The last one killed 46 people."* Kiya.

We then looked at Laudato Si and what the Pope asked us to do to help our common home. We played charades looking at the key points - Annie and Zayaan acted out helping the community really well. After play, we went outside and completed private prayer, whereby we sketched the nature around us. *"It was calming and peaceful praying outside and it was nice to draw what nature we have."* Afreya.

After lunch, we worked in teams to create canvases that showed the themes from Laudato Si. Have a look at our school Twitter to see some pictures. When summarising the day to Mrs Linley, Tiya said, *"We can't change the entire world from our classroom but we can make baby steps to make a difference."*

Message for Year 6 Parents Only

Secondary Transfer Letters Please ensure that you have completed your secondary transfer forms online by 31st October 2020. www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

School Term Dates

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Half Term: Monday 26th October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020

Term Ends: Friday 18th December 2020

Spring Term 2021

Term Starts: Tuesday 5th January 2021

Half Term: Monday 15th February 2021 to Friday 19th February 2021

Term Ends: Thursday 1st April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19th April 2021

Half Term: Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021

Term Ends: Wednesday 21st July 2021



Teacher Training Days:

Monday 19th October 2020

Monday 2nd November 2020

Monday 4th January 2021