



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

As most of you will know, from December 2nd, Birmingham will enter into Tier 3 lockdown. I am sure you will appreciate that we must all continue to follow the guidance to keep EVERYONE safe. Weatherproof signs have been purchased for the school playground, and we hope to have them up soon! In the meantime, can you please refrain from speaking to members of staff about concerns/issues at the start and end of each day and instead write your query/concern in an email to the school office. Members of staff will respond to emails within 48 hours. This is not to just reduce congestion but to also ensure that we are doing everything possible to keep us all safe. Please remember that some members of staff in school are vulnerable and therefore should not be exposed to unnecessary risk.

We appreciate your support on this matter!



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

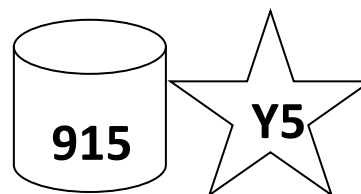
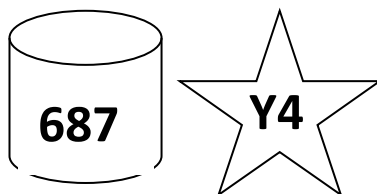
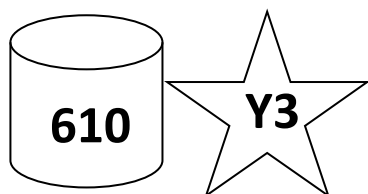
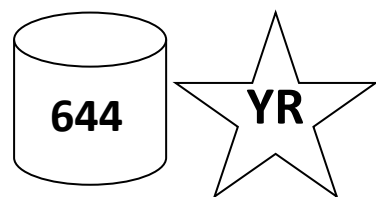


Spread The Word with those around you...

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/advent?pid=MTA101634&v=11.2>

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: Szymon(Y3) Madhav(Y3) Amanah(Y2) Jason(Y2) Kaiden(Y6) Sara Maria (Y6)

The following children have achieved their **YELLOW** pop band award:

Kiya(Y6) Ali(Y3) Klmaya(Y5) Kian(Y5) Tiya(Y6) Kane(Y1) Adam(Y1)
Preeti(Y5) Aadam(Y5) Anushka(Y5) Moiz(Y6)



PRESENTATION POINTS:

Well done to **YEAR 1** for achieving the most presentation points and being the smartest dressed class this week!!



<u>YEAR:</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Reception	38
Year 1	40
<u>Year 2</u>	38
Year 3	36
Year 4	38
Year 5	36
Year 6	38

Please ensure your child is prepared for school and is wearing the correct uniform (earrings, hoodies and trainers on days when your child is not doing P.E. is not allowed).

St. Andrews Day – Monday 30th November

To mark St. Andrews Day on Monday, children can wear a blue ribbon tied to their jumper, blue socks or blue bows/bobbles. We still want children to remain in school uniform please.

ST. MARK'S FRIENDS – (SMF)

Our Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) is called St. Mark's Friends (SMF). This group of volunteers is mostly made up of parents of children attending St. Mark's. In previous years, the SMF group organised the Christmas fayre. Sadly, this year due to Covid restrictions, there will be no Christmas fayre held in school. Instead, the SMF are working with the school to ensure that Christmas this year is made a little extra special for our children despite the Covid pandemic. If you are interested in joining the SMF group, please pass your details onto the school office and a member of the St. Mark's Friends group will be in touch.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

This year, to make Christmas feel extra special for our children whilst also keeping everyone as safe as possible during the Covid pandemic, we have organised the following Christmas celebrations and events:

Monday 7th December - Staff Christmas Raffle tickets to go on sale (please help us by purchasing some tickets and you never know... you might be a winner!)

Friday 11th December - Christmas Party Day - Non-uniform day for all and children to celebrate Christmas parties in their bubbles.

Monday 14th December - Santa's reindeers will be making a trip to St. Mark's school today and all classes will have the chance to see the reindeers up close.



Please note: in previous years the children have eaten Christmas dinner on the same day but due to the high demand for a Christmas dinner and the dinnertime slot being cut shorter, we will not be able to accommodate Christmas dinner to ALL children on the same day AND keep everyone as safe as we are doing so we have arranged Christmas dinners to be cooked over two days.

Tuesday 15th December - Christmas Dinner day for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 only. (Children in Key Stage 2 will have sandwiches today provided by the school kitchen).

Wednesday 16th December - Christmas Dinner day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. (Children in Key Stage 1 will have sandwiches today provided by the school kitchen).



Friday 18th December - Christmas jumper day - all children are allowed to wear their Christmas jumper to school but they should still wear the correct trousers/skirt and shoes.



As well as the above, Father Christmas will be paying us a visit and he will be bringing some presents for the children too!

Please note As much as we have appreciated Christmas gifts in the past, we would appreciate it even more if you did not buy staff Christmas gifts this year – we will certainly enjoy the Christmas cheer with you all instead! 😊

YEAR 5 - CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

Ivy - Today, we had a special visitor called James. We played lots of different games with him including evolution rock, paper, scissors and 'find someone who'. Also, we used Zoom to talk to a lady called Marj who lives in Fiji. She is working as a missionary to help battle climate change. She was very positive and very inspirational.

Anayah - Today a man called James came in and delivered a workshop for us about the environment. We went outside and collected a piece of something that God had made and then came back inside to sketch our picture. It was very relaxing. We spoke to a lady called Marj who lives in Fiji. We made Christmas cards for the amazing people who are helping to save our world.



Elena - Today, we had a workshop that I really enjoyed. We made drawings, played a game called evolution and we even went on a Zoom call with James's friend Marj who lives in Fiji. We asked questions and we learnt about her story which was really interesting. I also enjoyed drawing, learning about creation and playing evolution. Although I didn't win, it was still a fun experience. Overall, today was a lot of fun and I hope we can have more amazing workshops again in the future.



Message from School Council



Thank you for all of your donations so far, to help School Council's Christmas raffle! Please keep donating! Raffle tickets will be on sale from next week on the gate, £1 a strip!

Thank you for your support, School Council 😊

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 4th January 2021