



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

Thank you for your co-operation and support this term. We have made many changes this half term and we continue to strive for excellence as we believe your child/ren deserve no less than the best. Behaviour and attitude to learning is key for good learning and progress to take place. Without good behaviour and children displaying good attitudes, we cannot be a good school. We have so many well-mannered, respectful and friendly children in school, and this is credit to all of you. **THANK YOU!**

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer from students at Birmingham University who are raising awareness of County Lines. Please read this flyer as this is a real issue in our local area. We hope none of our children will ever fall victim to County Lines, but we are always looking for the signs of potential County Lines behaviour. In the Summer, our Year 5 and 6 children will be exploring this further, please take 5 minutes and read the flyer attached to this newsletter.

I have spoken to many disappointed parents of Year 6 children this year in relation to their child not getting their first choice of Secondary School. I understand that as parents we all want our children to go to the best local schools possible. One Secondary School that I feel often gets overlooked that has made vast improvements since its last Ofsted inspection is Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School.

I visited this school just before Lockdown last year and was very impressed by the standards I observed as a Primary Headteacher. I am sure there are many Year 5 parents now beginning to think about secondary school applications for next year. I would highly recommend including Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School in your list of schools to visit for an opening evening.

Tomorrow, staff at St. Mark's will be involved in a Spiritual Retreat Day outdoors exploring Pope Francis' letter on 'Laudato Si' (Care of our common home). James Trewby, a Columban Missionary will be guiding staff through a number of important reflections and activities on how we can make changes for the better to our homes, our school, our local area and to our planet. All of us taking small steps can lead to big steps that make changes in our world for the better for future generations to come.

I hope you all have a very peaceful and relaxing half term holiday.  
We look forward to welcoming our children back to school on **Monday 7th June.**

God bless,

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

## **Wednesday Word - Sharing the Gospel**

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/holiday?pid=MTA101634&v=29.11>



## TOP STAR EARNERS OF THE WEEK



Well done to the following children for earning the most stars this week!!

(YR) Piotr	(YR) Adam	(Y1) Eva	(Y1) Adam	(Y1) Aamir
(Y2) Ivelin	(Y2) Alex	(Y2) Dylan	(Y3) Prabhkirat	(Y3) Zara
(Y3) Diya	(Y4) Christina	(Y4) Rohan	(Y4) Aimee	(Y5) Preeti
(Y5) Kimaya	(Y5) Kieran	(Y6) Sara-Maria	(Y6) Arya	(Y6) Zayaan

## Congratulations & Well Done!

We would like to say a big well done to the following pupils for receiving a Congratulations certificate this week. Keep up the great work!



**Reception:** Dottie & Tida

**Year 1:** Julia & Kane

**Year 2:** Aaryan & Ralph

**Year 3:** Prabhkirat &

**Year 4:** Taisia & Shyan

**Year 5:** Preeti & Christian

**Year 6:** Tay & Michael

## Sporting Elite Multi Sports Club



Please find below club links for next term (there will be no clubs the last week of term).

### Please note:

There are no Multi Sports Club for Year 4 and Year 5 next term and there will be no clubs on Fridays anymore.

Sporting Elite after school clubs will commence, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

NB: There are no clubs the first week for Monday (Year 6) and Tuesday (Year 1) but will resume for the Wednesday (Year 3) and Thursday (Y2).

Day	Class	Registration Link – Please click on the link to register your child/ren
Mondays	Year 6	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfV1qGYqgU_xyQWJrWlfpTgkhr8yDWjyCATsfRUn3NGCRjLg/viewform?usp=sf_link">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfV1qGYqgU_xyQWJrWlfpTgkhr8yDWjyCATsfRUn3NGCRjLg/viewform?usp=sf_link</a>
Tuesdays	Year 1	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8OoRsJkNtps_bOQEUW1Kn16AoWBqwYBBMAF84cd7a13chQ/viewform?usp=sf_link">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8OoRsJkNtps_bOQEUW1Kn16AoWBqwYBBMAF84cd7a13chQ/viewform?usp=sf_link</a>
Wednesdays	Year 3	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecghkP9RQkj0zvCNJKFmg-iw8h6AtfGZvVzpE0PomNd-CkeQ/viewform?usp=sf_link">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecghkP9RQkj0zvCNJKFmg-iw8h6AtfGZvVzpE0PomNd-CkeQ/viewform?usp=sf_link</a>
Thursdays	Year 2	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYIsCsLaDcRZRnPWcCpjZylyWQJovzWOPwGqDli5CQyKAuWg/viewform?usp=sf_link">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYIsCsLaDcRZRnPWcCpjZylyWQJovzWOPwGqDli5CQyKAuWg/viewform?usp=sf_link</a>

## **\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO START AND END OF DAY FROM JUNE 7TH\***

From Monday 7th June, there will be some changes to the start and to the end of the school day. The changes are being introduced to reflect some of the reduced restrictions that have been introduced recently. However, we are continuing to keep children apart as much as possible still, and lunch and break times in school are still operating under a bubble system.

### **GATES WILL OPEN AT 8.40am and CLOSE AT 8.55am.**

A number of children are arriving after 9am. Lessons start at 9am so please ensure your child is in school ON TIME ready to start learning at 9am. If you arrive after the gates have closed then you will need to sign your child in at the front entrance of the school.

YEAR 2 will enter the school via the Kingsdown Avenue entrance - they will no longer enter via the hall doors near the front entrance of the school.

### **AT END OF DAY GATES WILL OPEN AT 3:05PM - ONLY KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes) WILL BE DISMISSED FROM 3.05PM-3.15PM.**

Reception will be dismissed from the classroom door as normal.

Year 1 will be dismissed from the classroom door as normal.

Year 2 will be dismissed from the school prayer garden.

AT 3.15PM, KEY STAGE 2 TEACHERS (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 staff will dismiss children from the school playground).

Year 3 will line up near the canopy (at the back of the Year 1 classroom) and will get dismissed from there.

Year 4 will line up along the wall underneath the Key Stage 1 playground. Year 5 and Year 6 will stand on the Key Stage 1 playground and will be dismissed from there.

PLEASE NOTE: Any parents of Key Stage 2 children arriving at 3.05pm, will not be able to collect their child until 3.15pm when the class teacher brings them outside. We will no longer be using the walky talky system for dismissal.

We continue to keep all the year groups separated but we recognise that there will be more adults around on the playground than we are use to. PLEASE keep yourselves safe and stay at a safe distance from others and PLEASE WEAR A MASK on the school site. We ask that parents DO NOT STAND AND CHAT but EXIT IMMEDIATELY once children have been collected. We continue to use the one way gate system and we continue to use multiple gates around the school whereby parents can access and exit through.

**THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION!**



## CALLING ALL PARENTS – COME & JOIN THE 'ST MARK'S FRIENDS' MEETING 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021 5pm via ZOOM

As parents of St. Mark's you are all members of the above 'St Mark's Friends' Organisation. However, our committee is made up of small number of hard

working and enthusiastic number of parents. Would you be willing/able to join the committee? Or maybe you could come along and help at some of the fantastic events they organise? EVERY child benefits from the efforts of the St. Mark's Friends – Please consider helping. If you would be interested in attending the zoom meeting on



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 5pm, please contact the office for details. Many thanks for your support.



## MULTI-CULTURAL WEEK



In recognition of the fact that we live in a multi faith/multi-cultural world and that we, as followers of Jesus, live in a spirit of understanding and respect, the week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> June was "Multi Cultural Week". Children enjoyed the online virtual tours learning about the faith of others and by increasing our knowledge we increase the opportunity to understand others and live in greater harmony. Thank you to Mrs Malhi for sharing her faith 'Sikhism' to all our Year 6 pupils, they thoroughly enjoyed the learning experience. ☺



## Years 5 & 6 "BIKEABILITY" level 1 & 2



Well done to those in Years 5 & 6 who completed their levels 1 and 2 "Bikeability". We should now see bike riders with the skills and confidence to ride their bikes safely and regularly. Those who have completed the course may, if parents wish, ride their bikes to school after half term. Please ensure that you have a lock to secure your bike.



## Diary Dates

For your Diary



### Dates for Diary: -

Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Teachers' Training Day
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021	SPaG Workshop for whole school
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	St. Mark's Friends Meeting 5pm via Zoom
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Science Dome Workshop Years 1,2,3,4 and 5
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Internet Safer Workshop Day Key Stage 2 classes
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Internet Safety Workshop
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Y6 Confirmation Mass 7:00pm
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> & Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Residential to Upton Warren
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Y4 First Holy Communion 3.30pm
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021	Y3 First Holy Communion 3.30pm
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Y6 Enterprise Event (after school)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	End of year reports will be provided to parents
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Y6 Treat day

**School Term Dates**

**INSET DAY – School will be closed to pupils on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

**Summer Term 2021**

**Half Term: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**Term Ends: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

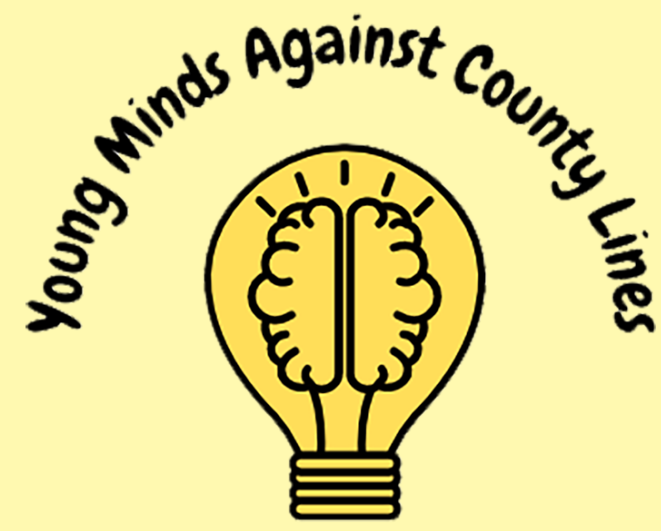
**Autumn Term 2021**

**Term Starts: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021**





# YOUNG MINDS AGAINST COUNTY LINES



## WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Children are being coerced into carrying drugs across the country by gangs and dealers, which has led to an 807% increase in modern slavery in the UK. The issue is especially prominent in Birmingham, with approximately 100 County Lines running in and out of the city.

## OUR AIM

We want to see County Lines and grooming taught in PSHE in age-appropriate ways to years 5 and 6 so that they are as protected as they can be especially during that transition period between primary and secondary school, which can be especially difficult. We hope that a classroom that is better armed against County Lines is a safer, more peaceful space to learn and grow up.

## OUR COMMITMENT

We are pledging to educate as many parents, teachers and children about County Lines and grooming, in order to arm our community with the knowledge to spot County Lines grooming when it's happening and stop it before the child is fully involved.

## A PARENT'S STORY

"We've actually seen one of our sons thrown into the back of a car (...). When he comes back in the house and describes to you, "if I don't pay I'm going to be hurt", what do you do then?"

## WHO ARE WE?

We are a group of passionate young adults studying an interdisciplinary degree at the University of Birmingham. We created our organisation because we want to see a future where children can grow up in safe communities and classrooms without the threat of County Lines, and we are committed to making this future a reality.

## HOW TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Please show your support by clicking the links below to:

- [Visit our website](#)
- [Sign our petition](#)
- [Visit our Facebook page](#)

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries or comments at:

[youngmindsagainstcountylines@gmail.com](mailto:youngmindsagainstcountylines@gmail.com)

