



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher  
Mrs. D. Linley



Week Ending 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents,

## Anti-bullying – We are a TELLING school

At St. Mark's, we are all committed to providing a caring, friendly, respectful and safe learning environment for all of our pupils. We promote an inclusive, Catholic ethos that focuses on respecting one another and celebrating difference and diversity.

Bullying and prejudice-based language of any kind, involving pupils, adults towards pupils, staff or parents are unacceptable and will not be tolerated at St. Mark's.

We understand the devastating and lasting effect being bullied can have on some children and we are committed to dealing with all incidents equally seriously, quickly and effectively, whether it has taken place in or outside of school.

Preventing and tackling bullying is part of our work to support pupils' social, moral, spiritual, cultural and emotional development. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING school here at St. Mark's. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

Over the last few weeks, I have met with many groups of children to review and discuss bullying. I asked them how we could make St. Mark's a better place for them to feel safe, thrive in their learning and enjoy school without the worry of feeling or experiencing bullying of any kind. The children told me many positive aspects of our approach to bullying, however, there is always room for improvement and one of the tasks I am undertaking is to provide support to our lunchtime supervisors so that children recognise that our lunchtime staff deal promptly and effectively with any behaviour issues that may arise.

Whilst I never want any child to ever experience bullying, I do understand that bullying behaviour does happen occasionally which is why we are taking action to stamp it out quickly.

If you or your child has any concerns in relation to bullying – please come and see either myself or a designated safeguarding lead.

Have a good weekend,

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

### Attendance for this week:



Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	98	2	Year 4	96	9
Year 1	95	2	Year 5	93	0
Year 2	99	3	Year 6	96	2
Year 3	99	6	School	97	24



### 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: Ellie-Mae & Nathan**

**Year 1: Chioma & Suriyah**

**Year 2: Anah-Lia & Olivier**

**Year 3: Destiny & Victoria**

**Year 4: Rayan & Elena**

**Year 5: Afreya & Harry**

**Year 6: Isaac & Eva**





### Thursday Mass Dates

Family and friends are very welcome to join us on the following dates:

THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER – YEAR 3 MASS

THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – YEAR 6 MASS

### Family Mass

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019 it is Youth Sunday and to mark this important event in our Church calendar, we are inviting all of our St. Mark's families to attend Mass at Holy Name Church.

Please come and join us for this!

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT HOLY NAME CHURCH – SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER (AFTER 12.30 MASS)

HOLY NAME PARISH WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD DONATE ANY BOTTLES FOR THEIR UPCOMING CHRISTMAS FAYRE. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO SUPPORT THIS, PLEASE BRING YOUR BOTTLES TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE.



### No Pens Wednesday

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 St Mark's took part in "No Pens Wednesday" in partnership with I CAN the communication trust. Where our pens and pencils were put to one side and the day is devoted to speaking and listening instead.



The Communication Trust make oracy a number one priority and remind us that, "Of all the skills we develop at school, the ability to communicate effectively is the one that has the most profound and potentially positive impact on our lives."

Some things our children said about the day:

Reception Pupil "It's such a great day – the best day ever"

Year 5 "Its been great to work in different ways together"

Year 2 "We have had fun and learnt if a different way"

### Y6 Bingo Event

A big thank you to all the children in Year 6, Miss Dorsett and Mrs. Nellist for organising a very successful bingo evening that was held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November for elderly residents living nearby. Great fun was had by all!



### SMF Christmas Fayre

We are delighted to invite you to the SMF Christmas fayre on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30pm till 5.00pm.

It will be great fun for all the family. There will be a variety of stalls to visit, Santa's grotto, raffle prizes and plenty more!

As it can get very busy, we please request that parents accompany their children at all times.

Children will need to be collected as normal and can then come through to the fayre with their parents.

We would like to thank all our parents who have helped to support the Christmas fayre with all their contributions.

*We look forward to seeing you!*



**Next SMF meeting - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 at 2:30pm**

### Reading Letters

Please be aware that we are having a big push on reading at St. Mark's and we are working hard to support your child to become a confident and fluent reader. We are monitoring reading at home and letters will be sent home to parents of children who are not reading regularly with their child at home.

### Dates for Diaries:

- Flu Nasal Spray – **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - CANCELLED**
- Family Mass - Holy Name Church, Great Barr at 10:30am - **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019**
- Non-uniform Day - **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - £1 (contribution)**
- Christmas Fayre – **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 3:30pm – 5:00pm**
- Christmas Disco **3.30-4.30pm – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**
- Teachers' Training Days: **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

Take Note