



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher  
Mrs. D. Linley



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yesterday, we celebrated a very successful World Book Day in a way we have never done before at St. Mark's. Well done to everyone who came to school dressed up as a word. It was fantastic to see children learning new words in such a fun and engaging way. The staff had great fun taking part in it too! Next week during school Mass on Thursday, Fr. Vincent will be blessing bibles the children bring in from home. If you would like your home bible blessed by Fr. Vincent – please do bring this to the Mass next week. This is in honour of this year being; 'The Year of the Word 2020'.

I understand that many of you will have some concerns regarding Coronavirus and some of you may be thinking what are we as a school doing about it? Below is a poster created for schools by Public Health England. We have ensured that school soap is well stocked as we are encouraging children to regularly wash their hands. I am happy for children to also bring in a small, labelled hand sanitizer from home if they so wish but please tell your child not to share this as some children have allergies.

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

## Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

### How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

### How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

### How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

#### If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

### What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit **NHS.UK** to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days.

See **NHS.UK** for advice on coronavirus.



If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



## Lent – A time for change and what this means to our children at St. Mark's.

Please read the reflection below from one of our Year 6 pupils on how their learning and understanding of Lent and sports coach development at St. Mark's has impacted on them:

'Sports has a strong place in my heart since I am part of sports crew with our teacher; Seb Hamilton. Recently, I went down to help coach and lead a football session, however, I saw other people part of sports crew doing the job. This gave me the opportunity to play. I was going after the ball when I saw another child getting it. I was so tempted, but that's when I thought of how Jesus got tempted by the devil and turned him down. I also thought about being in sports crew and being a role model to other children. So, I walked away and thanked God.'

### Medical Information

Please keep the school updated of any changes to your child's medical conditions, so that we can update your child's records and take appropriate action.

### CLASS ASSEMBLIES

FRIDAY 20 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	Y4 - (2.30PM)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Y1 - (2.30pm)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 - (2.30pm)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 - (TBC)



### Thursday Mass Dates

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 YEAR 6 WILL LEAD THE MASS BUT WE ARE INVITING ALL CHILDREN TO BRING A BIBLE FROM HOME TO BE BLESSED BY FR. VINCENT DURING THIS MASS

THURSDAY 19 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020	YEAR 5
THURSDAY 26 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020	YEAR 4
THURSDAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2020	NO MASS – HOLY WEEK ASSEMBLY

## 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: Brady & Julia  
 Year 1: Mudassir & Fionn  
 Year 2: Adam & Jaspreet  
 Year 3: Aimee & Frazer  
 Year 4: Aadam & Claudia  
 Year 5: Flynn & Desmond  
 Year 6: Elliot & Zara



## Attendance for this week

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**

Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	98.6	2	Year 4	96.7	3
Year 1	100	1	Year 5	96.0	4
Year 2	95.9	2	Year 6	94.0	3
Year 3	99.3	3	School	<b>97.3</b>	<b>18</b>



### Collection of Children - End of School Day

We have noticed that some children are left unattended to at the end of the school day. Please can you ensure that your child is with you at all times. Thank you

## Dates for your Diary

- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Science Investigation Day**
- **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - French Day** (Children should come to school dressed in either red, white or blue (colours of the French flag) or they can come dressed as a well-known French person).
- **Holy Week assemblies (all are welcome!) will be led by the following year groups:**
  - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 9.15am Y1 – Palm Sunday
  - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 9.15am Y2 – Last Supper
  - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 9.15am – Y3 – Arrest and Betrayal
  - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 9.15am – Y4 – Crucifixion and Resurrection
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Winning House Treat** (*names of children to be confirmed*)
- **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Parents’ Progress meetings 1.30-3.00pm, 3.30-5.00pm**
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Parents’ Progress meetings 3.30-5.00pm**
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2pm – 2.30pm– KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade – Parents welcome to attend**
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2.30pm – 3pm – KS2 Easter Egg Competition – Parents welcome to attend**



## School Term Dates

### Spring Term 2020

Term Starts: Monday 6 January 2020

**Half Term: Monday 17 February 2020 to Friday 21 February 2020**

Term Ends: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

### Summer Term 2020

Term Starts: Monday 20 April 2020

**Half Term: Monday 25 May 2020 to Friday 29 May 2020**

Term Ends: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Teacher Training Day: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020**