



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents,

This week in school, our Year 6 children welcomed our friends who are part of the project: 'Stories of Hope and Home'. This is a project focused around building a community and creating a safe space in which Asylum Seekers and Refugees can explore and share their stories. The children, along with Miss Dorsett and Mrs. Nellist prepared some delicious food to share, great fun was had by all. Thank you Year 6 for facilitating this.

Today, each class prepared a Christmas song performance for our Christmas recording. A very generous parent gave up their time today to record this so that all parents could have a Christmas copy of the children's performances this year. Once the video has been edited, an email will be sent to you with a link and instructions on how to download it. A big 'thank you' also goes to those parents who facilitated the Christmas Fayre this afternoon in the hall.

Thank you for your support!

As we approach our final week in school before breaking up for the Christmas holiday, please adhere to the updated Covid safety rules and let's not forget the true meaning of Christmas.

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

## Healthy Eater

This week's Healthy Eater awards go to, Adam in year 1 and Kyle in year 4.

Well done and keep making healthy food choices!



### TOP STAR EARNERS OF THE WEEK

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



(YR) Kanhaiya	(YR) Spirit	(YR) Shenaya	(Y1) Leo	(Y1) Yuvraaj
(Y1) Jayan	(Y2) Harpreet	(Y2) Joey	(Y2) Kane	(Y3) Jasdeep
(Y3) Aaryan	(Y3) Mudassir	(Y4) Joshua	(Y4) Palvi	(Y4) Kyle
(Y5) Raiyaana	(Y5) Christina	(Y5) Destiny	(Y6) Preeti	(Y6) Kimaya
(Y6) Amani				

### 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/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=47.2>

## Presentation Points

In order for children to score 100 points, all children need to be dressed in the correct uniform every day - that means no trainers unless they have been asked to wear them, no nail varnish, no earrings and red school jumpers please.

Reception - 97

**Year 1 – 100**

Year 2 – 98

Year 3 - 96

Year 4 - 96

Year 5 - 96

**Year 6 - 100**

**Well done Years 1 & 6  
Keep up the good work!**



## Attendance figures so far this term

Reception – 93.5%

Year 1 – 94.2%

Year 2 – 95.2%

**Year 3 – 98.4%**

Year 4 – 97.1%

Year 5 – 94.4%

Year 6 – 96.8%



Well done everyone but in particular well done to **year 3** who have the highest attendance so far! Keep it up!

## 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:** Aisha & Robert

**Year 1:** Yuvraaj & Piotr

**Year 2:** Kane & Rajveer

**Year 3:** Suriyah & Ralph

**Year 4:** Jashua & Keeley

**Year 5:** Taisia & Aimee

**Year 6:** Patrycja & Jesse

## Values & Virtues of the Week

- Reception** – Ariana for being a kind and caring friend to Hizkiel.
- Year 1** - Tida for her excellent discussion on how we can prepare for Advent.
- Year 2** - Chinaza for showing a great understanding of scientific vocabulary.
- Year 3** - Ava for making good decisions within class, showing a dramatic improvement with her attitude to learning.
- Year 4** - Joseph for showing a great understanding of Advent.
- Year 5** - Zia for looking after her friend who was upset and making sure she could still join in.
- Year 6** - Preeti for showing kindness towards refugees and asylum seekers when they visited St Mark's.

## Attendance Certificates

Next week in school, children will be receiving attendance certificates for achieving the following:

- Bronze - 96 – 97.9%
- Silver - 98 – 99.9%
- Gold - 100%



Well done to all!

Please remember, our attendance officers in the school office monitor attendance carefully to ensure that no child is missing a significant amount of time from school. The better your child's attendance is, the better progress they make!

## Football Friendlies vs Grestone

We welcomed a group of children from Grestone Academy over to play a 5-a-side football festival on our astro. Each school had two teams and all four teams played against each other during the afternoon, ending with the two St Mark's teams having fun playing against each other.

All staff commented on the quality of football throughout, as well as the sporting manner in which it was all played. Our children had a brilliant time – they were able to showcase their talent and learnt a lot about tactics and togetherness as the matches went on.

Overall in the games between St Mark's and Grestone, St Mark's won two, Grestone won one and there was one draw. All games were entertaining and closely contested. In the first game we came from 1-0 down to win 2-1 with a great performance. The second game was a tough 3-0 loss as nerves got the better of our more inexperienced team. However, they came back brilliantly in their second game to draw 2-2 with Rayan scoring two fantastic goals. The final game was a comfortable 3-1 win for us with Kian scoring twice and Destiny adding a third.

Well done to everyone who took part. A special mention to our goalkeepers Rohan and Adam who were super throughout and we all look forward to more sport in the New Year.



## Time to Say Goodbye

It is with great sadness that we say good bye to Father Vincent and Brother Andrew as they will be leaving the Holy Name parish at the beginning of January. They will be celebrating mass with the children of St Mark's on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. We would like to take the opportunity to thank them for all their spiritual guidance and support over the years. They will be greatly miss but we wish them all the best on the next step of their journey of faith.



# Thank you!

We would like to say a big thank you to Lidl in Hamstead for their kind donations to our Christmas fayre, they were very much appreciated.

## Parking Outside School



Recently, Community Police Officers turned up to observe parking one morning outside school and concluded that a number of parents are parking inconsiderately and sometimes unlawfully. The area outside the main gates on Kingsdown Avenue is particularly hazardous, as children and parents try to cross the road and vehicles regularly pull up right in front of the zig-zag lines or the railings next to the gates whilst other cars are impatient and try to squeeze past.

As a result of what the officers witnessed, they have promised to become more of a presence over the coming months. In addition, they have been in touch to request that senior school staff take photos of any vehicles causing a danger to others or parked unlawfully and forward these on to them. We sincerely hope it doesn't come to this, but we do request that you park considerately. There have been several very close calls recently. We have also been in touch with the council and ensured that Kingsdown Ave has been added to the gritting route, as the ice caused further problems last week.

The school gates are open from 8.40-8.55am. The main traffic problems occur around 8.55. Please try to get to school in good time in order to provide a smooth start to the morning and ensure children are relaxed and ready to learn. Our school PCSOs will continue to monitor when they can, and we still give out badges to those who use safer, environmentally friendly ways to travel to school, including the park and stride option. We are going to become stricter in terms of locking the gates at 8.55 and will continue to monitor the parking situation closely.



### Diary Dates

For your  
Diary

### Dates for Diary: -

Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Christmas dinner day for Reception & Key Stage 1
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Christmas dinner day for Key Stage 2
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Christmas jumper day, Children pay £1 to wear a Christmas jumper to school (money goes to school fund)



### School Term Dates

#### Autumn Term 2021

Term ends: Friday 17th December 2021

#### Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 is a staff INSET day so school is closed to all pupils

School opens: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

