



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



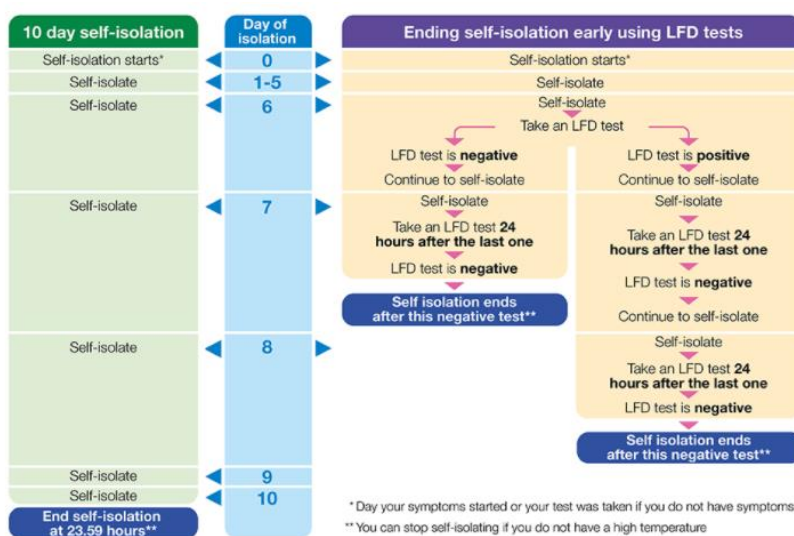
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week at the end of the festive season, and the vast majority of children have returned to school looking very smart and ready to work hard.

Unfortunately, like the rest of the country, we have been impacted by a number of COVID cases amongst several of our families. The Omicron variant is spreading very quickly amongst the younger population and it is vitally important that we continue to follow government and NHS advice with regard to testing with LFD and PCR devices when requested to do so. There is now a dedicated mailbox for all COVID related issues and notifications to be sent into school, which is [CovidReporting@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:CovidReporting@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk) Thank you to those parents who have already made use of this.

You may find the following flow chart useful as a guide as to when and how long you should isolate for if impacted by COVID:



This week, on the Feast of the Epiphany, we have remembered the journey of the magi who followed the star of God's Son who became human; wise men who bore gifts and worshipped our Lord Jesus after his birth at a stable in Bethlehem. I wonder how many of the children will be able to explain the meaning of **20+C+M+B+22** which has now been written above every classroom door in school? One of the meanings of the initials is an abbreviation of the Latin phrase, "*Christus mansionem benedicat*" which translates as "*May Christ bless this house*". Just as we have blessed all of the classrooms this week, we hope very much that your homes will be blessed with love for each other and to all those whose lives you touch throughout this year.

May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God; guide, comfort and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

I look forward to working with you and getting to know you over the coming months whilst I stand in for Mrs. Linley. I feel honoured to have been given the opportunity to support this school during her absence. God bless, everyone.

Have a good weekend,  
Mr. Linford and the St. Mark's Team



We bid farewell to Mrs. Teall today who has worked here at St. Mark's for the past nine years. She will be taking up a new post at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Yardley Wood, and is looking forward to spending far less time travelling to and from school and more time with her family. We thank her for the massive contribution to the life and work of the school over the past years. Just working alongside her for a week, I have gained a sense of the huge commitment and sense of fun she will have brought to the lives and the learning of the children who have been lucky enough to have been taught by her. We wish her every success in her new role.

Miss Morris will be taking over as the Year 3 class teacher from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January.

Mr Linford.

## Healthy Eater

This week's Healthy Eater awards go to, Sanabil in Reception and Hena in year 3.

Well done and keep making healthy food choices.



## 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:** Isla & Eva  
**Year 1:** Dashay & Anhad  
**Year 2:** Kane & Rico  
**Year 3:** Anokh & Fionn  
**Year 4:** Elisia & Shakur  
**Year 5:** Anjali & Hubert  
**Year 6:** Arihan & Kian

## Values & Virtues of the Week

- Reception** – Jasleen for actively participating in class and during P.E.
- Year 1** - Yuraaj for sharing his questions about our mystery object.
- Year 2** - Tia for sharing ideas in Science.
- Year 3** - Kezzia for always playing an active part to further her subject knowledge in lessons.
- Year 4** - Myles for being curious and asking questions to gain a better understanding.
- Year 5** - Zunaria for actively participating in our P.E. lesson with increasing confidence.
- Year 6** - Joseph for always asking questions and being curious to know more.

# Reception admissions September 2022

The final closing date for Reception and Year 2-3 admissions for entry in September 2022 is 15 January 2022.

Applications can be made online through the Birmingham City Council website [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

We would like to raise awareness of the process as parents who apply late are less likely to be offered one of their preferred schools. All the information parents need to support them with making their preferences is available on the above website.

More advice and support is also available from Children's Services on 0121 303 1888.

Finally, please note that due to the Easter bank holiday, primary national offer day will fall on 19 April 2022.

## **P.E. Days**

These are the days each class will be doing P.E. this term

Reception	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 1	Tuesday	Friday
Year 2	Wednesday	Swimming Thursday
Year 3	Monday	Swimming Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday	Friday
Year 5	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 6	Monday	Friday

## **School Term Dates**

### **Spring Term 2022**

Half Term: 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Term ends: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### **Summer Term 2022**

Term starts: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

