



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Monday 17th January 2022

Dear Parents,

Just a reminder that the children should be seated in their classrooms ready to start work by **8:55 a.m.**, so need to be coming through the gates by 8:50 a.m. at the latest. This still gives a 10-minute window from when the gates open at 8:40 a.m. for the children to arrive on time. Having been on the gate most mornings last week, I am aware of the issues that exist with regard to parking. I am impressed with the considerate and sensible way most parents park, making sure that children exit the vehicles on the kerbside not into the road, and parking close to (but not on) the kerb so that there is room for other cars to pass by. You can help the situation by parking as far away from the school gates as possible and walking the last part of the journey. Children should be brought to the gate, not left to walk part of the way on their own; this is especially important if they are late as an adult must bring them into the School Reception area to sign them in. Please help us to be **OUTSTANDING** in this area by ensuring fantastic punctuality and getting each day off to the best possible start.

I do hope that you are making the most of our subscription to "The Wednesday Word", for which there is an electronic link on the next page. This week's Word has a quote from **Pope Francis** who says: **"If we are close to Jesus, we will have joy in our hearts and a smile on our face."** I have been struck by how many smiley faces there are at St. Mark's, and despite the challenges that COVID continues to present us, the staff are completely focused on supporting the children in their learning and during social times, making the whole experience purposeful and fun!



We are delighted to tell you that early in the morning of Thursday 13th January, Mrs. Linley gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. His name is **William Robert** and we are all so excited to welcome this new arrival to our St Mark's family. Both mum and baby are doing really well and we send them all our best wishes. Congratulations to the whole family!

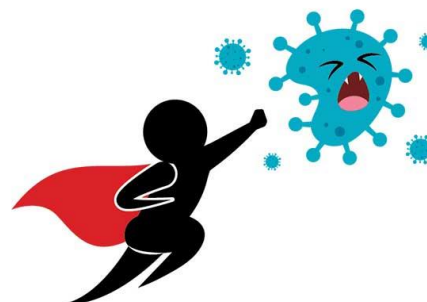


Have a great week!

Mr. Linford and the St. Mark's Team

COVID-19 Update

Unfortunately, we still have positive cases of COVID-19 within our school community. We are being as vigilant as possible and keeping up to date with the current government guidelines to try to keep us all safe. We send our prayers to all those impacted by Coronavirus at the moment and wish you a speedy recovery. Please can we remind parents that if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, you must do a PCR test with them and they must isolate at home until the results are received. If your child/ren have taken a PCR test because someone in the household has tested positive for COVID-19, they must not come into school until the results are received, even if they have no symptoms. If someone in your household has tested positive and other members' PCR tests come back negative, we ask that children take regular LFDs (Lateral flow tests) throughout the isolation period of the positive case to monitor if it has been passed on. If your child takes either an LFD test or PCR test for any reason, please can you inform the school of the test being taken and the result of the test using our COVID-19 email address CovidReporting@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk



Thank you.

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/joy?pid=MTA101634&v=48.3>



Healthy Eater

This week's Healthy Eater awards go to **Nico** in Year 1 and **Rohan** in Year 5. Well done to them both - and keep making healthy food choices everyone!

Well done to the following pupils for receiving a **Congratulations certificate** this week:

Reception:	Isaam & Naomi
Year 1:	Timi & Nishitha
Year 2:	Tia & Thomas
Year 3:	Rohan & Connor
Year 4:	Diya & Prabhkirat
Year 5:	Aimee & Taim
Year 6:	Trae & Aadam



*Keep up the great work, everyone!
Who will get them next week?*

"Values & Virtues" awards of the week

Reception	Megan for her really good discussions about the Nativity story.
Year 1	Enya for her excellent questions and active participation during our discussions about roles.
Year 2	Caitlin for showing kindness and super manners in school.
Year 3	Aaryan for always being patient, caring and understanding towards his learning partner Semaya.
Year 4	Dylan for being curious about King Herod's intentions in the Christmas story.
Year 5	Raman for actively challenging herself in all subjects.
Year 6	Rayan for being curious about John's prologue, asking lots of questions and sharing his thoughts.

School Term Dates

Spring Term 2022

Half Term: 21st – 25th February 2022

Term ends: Friday 8th April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Term starts: Monday 25th April 2022

