



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Almond Croft, Great Barr, Birmingham, B42 1NU

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Executive Principal: Mr. G. Linford



Friday 1st April 2022

Dear Parents,

We really are hurtling towards the Easter break now and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to a well-earned rest. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term working with you all, and excited to see exactly what the children can achieve over the coming months.

You will notice, I'm sure, a new look to the Newsletter from today. As nearly all of the children have at least one parent signed up to **Class Dojo** now, some of the regular items from the newsletter have now moved to this. For example, pupils who earn achievement certificates, Virtues & Values awards, pop bands etc. are now celebrated more instantly by posting photos on Dojo.



**ClassDojo**

I do hope that you are finding the Dojo app useful. The intention is for staff to use it to share with you some of the learning which is happening, to send reminders out and to invite you to come along to join in with things. It is a quick way of sending links out to other websites, particularly when other agencies request that we share things with the wider school community.

The newsletter will now come out less frequently - about once a month - and will contain reminders of main diary dates and important events going on over the coming term. It will continue to be uploaded to the school website but a link will appear on the School Story of Class Dojo for quicker access. The newsletter dates for the rest of this school year are:

- 6th May
- 20th May
- 10th June
- 1st July
- 15th July

**THANK YOU** to everyone who attended Parents' evening on Thursday 31st March, and to all those who have made appointments to speak with your child's teachers at other times. It is only by working in partnership together that we can best support the children's learning, and I know that the teachers all value the time you have taken to catch up with them over the coming days.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter when it comes. God bless, everyone.

**Mr. Linford and the St. Mark's Team**



**Do look out for news of all our award winners on the School and Class Story pages of Dojo! You'll always find the news there first!**



**Next week, everyone is most welcome to join us for our prayer services in the run up to the end of term. Each service will start at 9:10 a.m. in the School Hall. Please do stay and join in with our reflections - they will be a wonderful start to the day for you.**

**Monday 4th April:**

**Palm Sunday (led by Reception & Year 1)**

**Tuesday 5th April:**

**Money Changers in the Tempe (Year 4)**

**Wednesday 6th April:**

**The Last Supper (Years 2 & 3)**

**Thursday 7th April:**

**Gethsemene (Year 5)**

**Friday 8th April:**

**Stations of the Cross (Year 6)**

## 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/lent-easter-card?pid=MTA101634&v=57.15>

## SAFEGUARDING

### CONCERN:

At present, there is a 15 minute window at the beginning of the school day for the children to arrive at school, i.e. from 8:40 to 8:55 a.m. With the publication this week of the Government's White Paper, it is clear that its aim is for all schools to be open for a minimum of 32.5 hours per week. We will be reviewing the timings of the school day to ensure we comply with this expectation, and will let you know in due course if we need to make any changes. For now, **please remember that if you bring your child late to school, you MUST accompany your child into the school entrance and sign them in using the electronic system.** It is not acceptable to just open the car door and leave them to come in on their own. Nor should a child get to the school gates on their own and have to walk round on their own. This is a serious safeguarding concern and we will be in contact with any parents who are not complying with this expectation.



*To find out when all of the Holy Week and Easter Masses are taking place at Holy Name Church, please click on the picture above.*

## STAFF INSET DAY:

### Monday 27th June

School will be closed on this date for the last staff training day of the school year.



### CONFIRMATION MASS

Holy Name of Jesus  
Catholic Church  
Wednesday 18th May (evening)

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Sunday 10th July  
@ 10:30 a.m.



### Resurrection Light

Risen Christ, when darkness overwhelms us  
may your dawn beckon.  
When fear paralyses us  
may your touch release us.  
When grief torments us  
may your peace enfold us.  
When memories haunt us  
may your presence heal us.  
When justice fails us  
may your anger ignite us.  
When apathy stagnates us  
may your challenge renew us.  
When courage leaves us  
may your spirit inspire us.  
When despair grips us  
may your hope restore us.  
And when death threatens us  
may your resurrection light lead us.  
Amen.

For more prayers for Holy Week and Easter, visit:  
[Prayers for Eastertide | CAFOD](#)