



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr. G. Linford



Friday 6th May 2022

Dear Parents,

We hope this finds you all well, and that you managed to enjoy the long Bank Holiday weekend.

Just to remind you that the normal Bank Holiday at the end of May has been moved to **Thursday 2nd June** with an additional Bank Holiday on **Friday 3rd June** to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As schools are already off on this day and do not benefit from the extra day, the local authority has decided its schools should take an extra day on Friday July 22nd, hence the end of the summer term will be on Thursday 21st July.



We will be having a special celebration day on Friday 27th May to mark this momentous achievement in British history, which is unlikely to occur again for quite some time. More information will follow on Dojo over the coming days.



ClassDojo

Next week, our **Year 6 children** will be sitting the first end of **KS2 SATs** that have taken place since 2019. I know that they have been very well prepared to give each paper their very best shot. My thanks to the children for their hard work over the past months, to the staff who have coached and encouraged, and to everyone at home for all you do to ensure the children are ready for their learning. Please ensure that the children get plenty of rest and exercise over the weekend, so that they will be refreshed and energised for the coming days. Good luck, everyone!



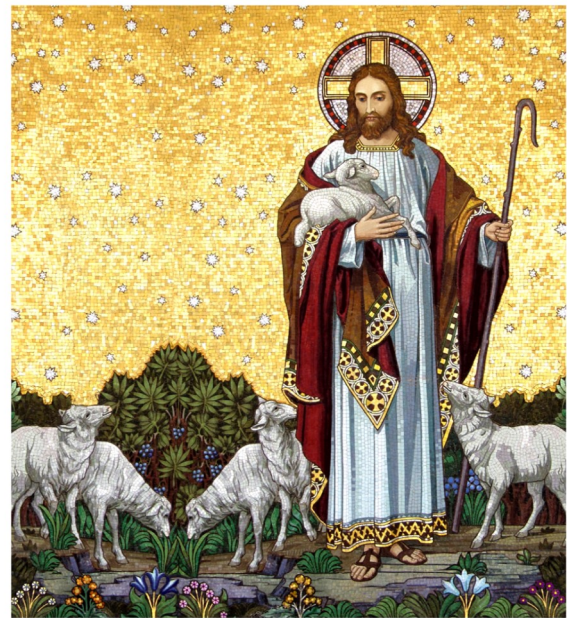
Mr. Linford and the St. Mark's Team

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Here's a table that shows how well each class is doing with attendance so far this school year:

Reception	92.3%
Year 1	91.5%
Year 2	93.9%
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>97.2%</b>
Year 4	94.9%
Year 5	94.6%
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
Whole school	94.4%

As we move towards the end of the school year and further into the period of COVID recovery, we should start to see these percentages improve and get closer to the school target of 96-97%. Well done to Year 3 and Year 6 who are already there - keep up the good work, everyone!



**Good Shepherd,  
Lead us and guide us so that we may  
follow your way in our lives.  
Protect us and encourage us when the path is  
difficult and lift us up when we stumble.  
Amen**

## 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/life?pid=MTA101634&v=58.17>

### Dates for the diary:

**Monday 9th to Thursday 12th May**

End of KS2 SATS for Year 6

**Wednesday 11th May: 6.30 p.m. in Church**

Reconciliation Service for Confirmandi and their supporters.

**Friday 13th May: MUFTI Day.** Please send £1 per child which will be used to buy flowers for the children to make floral tributes for the May Procession.

**Sunday 15th May: 10.30 a.m. in Church**

Mass of Commitment for First Holy Communicants

**Wednesday 18th May: 7.30 p.m.** Confirmation Mass

**Thursday 19th May: 9.10 a.m. School Mass**

Year 4 leading with Year 6 and Year 2

**Thursday 26th May: 9.10 a.m. School Mass**

Year 3 leading with Year 5 and Year 1

**Friday 27th May:** Platinum Jubilee Celebration Day

(More information to follow)

### **HALF-TERM HOLIDAY**

**Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June**

**Monday 6th June:**

School reopens after half-term

**Monday 27th June:**

**School CLOSED for Staff INSET Day**

## ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Recently, we have been made aware of a local road safety campaign to improve the crossing controls outside Hamstead Station. So, on the morning of Wednesday 4th May, our intrepid **Year 4 reporters** went down to take a look at the problems for themselves. Here's the report they compiled on returning to school:

*"On Wednesday 4th May, we walked to Hamstead Train Station. When we got close to the station, we experienced some difficulty crossing the road. We looked around and noticed that there wasn't anywhere for us to cross safely.*

*Although there are traffic lights, there aren't any that allow pedestrians to cross.*

*Our teachers had to put themselves at risk by standing in the middle of the road and stopping the traffic, so that we could cross the road.*

*We were lucky that our teachers could do this for us, but what about the Year 6 children or secondary school children who walk to and from school on their own? How is it safe for them to cross the road?*



*What about the elderly people who need to cross the road on their way to the station or Lidl? Cars speed along Rocky Lane and Old Walsall Road trying to get through before the traffic lights change. This could cause an accident for anyone trying to cross the road.*

*A petition has been put forward for there to be a safer way to cross the road by Hamstead Train Station. For the sake of us children, parents with young children and elderly people in the community, please sign the petition."*



**Friday 20th May:**

**May Procession**

**9:30 a.m.**



**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:**  
Individual & sibling  
photographs will be  
taken in school.

The children are now in the process of writing to our local MP about the crossing, too!

If you are concerned about this road safety issue and would like to support the campaign, there will be opportunities for you to sign the petition over the coming days. We'll let you know how you can do this on Class Dojo - keep your eyes peeled! Well done to our Road Safety ambassadors, Year 4!