



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Almond Croft, Great Barr, Birmingham, B42 1NU

Tel: 0121 357 9892

Email: [enquiry@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk)

Principal: Mrs. D. Linley



**FRIDAY 13th October 2023**

## Our Mission Statement



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who supported World Mental Health Day on Tuesday. The children were able to share with me how they can keep themselves healthy and what to do should they feel they need help with their mental health. Please look on our website for more information about our school mentor who works with children to support them with a range of needs (mental health is just one area of what our school mentor can support children with). We also have Malachi (our family therapeutic support service). If you would like your family to receive support from either of these agencies, please contact one of the DSLs in school.

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

## OPEN DAY

We are holding open days for any prospective Reception parents. You are welcome to join us to find out more about the school on:

**Wednesday 8th November at 9:30am**

If you know of any prospective parents, please pass on this message. We look forward to seeing you then. We have a small number of spaces in this year's Reception class. This is a rare opportunity, so please contact the office if you would like any more information.



A school whereby we proudly and joyfully, love, live  
and learn as God's children

## Family Masses

We hope you will be able to attend our family masses at Holy Name Church, Great Barr. They are a wonderful opportunity for us all to come together to share and celebrate our faith whilst learning about and reflecting upon scripture. Our children plan and lead these masses and we welcome non-Catholic children as well as Catholic children.

Sunday 12th November, 10:30am

Sunday 21st January, 10:30am

Sunday 17th March, 10:30am

Sunday 28th April, 10:30am

Holy Name Parish are also looking to form a team of volunteers to support with running Liturgy for the children during the weekly 10:30am Sunday Masses. If you are interested in supporting Holy Name Parish with this, please contact Payal at Holy Name Parish Church on: 0121 357 1351

# Catholic Life Leaders and Mini Vinnies visit Fr. Hudson's Care Home and Day Centre in Coleshill

On Thursday 12th October, a group of Mini Vinnies and Catholic Life Leaders travelled with Mrs. Linley and Mrs. O'Shea to see first-hand some of the amazing work, Fr Hudson's Care provides for the disadvantaged in our community (people who are severely disabled and people living with dementia). It was a very humbling experience and the children showed inspiring compassion, dignity and genuine care for the people they encountered. Well done to all!

Here is what some of the children had to say about their visit:

"Old people can have problems as well, and we should treat them with tolerance and respect". By Imaan

"The elderly might be old, but they can still have fun and it's okay to be different because that's what makes us all unique". By Caitlin

"People with disabilities have to be treated how we want to be treated". By Bella



## Black History Month

We are dedicating Monday 23rd October to Black History Month and this year's theme will be '**honouring the contributions of black British women**'. Please see the list below of who your child will be learning about :

Reception—Claudia Jones

Year 1—Dina Asher-Smith

Year 2—Floella Benjamin

Year 3—Nicola Adams

Year 4—Diane Abbott

Year 5—Malorie Blackman

Year 6—Doreen Lawrence



## GOVERNOR NEWS -



### COULD YOU BE A GOVERNOR?

Please read the attached letter regarding Election of Parent Governor. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor please collect a nomination form from the school office.

Nomination forms must be completed and returned to school no later than **Friday 27th October 2023** in order to begin the process of becoming a Parent Governor.

## Sacraments

Please see date below for the upcoming sacraments for this academic year. Both Sacraments will be taking place at Holy Name Church, Great Barr.

More information to follow on these.

Thursday 29th February, at 7pm

**Y6 Confirmation**

-

Sunday 7th July, at 10:30am

**Y3 First Holy Communion**

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Well done to **Year 1** for their attendance and **Year 2 & 3** for having the least amount of lates. Please can **Year 6** ensure they attend school everyday and can **Reception** children ensure they arrive to school on time. Gates open between

8.30 and 8.45am. Thank you.

Our target is **97%** we are currently at **96.4%**.

	So Far This Term	So Far This Term
	No. Of Lates %	Attendance %
RECEPTION	<b>1.5%</b>	95.7%
YEAR 1	0.6%	<b>98.1%</b>
YEAR 2	<b>0.5%</b>	95.7%
YEAR 3	<b>0.5%</b>	97.9%
YEAR 4	1.2%	96.6%
YEAR 5	0.7%	97.7%
YEAR 6	0.9%	<b>93.5%</b>



## Parents Evening

**WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2023**

You will receive an email to show the process on how you are able to book a parents evening appointment using our online system SchoolCloud. The system will go live today (13/10/23) at 5pm and appointments are first come first served.

## God's Rise Theatre Company

On Tuesday 17th October, we have a very exciting experience for the children. God's Rise Theatre company will be spending the day with us for a breath-taking journey of discovery around the earth and into space, learning about the beauty of God's creation, His incredible love for every person, and how each of us can care for our planet and the environment, from the depths of the jungle to the snow capped peaks of the north pole! This will be done through drama, acting, singing and the day will finish with a theatre performance!

We are asking parents to contribute **£3 (via School Gateway)** to the cost of the theatre performance and workshops the children will enjoy.



## Dates for the diary:

- **Monday 16th October 2023—Teacher Training Day—school closed to pupils.**
- **Tuesday 17th October 2023—God's Rise Theatre day—whole school experience**
- **Thursday 19th October 2023—Year 6 Trip to the Slavery Museum**
- **Thursday 19th to Friday 26th October 2023—Scholastic Book Fair**
- **Wednesday 25th October—Parents Evening**
- **Friday 27th October 2023—Teacher Training Day—school closed to pupils**
- **Half Term—Thursday 26th October to Friday 3rd November 2023**
- **Wednesday 8th November 9.30am—Open Day for Prospective Reception Parents**
- **Week beginning 13th November—Anti-bullying week**
- **Wednesday 15th November—Whole School Flu Immunisations**



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Almond Croft, Great Barr, Birmingham, B42 1NU

Principal: Mrs. Danielle Linley

Chair of Governors: Mrs. Marie Naughton

*"Proudly and joyfully, we love, live and learn as God's children"*



12<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

## ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR

An exciting opportunity has arisen as we currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Local Academy Committee.

St. Mark's joined The St John Bosco Catholic Academy (SJBCA) in June 2022. The SJBCA Academy is a Charitable Trust and Company Limited by guarantee - a community of Catholic schools brought together to secure and preserve Catholic education through the teachings of Christ.

The SJBCA believes in offering quality Catholic education to all children, using the development of individual talents to support the spiritual, moral and social development of all children within the academy.

Becoming a Parent Governor on our local academy committee offers you the opportunity to make a real contribution to the life and work of our academy. Governors play a key role in the leadership of the academy and work together with the Principal, staff and other governors to ensure that our academy provides a challenging and supportive environment for its students, do not worry if you have no experience in education matters as full training and support are available from SJBCA.

The Instrument of Government for St Marks School as constituted under the Education Act 2002 requires that the governing body must include 1 parent governor(s) who have been elected by the parents of registered pupils of the school and who are themselves parents of registered pupils of the school at the time of their election. However, any parent who is an elected member of the local authority or employed to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any twelve consecutive months is not eligible to be a parent governor.

There is currently 1 vacancy and you are therefore invited to take part in the election of 1 parent governor(s) for this school who will serve on the governing body for 4 years unless they resign the post in the interim. The role of governor includes: -

- attending meetings of the GB, usually outside of school hours and contributing to GB business;
- reading reports and papers and keeping up to date on the progress that the school is making; and
- visiting the school from time to time during the school day.



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Part of St. John Bosco Catholic Academy Company, 08608177 (registered in England and Wales).  
Registered office: Burton Road, Dudley, DY1 3BY





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You will be expected to, undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and accept that an appointment will not become valid until a disclosure has been obtained and also have:

- a strong commitment to the role and improving outcomes for children
- the inquisitiveness to question and analyse;
- the willingness to learn;
- good inter-personal skills;
- appropriate levels of literacy and sufficient numeracy skills to understand basic data.

Nomination forms are available from the school office and must be returned to the school no later than 3.30pm on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. Should 1 or fewer nominations be received by the official closing date, the candidate(s) will be duly elected unopposed. In the event of there being 2 or more nominations an election will take place between **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023**. Information on voting arrangements will be sent to you at a later date.

Please note that you should not participate in more nominations than there are vacancies. Each nomination requires two proposers.

Yours faithfully

Mrs. M. Naughton  
Chair of Governors