



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

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Principal: Mrs. D. Linley



**FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER 2023**

## Our Mission Statement



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to see so many of you join us for our Christmas Fayre last Friday and also our Christmas celebration. Coming together as a family community is very important to us here at St. Mark's and we really appreciate your support with both of these events! Events such as these would not be possible without the help and commitment of our staff and parents and of course, we mustn't forget the enthusiasm our children bring also!

As we approach the end of this Autumn term (which has been a very busy but productive one), please take a moment to remember the joy that Christmas brings.

When the wise men found the baby Jesus, they exploded in joy. Their joy wasn't from the pursuit of their own pleasure; it was from trying to find Him. They put forth a lot of effort in a search they weren't sure about. But when they found Him, they got the payoff we would all love to have—happiness, pleasure, awe (and even though the Bible doesn't say it, I'm sure they were smiling for weeks!) Christmas can be a very busy and sometimes stressful time of year but there is much joy to also be found - we hope you have a very joyful Christmas!

God bless,

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team



# Family and Community



# Presentation Matters!

A number of children are coming to school not complying with our school uniform expectations. Since September, we have seen an increase in the number of children wearing earrings, multicoloured trainers, coloured hair extensions and multicoloured tops. Our uniform expectations are set out on our school website and there is a page dedicated to St. Mark's school uniform expectations. **Please refer to our website if you are unsure.** After Christmas, if we continue to find children not complying with the school uniform and presentation expectations, **we will be contacting parents directly.**

Thank you for your support!




## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Well done to [Year 5](#) for their attendance and [Year 2](#) for having the least amount of lates. Please can [Reception](#) ensure they attend school everyday and [Year 4](#) to arrive to school on time.

Gates open between 8.30 and 8.45am. Thank you.

Our target is **97%** we are currently at **96.3%**.

	So Far This Term No. Of Lates %	So Far This Term Attendance %
RECEPTION	1.6%	<b>93.6%</b>
YEAR 1	0.8%	97.4%
YEAR 2	<b>0.4%</b>	94.3%
YEAR 3	0.6%	96.7%
YEAR 4	<b>1.7%</b>	95.3%
YEAR 5	0.7%	<b>97.6%</b>
YEAR 6	1.2%	95.0%

## ATTENDANCE AWARDS!



On Friday 22nd December at 9am, there will be an attendance awards assembly where certificates will be given to Gold, Silver and Bronze winners.

Those children who receive a Gold certificate for the Autumn, Spring and Summer term will be put in a draw to win a family ticket to Drayton Manor Park.



Please ensure your child attends school everyday—Being in school is important to your child's academic achievement, wellbeing, and wider development.

## Dates for the diary:

- Friday 22nd December 2023—Whole School Attendance assembly
- Friday 22nd December 2023—End of Term
- Tuesday 9th January 2024—Start of Spring Term



## 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/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=114.2>



## Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots!

During this week's praise assembly, lots of children won certificates for most minutes played! Well done!

### TT Rockstars/Numbots Award – Most minutes played

CLASS	NAME OF CHILD
Reception	Ruth
Year 1	Chidera
Year 2	Chideraa
Year 3	Manha
Year 4	Julia
Year 5	Rohan
Year 6	Reuben



This week's challenge is for children to earn as many coins as they can! Please encourage your children to keep practising at home as number facts and times table are building blocks for children to access higher-level maths skills!



### GOVERNOR VACANCY

Congratulations to Dr Bukola Awoyemi for being appointed as our Foundation governor.

We currently have a vacancy on the school's governing body as a parent governor. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor please collect a nomination form from the school office.



### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Next week the clubs for Autumn term 2 will come to an end. We will be sending out new club letters on the first week back in the Spring term. The clubs will then start the week after.