



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

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Principal: Mrs. D. Linley



FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school on Monday this week. Now we are in the season of Lent, we are fundraising for Fr. Hudson's Care. The children have all taken home reusable money bags this week and we would appreciate any donations you can make for this very important charity. Two of our mission teams visited Fr. Hudson's care home last term and they experienced first hand the incredible work the charity undertakes to support some of the most vulnerable people in our community. A big thank you to Miss Stewart for organising this.



The call to serve often feels stronger during Lent and yesterday, staff at St. Mark's joined our family of schools to meet with Sr. Judith Russi to learn more about how we can further embed the catholic social teaching principles. We prayed that together, alongside you as parents and carers, we can do the following:

- Empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today
- Draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community
- Foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

We want to transform the lives of our children so that they can go out into the world and transform society for the better.

I hope you all have a peaceful and restful weekend.



Staff in school are raising money for Cancer Research in support of those who have lost their lives to Cancer and our own Mrs. Nellist who is receiving treatment for Cancer. We keep her and her family in our prayers. We also remember Miss Ward who attended St. Mark's as a pupil and then later returned as a member of staff in 2016. If you would like to donate, please click on the link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/stchadswalk2024>

ATTENDANCE MATTERS


ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Well done to **Year 3** for their attendance and for having the least amount of lates.

Please can **Reception** ensure they attend school everyday and arrive to school on time.

Gates open between 8.30 and 8.45am. Thank you.

Our target is **97%** we are currently at **95.5%**.

	So Far This Term	So Far This Term
	No. Of Lates %	Attendance %
RECEPTION	2.8%	89.6%
YEAR 1	0.7%	94.9%
YEAR 2	0.7%	93.9%
YEAR 3	0.6%	97.3%
YEAR 4	2.1%	93.8%
YEAR 5	1.3%	97.1%
YEAR 6	1.0%	97.0%

PARENTS EVENING—

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2024

We will be using **schoolcloud**, an online appointment booking system. This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers and you will receive an email confirming your appointments.

Appointments can be made from **Friday 8th March 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** and will close on **Friday 15th March 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

An email will be sent with information on how to make a booking along with a link to the website on **Thursday 7th March 2024**. A short guide on how to add appointments is included with this email.

Once the appointment slots have been taken, you will need to contact the teacher via Class Dojo to book alternative appointments at a mutually convenient time for yourselves and the teacher.

Dates for the diary:

Thursday 29th February—Year 6 will be making their Confirmation at Holy Name Church at 7pm

Thursday 7th March—World Book Day

Friday 8th March—International Women's Day and British Values day on Democracy

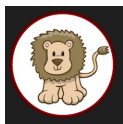
Sunday 17th March - Family Mass at Holy Name Church at 10.30am

Thursday 21st March—Parents Evening (please see newsletter for more information)

Friday 22nd March—KS2 attendance assembly at 9:00am

Friday 22nd March—KS1 attendance assembly at 9:45am

Friday 22nd March—school closes for Easter holidays



Reading News!



We are recruiting school librarians for our library! This is a very important role in school for children to promote their love of reading and take on additional responsibilities. This week, application forms have been given to KS2 children to apply for the role of school librarian. If you are interested, please fill in your application form and return to Miss Dorsett by **Wednesday 28th February 2024**.

A plea to our families and community

We are also looking for **reading volunteers** to come into school and listen to our children read. This can be any time/day to suit you and would have countless benefits to our children, such as: developing their comprehension skills, their reading fluency, self-esteem and confidence etc. If you are able to give any time to be a reading volunteer, please contact Miss Dorsett via Class Dojo.



Finally, we are also looking for parent/family helpers to assist us in keeping our library organised and tidy, ensuring books are labelled correctly and that we have a wide-range of resources accessible to and reflective of all our children. If you would be interested in becoming a **library helper**, and supporting our school librarians, please also contact Miss Dorsett.

