



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Almond Croft, Great Barr, Birmingham, B42 1NU

Tel: 0121 357 9892 Email: enquiry@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk

Principal: Mrs. D. Linley



FRIDAY 3rd MAY 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been greatly impressed this week with the children's learning in and around school. They have been working particularly hard on their presentation and handwriting and it has been a delight to have so many children sent to my office for their effort on this. Thank you also for ensuring your child is dressed appropriately for school as presentation points have been very positive this week and lunchtimes in particular are showing an improvement. Well done to Year 4 for earning extra time on the astro today!

During the whole month of May, we spend time celebrating and honouring Mary, the mother of Jesus. Thank you to our rosary group for praying a decade of the rosary around our special tree, recently planted in memory of Miss Ward. Thank you to those members of our community for praying with us—it would be lovely to see more families joining us for prayer. Remember, you are most welcome!

Lastly, I would like to say thank you for your ongoing support. It is much appreciated!

Have a great bank holiday weekend and please remember to be here on time on Tuesday!

God bless, Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team



First Holy Communion 2024



Key Dates

23
May

THURSDAY

First Holy Communion Parent Meeting
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

6
Jun

THURSDAY

Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent Workshop
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

13
Jun

THURSDAY

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Y3
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

20
Jun

THURSDAY

First Holy Communion - Parent Workshop
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

7
Jul

SUNDAY

Y3 Holy Communion 2024
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM



Dance Report

(written by Ava and Morola in Y5)

On Monday 22nd June, we went to Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham and performed a dance about naughty school children and we were having a rave outside of school. We danced to the songs, 'Level Up', 'Whip My Hair' and 'Confetti' in a remix. While we were dancing, the crowd whistled and clapped to the beat. At the end, the crowd cheered really loudly and it made us all feel really confident and go full out with our energy!



Reading Volunteers

Do you have a spare hour a week? Would you like to volunteer and support us here at St. Mark's? Are you interested in supporting our children, or know someone who is?

If you would be interested in volunteering at school, we would love to have you! We are looking to add to our team of reading volunteers that come into school and hear the children read on a 1:1 basis. All training and support will be given and no amount of time is too short!

If you are interested in volunteering at St. Mark's, please contact Miss Dorsett via Class Dojo.

Feedback from children:

"I love reading with Mike on a Thursday. We have a chat about our week and then I share my book with him. He tells me about his favourite books too." Y6 child



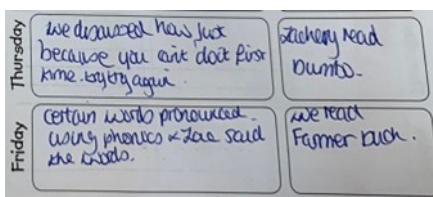
"Mrs P comes into read with me and sometimes we visit the library together to choose a new book. She helped me find some non-fiction books." Y4 child.

Reading Diaries

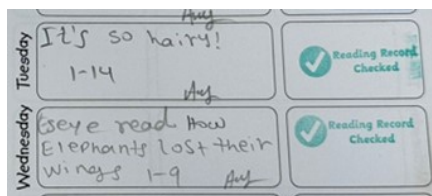
This week in school, we have been having a look at how we use our reading diaries at home and at school. Here are a few reminders about how to use your reading diary at home:

- Record what story your child has read/what pages they have read and sign it. This will be checked daily by a member of staff.

Reception example:



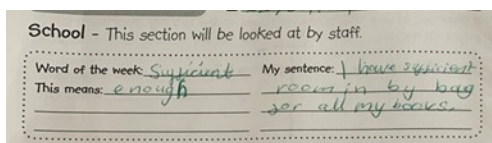
KS1 example:



KS2 example:



- If your child is in KS2, support them with completing their 'Word of the Week' section, exploring new vocabulary.



- When your child has read with an adult at school, this will also be recorded in their diaries. They will also have QR codes to practise at home, if they are still having phonics lessons/interventions.



Thank you for all your ongoing support with improving your children's reading—it makes a huge difference.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Well done to **Year 3** for their attendance this term and to **Year 2** for having the least amount of lates.


Please can **Year 4** ensure they attend school everyday and arrive to school on time.

We have noticed the number of late children rising and whilst we are aware of the road closures/works taking place, can you please ensure that you give yourself plenty of time to travel to school so that your child is here on time. Thank you.

Gates open between **8.30 and 8.45am**. Registers close at **8.55am**.

Our target is **97%** we are currently at **95.0%**.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

	So Far This Term No. Of Lates %	So Far This Term Attendance %
RECEPTION	3.2%	94.2%
YEAR 1	1.5%	96.2%
YEAR 2	1.0%	91.1%
YEAR 3	1.2%	94.8%
YEAR 4	3.6%	89.1%
YEAR 5	1.5%	93.7%
YEAR 6	1.7%	93.3%

**Don't be late!
School can't wait!**



Dear parents, we have seen an increase in the number of children not being collected on time at the end of the day.

From now on, all children that are collected late will be recorded in a book and parents will be contacted to attend a meeting for persistently late collection.

Please ensure you are punctual when collecting your child.

Dates for the diary:

Monday 6th May—BANK HOLIDAY

Week beginning Monday 13th May—Y6 SATs week

Week beginning Monday 20th May—Multicultural week in school (more information on trips to follow)

Monday 20th May 1:30pm—May Procession

Monday 20th May 3:30pm—Parent workshop on online messaging systems

Thursday 23rd May—British Values afternoon

Friday 24th May 1.30pm—St. Mark's Multicultural Showcase afternoon

Friday 24th May—Break up for half term holiday

Half Term—Monday 27th—Friday 31st May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024—School re-opens



Application forms can be obtained from the school office.

Closing date is Friday 17th May 2024.

Grade 1 all year round - 10 hours per week - (£5,524.60 annual salary).