



# 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 28th MARCH 2025**

Dear Parents and carers,

Last week the children completed many assessments and we will be sharing this with you soon at parents' evening on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April. Please see information below on how you can arrange your appointment with your child's class teacher. It is important that you do arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher, if you need an alternative date and time, please message your child's class teacher and staff will try their best to accommodate

*family*

It was wonderful to see so many of you at family and parish Mass on Sunday, thank you as always for joining us for this special occasion. In children's liturgy the children focused on prayer during Lent and it was wonderful to hear their Lent reflections on prayer during Mass. Our next family and parish Mass will be on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate Pentecost at 10:30am at Holy Name Church. Please do join us for this special occasion.



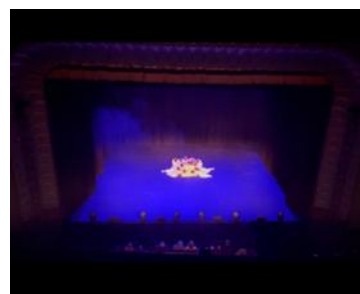
In Gospel assembly on Monday, we talked about hope and the children shared their personal prayers of hope, taking inspiration from Sunday's Gospel, whereby the gardener gave the fig tree one more chance by nurturing it. This Monday, pupils from St. John Bosco Primary School will be joining us in Gospel assembly to share with us what they have been doing so far during this year of hope. We look forward to welcoming them to St. Mark's on Monday!

God bless and have a good weekend,  
Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's family



## The Great Big Dance Off

**14 of our girls from Years 4 to Year 6 competed in the Great Big Dance Off at Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham on Monday evening this week amongst 17 other schools, and I am delighted to say that our girls dance team came SECOND! We will be going to Oxford in June to compete in the National Great Big Dance Off Finals which is a fantastic achievement - the competition was very strong from all the schools. Well done to Shelly, our dance teacher and all the girls for their amazing hard work. COME ON GIRLS!**




## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Well Done to **Year 6** for their attendance this term and to **Year 2** having the least amount of lates.

Please can **Year 5** ensure they attend school everyday and ensure they arrive to school on time.

Gates open between **8:30am and 8:45am**.  
Our target is **97%** we are currently at **95.6%**

	So Far This Term	So Far This Term
	No. Of Lates %	Attendance %
RECEPTION	0.8%	94.7%
YEAR 1	1.5%	96.3%
YEAR 2	<b>0.3%</b>	95.8%
YEAR 3	0.6%	96.4%
YEAR 4	1.1%	97.8%
YEAR 5	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>92.2%</b>
YEAR 6	0.7%	<b>98.5%</b>

## DATES FOR DIARY

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025** – Dog's Trust workshop for Reception, Years 1, 2, and 3

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025** – Grandparent's Afternoon Tea – 1.30-2.30pm

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025** – Dog's Trust workshop for Years 4, 5 and 6

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025** – Confirmandi Workshop for pupils and parents with Fr Jibu 5:00-6:00pm

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – Palm Sunday Assembly for Holy Week led by Y3 – 2:45-3:10pm

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – Maundy Thursday Assembly for Holy Week led by Y4 – 2:45-3:10pm

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – Good Friday Assembly for Holy Week led by Y5 – 2:45-3:10pm

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – St. Mark's Friends Parent Meeting – Planning for Summer Fayre – New members Welcome! – 3:30-5:30pm

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – Parent's Evening – 3:30-7:00pm – **(More information to follow)**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025** – Stations of the Cross Assembly for Holy Week led by Y6 – 2:45-3:10pm

## Confirmation Workshop

We look forward to working with all of our Confirmandi, their parents and sponsors at next week's Confirmation workshop on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 5pm with Fr. Jibu.

Here is the Come O Holy Spirit Prayer that our children are learning. As Lent is a time of prayer, please pray this prayer at home with your children.

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you will renew the face of the earth. Let us pray. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord.*



## New Food & Recycling Legislation, effective from 1st April 2025

In line with government guidelines, all schools in England must comply with the new regulations. From 31 March 2025, recycling and collection measures for all types of recyclable waste are required to be in place in schools. Any schools that fail to comply with the new regulations will face fines, enforcement actions, and potentially prosecution. To comply with the new legislation, from next week w/c 31.03.2025, we will be putting the following in place: -

- New bins have been placed around school/classrooms to segregate mixed recycling, food waste & general waste items.
  - Lime Green Bins – Mixed Recycling
  - Dark Green Bins – Food waste
  - Grey/Red Bins – General Waste
- Sandwich pupils will no longer be able to empty their left-over food at school. This will need to be taken home from Monday. This way, parents will also be able to monitor what their child has eaten on the day.

All mixed recycling, including cardboard, plastics, glass, and metal, should be carefully separated and disposed of in accordance with the new guidelines to ensure that each material is recycled appropriately and to minimise environmental impact. Pupils will be informed about this at Monday's assembly led by Mrs Linley.



### Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month Aideen Blackborough Visit

To celebrate cerebral palsy awareness month, we received a visit from Aideen Blackborough.

Aideen came to talk to all of us to raise awareness of Cerebral Palsy. Aideen talked about how she lives with her disability and how we can support people with disabilities through our everyday actions. All of the children asked some thoughtful questions and discussed all of our unique abilities and how we are all different.

If you want to find out more, Aideen has written her own book about her experience which Mrs Dykes has started reading. ❤️

