



Birmingham City Council Education Department
St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher
 Mr. S. Murphy



Week Ending Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents,

Gospel of Sunday 10th September 2017

Jesus said to his disciples, "If your brother does something against you, point out his fault to him when the two of you are alone together. If he listens to you, then you have won your brother back. But if he does not listen to you, then you should take one or two others along with you, so that every word you say can be confirmed by them. If he still refuses to listen, tell the whole church community; and if he even refuses to listen to the church, treat him like an outcast, like a pagan or a tax collector. I tell you truly, if two of you on earth agree what to ask for, then my Father in Heaven will grant it. If two or three come together in my name, there I am with them."

(Matthew 18:15-20) The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A)



Welcome back to all members of our school community as we start another school year at St Mark's. I hope you all have had an enjoyable and refreshing break and that you all have returned healthy, safe and well. The children have started their new school year in a positive and enthusiastic manner and their behaviour and attitude have been excellent during this first few days. It has been lovely to see returning faces full of excitement and energy and I have been amazed by some of the exciting things that the children have done during the holidays. I am sure that we are going to continue to have a most successful year and look forward to working together to ensure that St Mark's continues to grow.

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN



We would like to thank the vast majority of parents for presenting your children so beautifully in their school uniform and wearing it with pride. We are always very proud of the standards set and maintained at St Mark's. The children are a credit to you and we appreciate your support with school uniform. Please ensure that all items are clearly marked with your child's



name. We are continuing with our presentation award to reward a class each week for their high standards. For further details see the school planners. Also if you are unsure about any aspect of uniform/PE kit/ **hairstyles** etc please check our school website for more information. Also, I would like to remind you that earrings/studs are not part of the school uniform.

REMINDER:



I would like to remind all parents that school gates are opened at 8.45am each morning. School lessons begin at 8.55 a.m. and end at 3.10pm for EYFS / KS1 and 3.15pm for KS2.

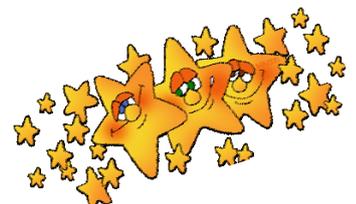
Presentation Award for week commencing 12th September 2016:

Well done to **Year 4** for achieving **98%** for the best class presentation award for this week.



Best attendance for week ending **8th September** – **Year 3 & Year 4 with 98.9% attendance** – Well done to Miss Ward and Miss Georgiou and both classes for such good attendance. Keep up the good work!

Class	Attendance	Lates	Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception			Year 4	98.9%	0
Year 1	97.8%	1	Year 5	98.3%	3
Year 2	96.7%	0	Year 6	96.7%	0
Year 3	98.9%	6	School	97.9%	4



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...

The following members of our school have and will be celebrating their birthday last week and this week: -

Rayan (Y2), Daisy (Y2), Prabhjot (Y2). Eva (Y4), Tyler (Y5), Destiny (Y1), Jasmine (Y4), Frazer (Y1), Tay (Y3), Nikolay (Y4) & Edward (Y4).

We wish them a wonderful birthday and hope all their wishes come true.



THURSDAY MASS DATES

Family and friends are very welcome to join us on the following dates:



14 th Sept	Year 6
21 st Sept	Year 5
28 th Sept	Year 4
5 th Oct	Year 3
12 th Oct	Year 2
19 th Oct	Year 6

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Please see below a list of important dates for Year 3 children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. (*Please note: more dates to follow*)

Thursday 8 th March 2018	3:30pm – Journey of Faith at St. Mark's school
Thursday 15 th March 2018	4:00pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Name Church
Thursday 26 th April 2018	3:30pm – Journey of Faith at St. Mark's school
Sunday 13 th May 2018	10:30am - Sacramental Enrolment Mass at Holy Name Church
Sunday 20 th May 2018	10.30am – Sacramental preparation Mass at Holy Name Church
Sunday 10 th June 2018	10.30am – Sacramental preparation Mass at Holy Name Church
Sunday 24 th June 2017	10:30am – Sacrament of Eucharist at Holy Name Church



Attendance/Punctuality

As you are aware there is a big government drive to improve attendance in schools and to ensure every child is accessing their right to an education. Punctuality is also a problem in some cases and a child arriving late into school misses out on the vital introduction to lessons therefore may be left behind in their understanding. The school day begins at 8.55am. A child arriving late has their name recorded in a late book and if there is an accumulation of late arrivals it is seen as a cause for concern. If a child arrives after

registration closes, they are marked as an unauthorised absence unless we see evidence of a medical appointment. All medical appointments need to be shown at the office so a medical code can be entered onto the register. Please ensure good practice of attendance and punctuality so that your child will make good progress. Thank you.



Leave of Absence Requests

For quite some time now, Headteachers have not been able to authorise leave of absence during term time unless for very exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional circumstances do not include: -

- Visiting relatives who are seriously ill
- Celebrating religious festivals not previously agreed by the local authority.
- Family Holidays

The Government has now instructed that taking holidays in term time is illegal and Headteachers have to be more vigilant. Fixed penalty fines may be issued to parents of children who are absent from school for a period of time and children can be removed from the school roll if persistently absent from school. Please take note.

PARENTS' EVENINGS - WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER 3:30pm onwards
(Further details to follow) - THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER 4:30pm onwards



Pizza Fridays! - £2.25 to school on **MONDAYS**. (late payments cannot be accepted)



BREAKTIME TOAST - The cost will be 25p per slice.
FRESH JUICE - Fresh juice is available at 25p per carton

PLEASE NOTE: Toast & Juice money should be separate from dinner money

School Dinners - £11.25 a week (£2.25 a day)

In order to ensure that the school dinner arrangements are operated as smoothly as possible and to avoid any confusion please note: Hot dinners cannot be selected on an 'ad hoc' basis.



The options are: -

- school dinners on a 5 day basis
- sandwiches on a 5 day basis
- sandwiches for 4 days with the option of pizza Friday

Parents are reminded that any change in a child's arrangements – changing from school dinners to sandwiches or vice-versa must give 2 weeks' notice in writing to the school office and dinner money **MUST** be paid on Monday mornings.

PACKED LUNCHES

Can we please ask that any children who bring in a packed lunch do not bring in any nuts, as we have children who have a nut allergy and we would like to avoid any allergic reaction.



WELCOME SERVICE- Friday 29th September at 9:10am

Parents, Grandparents, family and friends of 'new children' to St Mark's are invited to our "Welcome Service" on Friday 29th October, at 9:10am in the school hall. This is an opportunity for us to formally welcome our new boys and girls into the St Mark's school family.

WELCOME!



ST MARK'S ANNUAL OPEN DAY FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS **THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2017 AT 10:30AM- 12:00PM.**



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The school photographer is coming into school on **Wednesday 18th October** to take individual photographs. This is a good time of year to do this as uniforms, shoes and hairstyles are so smart!

BUILDING PROJECT

As I am sure many of you will have noticed, we currently have some work being carried out on part of our school roof. During the last two summer holidays the Archdiocese of Birmingham has commissioned the complete replacement of the entire roof of St. Mark's. Due to poor weather, some of the work still needs to be completed. Hopefully this will happen in the next few weeks. We apologise for any disruption this may cause.



CONGRATULATIONS:

I am sure that it comes as no surprise that ***Mrs Hussain*** is expecting her second child. She is going on maternity leave at the beginning of the spring term and intends to return to us at St. Mark's next year. We wish her and her husband, all the very best with the latter stages of pregnancy.



Class Assembly Dates/Times:

Please note: All assemblies will start at 2:30pm

Friday 13 th October 2017	Year 3
Friday 24 th November 2017	Year 5
Friday 16 th February 2018	Year 4
Friday 9 th March 2018	Reception (Mother's Day Assembly)
Friday 16 th March 2018	Year 2
Friday 22 nd June 2018	Year 1
Thursday 19 th July 2018	Year 6 Leaver's Assembly

REVISED TERM DATES:

This year the staff and children are in school for additional hours at the end of the school day, for example, Boosters, Extra-curricular activities, Journey of Faith and other experiences. Therefore, please note the revised end of the summer term, which will now be **Friday 20th July 2018**

“BY THE WAY... FACT OF THE DAY”

Please help your child to learn and remember this week's "Fact of the Day". They will be encouraged to recite this fact on a number of occasions.

	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Monday	Half of 100 is 50	A numerator is the top number in a fraction.
Tuesday	Double 15 = 30	Half of a litre = 500 ml
Wednesday	A square has 4 vertices	A quarter of 100 = 25
Thursday	Look at it and wonder	A nonagon is an 9 sided polygon.
Friday	3 + 7 are number bonds of 10	A net is a flat 2D shape that can be folded to create a 3D shape.

DATES FOR DIARIES

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK – 13th – 17th November 2017

INFANT NATIVITY – Thursday 7th December 2017 at 2:30pm

JUNIOR CAROL SERVICE – Thursday 21st December 2017 at 9:15am



Teachers' Training Days

Friday 20th October 2017

Thursday 29th March 2018

Monday 4th June 2018

Tuesday 24th July 2018

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
Tuesday 5 th September To Friday 20 th October - half term - Monday 30 th October To Friday 22 nd December	Monday 8 th January To Friday 16 th February - half term - Monday 26 th February To Thursday 29 th March	Monday 16 th April To Friday 25 th May - half term - Monday 4 th June To Friday 20 th July

God Bless

Mr. S. Murphy
Headteacher