



St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. D. Linley



Friday 19th March 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

Thank you all for your co-operation and support this week with the collection times. It has worked much better, and we very much appreciate your support. I want to remind you all again please that you **MUST** wear a face covering on school site unless you are exempt and if this is the case, we ask that you wear an exemption badge. We now have a box of face coverings available on the gates in the mornings and after school in case you forget!

Please read this term's Safeguarding Newsletter posted today for further information.

Expectations of Behaviour

When behaviour of children is not at the expected standard that is required at St. Mark's, we take action to combat poor behaviour and attitudes of children. Since the 8th March, we have observed that a few children have needed to be reminded on numerous occasions of our expectations for behaviour and learning. On occasions, children have not shown staff and others the respect they deserve, they have not followed instructions and they have forgotten to use their manners. I have already spoken to some individual parents about this and already, we are beginning to see some improvement. Thank you.

We are using lots of initiatives in school at the moment to promote good behaviour and to give children an incentive to behave well and work hard. For persistent behaviour issues, I will be arranging formal meetings with parents. I hope you will support us by working with us.

Lastly, I had a meeting with Fr. Vincent yesterday socially distanced in school and we are both hoping that it will not be too long before we will be able to celebrate Mass in school again. For now, we are focusing on planning the Sacraments for children in Years 3, 4 and 6 (please see separate piece in newsletter).

God bless,

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

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/follow?pid=MTA101634&v=22.3>



TOP STAR EARNERS OF THE WEEK



Well done to the following children for earning the most stars this week!!

Daija(YR)	Sofia(YR)	Aman(YR)	Rajveer(Y1)	Chinaza(Y1)	Bella(Y1)
De'Jaurne(Y1)	Anokh(Y2)	Hena(Y2)	Delphi(Y2)	Hristiyan(Y3)	Ali(Y3)
Reuben(Y3)	Destiny(Y4)	Sienna(Y4)	Freya(Y4)	Kimaya(Y5)	Anushka(Y5)
	Aanya(Y5)	Rhia(Y6)	Moiz(Y6)	Arya(Y6)	

Congratulations and Well Done!

We would like to say a big well done to the following pupils for receiving a Congratulations certificate this week. Keep up the great work!



Reception: Manha & Leo
Year 1: Shaheen & Zayyan
Year 2: Taon & Connor
Year 3: Nasri & Shakur
Year 4: Christina & Rohan
Year 5: Patrycja & Christian
Year 6: Hafizur & Summerpreet



How many stars can you earn online with j2stars?

IMPORTANT - Update on Sacraments to be taken this year

If your child is Catholic and in Years 3 and 4, we have planned for them to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion for this year. Please make a note of the following dates. Next week, you will receive further information detailing our expectations for these Sacraments.



Saturday 24th April - Commitment Mass for children in Year 3 at Holy Name Church at 3.30pm

PLEASE NOTE: Children in Year 4 had their Commitment Mass last year before the National Lockdown.

Week beginning 10th May - Children in Years 3 and 4 will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation in school.

Saturday 26th June 3.30pm - Children in Year 4 will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at Holy Name Church

Saturday 3rd July 3.30pm - Children in Year 3 will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at Holy Name Church.

For parents of children in Year 6, we are awaiting dates regarding children in Year 6 receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. As soon as we get a date confirmed from the Bishop, we will notify you as parents!



Easter Celebrations!

On Thursday 1st April, we will be holding an Easter Bonnet Competition (for Key Stage 1 children) and an Egg Decoration competition (for Key Stage 2). This will be slightly different this year as we do not want children to bring their creations into school but instead to create them at home and to take a photo and post it onto your child's BGfL account (we would also love to see children's creations on Twitter too!) All photos **MUST** be uploaded onto BGfL by Wednesday 31st March so that entries can be judged, and prizes given on Thursday 1st April.



Sponsorship Opportunity

We have recently spoken to the children about school sport and they are keen to get some new kit to wear, ready for when it's safe to participate in fixtures and festivals involving other schools. The opportunity to represent the school is always exciting, and the children take great pride in wearing the school kit and looking professional. We wondered if any of you could support us with this? We are looking for contributions towards the kit, with the possibility of including a sponsor on each shirt. If this is something you are potentially interested in, please get in touch with Mr Ellicott to discuss it further.



Snacks

Just a reminder about snacks brought into school, they must be healthy snacks such as carrot sticks or fruit. We have had a number of children turn up with cookies, crisps and cheese dippers. Also, water bottles shouldn't contain anything other than water.



Homework

From next week, children will be receiving weekly homework - please ensure your child completes homework to a good standard and brings homework in on time. Thanks!

School Term Dates

INSET DAY – School will be closed to pupils on Friday 28th May

Spring Term 2021

Term Ends: Thursday 1st April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19th April 2021

Half Term: Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021

Term Ends: Wednesday 21st July 2021



Work to paths on school site:

From next week, the school will be undertaking some redevelopment work to make the school pathways safer. This will involve the complete resurfacing of our main entrance pathways. While this work is being carried out, drop offs and pickups to school **will be through the Kingsdown Avenue green gates only.**

Year 2 only: drop offs and pickups will be through the car park green gates adjacent to the caretaker's house.

Only 1 of the car park gates will be open for pedestrians only. The redevelopment work will also mean that the normal access to the main school office entrance will be unavailable. As a result, for the duration of the redevelopment work, parents / visitors are requested to enter through the school car park gate adjacent to the caretaker's house. Your co-operation during the redevelopment work to improve our school will be much appreciated. While this work will cause some barriers, we are excited for the changes that will be made to enhance our pathways. The projected timeline for the redevelopment is 1-2 weeks. When completed, the new pathways will ensure the safety of all our children, parents and visitors when entering our school building.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the work.