



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 17th MAY 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our Year 6 children have impressed me with their positive attitude towards their SAT papers. They recognise that SATs go some way in measuring their academic ability in preparation for secondary school but they (more importantly) understand that St. Mark's is about more than just a SATs paper score. As a result, the children have been calm but focused and willing to do their best—which has made me very proud! I'd like to thank all of the staff for their support this week and especially the team in Year 6—Miss Dorsett, Miss LG, Mr. Dixon and Mrs. Greaves.

This Sunday is our Family Mass at Holy Name Church at 10:30am and we will be celebrating Pentecost together—please come along if you can!. Next week is Multi-cultural Week (one of my favourite weeks in the year)! It brings us together as a whole school community to celebrate our diversity and our uniqueness as we explore how the power of the Holy Spirit shapes our lives, communities, and the world. Please join us for Family Mass on Sunday if you can! Our multi-cultural showcase is next week and we'd love to see as many parents there as possible. I'd like to thank Valeriya in Year 4 for creating a poster about this special event (please see final page).

Have a wonderful week!

Mrs. Linley and the St Mark's Team

May—the month of Our Lady

Throughout May our whole school community has been honouring Our Blessed Lady. We have been praying the Hail Mary daily in KS1 and a decade of the Rosary in KS2. As a school we learned about and prayed to Our Lady of Good Health - focussing on the incarnation of Our Lady from a different area of the world, India.



On Monday 20th May, we invite all family members to join us for our May Procession from 1:30pm.

1:30pm - Reception, Y1 and Y2
2pm (approx) - Year 3 and Year 4
2:30pm (approx) - Year 5 and Year 6



Please send your child into school with some flowers to offer to Mary. These can be fresh flowers or flowers made/drawn at home. We look forward to celebrating Our Lady with you on Monday.

Family Mass

This Sunday we will celebrate the feast of Pentecost, when the disciples received the Holy Spirit and were able to speak different languages, spreading the good news across the world. To celebrate how diverse our school community is, children are welcome to wear their own cultural dress or something that represents their culture to Mass. We will also be performing a song and asking the children what they would like to add to make this Mass even more special.

All are welcome to join this special celebration. Children are also welcome to participate in a liturgy with Mrs Linley or read in the Mass.

We look forward to welcoming you all.



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Well done to **Year 1** 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%**.

Since March, we have issued 3 fixed penalty notices for attendance. Parents, please refrain from taking your children out of school during term time.

Since March, Mrs. Linley and Mrs. Hussain have completed 10 attendance meetings with parents. Please understand that you will be requested to attend an attendance meeting should your child's attendance become a concern.

Please ensure your child is in school every day so that they can fulfil their potential and achieve the best outcomes.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

	So Far This Term	So Far This Term
	No. Of Lates %	Attendance %
RECEPTION	2.8%	93.8%
YEAR 1	1.3%	95.6%
YEAR 2	1.0%	92.0%
YEAR 3	1.2%	94.7%
YEAR 4	3.2%	90.9%
YEAR 5	1.7%	95.0%
YEAR 6	1.4%	94.5%

Dates for the diary:

Thursday 19th May—Traditional Dress Day

W/C Monday 20th May—Multicultural week

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 (£1 per ticket)

Friday 24th May—Break up for half term holiday

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

Monday 3rd June 2024—School re-opens

Tuesday 4th June—Whole school Science Fair

Tuesday 11th June—Individual Photographs

Tuesday 11th June—Y5 Parent workshop

Wednesday 12th June—Y4 Writing workshop

Wednesday 3rd-5th July—Y6 Alton Castle Residential

RAD Music Lessons



At St. Mark's, we work closely with RAD Music to provide additional music lessons for our children. If you are interested in registering your child for additional music lessons, please scan the

QR code.

If you have any questions/queries, please contact Miss Dorsett via Class Dojo.



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



St. Mark's Summer Fayre

Friday 12th July

This year, we are keen to build on the success of last year's Caribbean Summer Fayre by holding another themed fayre. There will be a St. Mark's Friends' meeting on Friday 7th June at 4pm and this will be on ZOOM. If you are interested in renting a table for the Summer fayre to sell some produce—please get in touch by messaging Mrs. Linley via Class Dojo. If you would like to attend the meeting, please email the school office on the enquiry email and we will send you the meeting link—the more the merrier!

Save Tower Hill Library



Tower Hill library is at the heart of our local community and it's much loved by local people and very well used. However, a local resident has informed us that our local library may be at risk of closure.

The link to petition against closure of our local library is available below:

www.birmingham.libdems.org.uk/our-campaigns/save-tower-hill-library

MULTICULTURAL WEEK—MONDAY 20TH—FRIDAY 24TH May 2024

Please see below table for trips/visit/workshops taking place during this week:



RECEPTION	HOLY NAME CATHOLIC CHURCH	TUESDAY 21ST MAY 2024
YEAR 1	ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH	TUESDAY 21ST MAY 2024
YEAR 2	THE BUDDHIST MAHA VIHARA TEMPLE	MONDAY 20TH MAY 2024
YEAR 3	HINDU EDUCATION WORKSHOP	WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY 2024
YEAR 4	GURDWARA PITA KALU SAHIB	MONDAY 20TH MAY 2024
YEAR 5	THE ISLAMIC EXPERIENCE EXHIBITION	ATTENDED THIS ON TUESDAY 14TH MAY 2024
YEAR 6	JUDAISM FAITH TALK	DURING THE WEEK

Children can come to school dressed in their own cultural/traditional dress on Thursday 23rd May 2024. Join us for a special Pentecost Mass at 9am in the school hall.

NO DOGS and NO SCOOTERS

Please keep dogs a safe distance away from the school gates (even if your dog is very friendly) some children and adults are very frightened of dogs.

Please also do not allow your child to ride their scooter on the school grounds. Please wait until they are off the school site.

Proudly and joyfully, we love live and learn as god's children



You are very much welcome to our St. Marks mass on
Thursday 23rd May at 9:00am and our multicultural
showcase on Friday 24th May at 2:00pm.

We charge one pound per ticket!

See your child perform in their dance!

For further detail please contact the school:

TEL: 0121 357 9892

**ADDRESS: St. Mark's Catholic Primary School. Almond Croft.
Great Barr. Birmingham. B42 1NU**

EMAIL: enquiry@stmarkrc.bham.sch.uk

Welcome to our amazing school and we hope you enjoy your visit.