



# St. Mark's C. E. (A) Primary

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## Message from Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls

Dear parents,

Welcome back to a new half term! The children have all settled back into school beautifully and everyone has been working hard in their classes. The weather is extremely cold and wet but we are still having children arriving to school without coats, hats and gloves. Can you please ensure that your child wears these to school every day, even when it seems bright, as the weather can be very unpredictable.

Last week, all of the children in KS2 visited Etruscan Primary school to watch a theatre production called 'The B word' which was based on anti-bullying. This production was lively and informative and delivered the anti-bullying message, in a memorable and fun way, balancing humour with reflection. Within the production, the children saw the serious effects of bullying and what the consequences can be. The carefully structured and witty script helped the children to understand the difference between bullying and falling out and explored key questions, such as: What is bullying? Why do people bully? and What can be done about bullying? This will be extremely useful for the children as next week is anti-bullying week in school. On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, some members of our school council will be planting bulbs at schools within our Seven Stars network and the other schools will be planting bulbs at St Mark's. We are looking forward to sowing the seeds of friendship!

This Wednesday, we held a parents meeting about our year 6 residential trip to Shugborough, which is on the 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Thank you to those parents that attended the meeting, we really appreciate your support. However, we were really disappointed with the turnout and therefore will be holding another parents meeting in the next few weeks. This is a really important and very exciting visit - one which we are expecting all of the children to attend. If you have any reservations about your child attending the residential trip, you must come and see either of us to alleviate your fears. We really wouldn't want your child to miss out on all of the fun!

We have had reports and concerns from parents that some KS2 children are walking alone to school, in the morning, with their younger brothers and sisters from EYFS and KS1. Can we please remind parents that KS2 children should not be responsible for walking their siblings to school and that all children must be brought and taken home from school by an adult.

Some children in KS2 are still bringing crisps and chocolate bars to eat for break time snacks. Can we please ask that break time snacks are a healthy option - this can be fruit, yoghurt or cereal bars. We also have toast that is sold during break time in KS2.

Our whole school attendance for the last half term was 97.10%, which was absolutely fantastic and was above our target of 96%. We are really proud of this achievement and the children must be congratulated on this. However, over the course of the last two weeks, we have noticed that our attendance has dipped again with lots of children having unauthorised absences for minor illnesses. We are looking for this to improve again for the rest of the half term as even one day off can impact on a child's learning.

As always, thank you for your continued support.



## Merit Awards



Well done to all the children who have worn the Golden Jumper and received a merit award. We are really proud of your hard work and kindness, keep it up!

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

**RH Halimah, RN Shahd, 1E Sore, 1H Ehsaan, 2C Aliya, 2G Fatima, 3E Isabela, 3W Anaya, 4C Aleeza, Class 4J Hajra, Class 5C Alishbah, Class 5J Aria, Class 6B Safian, Class 6K Jenna,**

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**RH Zainab, RN Aayan, 1E Zabiullah, 1H Kevin, 2C Miraraj, 2G Vanesa, 3E Johana, 3W Muhammed, 4C Fazaan, 4J Marianna, 5C Hamza, Class 5J Marva, 6B Nikolett, 6K Sylvester**

*Congratulations*

### Fitness Circuit

We will be hosting our own fitness circuit event supported by ASM sports. This will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November during the morning. All children will be taking part and need to have their PE kit in school for this event. We are trying to encourage all the children to keep fit! We hope that this is an enjoyable event that the whole school can take part in!



### Wake Up Shake Up Club

Help your child to get the best start to the day by bringing them to our free fun packed Wake Up Shake Up Club, every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8.20am. Here they can do some keep fit exercises to wake up their bodies and brains to get the most out of their learning for the day! Don't forget they can also come along to our morning breakfast club, on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8.20am and enjoy a healthy breakfast for 20p. This is open to children from Y1 to Y6

### Name Labels on Clothing

Please can parents make sure that all coats, jumpers, cardigans etc, have your child's name clearly labelled in the garments. If, by accident, your child brings home the wrong item of clothing can you please return it to school the next day so that the child who owns the item can be reunited with it. This is particularly important as the weather is getting so much colder and we're sure you would want a coat or other item of clothing returned to you if it was your child's clothing that went missing.