



# St. Mark's CE Primary School

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020



## Message from Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year at St. Mark's. We cannot begin to tell you how happy we are to have all of our wonderful children back in school again. They have all returned with a smile on their face and an eagerness to continue their learning. All of the children look extremely smart in their new uniforms.

We have worked extremely hard to implement the government's health and safety guidelines for schools and are pleased with the measures we have put into place to ensure everyone is safe. The children and staff have settled well into their new routines in year group bubbles. We would like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers for your patience at the start and end of the school day, where we have changed some of our procedures. If you are coming onto the school premises, we would really appreciate it if you could wear a facemask or visor.

We are delighted to announce that on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, St. Mark's became an academy and we are now a full member of the Orchard Community Trust. This is something that we have been working towards over the last two years. For more information about the Orchard Community Trust and the other schools who are members of it, please see our school website.

### Reminder of school times

Reception - 8:30am - 2:40pm

Years 1 - 6: 8:30am - 2:45pm

Please can parents make sure that they collect their children from school promptly at 2:45pm. We have had some children this week not being picked up on time, which is distressing for the children and it means that staff are left supervising them. Can we also remind parents that cars should not be parked on the yellow zigzag lines outside school.

### Uniform

It is important that children wear the correct uniform for school. Children need to wear black school shoes and not trainers. Headscarves should be either navy blue, royal blue or black.

Well done to those parents who remembered that all children need to come to school in their P.E. kit on the day that they have P.E. lessons. Children are allowed to wear stud earrings to school but they must be taken out (before coming to school) on the days that they have P.E. **Other forms of earrings and jewellery are not allowed to be worn at school, including bracelets and necklaces.**

Unfortunately, we have taken the decision that year 4 and 5 pupils will not be having swimming lessons at the Fenton Manor Sports Complex. We will review this again at the end of the half term.

## Safeguarding

For your information, every school must have a Designated Safeguarding Leader and a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leader for safeguarding issues. Miss Thomas is our Designated Safeguarding Leader and Mr Nicholls and Mrs Johnstone are the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leaders. If you believe that a child is at risk of significant harm or is in need, then please do come to talk to us. If you feel that you cannot do this, then please phone Stoke on Trent Children and Young People's Services on 01782 235100. If a child is in danger at that point in time, please call the police. At St. Mark's, we want everyone, including our parents / carers to be safe. We try to do everything possible to ensure this happens.



## Merit Awards



Well done to all the children who have received merit awards this week. We are proud of your hard work and kindness. Keep it up!

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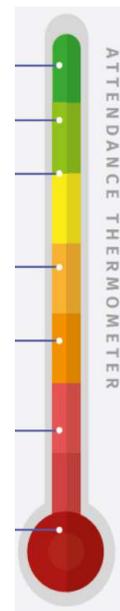
- RH - Moiz, RN - Khansa, 1E - Elif-Ashen, 1H - Zainab,
- 2A - Uzayr, 2G - Haroon, 3B - Aayan, 3E - Mustafa,
- 4B - Jazmin, 4W - Vina, 5AJ - Nela, 5MJ - Fatima M, 6C - Fatima and 6K - Zahra Noor.



## Attendance

Last week, our whole school attendance was 92%.

This is a great achievement for the start of an academic year. Well done everyone and keep it up!



## ST. MARK'S NURSERY PLACES ARE AVAILABLE

Our Nursery class on College Road in Shelton has **free** nursery places for children aged 3+. Please speak to the office staff for more information.

SEAT BELTS SAVE **PRECIOUS** LIVES!



SAFETY FIRST



ALWAYS BUCKLE UP

Should you have any questions about any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or either of us. We are always here to help.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls