



St. Mark's CE Primary

Friday 13th November 2020

Message from Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls

Dear parents,

Welcome back, we hope you all had a safe and lovely half term and are ready for another fun-filled 7 weeks. On Monday the 2nd November, all the staff at St Marks took part in a training day that was focused on further developing their teaching skills in supporting children who speak English as a second language. We want your children to get the best learning opportunities. The winter months are getting closer and the weather is getting colder, please ensure that your child comes to school in a warm coat and it has their name written in it.

Learning Challenge Curriculum



Year 4 have been signed up to a regional Times Table Rock Stars tournament. There are prizes to be won so please encourage your child to take part. The competition started on Wednesday 11th November and ends on Tuesday 17th November at 3pm. We will announce the winners in our next newsletter. **COME ON YEAR 4 - YOU CAN DO IT!**

We had a surprise in Year 2 on Thursday; we had a video call from the Queen! The children in Year 2 have been asked to create a fact file about the Queen and her life while being on the throne. The children were shocked to see her and are excited to begin their new learning.



In October, we asked the children to wear something yellow to promote World Mental Health Day. We value the importance of having a healthy body and mind and know that the money we raised will go towards helping young people within our city. We would like to say a **HUGE** thank you for your donations. We raised **£352.85!**



On Monday 16th November, it is the beginning of Anti-Bullying week. We are asking that the children wear odd socks on that day to represent that everyone is different. We really like to celebrate our differences at St Mark's and recognise that it is good to be different from each other. Please ask your child about the learning they have taken part in during the week.

Phonic Screening - Year 2

Due to being in lockdown in July, the children in Year 1 could not take the phonics screening assessment. Therefore, the Government have instructed us to do this during this half term. If your child is now in Year 2, they will take the phonic screen assessment over the next few weeks. Look out for a letter with more details. To help prepare your child for this, please listen to them read every day. The Year 2 staff are working hard in helping your children become confident and fluent readers.



Light of Hope

In partnership with Lichfield Cathedral, we have taken part in this year's art project. With all that has happened this year, the Cathedral artist Peter Walker, felt it was important to connect safely with people through the power of art and to bring a message of hope for the rest of 2020 and into 2021. Therefore, we created origami candleholders to represent a Light of Hope. Mrs Webb has displayed some of these beautifully in our school. Thank you to Lichfield Cathedral for letting us be a part of the project and to everyone for their hard work.

"Light of Hope is an opportunity for us to collectively remember those who have helped and given so much during the past year, as well as take time to remember those we have lost and think about those near to us," Peter Walker, the Lichfield Cathedral artist.

PLEASE STAY SAFE!



Wash your hands



Wear a mask



Socially distance



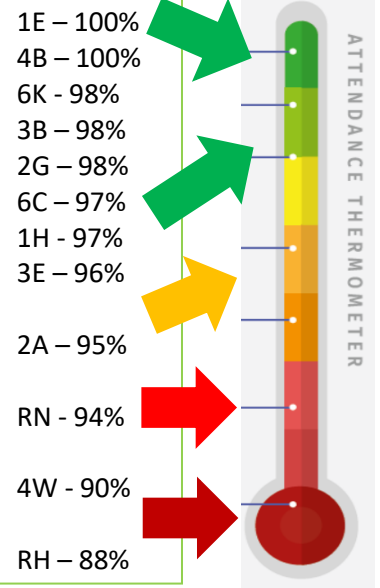
Merit Awards



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

RN: Sanaja **RH:** Haleema
1H: Anya **1E:** Samia **2A:** Shaynia
2G: Ali **3E:** Sadbin **3B:** Umara **4W:** Imaan
4B: Amirah **5AJ:** Caitlin **5MJ:** Puneh **6C:** Ali-Haider
6K: Junaid

Attendance



Diary Dates

Monday 16th November - Odd Socks Day

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls