



St. Mark's CE Primary School

Friday 19th March 2021



Message from Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that all of the children have now been back in school for two full weeks. We cannot begin to tell you how happy we are to have everyone back together again. All of the children have returned to school with a smile on their face and are working extremely hard in class.

We continue to follow the government's health and safety guidelines for schools and are happy with the measures in place in school to keep everyone safe. We would like to say a big thank you to all parents for continuing to follow our rules around wearing facemasks on entering the school grounds. The start and end of the school day is operating as it did during the autumn term but we have made a few minor adjustments for KS1 at the end of the school day. We have added a one-way system for Year 1 parents so that there is no build up outside the classrooms when exiting the school and all Year 2 children will now exit through 2G's classroom door. We hope this alleviates the concerns of those parents who asked us to review our procedures.

Can we please remind parents that Lateral Flow Tests for COVID19 can be collected by any families who would like them. The nearest collection point is Fenton Manor Leisure Centre car park between the times of 1:30pm and 7pm every day.

All year groups are back to full lessons. We are assessing all pupils to understand the gaps in their learning and how we can help them. Part of our catch up plan is to have a 'Catch Up Club' on Mondays (Year 5) and Tuesdays (all other year groups). Catch Up Clubs will run from 2:45pm until 4pm and it is expected that **all children** from Reception to Year 6 will attend, as it will benefit them greatly. We have taken this decision, as the government is extremely keen for all schools to ensure that children are given the opportunity to catch up on missed learning.

We would like to take an opportunity to say a big 'thank you' to all of our school staff for continuing to teach children face to face in school, whilst also providing remote education for those children at home. In addition to this, they delivered food hampers/vouchers; collected and delivered work packs to families; and telephoned, blogged and emailed you all regularly to make sure everything was ok at home. They have worked incredibly hard. Thank you to all the staff.

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 many 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.

We are sad to announce that Miss Edge will be leaving St. Mark's at the end of this term. Miss Edge has been a valued member of the St Mark's staff for the last 5 years and we would like to thank her

for all of her hard work during this time. We will miss you Miss Edge! Class 1E will be taught during the summer term by Mrs Colclough who is returning from her maternity leave. Welcome back Mrs Colclough.



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!

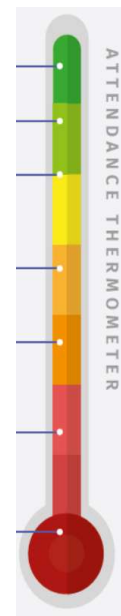
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- RH - Zi Qi, RN - Amir Sam, 1E - Amina, 1H - Marwa,
- 2A - Tomas, 2G - Ahmed-Hassan, 3B - Zohaib,
- 3E - Ygeen, 4B - Iram, 4W - Abdussamad, 5AJ - Zainab,
- 5MJ - Puneh, 6C - Danya, 6K - Mohammed

Attendance

Last week, our whole school attendance was 95%.

This is a great achievement after the lockdown period. 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

Important Dates:

Wear a hat day - Friday 26th March - A separate letter has been sent home today about this.

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