



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

St Mark's News

4th December 2020
Issue 6

www.st-marks.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that the completion of the second lockdown has allowed you a chance to see your loved ones again. School is beginning to feel very festive. This week there has been lots going on, each class has made a Christmas hoop and our tree has gone up in the main entrance. It all looks beautiful; pictures of the decorations can be found on the website.

Thank you to everyone who voted in our Parent Governor election. I am pleased to announce that Lorna Boyd is now our new parent governor. Thank you to Chrissy for putting yourself forward.

Please remember that schools are currently advised to keep buildings well ventilated to reduce the spread of COVID 19. With temperatures at well below 10 degrees this week the school has felt very cold. Please make sure your child has some extra layers on for warmth.

Keep safe and warm, Ms Braithwaite

Absences During Covid

If you telephone the school office to report an absence, we do need you to give clear, concise information about the reason for the absence, as this has to be reported to the Department for Education every day.

We need to know:

- Is your child ill with COVID symptoms? Which symptoms do they have?
- Have you accessed a test?
- What are the test results, when you have them?
- Is your child ill with no COVID symptoms?
- Is your child isolating because someone else in the household has symptoms?
- Has that other person had a test? What are the results?

Thank you for your co-operation with this, it will help us provide accurate statistics to the DfE – all of the figures are anonymised, but it does help them get a clear picture of what is happening in schools.

Class Christmas Parties

Class parties will take place on Thursday 17th December for all children. We will not be having a bring your own games day, as children cannot currently bring in toys from home. This year the school will provide the party food as we are unable to accept donations of food for safety. If parents wish to make a monetary donation this will be gratefully received.

Chair of Governors – Christine Kinnear

Sadly, this term we will be saying goodbye to our Chair of Governors. Christine has worked tirelessly to support our school and the Governing Body for many years. We wish her all the best in the future.

Advent Service

This morning we took part in a joint advent/prayer day with the other eight deanery schools in Islington. Mrs Bearfoot and the RE leads from the other schools have worked closely to make a short video of prayers and the lighting of the first advent candle which was shared in collective worship. The children then went back to class where they completed a variety of different reflective Christmas activities based on advent. It was great to see all the schools' different approaches and watch our own children enjoying the day so much.

Christingle

We will be celebrating Christingle on Tuesday 15th December. The service will be filmed and put on the website for parent\carer access. Our Nativity is taking place on Thursday 17th December. More information on this will be sent out next week via School Ping.

Science workshop

On Thursday morning Y4 & Y5 had the opportunity to take part in a fabulous Science Roadshow hosted by Dr Andrew Szydlo from Highgate School. Children were literally blown away by his experiments that celebrated the wonder of science. Please check the website for pictures of this amazing show.

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119 Vs 105

St Mark's School Vision