



# St Mark's News

9<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Issue 4

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

[www.st-marks.islington.sch.uk](http://www.st-marks.islington.sch.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a lovely half term. Winter is approaching us, albeit slowly as far as the weather is concerned. The second half of the Autumn is always a busy one but, also includes some lovely fun activities in preparation for our very important event in the Christian calendar – celebrating the birth of Jesus. Friends of St Mark's are planning a Christmas Fair on 8<sup>th</sup> December – any offers of help with the plans would be greatly appreciated. Please let the staff in the office know if you are able to sign up to help. Wishing you all a restful weekend.  
Ms Braithwaite

## Admissions Information for Reception 24

Primary School Admissions for children born between: 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020

- Apply online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)
- Deadline 15th January 2024
- St Mark's tour dates 5<sup>th</sup> Dec and 11<sup>th</sup> Jan
- See the Islington Admission's Primary School brochure for all schools
- Children in the Nursery Class do **NOT** automatically have a place in Reception Class.

## Children in Need

Next Friday 17th November is this year's Children in Need. We would love for everyone to take part by wearing silly or brightly coloured or spotty clothes to school for the day. This is a really important charity that raises so much money and awareness to help children in many, many different ways. Please give your £1 donation to class teachers. Buckets will also be shaken at the start and end of day.

## Why reading every day is so important

Statistics say that children who read for pleasure have higher academic achievement and better mental health. Please remember to read every day with your child and comment in their reading record. Every Friday in Celebration Assembly three children are nominated for their commitment to become a great reader. If your child is yet to win this prize, please ensure their reading record is returned every day.

## Holidays in term time.

St Mark's will not authorise any holidays taken during term time. Only absences in exceptional circumstances will be authorised. Parents need to fill out a school form and put in a request prior to booking if they require exceptional leave. Please note that your child's school place is at risk if you take unauthorised leave from school. The school can easily spot children who go for extra holidays either side of school terms and such absences will not be authorised.

If you withdraw your child during term time and we have not agreed to it, this absence will be unauthorised and could result in a penalty notice (a £60-£120 fine) or a summons to court.

Our aim is to ensure our pupils receive the most from their education and I hope we can count on your support in this matter.

## Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 14th December. If your child normally has a packed lunch, but you would like for them to have a school meal on this day, please let the office know by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Children are also asked to wear a Christmas jumper or decorated school uniform on this day.

## Dates For Your Diary

Rec Class Assembly	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov at 10am
Nursery Assembly	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov at 10am
Y1 Class Assembly	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov at 10am
Y5 Parents to Lunch	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov at 12.30pm
NEON School Disco	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov: <b>Y1 to Y3 – 3.30pm to 4.30pm</b> <b>Y4 to Y6 – 4.45pm to 5.45pm</b>
Advent Service at St Mark's Church	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 10am (parents and carers welcome)
Christmas Fair	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30pm to 5.00pm
Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Christingle Service in the school hall	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 2pm
Nativity at St Mark's Church	Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 2pm (parents and carers welcome)
End of term	Thursday 21st Dec at 2pm

*Psalm 119 Vs 105: Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

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