

The Lamp Post

'Shining a light on our learning journey.'

The last two weeks have been truly fantastic, with brilliant learning happening across the school. Classrooms have been full of energy and curiosity, and our recent trips have offered pupils wonderful opportunities to deepen their understanding and experience the world beyond the school walls. It has been a joy to see everyone so engaged and enthusiastic.

As we move into Advent on the 1st of December, we turn our thoughts to the coming of the Messiah. We will begin this special season with our Christingle celebration and the lighting of our Advent wreath, marking the start of a time filled with hope, peace, and anticipation. In the spirit of Advent, I wish you all a peaceful weekend and a joyful season ahead.

Ms Braithwaite

St Mark's Winter Fair

Our St Mark's Winter Fair will take place on 5th December 2025, and we are very much looking forward to a wonderful community celebration. In the days leading up to the fair, Santa will be in his grotto each afternoon from 3:30–4:30pm, with tickets available to purchase after school. The fair itself will be held in the school hall and will operate as a token-only event, with tokens available to buy on the day.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents who are working tirelessly behind the scenes to make this event such a success. Your hard work and generosity are truly appreciated by us—and by the children!

Christingle Service

Our Christingle service will be held in the school hall on the 1.12.25 at 2pm, and we warmly invite you to join us. A Christingle represents the world (the orange), God's love (the red ribbon), the four seasons or corners of the earth (raisins and cocktail sticks), and Jesus as the Light of the World (the candle).

We would be grateful for donations of oranges so the children can make their own Christingles. This year, we invite families to place their Christingle in a window at home after the service, light the candle, and send us a photo for our school website. Please let the office know if you plan to attend.

Nativity and EYFS Singalong

Our School Nativity will take place on Tuesday 16th December at St Mark's Church at 2pm, giving children the chance to share the story of Jesus' birth through song and drama. Families and friends are warmly invited—please save the date!

Additionally, the EYFS Sing-A-Long will be held in the hall on Monday 15th December at 10am. Please let us know if you would like to attend.

Ms Vitrano Drop-ins

Ms Vitrano will continue to run her drop-in clinics, where she is available to support families with accessing a range of services across Islington. Whether you need help with referrals, guidance on local support, or simply someone to talk things through with, she is here to assist.

Music Mark of Recognition

We are thrilled to announce that our school has been awarded the Music Mark, becoming the very first school in Islington to receive this prestigious recognition. This award celebrates our commitment to high-quality music education and the wonderful musical opportunities we provide for our pupils. We are immensely proud of this achievement and would like to offer a huge well done to Mr Allinson for his dedication, passion, and outstanding leadership in music across the school.

26- 27 St Mark's Reception Class Open Morning

If you know anyone who is looking for a Reception place for September, we are holding two open mornings on 2nd December 2025 and 8th January 2026. These sessions are a great opportunity for families to visit the school, meet the team, and see our Reception environment in action. Please do share the dates with friends and family—we would be delighted to show them around.

...Weekly Attendance Report...

	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance	92.7%	92.4%	96.7%	99.3%	94.5%	96.5%
Lates	2.7%	4.1%	2.7%	6.8%	3.5%	5.5%

...Dates for your Diary...

Christingle	1.12.25
Winter Fair	5.12.25
EYFS Sing-a-along	15.12.25
Nativity	16.12.25 (St Mark's Church)