



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

St Mark's News

23rd December 2020

Issue 7

www.st-marks.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this correspondence finds you all well.

I have delayed writing this newsletter until today to be able to give you a full update. You will all remember the very chaotic end to the term, not only because of Islington council's U-turn regarding an early end to the planned week but also because of the abrupt finish on Wednesday. Wednesday marked the end of a most extraordinary and challenging term for us as a school and the world as a whole and I wish to applaud the whole school community for coping, adapting and rolling with the constant unfolding changes. The closure was due to advice from Public Health, following a significant number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in school. We were very lucky to get through the term, sadly, the virus caught up with us right at the end. I have been in contact with groups of parents every day since our closure but unfortunately, four classes have had to isolate. The school will now be thoroughly cleaned and ready for children to return in January. At present we are hoping to resume on the 5th for most children but please check your PING messages for updates in the new year. We are quite clearly far from being 'out of the woods', but we have grown used to the new normal which lies ahead of us for a while longer. I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the human impact that the latest announcement regarding Christmas may be having on families. Many of you will have been personally affected by this and I do hope that although a huge shock, time is helping you to understand that it is for the safety of everyone, sad as it is.

I hope you all manage to have a good Christmas. Mine will be the quietest one in my living memory.

Very best wishes,

Ms. Braithwaite

Christingle Service – 14th December at school

Despite not being able to be together our Christingle service still went ahead. Y6 lead the service from the hall with Mrs Bearfoot and Rev. Trev. The readings from the children were lovely and the singing was a much needed lift for everyone. The message of Christingle and Jesus, light of the world was shared beautifully and was one to remember. Thank you to parents for sending in oranges to make this service both visually and vocally very special.

Nativity

Well done to Y2 for your spectacular Nativity, performed at St Mark's Church. Your acting was fantastic and the singing a joy to behold. Well done Mrs Mohammed and Kamlyn, our Y2 team for putting it all together. You are all STARS!

PTA/Friends of/St Mark's Family relaunch

Over the years, our Parent, teacher, association have been instrumental in raising funds for the school. Most recently, their contribution funded part of the works to our amazing new outdoor area.

We know that amongst you, there is both the time and the enthusiasm to get this group up, running and working for the greater good of the children.

If you would like to join our Zoom meeting to find out more please email your interest to admin@st-marks.islington.sch.uk and an invite will be sent to you in the new year.

*****Return Dates May Be Subject to Change

*Years 1-6 are due to return on Tuesday 5th January 2021

*Reception class are due back on Wednesday 6th January 2021.

*Nursery and 2yr olds are due back on Monday 11th.

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

Psalm 119 Vs 105

St Mark's School Vision