



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

# St Mark's News

25<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Issue 4

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach half-term, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for contributing to such a fantastic start to this academic year. It has been truly wonderful to see our children settle in so beautifully, filling our classrooms with their incredible energy and enthusiasm. Thank you once again for your unwavering support. I look forward to what the next half of the term will bring!

Best wishes, Ms. Braithwaite

## Foodbank Donations

We are incredibly grateful for the generous contributions to our Harvest Festival food bank drive. Rev. Tamsin was truly amazed by the support from our community. Thank you all for your kindness!

## Black History Month

As October draws to a close, we have been celebrating our diversity with some inspiring activities. Arsenal workshops on Black History Month, African drumming sessions, and storytelling by Sola have all been highlights, and the children's work has been outstanding. Thank you to everyone who participated in the BHM quiz—Well done to Y2 for returning the highest number of completed quizzes, and also to Ahmed and Khadeja for winning the parents quiz.

## EYFS Settling In

Our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) team would like to thank parents for their support in helping the children transition smoothly into their new classes. We are so impressed by our EYFS children—they are a true credit to our school!

## IT CAME HOME!!

Congratulations to our Year 3/4 girls' football team on winning the recent tournament for St. Mark's! Their commitment, teamwork, and resilience led them to victory,

bringing home a new trophy for our school. Well done, girls! We look forward to seeing even more achievements from this talented team in the future!

## Scholastic Book Fair

We're excited to announce the Scholastic Book Fair will be at St. Mark's from 7th to 14th November. The fair will be open from parents evening and on the playground after school, offering a fantastic selection of books at great prices. Remember, for every £1 you spend, the school receives 30p towards purchasing additional books for our library!

## Individual School Photos

Braiswick will be visiting to take individual school photos on 8th November. Please make a note of the date! These photos make a lovely keepsake, so make sure the children are looking their best in full school uniform.

## Whole School Movie Night

Friends of St. Mark's are organising a movie night for all pupils on 21st November. Keep an eye out for the movie announcement, and join us for a fun-filled evening! It's a great opportunity for the children to relax with friends and enjoy a cozy night at school.

## New Attendance Officer

We are pleased to introduce Joyce, who will be joining our team to focus on monitoring attendance and implementing the necessary protocols regarding fines. As a successful attendance officer at another local school, Joyce's role is crucial in ensuring that our school meets the attendance requirements set by the local authority (LA).

As communicated previously, fines for poor attendance are mandated by the LA and not determined by the school itself. These measures are part of a government-led campaign aimed at improving student attendance across the board. It is essential that we adhere to these guidelines to support our students' education and well-being.

Joyce will be working closely with staff and families to promote positive attendance and punctuality.

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