



DREAM BIG



Fortnightly Newsletter: 21st January 2022 Frosty days

Dear Parents / Carers,

Is it just me that has loved these frosty mornings – the gorgeous red skies and wintery colours have been so magical.

This last fortnight has been super busy and we have continued to suffer with staff and children's absence. Thank you to those of you who really helped us out by only using SMART club if you really needed it. We are hopeful that next week we will have key staff returning.



Please see our fortnightly updates below:

Staff updates

A few staff updates to share with you today. Mrs Meadwell; a teaching assistant at St Mark's for over 19 years; has retired. Mrs Meadwell has taught and supported many children over the years and has been an asset to the school. Many children talk about her being one of their favourite teaching assistants. She is looking forward to spending more time with her family and walking her dog. She will be coming in on Tuesday to say her final farewells. Mr Craddock; our site manager; will be leaving us next half term. Mr Craddock started with us as a teaching assistant and then became site manager. He has played a vital role in the recent improvements in the premises and his kindness and goodwill are a huge part of his personality.

I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing them both the best of luck for the future – they will be greatly missed.

Jobs

We are currently advertising for the new site manager – if you know someone who has the necessary skills who may be interested please direct them to our website Job Vacancy page. We can print the relevant paperwork if required [Job Vacancies](#)

COVID updates – new information is highlighted.

- If you have no symptoms but test positive on a lateral flow test then you must isolate immediately. You do not need to get a PCR.
- If you have symptoms you must get a PCR and isolate until you have the result
- If you have a positive COVID result (either lateral flow or PCR) you can take a lateral flow test on the morning of day 5 and day 6 (must be 24 hours apart). If both are negative and you do not have a temperature then your isolation can end immediately on Day 6. If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.
- Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.
- There is no need to re-commence testing for 90 days after a previous positive test result.
- All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).
- Unvaccinated adult contacts of cases still need to self-isolate for 10 days, and are asked to take a PCR test. The result of this PCR test may lengthen their self-isolation period (if positive) but does not shorten it (if negative).

Book looks

This week I have been meeting with children to look through their Writing and Science books. I have asked them to talk to me about the progress they have made, how they know and what helps them to improve their work. Hearing the children talk so passionately about their learning and take real joy in looking through their books has been a privilege. Next week we are having a full day looking at standards in reading across the school with CDAT.

Thank you for continued support.

Have a wonderful weekend and wrap up warm!

Best wishes.

E. Harding
Mrs Harding
Headteacher

Weekly Worship Focus

Children's
Worship

This week we thought about 'keeping going against all the odds'. We talked about refugees and how they may feel as they flee from their homes. This made us consider how welcoming we are as a school. Olivia and Jessica who are quite new to our school talked about how they felt we had supported them to settle. The children felt they were extremely welcoming and the staff agreed 😊.



Birthdays



Birthdays up to the 21st
January:

We hope you have the best day!

Dylan in Year 6
Dylan in Year 2
Evie-Mae in Year 1
Sam in Year 3
Lexi in Year 5

Head's weekly awards

This week's awards go to:

- Ava in Year 2 for some brilliant explanations about her learning.
- Jaicee in Year 1 for making great progress with her writing.
- Ruben and William in Reception for talking me through his learning journey with so much enthusiasm.
- Ellis in Year 6 for having a clear understanding of right and wrong and knowing when to stick up for others.



Weekly attendance

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Weekly %</u>
Nursery	92.2%
Reception	94.4%
Year 1	91.8%
Year 2	91.7%
Year 3/4	90.1%
Year 5	94.4%
Year 6	89.2%
Whole school	91.7%

Well done Reception and Year 5!



Important Dates

- Tuesday 25th January: World Religion Day
- WB 31st January: DT fortnight
- Tuesday 8th February: Internet Safety Day
- Friday 11th February: School closes for half term.
- Monday 21st February: School opens for Spring 2 term
- Friday 1st April: School closes for Easter holidays
- Tuesday 19th April: School opens for Summer term

