



# ST. MARK'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers

As we reach the end of this very special term, I would like to reflect on what has been an extremely busy, joyful and faith-filled week at St. Mark's.

We began the week beautifully with some of our Year 6 children visiting Heath Cottage with Miss Garner, where they sang to the residents. The children brought such happiness and Christmas cheer, and their performance was very much appreciated by all who listened. Thank you to Miss Garner for arranging this lovely outreach opportunity, which truly reflected our mission of service and compassion.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner together. A huge thank you to our cook, Miss Cunliffe, and her wonderful kitchen staff for preparing such a fantastic meal for the whole school. The hall looked absolutely beautiful too – so much care and effort went into making it feel festive and welcoming.

Wednesday brought party celebrations, and it was a joy to see the children looking so wonderful in their party outfits. Nursery and Reception were treated to an exciting visit from Louby Lou, who was fantastic with the children. They thoroughly enjoyed singing along to her lively saxophone tunes.

Yesterday, the children took part in our Christmas treat days. Years 3 to 6 visited Archie's for roller skating. I am pleased to report that, apart from a few bumps and bruises, there were no broken bones! Years 1 to 3 enjoyed a visit to Legoland, where they experienced rides, a cinema trip and plenty of creative Lego play. Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard to make these memorable trips possible for the children.

Today, we say goodbye to Miss Edwards, who has been covering Mrs Jones' maternity leave in Year 2. We would like to thank her sincerely for all her hard work and dedication during her time with us, and we wish her every success in her new role at St. Andrew's.

We also say a fond farewell to Miss Cunliffe, our cook, who is leaving us today. We are extremely grateful for the marvellous job she has done in running our successful kitchen, and we wish her a very happy retirement filled with rest, joy and fun.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support throughout the year. From all the staff and governors at St. Mark's, we would like to wish you and your families a very merry and holy Christmas. May the peace and love of Christ be with you all.

School reopens on Wednesday 7th January 2026, and we very much look forward to welcoming everyone back.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Woodruff

*Merry Christmas*

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE		HALF TERM WINNERS
Class	Attendance	Attendance

<b>N</b>	<b>84.1%</b>	<b>85.8%</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>67.7%</b>	<b>89.4%</b>
<b>Y1</b>	<b>86.4%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>
<b>Y2</b>	<b>82.2%</b>	<b>88.6%</b>
<b>Y3</b>	<b>81.9%</b>	<b>93.9%</b>
<b>Y4</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>93.9%</b>
<b>Y5</b>	<b>88.3%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>
<b>Y6</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>93.9%</b>
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>83.4%</b>	<b>91.6%</b>



**WE BELIEVE ALL PEOPLE MATTER**

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Important Dates for First Week Back

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

- Children return to school. The gates will open at 8.40am. Please ensure your children are on time for school.

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January

- Own clothes day for Year 6 for highest attendance the last week of Autumn 2.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January

- Y3 & Y4 will attend 10am Mass at St. Mark's Church.
- Own clothes day and Golden time for Years 1 and 5 for the highest attendance last half term.

## PE Days for Next Half Term

Monday - Year 1 & Year 2

Tuesday - Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

Wednesday - Year 3

Friday - Nursery & Reception



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