



Special Edition Newsletter

Meet the Team at St Mark's

Each year it is a real highlight to see pupils moving up to their new class: prepared, ready and excited to face the challenges and adventures of a new year group and curriculum. As you read through this booklet, you will be able to get to know the staff, who will be working with your child, a little better. We look forward to strengthening our continued partnership with you in your child's education throughout the coming year.

Mrs Coulthard – CEO



After serving as Headteacher at Atherton St Georges for twelve years, I had the pleasure of becoming the CEO at The Wings CE Trust when we converted to become a MAT in April 2017. I work with the governors, staff and pupils in the three schools in our trust. Working with the children in our schools is an honour, and watching them grow into happy, caring and confident learners makes the job even more worthwhile. When not in work I like to read, cook and travel around Scotland with Mr Coulthard. I have a grown up son who also works in education, whom I am very proud of.

Mrs Ferguson – Headteacher



When asked why I choose to work as part of the Wing' CE Trust, my answer is simple; to make a difference and provide endless opportunities for our children and families within the local community.

It is not only a privilege to be Headteacher of St Mark's CE Primary, but an honour. Being able to work with our wonderful children, families and school community for the last four years has been truly fulfilling. It is incredible to work alongside such dedicated and hard-working staff, who continually strive to provide the very best for our children. At St Mark's, we understand the importance of working alongside the church, our families and the community, to create a better future for our children.

Although I will only be here for the start of the school year next year, I know that the children will continue to flourish under Mrs Booth's leadership. I will be back to visit regularly and cannot wait for you all to meet my very own Little Lion.

In my time away from school, I love nothing more than spending time with my family and loved ones, going to the gym and reading fiction novels. My proudest achievement was in October 2017 when I ran a marathon in under four hours, supporting and raising money for the MS Society; a charity very close to my heart.

I can't wait to start the new year with you all and look forward to welcoming all of our children and families back into school.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson

St Mark's C.E. Primary School & Little Lions' Nursery



Mrs Booth – Acting Headteacher

Hello, I am Mrs Booth. This is my seventh year at St Mark's, before working here, I worked at St George's, one of the other schools within our Trust.

This year I will be acting Headteacher whilst Mrs Ferguson is on maternity leave.

Since creating the Wings' family, we have been on an incredible journey at St Mark's. I feel fortunate enough to have been a part of it from the beginning and I am now honoured to be asked to do this role.

I can't wait to continue to work with you and explore exciting ways to continue to improve our school. As I usually teach Reception I am lucky enough to already know our families very well and am privileged to have taught all of the children across school.

My little girl, Poppy, is starting school this year too, so I know how daunting this can be, but please don't worry. We are really excited to welcome all of our new children and families. I can't wait to take the next steps of our journey with you all!



Mr Broadstock – Assistant Headteacher and Year 6 Teacher

Hi, I'm Mr. Broadstock, current Year 5 teacher and Assistant Headteacher at St. Mark's. I've been teaching now for twenty-seven years, most of which has been in Year 6. I am very much looking forward to teaching in Year 6 again next year. I love watching children progress in all aspects of life, and my aim is to ensure that each child achieves their potential in all areas.

Outside of school, I enjoy all sports, although I no longer play them, just as a spectator, especially football and cricket. I am a scout For Wigan Athletic, recruiting potential professional footballers from the age of 6 through to 18, so some of you may see me out and about on football fields at the weekends. I also enjoy walking my dog, cycling (especially into work early in the morning before school) and holidaying in the Mediterranean sunshine.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson

Alexandra Street, Wigan
Newtown, WN5 9DS

T: 01942 748618

E: Enquiries@admin.saintmarks.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintmarks.wigan.sch.uk



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Mrs Heyes – Acting Assistant Headteacher

Hello, I'm Mrs Heyes. I have been at St Mark's for seven years now, but have been a teacher for 29 years. I have taught every year group from Reception to Y6, and have loved each one!

I am excited to start my new role out of class this year, part of which will enable me to give lots of support to our children with additional needs, and their families.

I love teaching all subjects, but have a special love for R.E. and Music so am I very happy that I will still be teaching those subjects to Year 2 and Year 3.

Outside school I love all things 'crafty' including sewing and baking. Music is a huge part of my life, whether it's making, listening to or writing music!

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Mrs Carole Sinclair — Chair of Governors

Hello, I am Mrs Carole Sinclair. I have been involved in school governance for several years. When Atherton St George's became part of the Wing's Federation, I was elected as Chair of Curriculum and Staffing Committee. With over 30 years experience in education, I have a passion for Modern foreign Languages, RE and Special Educational Needs.



Reverend Will Gibbons—St Mark's CE Church

Hello, I am Priest-in-Charge of St Mark's Newtown and am a member of Transforming Wigan Guiding Coalition, a change team working over 7 years with £1.2M investment from the Church Commissioners to renew discipleship, re-orientate church and revive community in Wigan.

I have two children who attend St Mark's Primary School and have enjoyed supporting the school to grow and develop in recent years and since we became part of a MAT in April 2017. I studied Film and Television Studies at University and continue to put these skills to good use making films for creative communication.

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Changes to Staff This Year

At the end of the year we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Hitchen. Although we will be very sad to see her go, we wish her all the luck in the world as she embarks on her retirement and precious time with her family. I know she will be back to visit as often as she possibly can.

In September, we will be welcoming our new Reception teacher Mr Dawber. We will also be welcoming Miss Melling back from her maternity leave. I am sure you will join me in offering a very warm welcome to St Mark's.

Mrs. Hayward will be enjoying her maternity from September, followed shortly after by Miss Ryan. We are excited to welcome their new arrivals and can't wait for them to visit school.

Thankyou to Mrs. Barry, who finishes her supply contract with school at the end of term. We wish her lots of luck and love as she expands her family.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Business Administrative

Mrs Winstanley – Chief Finance Officer

Hello my name is Mrs Winstanley, I am Chief Finance Officer for the Wings' CE Trust. I am really lucky to work across all schools which are wonderful places to work. I started at The Wings' CE Trust in March 2018 and have really enjoyed getting to know the children and staff at all three schools. Outside school I love spending time with my family which includes my husband and three children.



Mrs Travers -Trust Business Manager

Hi, my name is Mrs Travers and I am the Trust Business Manager. I work as part of the central team and am lucky to support the three schools across the trust. I started working at The Wings' CE Trust in September 2021 and am looking forward to continuing in my role to help support the business and admin function. I love working in education and volunteer as a school governor in my spare time. Outside of school I am kept busy with my family consisting of my husband, three daughters, three cats, one rabbit and a goldfish.



Mr Vass – IT & Marketing Manager

I started with The Wings' in 2020. My role around the Trust is to ensure computers keep ticking over and our IT systems are in good working order. I also manage marketing and like to show the wider community what fantastic work we are doing. Outside of work, I enjoy visiting new football grounds and spending time with my wife and 2 children.



Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson

St Mark's C.E. Primary School & Little Lions' Nursery



Miss Ainsworth – Trust Finance Officer

My name is Miss Ainsworth and I am the Finance Officer at The Wings' CE Trust. During my first four years, I was employed as a Teaching Assistant working with pupils in Years 3, 4 and 6, based at Leigh CE Primary School. I then transferred to the office having the role of Admin Officer, where I worked for eleven years. In 2019, I commenced my new role as part of the central team working over all three schools. In my spare time, I love to walk my dog and spend time with my family.



Mrs Brown – HR Administrator

My Name is Mrs Brown and I am the new HR Administrator. My current role is based in Atherton St George's as the School office Co-ordinator and I am really looking forward to moving between the other schools and getting to know everyone. I am a mum of 2 and I also have 3 fur babies called George, Dexie and my little pug called Frankie. I love rugby league and I support Leigh Centurions! My son also plays and you can find me most Sunday mornings, on a muddy field shouting from the side lines.



Miss Green – School Office Co-ordinator

Hello, I'm Miss Green, I work in the school office here at St Mark's. I have worked at St Mark's for 2 years and have worked for the trust now for over 3 years, and I have loved every minute of it! I am really looking forward to the year ahead & cant wait to see what next term brings.

I am a Mum of two and in my free time I like to spend time with family, friends and walking my pooch Matilda.



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Newtown, WN5 9DS

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Miss Prescott – School Clerical Officer

Hello, I'm Ms Prescott. I have been part of the St Mark's team close to two years now, originally working as the cook in the kitchen and now have progressed and transferred over to be apart of the office team. I know most of the children quite well and am looking forward to meeting parents and families within my new role.

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Teaching Staff



Mr Dawber—Reception Teacher

Hello, I am Mr Dawber. This will be my first year at St Mark's and I am so excited to get started. Previously, I have completed a Degree in Teaching, Learning and Child Development at Edge Hill University and have just finished a PGCE at the University of Chester, specialising in the Early years.

This year I will be your Reception Teacher; Reception is where I have spent a lot of my training, so I have lots of ideas on how to make our learning fun and exciting!

I have two sisters who are both having baby girls this summer so I will have become an uncle twice over by the time school starts in September! I love spending time with my sisters and family and can't wait to hear all about your summer activities with family and friends.

In my spare time I also like to spend time with friends and go on holidays. I can't wait to get to know you all and work together throughout your first year at St Mark's.



Mrs Maylor – Year 1 Teacher

Hello, I'm Mrs Maylor and I am really excited to be teaching Year 1 again and cannot wait to meet you all! This will be my sixth year at St Mark's and I thoroughly enjoy being part of the St Mark's family. I enjoy all aspects of teaching and am looking forward to seeing your children reach their potential through challenging and engaging activities.

I enjoy spending my free time with my husband, sons and dog. Family time is very precious time.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Teaching Staff



Mrs Murray – Year 2 Teacher

Hello, I'm Mrs Murray. This is my first year at St Mark's, however I have been teaching with in the Wing's CE MAT for 5 years. I have taught in every year group from Reception to Year 6 and have spent most of my 7 years teaching in a mixed Year 1/2 class.

I am very excited to start at St Mark's and teach Year 2 this year.

I love teaching all subjects, but have a special interest in Science and English.

Outside of school, I love anything outdoors and enjoy spending the school holidays with Mr Murray, my daughter and my dog, Max, exploring new places across the country.



Mr Penning – Year 3 Teacher

I have been teaching at St Mark's for 18 years now and time has flown by! I have taught Years 2, 3, 4 and Year 5 and am now looking forward to being back in Year 3 again. I enjoy all teaching but especially like Science and Maths.

Outside of school I love to listen to music and watch bands (I am also learning how to play the guitar). I enjoy going on holiday, especially to The Lake District where I love walking, cycling and hiking up hills and mountains with my wife, 14 year old son Sam and 11 year old daughter Molly. I am a big Wigan Athletic fan and go to watch them regularly with Sam and my friends.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Teaching Staff



Miss Hirst – Year 4 Teacher

Hello, my name is Miss Hirst. I am so excited to be teaching Year 4 in September. I have worked at St Marks for 2 years, so the children will recognise me from running around school and working in different classes! I am really looking forward to being Year 4's class teacher and getting to know the children better, whilst having lot's of fun and learning along the way.

Have a lovely summer!



Mrs Ensor-Smith – Year 5 Teacher

I'm really excited to be teaching Year 5 next year. I have been teaching now for around twenty years, eleven of which have been at St Mark's. Every year has been unique. I take my role very seriously and believe as a teacher you never stop learning. We never stand still and are always striving to provide the best possible education for the children in our class.

When I'm not at school I enjoy working on my Downward Dog in yoga, swimming and growing flowers in my garden. I spend my free time with my husband and my teenage son. We can often be found walking our dog Mickey through the fields.

I hope everyone has a lovely Summer and I look forward to getting to know the new Year four class in September.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Teaching Staff

Mrs Balmer – Teacher

I have been teaching here at St. Mark's for thirty-two years (scary!) so I guess I must like this place and all who are in it! I have taught many of the parents (and, I believe, even grandchildren are coming through!). I am really looking forward to my role within the school next year . I will be working with Year 6 and Year 4 and I'm sure we'll get off to a flying start. I have high hopes for a fantastic year with both classes . Outside of school I have three children who STILL manage to keep me very busy even though they are quite grown up! I look forward to seeing you all after a lovely summer.



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Newtown, WN5 9DS

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Pastoral Staff

Miss Kendrick – Pastoral Manager

I have worked at St Mark's for over 3 years now . I originally started in class as a teaching assistant and have recently moved over to the pastoral team.

Our role is to support our children and their families when difficulties arise, in any way that we can. We are a very friendly and approachable team and you can always get in touch with us no matter what it is that you'd like to share.

I am proud to work in a team that goes above and beyond to help not only our children in school , but their families as well. Outside of school I enjoying spending time with my two daughters , my partner and family.



Mrs Murphy – Pastoral Behaviour Support Officer

My name is Mrs Murphy and I have worked here at St Mark's for over nine years now. I have spent the last six years working as part of the Pastoral team, paying special attention to promoting positive behaviour throughout school.

I can honestly say supporting children is one of the highlights of my job.

Outside of school I enjoy socialising and spending quality time with my loved ones.



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Mrs Ormshaw – Pastoral Support Officer and Breakfast club assistant

Hi I'm Mrs Ormshaw. I have recently transferred from working in the school office as Clerical Officer into my new role as Pastoral Support officer and am based in the Nest.

I love my new role in Pastoral and being able to work more closely with our families and children and supporting in any way I can. I especially enjoy our interventions and focussing on building our children's confidence and personalities.



Miss Steph Wallace – School Councillor

Hi,

I'm Miss Wallace. I'm the School Counsellor for The Wings CE Trust. I was born and lived in Newcastle until I was 18, now Bolton is my home.

Working at all 3 schools in the Trust certainly keeps me on my toes, but I love getting to know all of our children and families.



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Mr Kelly – Reception Base and Cover

Supervisor



This September will now be my seventh year at St Mark's, working alongside the joyful, dedicated and enthusiastic team. I graduated university back in 2011 with a BA Joint Hons Degree in Creative Writing and English Language & Literature; since then accumulating over six years of teaching experience. Next year I will be continuing as a Cover Supervisor, providing cover teaching for various classes. However, I will also be supporting in the Reception class as well as continuing to support phonics teaching. In my spare time my hobbies include football, badminton, horse racing and chess. I love reading classical literature from 1700 - 1900 and I myself am a passionate writer of fiction, short stories, poetry, stage plays and movie scriptwriting.

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Ms Thompson – Reception Base

Hi, I'm Miss Thompson, I'm really looking forward to meeting and getting to know all of our new Reception children for this new academic year. I really enjoy exploring outdoors and I am so excited to be a part of your children's first chapter at St Mark's Primary School.

At home I have twin boys who are 7 years old, we love spending days at the park and beach. This will be my second year here at St Mark's CE Primary School and I can't wait to spend it exploring and learning with all of our Children.



Mrs Livesley – Reception Base

Hi, I'm Mrs Livesley. I am really looking forward to meeting all of the new Reception class children. I can't wait for the new school year to start and get stuck in exploring, learning and having lots of fun. I love being creative and being outdoors. I always enjoy going on really long bike rides with my husband and sons!



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Newtown, WN5 9DS

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Mrs Dempsey – Reception Base

Hello, I am Mrs Dempsey. Over the past 12 months I have had the pleasure of volunteering at St Mark's CE Primary school in the Little Lions' preschool. I am now fortunate to have gained a role within the school and am looking forward to meeting our new Reception pupils.

In my spare time I like to spend quality time my partner and our little girl.



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Mrs Whittle – Year 1 Base

I have worked at St. Mark's for over twenty years, mainly in KS1, so I was thrilled to learn I will be working in Year 1. When I'm not at work I love to go to the gym and spend time with my grandchildren. Here's looking forward to a fun filled, exciting year.



Miss Melling – Year 1 Base

Hello, my name is Miss Melling and I am really excited to be returning to St Mark's after my year of maternity leave. I joined The Wings' CE Trust in September 2019 and have enjoyed every minute of working with the staff and children here at St Mark's.

Outside of school I enjoy spending time with my family, especially my partner and two daughters, not forgetting our dog Cooper.

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Mrs Ivanusca – Year 2 Base

Hi, my name is Mrs Ivanusca and this is my twelfth year as a Teaching Assistant at St Mark's School. I am married and have two children aged 17 and 20, who both attended St Mark's.

I am looking forward to another year supporting the children and watching them develop and grow. I thoroughly enjoy being involved in their learning.



Mrs Dooley – Year 2 Base

Hello, my name is Mrs Dooley and I am currently the TA with year 4. I joined the St Mark's team in January 2020 and love being part of the St Mark's family. I am looking forward to next term getting to know my new class.

Outside of school, I enjoy lots of walking and spending time with my family and friends.

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Miss Reeves – Year 3 Base

Hello! My name is Miss Reeves and I've been working at St Marks C of E primary since September 2021. I've thoroughly enjoyed working in year 2, so knowing that I will be moving up to year 3 with your children this year is wonderful. I am looking forward to another year of learning, fun and activities!

In my spare time I love spending time with my family, singing and spending time with my two cats Archer and Lenny!



Miss Wilkinson – Year 3 Base

Hi, I'm Miss Wilkinson and I have worked at St Mark's for four years. I am really looking forward to working with Year 3 next year. In my spare time I like to go walking with my dog. I also enjoy spending time with family and friends.

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Newtown, WN5 9DS

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Miss Taylor – Year 3 Base

Hi, my name is Miss Taylor, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year here at St Mark's and am especially looking forward to working with year 3 class next year and getting to know you all.

In my spare time I enjoy walking and following rugby and other sports.

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Mrs Morrison-Skett – Year 4 Base

Hi, I'm Mrs Skett and I am looking forward to being the Teaching Assistant with the Year 4 class and continuing on their journey. I love working with young children and helping them achieve their potential. I have two young children of my own and in my free time I am a Beaver Scout Leader.



Miss Davenport – Year 4 Base

I am looking forward to working in Year 4 next year! I enjoy seeing my friends, going out with my fiancé and spending time with my family. At the weekends, I always go on big walks with my dog!

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Mrs Hurst – Year 5 Base

I live locally with my husband and three boys who I am extremely proud of. All of the boys attended St Mark's and have gone on to primary teaching and sports teaching. This year I became a Grandmother to my beautiful Grandson. St Mark's has always been a part of my life as it was my primary school, then as a parent and now working here. The changes over the years have always been to benefit all of the children and I am looking forward to the new academic year and the new challenges it will bring.



Miss Proffitt – Year 6 Base

I am thrilled to be based in Year 6 again! I really enjoy the curriculum and helping to help the children prepare for high school. I adore English and Maths and I like to promote good grammar and a wide vocabulary.

Having lived in Palma de Mallorca I am a fluent Spanish speaker and I love delivering Spanish to our children in school.

My interests outside of work are: listening to lots of different types of music; cooking many different dishes (and eating them); reading, walking and having quality time with my family.

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Nursery Staff

Mrs Hill – Nursery Manager

Hi, my name is Mrs Hill and I am the manager of Little Lions' Nursery at St Mark's. The nursery is well established within the school now and I can't believe that we are about to enter our seventh year, how time has flown. I'm passionate about early years and love to watch the children grow and develop and most of all become confident in their learning.

Outside of school my family are really important to me, my husband, our four teenage children and two dogs, Jasper and Winnie. We spend most of our spare time caravanning in the Lake District. I'm looking forward to another exciting year in Little Lions' and welcoming our children.



Miss Twiss – Deputy Manager and Breakfast club assistant

Hello, my name is Miss Twiss and I am the Nursery Deputy Manager based in the Toddler room. I started at The Wings' CE Trust in September 2017 working within early years. Over my time at St Marks, I have enjoyed watching the children grow and learn with help from their teachers. Outside of school I love to spend time with my family and friends.



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Mrs Loveday – Early Years Practitioner/ Little Lions' Toddlers Base and Afterschool Care

Assistant

Hi, my name is Ms Loveday. I really enjoy my role in Little Lion's and am excited to be working in the Toddler room next year. I love to watch the children grow and thrive, I find this very rewarding.

In my spare time I like to swim and spend quality family time with my two children.

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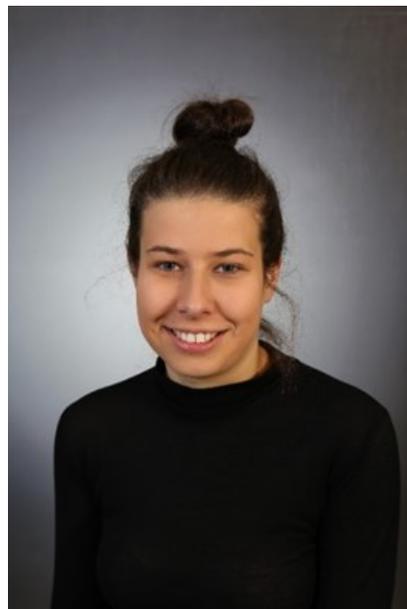


Miss Malley – Early Years Practitioner/ Little Lions' Pre-school Base

I work in the Pre-school room in Little Lions' and am now entering my sixth year with St Mark's. I love working with the younger children and watching them grow as they all develop their own little personalities and friendships amongst their peers.

I have recently returned from maternity leave, having spent a wonderful year with my beautiful boy. I love getting out for walks in the countryside!

I am excited to see all our new children in September and see what next year brings.



Miss Boardman – Early Years Practitioner/ Little Lions Pre-school Base and Breakfast club assistant

Hello, my name is Miss Boardman and I work in the preschool room. I have been with The Wings CE Trust for the past year having previously worked in a nursery in the Middle East. Working in early years is my biggest passion. In my spare time I enjoy spending lots of time with my family and friends.



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Breakfast Club Staff



Mrs Fairhurst – Breakfast Club Assistant

Hi, I am Mrs Fairhurst and I assist with the Breakfast Club. I enjoy seeing the children every morning and making sure they have a good breakfast and great start to the day.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Lunchtime Staff



Mrs Benson – Lunchtime Supervisor

Hello my name is Sue, I am a Lunchtime Assistant in the dinner hall. I make sure all your little ones are eating their dinner and not making too much of a mess! Which of course they never do! In my spare time I like going to the gym.



Mrs Birmingham – Lunchtime Supervisor

Hi my name is Anne, I am a Lunchtime Assistant in the dinner hall. Although we can get very busy and hectic in the hall, I'm there to reassure the children and make sure everything runs smoothly. In my spare time I like socialising with my friends.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson



Premises Staff

Mr Young – Site Manager



I am the Site Manager for the Wings' Trust which incorporates St Mark's, St George's and Leigh C E. I love working with all staff and pupils across the trust. In my spare time I like gardening, fishing and keeping fit. I will always be on hand to help!

Mr Robert Shaw – Caretaker



I thoroughly enjoy my role as caretaker at St Mark's School and have enjoyed working alongside staff and pupils. The job is very busy with a variety of responsibilities and certainly keeps me on my toes!

In my spare time I enjoy bird watching locally near my home

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson

St Mark's C.E. Primary School & Little Lions' Nursery



Miss Savickiene - Cleaner

Hello, my name is Miss Savickiene and I work at St Mark's as a cleaner. Not many of you will see me as I work in the school in the afternoon but rest assured I am working hard to keep the school and classrooms clean and spotless.



Miss Halliwell – Cleaner

Hi, I'm Miss Halliwell and I work at St Mark's as the school cleaner.

In my spare time, I enjoy quality family time and running round after my two beautiful boys. I love to sit and catch up with friends over a Costa coffee.



Mrs Whittle – Cleaner

Hi my name is Mrs Whittle and I have recently started working at St Mark's. I'm married and have one Son who is a chef. In my spare time I like to read and take my dog Harvey for walks.

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Alexandra Street, Wigan
Newtown, WN5 9DS

T: 01942 748618

E: Enquiries@admin.saintmarks.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintmarks.wigan.sch.uk



St Mark's C.E. Primary School & Little Lions' Nursery



Miss Smith—Cleaner

Hello, my name Miss Smith and I am recently new to St Mark's as your cleaner. Everyone has been very welcoming.

In my spare time I like to socialise with family and friends. I enjoy walking with my little pooch Ruby. Singing is also a passion of mine and I run the karaoke at our local venue every week.

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson

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