

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, a huge welcome back to all of our school community, especially those of you who are new to our St Mark's family. The children have come back into school beautifully this week. It has been a delight to hear about their Summer holidays and find out about the new experiences that they have had. We have been really impressed with how well the children have settled back into their new classes and with their attitude to learning. The children have been getting used to the new routines for their classes and have taken everything on board with a smile. We are so proud of them.

### A tribute to Our Queen



Yesterday we were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. This afternoon we held collective worship to enable the children and staff to remember her life and prayed for the rest of the Royal family at this sad time. We shared photographs remembering different aspects of the Queen's long life and took time to pause and reflect on the extraordinary values that she shared. We have now entered a period of national mourning that will continue until the end of the State Funeral. St Mark's CE will remain open during this period. Once details of the funeral are confirmed by the Royal Household, schools will receive further guidance and information and we will keep you informed. Over the next ten days, the children will be remembering the life and work of the Queen and will remember her lifetime of service and dedication to the people of Great Britain and beyond. There will be minimal posts on our social media over this national period of mourning.

Many thanks for your continued support,  
Mrs K A Ferguson

Headteacher Mrs K Ferguson