Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Newsletter

12th February 2021

'A school where children develop the passion to learn, the skills and knowledge to succeed and the confidence to take Christian values into our diverse society.'

Dear Parents, Carers, Children, Staff and Governors,

Remote events for parents

Thank you and well done for those of you who have managed to engage in our remote parental workshops and coffee mornings this term. We have had a session on Autism, one on Child Anxiety and a coffee morning during the past two weeks. Next term, a group called Global Action Plan, who the school are partnering with this year on an air pollution project, will be running a coffee morning with parents to gain ideas and feedback on how to make the roads around school safer. This is something that some of you have raised with me yourselves, so please join us in this session. We will also be holding a coffee morning for our EYFS parents. Further details are on page three.

Half Term

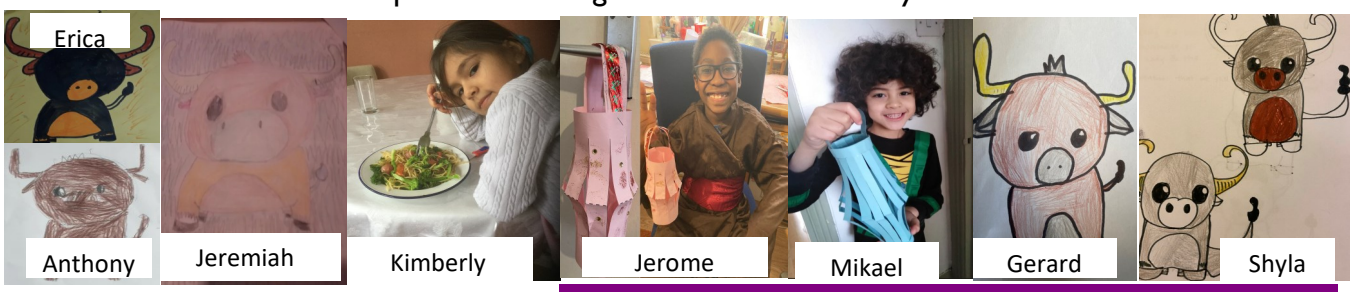
Children have worked very hard across the term. Make sure they enjoy some rest and perhaps engage in some more of the screen free, fun activities that the school has sent through to you. Thank you for the huge contribution you have made throughout this term. To find out about other creative activities and events available in the local area, please visit: https://elevatelambeth.london/resources

Parents Evening

Parents' Evening will be held on **24th February for EYFS and KS 1 and 25th February 2021 for KS 2**, You should have now received guidance for how to log in to book an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher using our new school video cloud system. Meeting will be eight minutes long and teachers will talk to you about children's progress, engagement during lockdown, next steps and targets. You will also have the opportunity to ask questions of your own. If you have not already done so, please click here and enter your details to book an appointment.
Email admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk if you are experiencing any problems.

Well done to Olive Class

On Wednesday 10th February, Olive Class celebrated their Ancient China Day. They cooked, food, made Lanterns, designed their own animals for the year of the Ox, learnt about Chinese numbers and wrote their own pieces of writing based on a Chinese myth about animals.



VALUE OF THE WEEK

Flourishing Digitally —

Knowing who to listen to and follow

BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said: 'Follow Me'
Mathew 4:19

Highest level of student engagement on any day

Cedar Class — 60%
Ebony Class—- 90%
Juniper Class — 80 %
Oak Class — 73%
Olive Class —93% %
Palm Class — 96% %
Sycamore Class —90 %
Willow Class — 86%

WELL DONE!

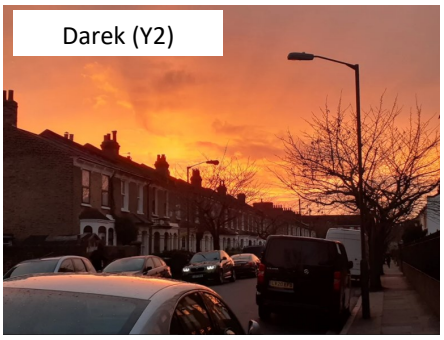
Fantastic daily participation across the school yet again. Well done children of St Mark's and have a well earned and enjoyable half term break. Read, go for walks and try to give yourselves a break from screens.

All Things Bright and Beautiful Photography Competition

Take a picture of something bright and beautiful that the world has to offer. This can be something inside your home, outside your window or even from your daily walks around where you live. It does not matter how you capture your image, whether you use a specialised camera or the camera you or your parents have on their phone/tablet.

There will be prizes for the images that come in 1st, 2nd and 3rd - photography books. First price will also have their winning image printed onto greeting cards. Happy Snapping!
Deadline: **26th February 2021** (upload on Google Classroom or email lbrockwell@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk or your teacher). Below are some more entries handed in this week.

Kaiqi (Yr 3

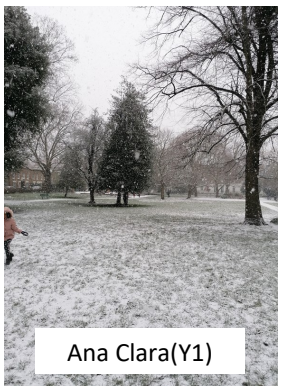

Darek (Y2)

Madeleine (Y2)

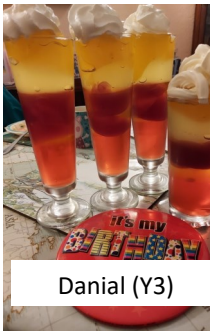
Kailin (Y5)

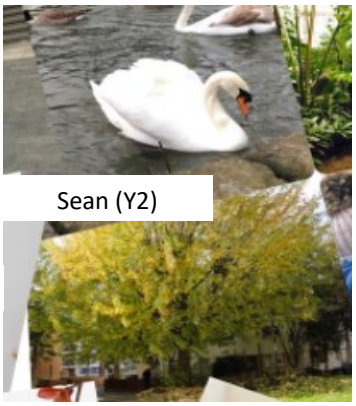
Thiago (Y5)

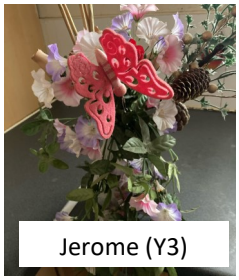
Maria Victoria (Y5)


Ana Clara(Y1)

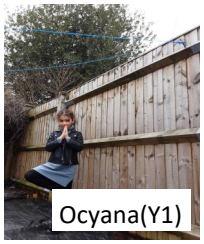
Kelly (Y1)


Danial (Y3)


Sean (Y2)


Jerome (Y3)

Erica(Y3)

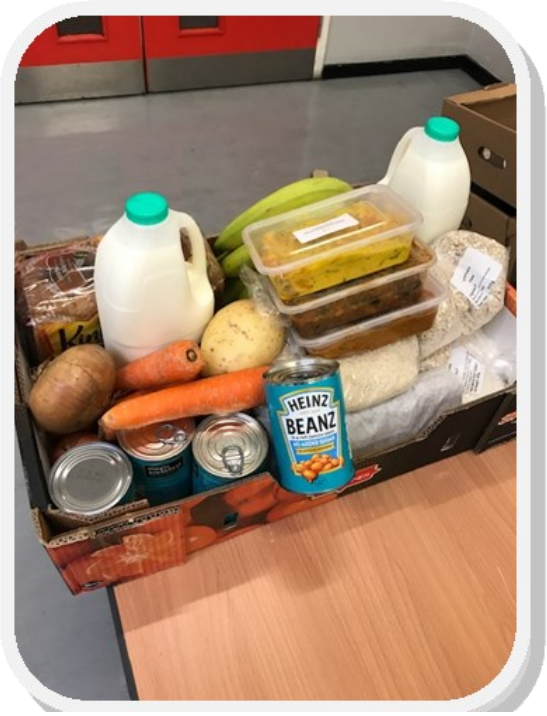

Ocyana(Y1)

Eleanor (Y2)

Melek (Y2)

Destiny (Y2)

Notices for parents



Free Weekly Food Hampers

We have 18 free food hampers to give away every Wednesday . They contain a range of food including bread, milk, cereal, pasta/rice, beans, tuna, fresh fruit and veg and delicious freshly made meals by professional chefs. Simply call in at the office and ask for a hamper and one will be given to you. They will no longer be reserved for individuals and will now be given out on a first come first served basis. Next delivery date is **Wednesday 24th February 2021.**

Laptop Loan

We have more laptops to loan families. If your family needs a laptop to complete online work, please contact Mrs Moses via email at cmoses@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk

KEY SCHOOL DATES FOR SPRING TERM	
DATE	**DETAILS**
Mon 15th Feb 2021—Fri 19th Feb	**Half term—School is closed**
Wednesday 17th Feb	**Start of Lent**
Weds 24th Feb 2021	**Virtual Parents' Evening - This will be a remote video meeting with the class teacher. Sign up details were sent earlier this week**
Thursday 25th Feb 2021	**Virtual Parents' Evening— This will be a remote video meeting with the class teacher. Sign up details were sent earlier this week**
Tuesday 2nd March 2021	**Early Years coffee morning 11.00am**
Thursday 4th March 2021	**World Book Day**
Monday 8th March 2021	**Science Week**
Thursday 18th March 2021	**Parent workshop on PSHE and local road safety**
Monday 29th March 2021	**RE Week**
Wednesday 31st March 2021	**End of Term 4—last day of term**

Notices for parents

Assessing children's well-being and involvement using the Leuven Scale.

The Leuven Scale is often used in the Early Years to assess children's emotional well-being and involvement, but can also be used by educators for different purposes. Based on the observations of your child's remote learning, think about where they would appear on the 5 point scale and then look at the eight points below to see the suggested strategies for increasing their involvement and well-being.

	1	2	3	4	5
Involvement	**Little or no activity** • Does not participate • Staring idly • Absent minded • No specific aim • Doing 'nothing' • Not consciously aware of what they are doing	**Moments of interrupted or sporadic activity** • Occasionally taking part • Dreaming • Wandering around the room/messing about	**More or less sustained activity which lacks intensity** • Usually engaged in some kind of activity • Rarely/never shows intensity in the activity • Some evolution of the activity • Signals of involvement generally absent • Indifference or lack of energy • Easily distracted	**Activity with intense moments or relatively intense activity** □ Usually active • Frequently notice signs of involvement • Activity has meaning for the child • Child functions near their capacity	**Sustained intense activity** • Very often shows involvement in activities • Easily reach high levels of involvement • Various activities follow in quick succession • Easily makes choices • Absorbed • Intrinsically motivated
Wellbeing	**Extremely low levels of well-being** • Look low and unhappy • Tense/not very lively • Little confidence/selfesteem • Not in touch with feelings • Few moments of enjoyment • Crying/ destroying things/shouting	**Low level of well-being** • Show emotional discomfort 50% of time • Alternate positive and neutral signals • Tense • Self confidence/esteem falters • Seldom enjoys themselves thoroughly	**Fluctuating/neutral** • Generally 'quite' happy • Moments of wellbeing • Look relaxed with fair self confidence • Leave a neutral impression	**High level of wellbeing** • Generally looks happy • Only occasional signs of discomfort • Children adequately satisfy their basic needs	**Extremely high levels of well-being** • Feels like ' a fish in water' • Comfortable • Vitality and inner peace • Takes pleasure in activities • Enjoys themselves • Open and receptive

8 Action Points for Improving Children's Well Being and Involvement:

1. Rearrange the activity areas in the classroom to more appealing corners or areas.
2. Make an assessment of the content/toys/books in the activity centres and make them more challenging.
3. Bring in new and non-traditional materials and activities that pique their curiosity.
4. Identify the children's interests and provide activities that engage their interest.
5. Encourage them and provide stimulating inputs.
6. Support them to develop positive relations amongst children and with the teachers.
7. Encourage them to display initiative.
8. Bring in activities that allow them to explore the world of feelings, emotions and values.

COVID WINTER GRANT SCHEME

Following the governments' announcement in November 2020, all children currently in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals will continue to receive their weekly shopping vouchers during the half term.

As usual, this will be sent via schoolvouchers.com by Monday 15th February 2021 and will be for an increased value of £20 per child.