Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

12th March 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,

Welcome Back!

Thank you all very much for making this past week a very special week. The attendance rates were probably the best they have been in the past six years and children brought in lots of resources from home to help with their creations for Science Week. We have Miss Stewart to thank for allowing children to return to school and participate in activities where they could be creative, work practically and collaborate with their classmates.

Curriculum Enrichment

In addition to the exciting Science Week events that have been taking place, classes across the school have got straight back into PE , Outdoor Learning, Music, Art, RE, English, Maths, History, DT and Geography lessons, as well as participating in chess tuition, cricket coaching and 1-1 tuition. Also, Year 2 participated in a special Zoom Q and A session at the Tower of London; Year 3 enjoyed sampling chocolate as part of their Topic on 'Chocolate and ' Year 4 baked cup cakes as a class reward.

Thank you!

Thank you for helping us with our safety measures by bringing and collecting your children on time, wearing face masks and observing the 2 metre rule. Please remember not to queue jump but wait behind the people in front of you to enter the school premises.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Flourishing Families

BIBLE VERSE

Our Father in heaven ...

Matthew 6

Classes

Cedar Class — 97%

Ebony Class— 100%

Juniper Class —99%

Oak Class —96%

Olive Class —97%

Palm Class —99% %

Sycamore Class — 100 %

Willow Class — 93% %

WELL DONE!

Wow! What amazing attendance across the school during our first week back. We have got lots of catching up to do, but if attendance continues like this, we will be able to certainly catch up with everything that we have missed during the lockdown.

Latest Updates

KEY SCHOOL DATES FOR SPRING TERM	
DATE	**DETAILS**
Thursday 18th March	Virtual Parent workshop on PSHE and local road and air safety
Friday 19th March 2021	Red Nose Day—See Page 4 for details
Monday 29th March 2021	RE Week - details to follow
Wednesday 31st March	End of Term 4—last day of term (Usual finish time)

Nursery Admissions 2021

We have started to process our Nursery admissions for September 2021. Since its opening in 2017, the St Mark's Nursery has proven to be very popular within the local area and we already have a large number of applications for this year. **We offer 30 hours of free Nursery school provision within a Christian ethos.** Many parents who have children already at the school have already applied, but there may be others who have not yet submitted an application. If you already have children in the school or know any children who are 3 years old or will be before either September 2021 or January 2022, please complete and submit an application form as soon as possible. We do not want you to miss out on a free full-time Nursery place. An application form can be obtained from the school office or is available from our school website. Click here

After School Clubs

You should have received a link to a survey about after school clubs. Your responses will show if there is enough interest in after school clubs and if they are financially viable to be run. Please click here complete the survey by **Monday 15th March**.

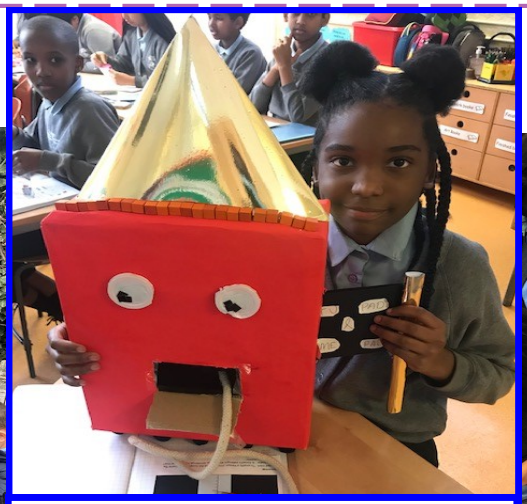
Price: Only **£2.50 per club per week (£27.50 for 11 weeks)** - Discount for Pupil premium (Half price the first two clubs booked)

Term period: w/c 26th April 2021 to w/e 16th July 2021

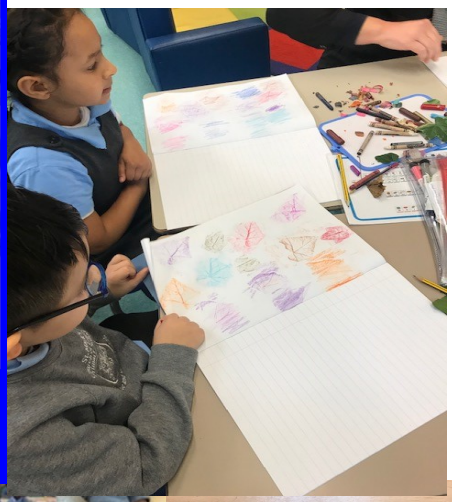
Thank you

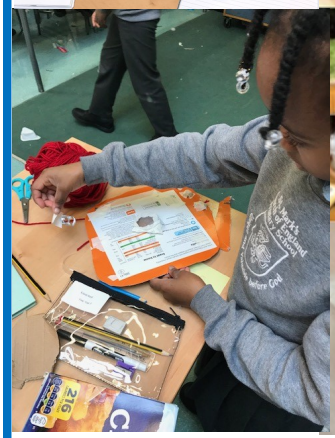
Science Week– Innovating for the future!

Thank you so much to those of you who provided your children with resources for Science Week. We really enjoyed using them to create inventions that the pupils had designed independently. Most activities across the two days focused on the theme of 'Innovating for the Future', exploring new ideas, inventions and methods. We made use of the outdoors with the younger children taking part in a leaf hunt and KS2 pupils collecting natural materials to create their own water filter. It was great to see the children so engaged and being inquisitive about their learning and the investigations they were undertaking. I think it is safe to say that we have all learned something new over the two days - such as how many teeth a mosquito has or how many droplets of water can fit onto a penny coin! Well done for a successful science week St Mark's, you are all fantastic innovators of the future!



Shakabooloo is Neriah's excellent new invention. It should be available in





Red Nose Day 19th March 2021

Next Friday, 19th March 2021, we intend to raise some money for people experiencing challenging lives and have some fun whilst doing so. Children can either come dressed in red, wear an item of red or come as a superhero for the day. The important thing is that children bring **£1** that we can donate to the Comic Relief charity.

We would like as many children as possible to prepare and share some funny jokes with their class and/or be prepared to show off some superhero skills and talents that they possess with the class. Some of the best acts will be shown to the whole school during our Friday celebration assembly.

Recognition of Positive Behaviour

Children at St Mark's are rewarded for displaying the school values of:

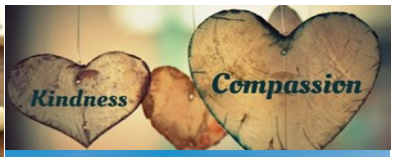
Effort and Hard Work

Kindness and Compassion

Joy and Positively

Self-Control and Collaboration

Accountability and Leadership



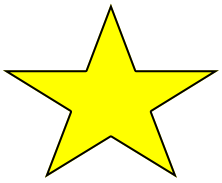
Lanyards

As a reward for displaying the school values , children will receive a lanyard to wear throughout the day. These lanyards will not be taken home however a card recognising that they have achieved a lanyard will be sent home.

When children receive **10 lanyards** they will be awarded with a **bronze badge**, **20 lanyards** a **silver badge** and **30 lanyards** a **gold badge**.

10 Lanyards = Bronze Badge

20 Lanyard = Silver Badge



30 Lanyard = Gold Badge

The staff will choose an overall winner each category and these children will be awarded with a **Star of the Week** certificate.

End of term certificates

At the end of each term, pupils are rewarded for excelling at displaying St Mark's values of: **Joy and Positivity**, **Accountability and Leadership**, **Self-control and Collaboration**, **Effort and Hard Work** and **Kindness and Compassion.**

These children will receive a certificate at a celebration assembly on the last day of term.

Pebble jar

As a whole class reward, each class has a pebble jar which they aim to fill throughout the term. Once the jar has been filled, the class can decide on their whole class reward. This encourages whole class cohesion and working as a team.

Children had the opportunity to collect pebbles during lockdown.

Virtual Parent Workshop

Virtual PSHE Coffee Morning

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

(Including information on the statutory Health and Relationship Education)

Thursday 18th March at 9:30 am via Google Meet

Global Action Plan will also take your feedback during this meeting about changes that you would like to see around the school to improve air and traffic congestion

Please do join us!

The link will be send out next week