Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly News
12th May 2017

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

Dear Parents and Carers

Assessment Month for Key Stage 1 and 2

During the week, children in Year 6 took part in their end of Key Stage 2 tests in Reading, Maths, Grammar and Spelling. They have worked hard throughout the year and their results will be out in July. This is the second year of the new style SATs tests and last year's results for the school are below.

St Mark's Performance Data for 2016

Key Stage 1 Data (End of Year 2)

St Mark's Data	**Reading 77%**	**Writing 74%**	**Maths 82%**
National Data	**Reading 74%**	**Writing 66%**	**Maths 73%**

Key Stage 2 Data (End of Year 6)

St Mark's Data	**Reading 68%**	**Writing 74%**	**Maths 79%**
National Data	**Reading 66%**	**Writing 74%**	**Maths 70%**

Key Stage 2 (End of Year 6) Reaching Higher Standard

St Mark's Data	**Reading 14%**	**Writing 25%**	**Maths 7%**
National Data	**Reading 19%**	**Writing 23%**	**Maths 17%**

Key Stage 2 (End of Year 6) combined Reading, Writing and Maths

St Mark's	**65%**
National	**53%**

We are very pleased that our results exceed National expectations in most areas.

The children in Year 2 will be beginning their assessments during the coming week and we wish them well.

Value of the Week We have different lives and experiences

Bible Verse: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus Galatians 3.28

Attendance and Punctuality

Reception	84%
Year 1	96.4%
Year 2	93.66%
Year 3	95.34%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	97.58%

Please continue to focus on regular attendance and punctuality. We have noticed that some children are arriving just after 9.00am. Please continue to make every effort & leave home at least 10 minutes earlier to combat the traffic.

Summer Fair Update from Friends of St Mark's (FSM) – Space Our School PSA

We have now entered an important time in the year when we begin planning and preparing for our school Summer Fair on Saturday 8th July 2017 between 1-4pm. After the success of last year, we hope as many of you as possible will be able to support and play an active role in preparations and on the actual day. So far we have had two productive planning meetings, which have led to excellent ideas for this year.

Please note that the primary aim of this year is to raise money for the school to spend for the benefit of our children. Therefore a key change is that **all food, drink, art and craft stalls** will be run on a voluntary basis. We hope as many parents as possible will be able to volunteer their services in these areas for free, but please note that the PSA will cover expenses for ingredients and costs etc. If you have a hobby or an interest outside of these areas, you will still be able to hire a table.

A form can be obtained from the office.

We need volunteers to:

- approach local organisations for raffle prizes
- publicise the event in the local area
- run a BBQ
- make cultural food
- run drink stalls
- run food stalls
- donate soft toys
- run games stalls
- face paint
- decorate using henna
- decorate plant pots
- sell garden produce
- run a second hand uniform stall
- sit in the stocks
- help to set up and tidy up afterwards
- contribute any more ideas for what we can do on the day

Please speak to us directly to share your ideas.

Many thanks, Unika - mother of Nandi Year 1, Vivian - mother of Ziva Year 3, Voila—mother of Thaisa Yr 6

Half Term Fun Tuesday May 30th—Friday June 1st)

Our Sports Coach, Mr Emmanuel, will again be running half-term holiday activities here at St Mark's! (see attached flier). The St Mark's children who attended at Easter had a fantastic time and gave very positive feed-back. This time it is **open to all children aged 7—11. Registration forms are available from the office**

Follow and Like us on Social Media

For daily updates

Twitter: @StMarks_Lambeth

Facebook: stmarksprimarykennington

SCIENCE WEEK

Next week Mrs James, our Year 5 teacher and Science Leader, will be leading us across the school in developing our scientific thinking. Through exploring health eating and the natural world and through taking part in fun experiments, children will be encouraged to enquire and ask questions about the natural world within which they live. Our acronym for our science vision is LEAR(KN)ER. **We promote the pursuit of our children's natural curiosity about the world around them in a range of contexts, through encouraging them to be a LEAR(KN)ER through:**

L – Learning from mistakes
E – Exploring the natural world
A – Asking questions
R- Reflecting on findings
KN – using prior Knowledge
E – Experimenting and Investigating
R – Risk Taking

Please build upon children's scientific interest by taking part in some experiments at home. Lots of ideas can be found on YouTube.

Collective Worship Theme for Term 5

Equal but Different

Throughout this term we have been concentrating on important lessons that relate to our school and wider community. We have been celebrating the fact that we are all unique and highly valued by God. As a school community, many differences exist amongst us: we have different skins colours; different abilities; we originate from different countries; we have different types of families; we eat different foods; we have had different experiences; the list could go on. Nevertheless, God loves each one of us despite our differences and therefore we should not allow such differences to be a barrier between us and a basis on which we judge and look down on others. Please help us to promote this focus by discussing these issues with your children at home.

Nursery and Reception Update

We are very pleased to announce that our school Nursery is quickly filling up and we now only have 6 places left to offer. The local demand for full-time Nursery places appears to be significant and many parents were quick to accept an offer of a Nursery place at St Marks. We still have Reception places available for September 2017 for children who are 4yrs old by 31st August. If you know of any family, friends or neighbours who are looking for a space, please encourage them to contact the school on 02077351467 or email admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AT ST MARK'S

Children across the school working on a school mosaic, for the reception area.

At last we have new neighbours!
Our **Bird House** has been occupied by some feathered friends.

Children in **Years 3** and **5** tended the vegetable beds in the wildlife garden this

The potatoes that **Year 5** planted earlier in the year are growing nicely.

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic trip on Thursday to the Chocolate Museum in Brixton. They got to make their own chocolates!

Year 2 children all set and ready for their journey down to Brighton, as part of their theme on the seaside.

Sport

Half-Term Fun 2017

@ St Mark's School 30th May - 2nd June

Open to all children ages 7yrs—11 yrs

PRIZES

BOOK NOW! LIMITED SPACES

£15 Per day
(drop-in 9am registration)

£50. per week
(£10 Saving Tuesday—Friday)

To book a space please complete a REGISTRATION FORM, include FEE and return it to the office in an envelope before MONDAY 22nd MAY

Activity Timetable 9.30am—3.30pm

Lunch daily at 12pm
(please provide your child with a healthy lunch)

Duration	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9am	Registration				
9.30am	Fun warm up games				
10am	Closed	Hula Hoop Challenge	Tug of War	Boccia	Water Bottle Flip Challenge
10.45am	Snack break				
11am	Bank	Bench ball	Gladiator Challenge	Tag Rugby	Volleyball
12noon	Lunchtime				
12.45pm	Supervised free time				
1.15pm	Holiday	Hockey	Handball	Cricket	Tennis & Table Tennis
2pm		Relay Race Competition	Kings 4 Square Competition	Football Tournament	Athletics Competition
3pm			Basketball	Dodgeball	
3.30pm	Prize giveaways - End of day				

Venue:
St Marks C of E Primary School, Harleyford Road, Kennington SE11 5SL

Contact Details:
E: sport-box@outlook.com T: 07391 248 293

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

Please look at organisations' websites to double check times and arrangements

West End of Blenheim Gardens, off Brixton Hill, SW2 5EU / www.brixtonwindmill.org

Full tours - see the original wind-powered machinery and find out how it used to make flour. Booking required.

Short tours - see the internal workings on the first floor. Hear the fascinating story of the family who once owned it.

Tours on the hour and half hour from 1pm to 4.30pm, with last entry 30 minutes before closing. Each tour lasts approx. 40 minutes. Booking is not required for short tours, but entry is not guaranteed and that you may have to queue. Children need to be able to climb the stairs unaided. Last entry is 15 minutes before closing.

British Museum – Digital Photography trail

Sat 13th May (Age 5+) & Sunday 14th May (Age 7+) / FREE

44 Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG / 020 7323 8000 / www.british museum.org

Nearest tube: Holborn/Russell Square

Sat 13th May, 11am-4pm – Use a digital camera to capture your family interacting with objects from across the Museum. *A passport, national ID or driver's licence is required as a deposit.*

Sun 14th May, 11.00 – 1pm & 2.00 – 4.00pm - Discover the many avatars of the Hindu god Krishna and develop computer coding skills to make characters move and play. Free but limited places, sign up on arrival!

Farmopolis – Greenwich Peninsula

Sat 13th & Sunday 14th May – open every day in the spring & summer months/ FREE (All ages)

The Jetty, Greenwich Peninsula, SE10 0FL / nearest tube: North Greenwich

www.greenwichpeninsula.co.uk/the-peninsulist/farmopolis-greenwich-peninsula/

An urban garden in Greenwich on the banks of the Thames having rehomed thousands of unused plants from the Chelsea Flower show to create a truly unique environment. Farmopolis hosts a programme of live music and creative fun for all the family. Entrance to Farmopolis is free, some workshops may require buying a ticket

Dulwich Festival Fair – Goose Green

Sun 14th May, 11am-4pm / FREE (All ages)

Goose Green, East Dulwich / http://dulwichfestival.co.uk

The Dulwich Festival Fair on Goose Green brings together a selection of the best craftspeople, designers, independent shops, family fun, local bars and food stalls. Activities and entertainment for everyone: from a free bouncy castle, face painting and badge making for children to delicious food stalls, live music and fantastic donkey rides!

Covent Garden May Fayre & Puppet Festival

Sun 14th May, 11am-5.30pm / FREE (All ages)

St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, Bedford Street / www.alternativearts.co.uk / Nearest Tube: Covent Garden

Join Punch and Judy enthusiasts from all over the country in the garden of St Paul's Church, Covent Garden (**The Actors' Church**). Brass band procession around Covent Garden from 11am, midday church service with Mr Punch in the pulpit and spend the afternoon watching puppet, music and dance performances between 12.30pm and 5.30pm

19th Annual Kite Day - Streatham Common

Sun 14th May, 11am-5pm / FREE (All ages)

Streatham Common, Streatham High Road, SW16 3HG / 020 7739 9893 / www.streathamkiteday.org