Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

12th November 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,

Parental Involvement

Thank you for your active involvement in the life of the school. This week a number of parents attended our stay and play session in Cedar and Ebony Class and worked within the classrooms with children in the Early Years. Last week many of our parents in Palm Class accompanied the class on a trip to the Museum of London. Other parents have also offered to volunteer across the school at different times in order to support the pupils. We are very grateful for the ongoing participation of our parents and carers.

We would like you to attend an important Parent workshop on 'Gangs and Gang Culture' on Friday 3rd December 2021 from 9.00-10.15am in the school hall. Lambeth is a London borough which is particularly affected by this behaviour. Growing Against Violence (GAV) will provide invaluable information for parents during this workshop. Finally, please continue to help us by turning off car engines when you are sat inside your car, as it increases air pollution around the school.

GAV
Growing Against Violence
GAV Primary School Safeguarding Curriculum

Parent Surveys

We will be sending out a parent survey to you next week. Please can you complete this for us? Your feedback is very useful for us.

Visit from Lambeth's new Director of Education

Last Thursday we were pleased to welcome Abrilli Phillips to St Mark's Primary School. She is Lambeth's new Director of Education and was particularly impressed with the positive ethos and climate that she saw at St Mark's and the hard working nature of the children.

Adriana funeral and memorial

Last Friday, a small number of staff were able to pay our last respects to Adriana during her funeral and burial. On Friday 26th November, the school community will hold a special memorial service at 2.30pm at St Mark's Church. All staff and children will be able to attend and we would like to extend an invitation to parents and carers who would also like to attend.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Flourishing individuals – Protecting our amazing selves

BIBLE VERSE

"I will praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made

Psalm 139:14

Attenance and Punctuality

Please keep up regular attendance and consistent punctuality. Remember that children need to be in their class line at five to nine. Avoid being registered as late. Make sure there is no lost learning due to lateness.

St Mark's School
Development Plan Priorities 2021-22

Our school priorities for this year are as follows:

The School Improvement Intent Overview

1. To ensure that all children receive a high quality, well structured and **inspirational curriculum** with sequenced learning that promotes high standards of subject knowledge and a range of personal and learning skills for each subject
2. To ensure pupils' learning across the **Core Curriculum is** deep and embedded (Phonics, Reading, Writing, Maths)
3. To strengthen and embed **Assessment for Learning and metacognitive strategies** so pupils develop into independent learners and remember more subject content and for longer periods
4. To maintain and further develop the school's **Christian Distinctiveness** across all areas of the school; using aspects of the school's Christian distinctiveness as our unique selling point.
5. To promote and develop the school as **a community hub**- utilising the resources within the local community and making the school accessible and available for members of the local community
6. To initiate actions that will retain current children and families within the school and attract new one, in order to keep the **school roll sustainable**
7. To develop and strengthen **inclusive practice** across the school; securing outstanding outcomes for SEND pupils, disadvantaged, vulnerable EAL and more able pupils from their starting points.
8. To further promote the **Personal and Professional Development of staff and pupils** across all areas of the school ensuring they are equipped and skilled to support learners and fulfil all roles across the school
9. To develop a positive ethos and culture across the school through promoting positive **pupil behaviour and attitudes**.
10. To **fully embed strategies and actions introduced within the EYFS and introduce new EYFS** requirements in order to provide an outstanding foundation for learning

What has been happening at St Mark's?

Girls Football Tournament
9th November 2021.

This week, 9 girls from Years 5 and 6 participated in a football tournament against other local schools. This is the first time in two years that we have done this. Well done to Ore, Shyanne, Lacara, Kelly, Aysha, Kailin, Lesley-Ann, Nyhla and Luna

The term topic for Early Years is Space. So many amazing rockets taking off! The children have been involved in fantastic work both at home and school .

Remembrance Day

On Thursday we were very pleased to welcome John Slough to the school who told us about his father who used to attend St Mark's around 1910 and his Grandfather who fought and died in WW1. We also held a 2 minute silence to remember those who fought and died in WW1 and WW2.

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the British Museum to learn about the Vikings. A very big thank you to all parents who accompanied the trip and made it possible.

Lunch time chess club is back!

Juniper Class are the best spellers in the school! Well done Adelani, Micah and Lewi , who represented the class in the school Spelling Bee.

Recruitment to St Mark's Primary
September 2022

We are currently looking forward to welcoming new families to join our **Reception Class** from September 2022. Please spread the word about our great school by speaking to parents, putting posters up in your areas, clubs or churches and generally being ambassadors for the school. If you would like any posters, leaflets or prospectuses to share with others, please ask at the school office

St Mark's C of E Primary School is located on the Oval/ Kennington borders (just behind the Oval cricket ground).

We are a friendly, family-based school that provides a rigorous, yet inspirational, all-round education, aimed at both challenging and engaging all of our children.

Our size, alongside our strong Christian ethos, also enables us to place an equal emphasis on nurturing each individual child's growth, development and character.

If you are interested in a Nursery or Reception Class place for September 2022 or to find out more about the school, please contact us or visit the school for an informal tour and conversation.

Come and join the St Mark's Family

Phone: 020 7735 1467

Email: admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk

Web: www.stmarkscofeprimarylambeth.co.uk

Address: Harleyford Road, Oval, London, SE115SL

BEFORE

SCHOOL ART DISPLAY

During the past two terms, nearly one hundred children across the school have worked with artists from Van Gogh House in Brixton to produce new murals to replace our old ones on the outside of the school hall. Using inspiration from trees, nature and wildlife, they created the final pieces with support from Janet and Lucy. We hope to unveil our new murals at **3.30pm** on :

Friday 19th November

AFTER

Term 2 Diary Dates

Nativity plays, music concerts, Christmas Jumper Day, Carol Service, Pantomimes, Parent workshops… make sure you include all of these important dates in your diary!
See below for details.

Friday Nov 5th 2021	YR4 Trip to British Museum	
Wednesday November 10th 2021	Early years stay and play	
11th November 2021	Remembrance Day	**Visitor speaking to Year 3**
w/c 15th November 2021	Anti-bullying week	See details in a letter sent out
Tuesday 16th November 2021	Rev Stephen Coulson talking to YR 6 about Pilgrimages	
Wednesday 17th November 2021	Reception trip to Science Museum	10am
Thursday 25th November 2021	Flu vaccinations Rec – YR6	
Friday 26th November 2021	School Memorial for Adriana Del Console at St Mark's Church, Kennington	2.30pm start. All parents and governors are welcome
Tuesday 30th November 2021	EYFS and KS 1 Music Concert	3.00pm for parents
Wednesday 1st December 2021	Early Years Stay and Play	8.55-9.45am
Friday 3rd December 2021	Social media and friend and friendly workshops for YR 5 and 6	
Friday 3rd December 2021	Parent workshop Friends and Friendly This sessions will educate parents about gangs and gang culture	9.00-10.15am
Tuesday 7th December 2021	EYFS Nativity	Held in the school hall for parents at 2.30pm
Wednesday 8th December 2021	YR 5 – 6 Music Concert	In the school hall
Thursday 9th December 2021	YR 3 – 4 Music Concert	In the school hall
Friday 10th December 2021	Christmas Jumper Day	£1 from each child which will be given to Save the Children
Tuesday 14th December 2021	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity tbc	Held in the school hall for parents at 2.30pm
Tuesday 14th December 2021	St Mark's singing carols at Oval Station	8.50 – 9.30am. Money goes to Robes homeless charity
Wednesday 15th December 2021	YR 3 and 5 attending Pantomime at Oval House	1 – 2 pm
Thursday 16th December 2021	St Mark's Carol Service 9.20am Held at St Mark's Church	Led by Key Stage 2
Thursday 16th December 2021	Last day of Autumn Term	School finishes at the usual time 3.20/3.25pm
Wednesday 5th January 2022	**Children return to school**	

Parent workshop Friday 3rd December 2021 on gangs and gang culture

GAV Primary School Safeguarding Curriculum

We have worked with GAV for a number of years now and they always deliver an excellent information and advice to parents and children. They will also be delivering workshops to children in Year 5 and 6 about peer pressure and social media

Programmes for Primary School Students: Years 5 and 6

(All sessions are 100 minutes long)

So Social Media (Year 5/6)

This lesson explores how digital technology has changed the way people communicate and why phones/tablets are so integral to young people's lives. The session considers the use of social media by Primary School students and the relationship they have with it, to help inform their online decision-making. Students examine the dangers of communicating with people who pretend to be someone else online and look at the importance of online privacy and the dangers of over-sharing information about themselves.

We highlight the concept of exposing people's online and look at how others may use knowledge of people's 'offline activity' to coerce and threaten through fear of exposure. Sensitive issues relating to grooming, cyber bullying, gaming and inappropriate images are examined. Young people are made aware of the law surrounding these issues and are empowered to report abuse if they encounter it.

Friends vs. Friendly (Year 6)

This interactive workshop teaches refusal skills and builds awareness of negative peer pressure. Emphasis is placed on the differences between being "friends" and being "friendly". We look at how certain "friends", especially those in negative peer groups like gangs, are nothing of the sort and will only attract trouble.

We demonstrate how older peers groom and coerce young people. Our aim is to help young people read the signs of gang membership, recognise how gangs recruit and understand the manipulative and coercive nature of gangs and gang members. This dynamic session highlights what gangs are really about and how they exploit young people and put them and their families at risk. We examine why gangs are not conventional friendship groups and challenge the "no snitching culture" empowering students to reject this. We address students' anxiety about moving up to secondary school, and provide practical advice and resources about staying safe, avoiding bullying and resources for seeking help if needed.

Parent Session

This session seeks to educate and inform parents about gangs, gang culture and the GAV programme. Parents are given an overview of our evidence-based curriculum and receive an academic and policing perspective into serious youth violence including the "push" and "pull" factors that account for gang associations. Gang recruitment processes and the roles and risks to girls involved in gang culture are identified. Parents are made aware of the warning signs of gang membership and advised on appropriate interventions. The session celebrates the fact that the vast majority of young people lead positive lives but also promotes active parental engagement, boundary setting and the importance of collaboration and communication between families, schools, and communities to end serious youth violence.

Contact Details

For Bookings and Enquiries - E mail: Operations@growingagainstviolence.org.uk
tel no 07736 150065, (Victoria Taylor, Event Planner)

Safeguarding - E mail: Safeguarding@growingagainstviolence.org.uk
tel no 07395 833134, (Shaun Willshire, Operations Manager)

Strategic Enqs - E mail: Stuart@growingagainstviolence.org.uk

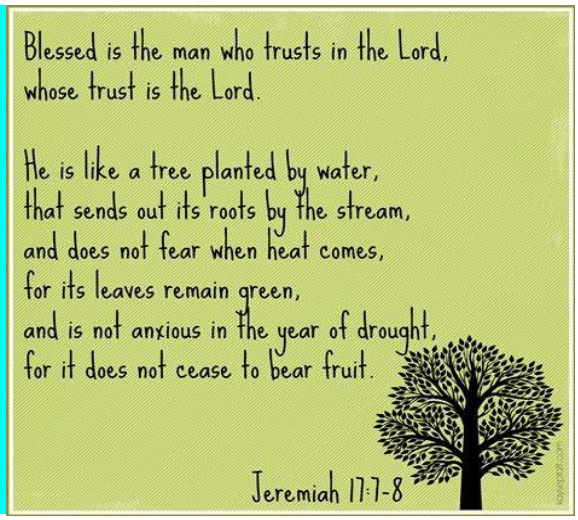
tel no 07736 150069, Stuart Trayler, CEO)

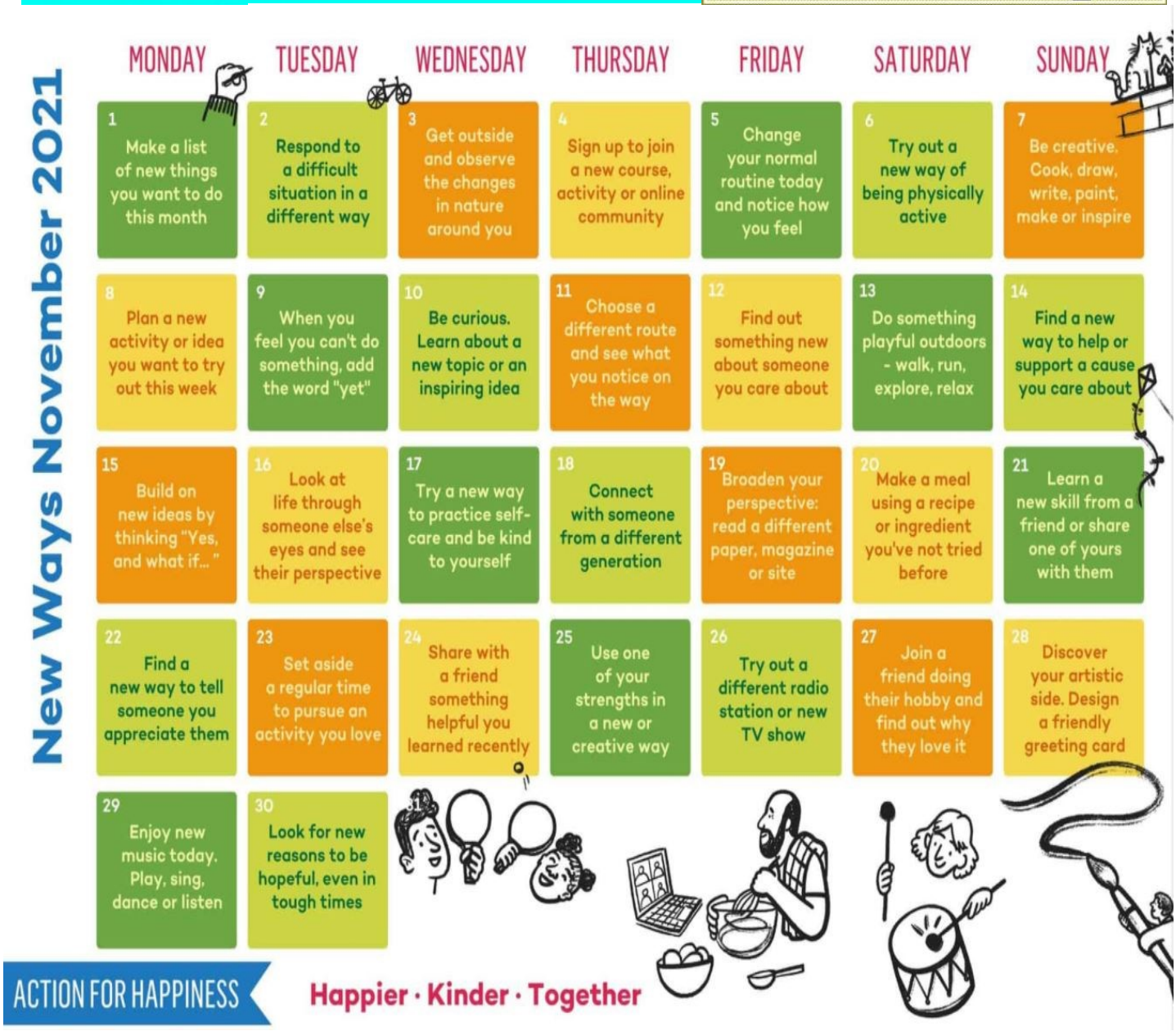
www.growingagainstviolence.org.uk
@ operations@growingagainstviolence.org.uk
@GAVEducation
JustGiving https://bit.ly/2zdy4kRn.

GAV
Growing Against Violence

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is Anti-Bullying week with the theme of 'One Kind Word.' Children can wear odd socks to school on Monday





Save the Children
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On **Friday 10 December**, St Mark's will be taking part in **Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day!**

We're asking families to donate £1 (or however much they can give), to support children in the UK and around the world. By taking part we'll be helping kids who don't have the basics they need to survive – like food, school or medicine – to start seeing the magic in the world again.

If you do not own a Christmas jumper then not to worry – we can add a bit of tinsel to turn old sweaters into sparkly new creations at school, so wear an old jumper on the day (plus a few decorations if you have them to spare). If you want to get crafty at home there will also be decorating templates available on the Christmas Jumper Day Gameplan at **christmasjumperday.org** from mid-November.

We'd really appreciate your support to make Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day a success. Together, we can make the world better with a sweater.

Woolly wishes,
Miss Stewart

Save the Children
1 St John's Lane
London EC1M 4AR
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Telephone 0808 281 1031
christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk
christmasjumperday.org

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (213890) and Scotland (SC039570) and a registered company limited by guarantee (Company No. 178159).