Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

14th February 2020

'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 and Carers,

Our Inspirational Curriculum

Children across the school have been truly spoilt this term! Across Key Stages 1 and 2, children have experienced some fantastic and informative educational visits which have broadened their educational experiences and provided them with hands on learning opportunities. These include visits to Hindu and Jewish places of worship, a Year 4 music day at the Southbank Centre and trips to the British Museum, the Royal Academy, Tate Britain and a music concert at the Wheatsheaf Hall.

In addition to this, children across the school have experienced a number of themed days and events such as pyjama days, a Gruffalo tea party, Super Hero Day, Maths Week, Year 5 and 6 Girls Football League , a Year 1 and 2 Multisport Tournament. Cricket coaches from the Surrey Cricket have also been in to teacher the children in Years 1 and 2. This has all taken place in the space of 6 weeks! Many thanks to our staff who arrange these visits and events and to the parents who support us when we go out.

PARENTS' EVENING

It was very positive to see so many parents present this week at our Parents' Evenings. It is crucial that we work together to help our children make as much progress as possible at school and at home. Please continue to encourage: regular reading at home, visits to libraries and places of interest; the completion of homework to a high standard and have plenty of talk time and discussion with your children to support them with their language and vocabulary. There are lots of free or low cost activities taking place during the half term break. Do your best to get your children engaged and involved in the events advertised in **Low Cost, No Cost**. Many thanks for your support over another term.

Value of the Week

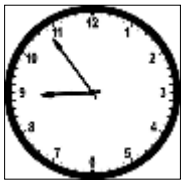
Friendship/Friendliness

BIBLE VERSE

"One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother ."

Proverbs 18:24

Attendance and Punctuality



Nursery— 90%

Reception — 91.72%

Year 1— 88%

Year 2— 91.11%

Year 3— 97.78%

Year 4— 90%

Year 5— 94.67%

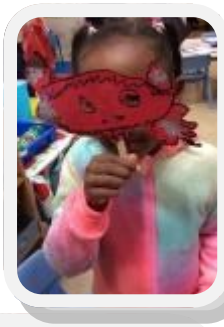
Year 6— 95%

WELL DONE!

Well done Year 3!

Keep it up! Remember that poor attendance not only has an impact on your child's learning, it affects the whole school attendance rate.

What is happening at St Mark's?



Early Years

This term, Nursery & Reception have learnt about Winter and Light and Dark. They focused on Winter, using 'The Gruffalo's Child' as a stimulus for discussion, writing and activities. In the last 3 week's of the term, they explored Light and Dark, learning about scientific elements such as what causes shadows and where light comes from. They used the book 'Emily Brown and The Thing' and enjoyed a pyjama day! At the end of the first topic, children had a Gruffalo party! At the end of each month the Early Years have a Stay and Play session for Parents and Carers to remain within the setting and play with their children. It was great to see so many dads present in Nursery in January. **The next 'Stay and Play' is Friday 28th February 9.00-10.00am.**

YEARS 1 & 2

The Year 1 and 2 Topic this term was 'Send for a Superhero.' Children explored the powers of fictional superheroes but also looked at the impact of real life heroes such as Mary Seacole and Nelson Mandela. The Children from Years 1 & 2 came as super heroes for a day. This term Year 1 and 2 learnt about Judaism, its relation to Christianity and some of the beliefs and practices of those who practise the faith. They were fortunate to visit a Jewish Synagogue to find out about their place of worship.

Synagogue Trip

What is happening at St Mark's

Reading program with Archbishop Tenison's School

Every week Year 7 Tenison's pupils come over and read with groups of Year 5 children. The programme is aimed to inspire children, promote a love of reading and create links between St Mark's and a local school.

Pupils share books, read to each other and discuss the meaning of the text to build up their comprehension skills. Year 5 pupils enjoy the programme and speak positivity about the sessions. Initially it was only meant to run for one term but we have decided to continue the sessions due to the enthusiasm and engagement of the children.

Maths Week Cookery

Cooking is always a good excuse to use our Maths! Children measured, weighed and counted using their Maths and enjoyed their cooking.

Some pictures from St Mark's Day

Southbank trip

Year 4 Children took part in a discover music day at the Southbank Centre last week. They performed songs and beat boxed.

Year 5 and 6 Girls' Football Team

Rebeca, Donte, Soriya, Betty, Annia, Anna and Tolu in Year 6 and Djelika in Year 5 have been playing extremely well against other Lambeth School's in a Girl's Football League. So far they have played 4 games and won 3.

Chinese New Year party

This term Year 4 has taken the opportunity to have a party with some Chinese traditions. They also visited China Town during the time of Chinese New Year to experience the sights and sounds associated to this event .

STARS OF THE TERM!

At the end of each term, teachers select 5 children who have demonstrated our school values. So many children across the school demonstrate these qualities daily, but the children below have been identified for Term 3.

	Joyful and Positive	Self control and collaboration	Leadership and Accountability	Effort and Hard Work	Kindness and Compassion
Year 1	Trojit	Mustapha	Sean	Ayden	Eva
Year 2	Mikael	Antony	Comfort	Naliyah	Cassius
Year 3	Emmanuel	Andreas	Nayla	Manuella	Nadia
Year 4	Nicholas	Shyanne	Ronelle	Kelly	Esther
Year 5	Djelika	Deborah	Faith	Tomiwa	Keziah
Year 6	Betty	Noah	Mesha	Ziva	Kimberley
Having a go	Making Links	Trying their best	Being a good friend	Having their own ideas	Being involved
Nursery -Sammy	Eleana	Tasnim	Sofia	Lillian	Junior
Reception– Alicia	John	Ana Clara	Papa	Eli	Cale

St Mark's Day

Children across the school had a great opportunity to work with one another and participate in a range of work experience workshops today as part of St Mark's Day. They took turns to be builders, artists, athletes, jewellery makers, authors, computer coders, musicians, medical staff, scientists, actors/actresses and Nursery teachers.

CATCH IT BIN IT KILL IT

As you will be aware there has been a rising number of cases of Wuhan virus in China as well as a small number reported internationally outside of China. While the risk to the general UK population remains low, Public Health England and the NHS are taking steps to ensure they are prepared in case the situation changes.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours so good hygiene practices, such as regular hands washing (with soap and water) and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

The best way to slow the spread of most germs is to apply the tested NHS **'Catch It, Bin IT, Kill IT'.**

- **Catch IT:** always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze
- **Bin IT:** bin the tissue
- **Kill IT:** wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.

For more information on coronavirus, visit **www.gov.uk/coronavirus.**

What is happening at St Mark's?

SPRING TERM AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Many children are enjoying the fun and interesting clubs that the school is offering. If you have not been able to join this term, be ready for the new clubs starting the Summer term!

Notices

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Please do not block the school's car park entrance with your car when dropping your children in the morning. Also avoid parking on the yellow zig zag lines, as it puts our children at risk when they cross the road. Thank you!

EARLY LEAVING

If you are collecting your child before the end of the school day, please remember to provide proof of appointment or reason for early leaving.
Thank you!