Unique and
Valued by God

The St Mark's News
15th April 2016
Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This has been a fantastic first week back! We started a brand new collective worship theme this Term, which is based on our school vision statement. This week's focus was about being passionate about learning. We heard about Jesus' passion to do God's will and other stories about those who were passionate. Children have started new, exciting themes in class which you will be informed about next week in the class bulletins. We always aim to inspire and extend them in their learning through activities and experiences which will interest and engage. This helps to make learning memorable and inspires a love for learning.

Parent Power!

It was wonderful to be present at Tuesday's Annual General Meeting for the Parent Staff Association, where 'Friends of St Mark's officially came into existence. A constitution was adopted and committee Officers were unanimously elected. These are exciting times, as for the third time this year , nearly 20 parents were present, even though some parents were unable to attend.

Friends of St Mark's (FSM) is primarily about raising money for the school through events and activities.

Elected members are:

Vivien Muhlehann– mother of Ziva in Year 2
Viola Oliv– mother of Thaisa in Year 5
Edinah-mother of Ryan in Year 2
Patience— mother of Nandi in Reception

Please come along to the next planning meeting on Friday 29th April, when ideas and plans will be discussed for this year's school Summer Fair. Please be present as you are all members!

For more details please visit our website.

Some of the parents present on Tuesday

The school Vision Statement

A school where children develop the love for learning; the skills to success and the confidence to take Christian values into our diverse society.

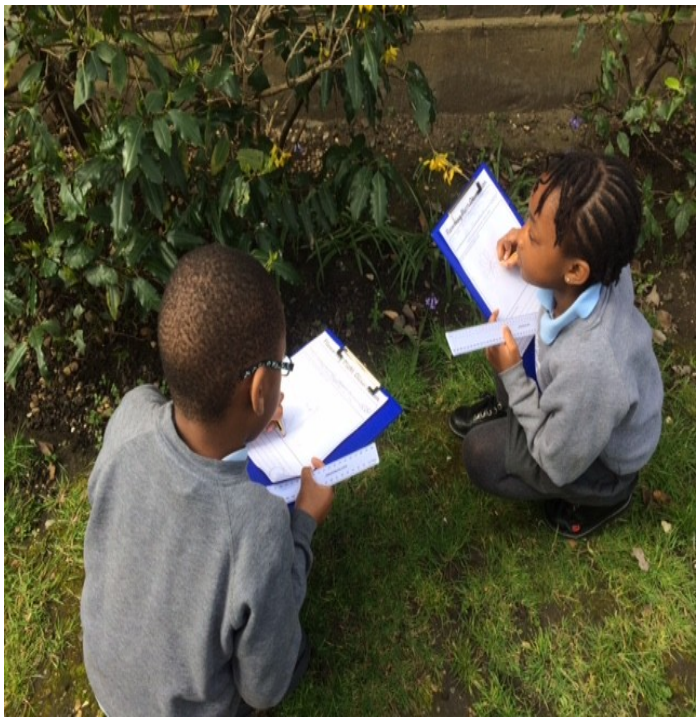
This is our aim for the children of St Mark's when they come to leave the school at the end of Year 6. We will be exploring this more over the coming weeks and linking the themes to related passages from the Bible and the example of Jesus.

Summer Term Dates

Tuesday 19th April – Reception Stay and Play
Friday 22nd April Yr 3 and 4 Tennis competition
Tuesday 26th April– School photographer is in
Wednesday 27th April School photographer is in
Thursday 26th May Parents evening 2.30-7.00– more details to follow
Monday June 6th—Staff Inset day
Tuesday 7th June Children return to school 8.55am
Friday 17-Saturday 18th June– Year 5 Camping Trip to Walhampton School-more details to follow
Monday 27th June Year 6 involved in into University
Tuesday 28th June Year 6 involved in into University
Monday 4th July Maths Week
Monday 4th July– Year 6 involved in cycle training
Tuesday 12th Parents' Evening and reports given out
Wednesday 13th July Sports Day
Thursday 14th July Year 6 End of Year Production
Sunday 17th July Year 6 Leavers' service at St Mark's Church
Tuesday 19th July Awards Ceremony
Thursday 21st Year 6 Leavers' Ball
Friday 22nd July Last day of term 1.30 pm finish

Outdoor Learning

It was very pleasing to see classes fully engaged in outdoor learning throughout the week. As part of their science lessons on plant life Year 2 children spent time exploring the greenery at the front of the school looking for evidence of wildlife. Year 5 children and parents received an exciting letter today about a camping trip later on in the year.



If you have any interest or expertise in gardening please do let us know and help us to develop our outdoor flowerbeds.

Stay and Play morning for Reception

Tuesday 19th April 2016

Reception Parents, please come into the classroom between 9.00-10.00am next Tuesday to observe a phonics lesson and to read, play and have fun with your children. The class have recently started a new them of 'Super Heroes' which they are very excited about. Apologies for the short notice, but we hope many of you will be able to be present for some part of the morning, even if it isn't for the whole hour.

A note from our Newsletter Editors

As newsletter editors, we read the weekly newsletter and edit any errors like incorrect dates and punctuation. We help Mr Ingram send out the correct information. Also we comment on how we should improve the newsletter. When all our work is done we take the Newsletter to Ms Toussaint in the office to see if we have done an amazing job for the school. We give 100%!

Mardiya, Rebecca and Genesis—Year 5

Challenging our children to think more deeply

Last term we introduce computer programming across the school and it was fantastic to see the children in Year 2 fully engaged in higher order thinking skills during their computing lesson.

Each week, children from Year 6 are challenged to solve more complex problems and maths puzzles when they go over to Archbishop Tenison's. They are taught by a Tenison's teacher each Wednesday and thoroughly enjoy the experience.

During the summer term, we hope that more children across St Mark's will have the opportunity to participate to further and deepen their own learning at Tenison's school or through working with children and staff from Tenison's.

Some of the things that we want to achieve during the Summer Term

- To continue to develop strong links with Tenison's
- Whole school spelling focus
- Provide further information for our parents on changes to the assessment process
- To invest in more reading books and provide wider opportunities for children to read
- To provide further opportunities for outdoor learning and maximize the use of the outdoor space
- Run a range of parental workshops to support and involved parents in the learning process
- Further develop teaching and learning through teachers working collaboratively
- To provide pupils with opportunities to work with children in different classes across the school
- To review and update some of the school policies
- To introduce SRE as part of the PSHE curriculum

Website changes

Please go onto the school website

www.stmarkscofeprimarylambeth.co.uk

and find:

School dates

New galleries

Video features

Regular tweets and pictures

Exciting Basketball opportunity

The school have received 70 Free tickets to watch a British league basketball match.

These are actual tickets and NOT vouchers as in previous years so you will be guaranteed seats.

It will be first come first served

so if you are interested:

Please contact Claire Moses, our school Inclusion Manager on:

cmoses@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk