Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

18th June 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 and Governors,

Be aware of what your child is doing online

We are aware that many of our pupils have a mobile phone. An alarming number of them say that they have unrestricted access to all the social media apps, some of them even say that they have followers online who they do not know. In addition, there have been instances where the use of mobile technology has not used appropriately. As such we feel that it is our responsibility to raise this particular issue as a concern. Please be reminded that at St Mark's we are committed to keeping our children safe and to promoting the safe, responsible use of technology. Should you decide to allow your child of any age to have a mobile phone, we strongly advise you to:

- Monitor your child's use and talk to them about safe and appropriate use of mobile / online technology such as not sharing information.
- Speak to children about not posting offensive messages or photos to others or of others.
- Remember that social media platforms have permitted minimum age within their terms and conditions.

We also recommend that all parents visit the CEOP Think U Know website for more information on keeping your child safe online www.thinkuknow.co.uk .

Mrs Claire Moses (Designated Safeguard Lead)

FATHER'S DAY *breakfast*

A big thank you to all the families who joined us for the Father's Day breakfast on Thursday and to the staff who helped to serve the food. We look forward to the time when we can run more family and parental events in the future.

Punctuality

Please make sure that your child is on time for school. Lateness means they miss out on key learning and also disrupt the learning that is taking place within the class. EYFS and KS 1 begin at 8.45 and KS 2 begin at 8.55am. Thank you

Term 6 Class Bulletins

By now you should have received the Term 6 bulletin from your child's class teacher, outlining what children will be learning during the course of the term. It is also available on our school website under your child's year group.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Living well together

BIBLE VERSE

"It is more blessed to give than to receive ."

Acts 20:35

Classes

N -Cedar Class — 87.78%

R- Ebony Class— 96.3%

Yr 1-Juniper Class — 95.83%

Yr 2-Oak Class — 95.45%

Yr 3-Olive Class — 94.87%

Yr 4-Palm Class — 96%

Yr 5-Sycamore Class – 92.11%

Yr 6 - Willow Class – 92.72%

WELL DONE!

You are all doing great!

This week's target is 96%. Remember, that poor attendance not only has an impact on your child's learning, it effects the whole school. Give yourself extra time for travel.

EYFS— Cedar Class—Nursery

This term, we will be learning all about Mini-beasts and life cycles! We will kick-start our learning with a visit to an insect hotel. We will be reading 'Mad about Minibeasts' during carpet sessions, as well as a selection of information books about insects and creepy crawlies!

The sun is shining and it really feels like summer has finally arrived. We will be spending lots of time in the garden searching for mini-beasts.

We only have 2 spaces left in Nursery for September 2021

EYFS— Cedar Class—Reception

Our topic this half term in Reception Class is Life Cycles and Summer. We have explored various living things and the different stages they go through as they grow. During our focus on Summer we will be exploring the environmental changes that take place during this season.

We only have 1 space left in Reception for September 2021

School News

Oak Class—Year 2

The children in Year 2 have begun a whole school project, working on redesigning the murals that are at the front of the school building. They were looking at a few of the trees and how they differ to create observational drawings. Also they were working with ink and oil pastels to create the different textures.

Palm Class—Year 4

The children in Year 4 worked with a local group called Into-University. They learnt about different careers they could do in the future and the skills they would need to do them. They took turns at gaining experience in being fashion designers, archaeologists and architects. They have also made toast during their science lesson this week.

Willow Class Mud Kitchen

We held a "Mud Kitchen Design" competition in year six. The children were told that the mud kitchen had to be user friendly for 2-5 year olds and they must be able to build it themselves. The class spent two sessions designing and editing their mud kitchens before Miss Winter selected a winner. The children then split into groups to build the mud kitchen, using a bow saw, hacksaw, electric drill and screwdriver. They worked tirelessly all day long and finished off by tidying and making the nature garden a safe space for the younger children. A brilliant job all round! Well done, year six!

Notices & News

Summer is here!

We are all enjoying the summer weather but we have to take precautions also. On hot days, please make sure your child has **sun cream protection** applied before school, brings a **water bottle** and also a **hat**.

A reminder that children can wear summer dresses and shorts and that all uniform items should be labelled.

Cleaner Air Day

Thank you for taking part in our survey to find out how children travelled to school on Thursday. Try to walk, cycle or scoot more. Also see the video made by our Eco Team on: https://youtu.be/VJo-xlbhRF0

17 June 2021
CleanAirDay

The school choir restarts

Miss Mullins restarted the school choir in the peace garden this week and it was great to see so many children attending.

It is great to see so many Yr. 5 children from Sycamore Class arriving on time for tuition each Wednesday. Thank you parents for supporting your children to take advantage of this free opportunity.

School Photographs

On **Tuesday 22nd June 2021**, Vancols Photography will be coming in to school to take individual pupil and sibling photographs. It is important that all children arrive at school on time and are in their school uniform. Should it be a day your child has PE, please dress them in uniform and bring their PE kit to school to be changed into.

Unfortunately due to the current restrictions, we will be unable to invite families in to take group and family photographs as we have previously done.

Please contact the office if you have any queries.

St Mark's Termly Dates

Term 6 Dates for 2020/21

Date	Event	details
Monday 7th June 2021	**Term 6 - Children return to school**	**8.55am**
Monday 21st June 2021	Sports Day Years 1 - 6	**POSTPONED DUE TO BAD WEATHER FORECASTED**
Monday 21st June 2021	Art tutor from Van Gogh House working with children across the school	All day. Children will produce work to create a new outdoor mural around the theme of trees
w/c Monday 21st June 2021	End of term assessments begin	
Tuesday 22nd June 2021	Individual and sibling photos	
Friday 25th June 2021	Community Forest School in the St Mark's wildlife garden	9.15-10.15 am – A free event open to parents and children under 3
Monday 28th June 2021	Bikeability YR6	All week
Monday 28th June 2021	Art tutor from Van Gogh House working with children across the school	All day. Children will produce work to create a new outdoor mural
w/c June 28th June 2021	Whole school fundraising event	Details tbc
Friday 2nd June 2021	Community Forest School in the St Mark's wildlife garden	9.15-10.15 am – A free event open to parents and children under 3
Monday 5th July 2021	Reception Stay & Play	New families 9.15-10.15
Monday 5th July 2021	Art tutor from Van Gogh House working with children across the school	All day. Working with children across the school.
Tuesday 6th July 2021	Nursery Stay & Play	New families 9.15-10.15
Tuesday 6th July 2021	Church Service at St Mark's	9.20am Year groups tbc
Wednesday 7th July 2021	Nursery setting visits	New parents All day
Thursday 8th July 2021	Reception Setting visits	New parents All day
Sunday 11th July 2021	**Year 6 Leaver's service at St Mark's Church**	**10 am**
Tuesday 13th July 2021	Early Years Sports Day	10:30 – 11:45am . Further details to be shared
Wednesday 14th July 2021	Virtual Award Ceremony on Google Meet	9:30 am
Friday 16th July 2021	Year 6 Performance	6 – 7pm. Year 6 families only
Monday 19th July 2021	Art tutor from Van Gogh House working with children across the school	All day. Children will produce work to create a new outdoor mural around the theme of trees
Wednesday 21st July 2021	Showcase Afternoon & Reports	3.30-4.45pm Some refreshments available
Thursday 22nd July 2021	**Last day of term** **Non-School Uniform Day**	**School finishes at 1.30pm** **Children pay £1**