Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

18th September 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, Carers, Children, Staff and Governors,

Collecting and Dropping off Children

Firstly, thank you for your support for the school in following our health and safety procedures. On the whole, our one way system and our staggered timings are working well. I would like to remind the whole school community of some matters to ensure that the school environment is as safe as possible.

- Make sure you observe social distancing. Do not gather in close proximity with each other when you are waiting to access or leave the school.
- Please arrive at school on time. Do not arrive at school too early or too late as it causes a lot of disruption. 3.20pm if you are collecting children are in Years 1 and 2, Nursery and Reception. Arrive at 3.30pm if you are collecting children in Years 3-6 or have siblings in Years 3-6. We will begin to issue fines for parents who arrive after 3.35pm
- Please do not wait in or around the school premises. As soon as you have collected your child, please leave the school premises
- Please take full responsibility for your children once you have collected them. Do not leave them unsupervised
- Avoid getting into lengthy conversations with others and school teachers when collecting children. Try to contact them via phone or email.

Welcome to New Nursery and Reception Parents

We would like to give a warm welcome to our new parents to the school. We are very pleased to have you and look forward to you working with us in partnership to make sure that your child's experience is an excellent one. You would usually have far more contact and access to your child's class teacher, but circumstances have made it difficult this year. Please send an email or phone us if you have any questions or queries

DROP OFF/COLLECTION UPDATE— Please follow the usual one-way system, drop-off/collect your child from the Nursery gate by the car park and follow the arrows to leave. Thank you for your co-operation.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Hard Work

BIBLE VERSE

Lazy people want much but get little, but those who work hard will prosper

Proverbs 13:4

Important email addresses

Nursery—Miss Hutchings: rhutchings@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Reception-Miss Stewart kstewart@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 1-Miss Bowerman: jbowerman@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 2– Miss Brockwell: lbrockwell@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 3—Miss Buchanan: obuchanan@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 4– Miss Mullen: hmullen@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 5 - Miss Hankins: ehankins@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Year 6 - Miss Trott: mtrott@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Office— admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Inclusion Manager– Miss Moses: cmoses@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Deputy Head—Mrs Eade: seade@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk
Headteacher—Mr Ingram: headteacher@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk

Please see our email policy on the school website that governs our how we send and respond to emails within the school

Reminders

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We actively encourage families to apply for free school meals, as this will ensure that your child not only receives a free meal but also grants additional support within school through the Pupil Premium funding.

To apply please click here for the form and return to the office. Paper copies are available from the school office.

Birthday Bags and Cake

Please note that until further notice we will not be giving out party bags and birthday cakes from school and the classrooms

PE Kit

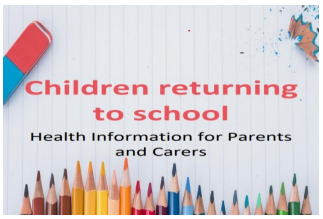
From Monday 28th September, your child can wear their PE kit to school on the days that their class have PE. Please make sure that you have the correct PE kit otherwise this practice which is convenient for parents and the school will be stopped, as it was previously. They will need:

- **Plain navy/black jogging bottoms or blue shorts**
- **A plain white T-shirt**
- **A school jumper**

Covid Queries

We thank you for your wise approach to the health and safety of your own children and the other children within the school. Continue to call the school office if you have any queries relating to your child's health and please refer back to the three documents that we have emailed to you recently about Covid symptoms and when to keep your child at home or send them to school.

The school will use thermometers to measure temperatures of children who aren't feeling well or who are returning back to school after illness.



If your child or anyone in your household is displaying coronavirus symptoms, please do not bring them into school. Inform the school immediately and obtain medical advise.

Google Classroom – our new online learning platform

St Mark's families worked so hard between March –July 2020 to complete online work through our school website. We are moving to a superior learning platform used by many other Primary Schools called Google Classroom. This platform will:

- **Enable our staff to see if children have logged in and completed work**
- **Give staff the opportunity to provide regular feedback to children**
- **Enable children's education to continue in the event that they cannot come to school because of self-isolation or even a future lockdown.**
- **Enable staff to upload videos and provide some live teaching**
- **Enable children to message and communicate with their teachers**

We hope to have this fully up and running by 30th September 2020. Some classes have already started to receive homework using Google Classroom. Official parental guidance on how to login to Google Classroom along with your children's login details will be sent out next week. Please note that if you have a personal Google account, you will need to log out before you log in with your child's account. Google Classroom can be accessed using a computer, laptop, tablet or a phone. If you have problems accessing the class account or if you do not have access to an electronic device, please email Mrs Moses on cmoses@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk **. Further guidance will also be posted onto our school website**

Secondary Transfer Process– information for Year 5 and 6

It was very good to see a number of Year 6 parents during our secondary transfer meeting earlier in the week. Please give plenty of time to think about your choices and selection. Whilst some schools will be holding actual Open day sessions which allow small groups to visit schools, others will provide a virtual open day experience online. Make sure you visit the websites of schools you are interested in. Also the entrance tests that cover entrance into 9 of Lambeth's secondary schools will continue to go ahead, but will be arranged differently this year. Lambeth Local authority will provide further details to schools and parents soon. If you are a Year 5 parent and you would like a copy of the secondary transfer meeting, please email the school office at admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk