Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly News

19th October 2018

'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,

It has been a fantastic term across all areas of the school. Our school Improvement Advisors from Lambeth local authority were very complimentary at the high standards of teaching and learning, pupil progress, leadership and management and the behaviour and positive attitudes of children across all areas of the school. The highlights of the term so far must be the fact that our children now have so much more to do outdoors, through the use of the outdoor learning environment—the school garden, play equipment and outdoor gym. In addition to this, our school Nursery is full to capacity and we have a waiting list for places 2019/20. If you have a child below three years old and you are interested in a place, please obtain an application form for your child and submit it as soon as possible as we want as many siblings as possible to obtain spaces.

Attendance and Punctuality

Our attendance has improved and our rate for the term is 96.50%. Please ensure that your children continue to attend school regularly. Last year, a number of children had up to 4-6 weeks off school through absences. Our assessment data clearly shows that the more regularly children attend school the better they do in Reading, Writing and Maths. Often, children with lower attendance do less well in school. Please remember that school begins at 8.55am., therefore try to arrive at school by 8.50am.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNTUALITY

NUR - 89.57%
REC - 94.12%
Yr 1 - 95.65 %
Yr 2 - 95.20%
Yr 3 - 92.86%
Yr 4 - 97.24%
Yr 5 - 98.47%
Yr 6 - %99.31

WELL DONE

TO THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

YR4, YR5 & YR6

for achieving 96% or above this week

Absences Add Up - Missing just 2 days a month means a child misses 10% of the school year

Value of the Week

Jesus' Qualities—Jesus was inclusive, he accepted children, men, women, rich, poor, disabled, sinners etc

BIBLE VERSE

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Parents are making valuable contributions towards our inspiring school curriculum

The school works hard to develop children's all-round education focusing on science, history, geography, art &DT, Re and music in addition to Reading, Writing and Maths. We are thrilled that so many parents have also contributed to the children learning this past term. Parents have accompanied classes on school trips; sent in vegetables and other food items for the children to sample. Parents have also come into school to speak to classes and children about their experiences; a particular parent organised Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths workshops for the children to participate in and many have volunteered in organising whole school events for the children to enjoy. Many thanks for all that you do to enrich the curriculum. Please continue to support the school in as many ways as possible.

School Maintenance Fund

Parental contributions towards the school maintenance fund enables us to make improvements to the school building and playground. If you have not yet paid the amount of £24.00 per child, please do so as soon as possible. This money will contribute to further school projects that we have in the pipeline to make the school even more enjoyable for your child.

School Faith Committee

We are looking to create a faith team involving parents, governors, staff and pupils, in order to continue to develop our Christian distinctiveness and vision in preparation for our church school inspection that will take place later this year. If you are interested in being involved in this, please speak to Mr Ingram. The team will meet for approximately one hour each term.

Parent Governor

The Governing Body are looking for a parent governor to be involved in the strategic leadership of the school. Further details will follow outlining the key roles and responsibilities, but please do give it some consideration. It will involve you participating in 6 meetings per year and will require some involvement in the life of the school

What's been happening at St Mark's ?

Children in Years 4 and 6 led collective worship on different days this week. The theme for Year 4 was to demonstrate how Jesus valued all types of people and how we must follow His example. Year 6's theme was about issues refugees faced such as: violence, torture, discrimination and separation, and how we can play our part in welcoming people from all walks of life.

Well done to our Year 5 and 6 Cricket Team, who finished third from seven teams at a tournament earlier this week at the Kennington Oval. It is very pleasing to see many of our children taking on leadership roles across the school.

Many thanks for your contributions towards our harvest festival collection. Last week, children in Year 5 took the food to Vauxhall Foodbank to be distributed to those in need of food. Reverend Steve also led a special collective worship assembly at St Mark's during which he showed us a real life chicken and someone made a pancake

Two week's ago, children in Years 4 and 5 participated in STEM workshops across a morning. They made play-dough robots, slime and learned about how we can all care for the environment.

Events to celebrate Black History Month

Monday 15th October—Capoeira Workshops

Dance Da Liberdade were in during the day to showcase their skills, share the background to Capoeira and to work with classes across the school.

Tuesday 16th October—Emmanuel The Magnificent

Many children and parents were able to see Emmanuel The Magnificent perform., with all classes participating in workshops during the day.

Friday 19th October—Cultural Dress Day

Many children and teachers proudly represented the diverse culture of St. Mark's today by dressing in colourful attires whilst helping raise money for charity.

	Term 2 events 2018/19	Details
Monday 29th October 2018	Children return to school	8.55
Wednesday 31st October 2018	Tag Rugby tournament	Woodmansterne 9.30-1.00
Thursday 1st November 2018	Year 6 out at the Migration Museum 11-2pm	Parents needed to support
Friday 2nd November 2018	Year 5 out at the Migration Museum 11-2pm	Parents needed to support
Monday 5th November 2018	Year 3 and 4 trip to the British Museum – Ancient Greek Myths	
Monday 5th November 2018	Year 2 out to London Aquarium	All day. Parent volunteers needed
Tuesday 6th November 2018	Parents Evening 3.00-5.30pm	
Wednesday 7th November 2018	Parents Evening 3.00-5.30pm	
Wednesday 7th November 2018	Tag Rugby tournament	
Wednesday 7th November 2018	Year 5 Leading Collective Worship	9.05 start
Thursday 8th November 2018	Visiting Engineer leading whole school assembly	9.05 Start
Friday 9th November	Remembrance Event and Poetry focus	Special assembly 10.25am Parents invited
w/c Monday 12-16st November 2018	Anti-Bullying Week	
Wednesday 14th November 2018	Anti-bullying workshops across the school	
Thursday 15th November 2018	Final day of shoebox appeal	
Monday 19th November 2018	Year 5 War Horse Workshop	9.15-11.15
Wednesday 21st November 2018	Year 5 seeing War Horse at the National Theatre	1.30pm
Thursday 22nd November 2018	Year 5 and 6 Workshops Growing against gangs workshop	Parent Workshop at 9.00am
Friday 23rd November 2018	Year 1 out at London Aquarium	Parent Volunteers needed
Thursday 29th November 2018	School Gardeners are in	
Monday 10th December 2018	Year 5 and 6 children involved in a chess tournament at Earls Court	
Wednesday 12th December 2018	EYFS Nativity	Held in the school hall for parents at 2.30pm
Friday 14th December 2018	**Christmas Craft Market**	**3.30-4.15pm**
Tuesday 18th December 2018	Whole school Pantomime 2.15pm in the school hall	
Wednesday 19th December 2018	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity	Held in the school hall for parents at 2.30pm
Thursday 20th December 2018	St Mark's Carol Service 9.30am Held at St Mark's Church	Led by Key Stage 2
Thursday 20th December 2018	Class Parties	1:15 onwards in Classrooms
Friday 21st December 2018	**End of Term 2**	**School finishes at 1.30 pm**
Monday 7th January 2019	Inset Day for Staff	
Tuesday 8th January 2019	Children return to school	8.55am
Tuesday 8th January 2019	Maths and Art Week	