Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

1st November 2019

'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 Pupils, Parents, Carers and Governors,

We thank you for the ongoing support that you give to the school and your children's education. The home/school partnership is crucial if children are to make progress across the curriculum and be fully prepared for the next stage in their learning. Attendance across the school for this week's parents' evenings was as follows:

Nursery – 80%; Reception – 92%; Year 1- 80%
Year 2 – 92% Year 3 – 88% Year 4 – 76%
Year 5 – 89% Year 6- 78%

We are aware that some parents were not able to meet this week and appointments have been made for the coming week .

PSA– Friends of St Mark's

Our PSE coffee morning this morning was well attended and we look forward to the work of our Parent Staff Association this year

Once more St Mark's is supporting Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. The shoe-boxes need to be covered in Christmas wrapping paper and contain small everyday items and some gifts suitable for a child to enjoy (check leaflet sent or website for more detailed information www.samaritans-purse.org.uk). Last year we sent over 60 shoeboxes.

The deadline to bring the shoe-box is **Thursday 7th November.**

Value of the Week

School, Vision, Mission and Values: The skills and knowledge to succeed.

BIBLE VERSE

"Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.."
Psalm 119.66

Attendance and Punctuality

Nursery— 91.89%
Reception— 99.29%
Year 1— 90%
Year 2— 96.92%
Year 3— 100%
Year 4— 96.67%
Year 5— 95.17%
Year 6— 93.57%

WELL DONE!

Well done to Reception and Years 2, 3 & 4!

Keep it up!

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

Reading at St Mark's

Reading for Pleasure at St Mark's

At St Mark's **Reading for Pleasure** is encouraged and promoted. **Reading for Pleasure** builds children's confidence, fluency and understanding of text and is closely linked to academic achievement.

Every class has a class novel which is read at the end of the day. Pupils become engrossed in the story and there is opportunity for vocabulary to be discussed and for pupils to ask questions to develop their understanding. Children have commented that they look forward to this time of the day.

Reading at Home

Please encourage your children to read at home daily, even for 10 minutes a day will help develop their reading skills.

Benefits of Reading daily

Children, who read often, become more fluent, enjoy reading more and confidently access the curriculum.

READING OFTEN:

- Exercises the brain, strengths brain connection and builds NEW connections.
- Improves concentration.
- Teaches children about the world around them.
- Improves vocabulary and language skills.
- Develops imagination and creativity
- Helps children to develop empathy.
- Helps children start enjoying reading as they gain confidence.

Visits to Durning Library

Every term classes visit Durning Library in Kennington. A librarian reads a book and the children have the opportunity to take out books.

Visits to the School Library

Weekly visit to our school library continue.

The school has purchased brand new fiction and non-fiction books based on the recommendations from pupils at St Mark's. Library monitors have helped every lunch time to label and organise the new books.

We would like to specially thank Anna, Tolu and Rania in Year 6 for their commitment, enthusiasm and help as school librarians.

Reading is a great way to spend time together

TIPS WHEN READING WITH YOUR CHILD

- Talk about what you have read; discussion develops children's understand and enjoyment.
- Take turns, reading page by page.
- Talk about words and discuss their meaning. Choose the words carefully as you don't want to stop too frequently as this stops the flow of reading.
- Practise reading with expression and to an audience.

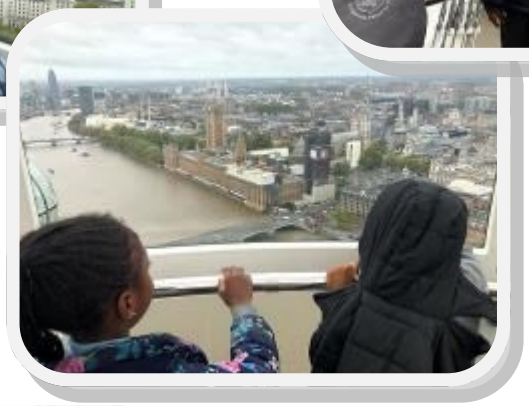
Parent Volunteers

Please speak to Mrs Eade if you are interested in coming into school to read with the children.

We do need your help!

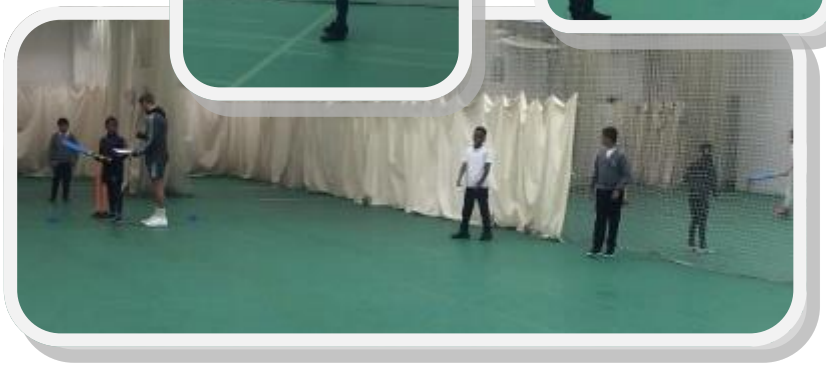
What is happening at St Mark's

Year 2 were lucky enough to go on the London Eye recently! We spotted Big Ben, St Paul's Cathedral and the Shard. We tried hard to see St Mark's but it was a bit too small!



Year 5 visited the Imperial War Museum as part of our topic on World War 2. We saw tanks, bombs, planes and many other real artefacts. We were able to visit two galleries, both the WW2 and the WW1 gallery. The children had a really engaging and interactive time.

Some children in Years 5 & 6 took part in an indoor Cricket Competition at the Oval on Monday. They all had fun and played with a competitive spirit.



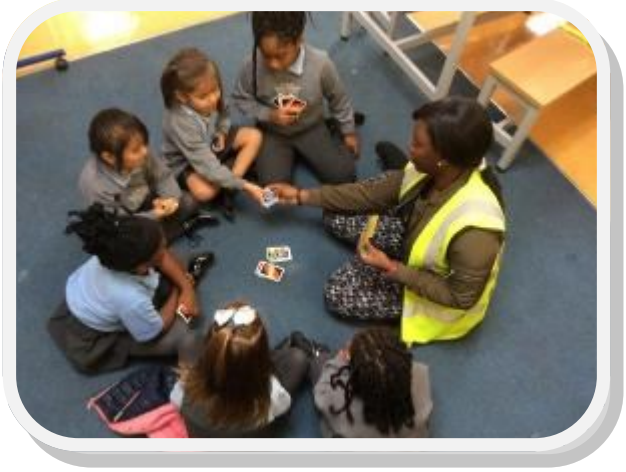
What is happening at St Mark's

Lunchtime Activity clubs

As part of our high quality provision and enrichment at St Mark's we run lunchtime clubs.
Mr Emmanuel runs a sports club every lunchtime and all years groups get to participate. They learn new skills, are encouraged to work as part of a team and have fun. PE monitors support Mr Emmanuel during these sessions and we would like to thank the PE monitors for their commitment and hard work.

Games club give children the opportunity to come together and play a variety of board games, build puzzles and create structures with Lego and K'Nex. At present, the game UNO does seem to be favourite with the Year 1 and 2 children!

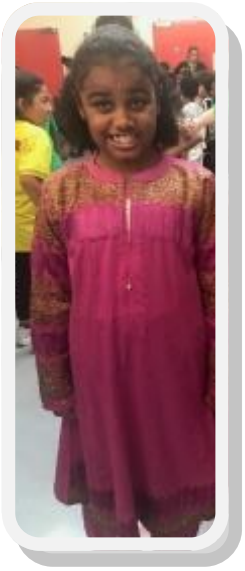
Chess club takes place on a Tuesday lunchtime and Year 5 and 6 are invited to attend. This builds on their knowledge of how to play the game.



What is happening at St Mark's

Year 1 were very lucky to have a boat trip along the River Thames on Wednesday 16th October 2019! We saw buildings such as St. Paul's Cathedral, the London Eye, Tower of London and Tower Bridge. We even got to walk on Tower Bridge, it was very long!

CULTURAL CELEBRATION

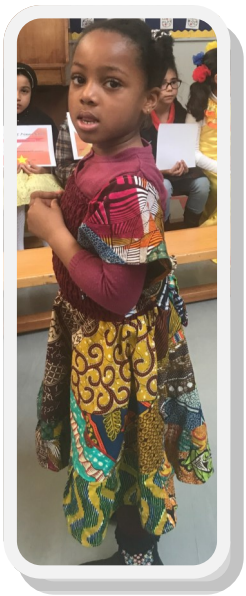


The cultural celebration was enjoyed by all who attended on the last Friday of the term. It was wonderful to see the school community coming together to celebrate our cultural diversity; enjoying food, music and each other's company.

Thank you to all the parents who donated food and drink and who helped at the event. Your generosity was much appreciated.

We would also like to thank the PSA (Parent Staff Association) and the St Mark's staff for their help before and during the event.

More information about the PSA, their role and how you can become more involved is due to follow.



End of Term Certificates

At the end of each half term, we recognise children's achievements across the different headings and the winners for Term 1 are:

	Self-control & Collaboration	Accountability & Leadership	Effort & Hard Work	Being Joyful & Positive	Kindness & Compassion
Year 1	Eleanor	Haris	Sean	Mustafa	Santiago
Year 2	Derek	Vickela	Kiarah	Shyla	Gerard
Year 3	Judith	Luna	Ana-Luiza	Rosa	Jastin
Year 4	Aisha I	Tiago	Ana	Ayden	Shary
Year 5	Ethan	Solange	Kaylee	Maja	Amirah
Year 6	Anna	Rania	Sebastian	Audrey	Bruce

ALLERGY INFORMATION: if your child has an allergy or intolerance please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child.

Autumn Silver Menu 2019

caterlink
feeding the imagination

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Main	Spaghetti Bolognaise	Chicken Sausage in a Hot Dog Roll with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Jamaican Rice with Beef & Beans	Fish Fingers with Oven Baked Chips, Tomato Sauce
02/09/19	Vegetarian	Vegetarian Soya Bolognaise (v)	Quorn Sausage in a Hot Dog Roll with Potato Wedges (v)	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Bean & Vegetable Hotpot with Gravy (v)	Bean and Lentil Burger with Oven Baked Chips (v)
23/09/19	3rd Option	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings	Vegetable Risotto (v)	Lentil and Basil Puff Pastry Turnover with Roast Potatoes	Pasta Arrabiata (v)	Cheese and Pepper Whirl with Roast Potatoes (v)
14/10/19	Vegetables	Broccoli & Carrots	Sweetcorn & Baked Beans	Carrots & Green Beans	Roast Vegetables & Sweetcorn	Garden Peas & Baked Beans
11/11/19	Dessert	Carrot & Courgette Cake with Custard	Wholemeal Plum and Vanilla Crumble with Ice Cream	Banana Sponge with Custard	Apple & Blackberry Cobbler with Custard	Chocolate and Banana Oaty Square
02/12/19						
Week 2	Main	Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Wholemeal Chicken Pizza with Homemade Jacket Wedges	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Jerk Chicken with Rice	Fish in Batter with Oven Baked Chips, Tomato Sauce
09/09/19	Vegetarian	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread (v)	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Homemade Jacket Wedges (v)	Spanish Omelette with New Potatoes (v) VF	Quorn and Vegetable Stir Fry (v)	Vegetable and Leek Pie (Mashed Potato Top) with Gravy (v)
30/09/19	3rd Option	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling(v)	Chickpea Aloo Chat with 50/50 Rice	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Vegetable Fajitas with Rice(v)	Wholemeal Vegetable Pasta Bake (v)
28/10/19	Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Broccoli	Green Cabbage & Carrots	Carrot & Swede Mash & Garden Peas	Roasted Seasonal Vegetables & Broccoli	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
18/11/19	Dessert	Eves Pudding with Custard	Pear and Chocolate Crumble with Custard	Apple & Raisin Flapjack	Mandarin & Cinnamon Upside Down Cake with Custard	Berry and Apple Pie with Ice Cream
09/12/19						
Week 3	Main	Chilli Con Carne with Rice	Chicken & Leek Pie with Creamed Potatoes and Gravy	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Lamb Meatballs with Spaghetti	Fish Fingers/ Salmon fish Fingers with Oven Baked Chips, Tomato Sauce
16/09/19	Vegetarian	Vegetable Soya Chilli with Rice (v)	Creamy Vegetable Pie with Creamed Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Vegetable Cottage Pie with Gravy(v)	Quorn & Bean Veggie Balls with Spaghetti (v)	Red Pepper and Cheese Frittata with Oven Baked Chips (v)
07/10/19	3rd Option	Macaroni Cheese (v)	Jacket Potato with Choice of filling	Wholemeal Pasta Neapolitan with Spinach	Jacket Potato with Choice of filling	Mixed Bean and Cassoulet with Rice
04/11/19	Vegetables	Carrots & Broccoli	Sweetcorn & Baked Beans	Cabbage & Carrots	Green Beans & Carrots	Garden Peas & Baked Beans
25/11/19	Dessert	Sticky Toffee Apple Crumble with Custard	Feathered Iced Marble Sponge	Pineapple Upside Down Cake with Custard	Chocolate and Beetroot Brownie with Ice Cream	Jam Sponge with Custard
16/12/19						

Available Daily
Bread freshly baked on site daily
Daily salad selection
Fresh fruit and yoghurt