Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly News

20th April 2018

'A school where children develop the passion to learn, the skills to succeed and the confidence to take Christian values into our diverse society.'

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Governors,

Welcome back to Term 5,

The time has gone so quickly this year and we are already in the final term of school—the summer term. Next week your child's class teacher will provide you with a class bulletin, outlining what the children will be learning this term.

Please read through the newsletter carefully, as it includes key messages about attendance and punctuality, contains updates on Nursery and Reception; provides key diary dates for the Summer Term and provides a reminder of after school clubs.

During the Spring Term, Lambeth local authority visited the school to review our standards across the school and their findings are as follows:

- Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment **GOOD**
- Effectiveness of Leadership and Management **GOOD**
- Outcomes for Pupil **GOOD**
- Personal development, behaviour and welfare **GOOD**
- Effectiveness of the Early Years **GOOD**
- Provision for Pupil Premium children **GOOD**

We are fully committed and working hard across the school to making further progress in all areas.

It was great to see nearly twenty parents present on Wednesday for our most recent parent workshop on how to support children with maths calculating. Each parent received a calculations policy which outlines how we teach maths in different year groups across the school . If you would like one of these, please speak to Miss Hankins our Year 2 teacher and Maths subject leader

Value of the Week

Always try your best; use kind words and actions show respect to everyone and to school property; Be safe; take responsibility

BIBLE VERSE

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you

Luke 6:31

ATTENDANCE AND PUNTUALITY

NUR -	87.66
REC -	100 %
Yr 1 -	93.85
Yr 2 -	96.3
Yr 3 -	90.67
Yr 4 -	97.93
Yr 5 -	99.29
Yr 6 -	95.17

WELL DONE

TO THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

RECEPTION , YR2, YR4, YR5

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

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Please read carefully

It was very pleasing to be able to award 100% attendance badges and certificates to 66 children across the school for their attendance during the Spring Term. This means nearly 1 child in every 3 had attendance levels of 100%. There were 4 children in Nursery; 9 in Reception; 7 children in Year 1; 10 children in Year 2; 12 children in Year 3; 6 children in Year 4; 9 children in Year 5 and 9 children in Year 6.

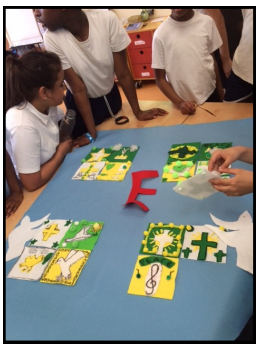
Unfortunately the school attendance percentage from September 2017 to March 2018 is 94.62, which is far lower than our usual attendance level of 96.2%. This is due to a small number of children who are classified as persistent absentees (having attendance which is below 90%). Our recent low levels of attendance have already alerted the local authority and as a result we will be adapting our attendance policy. Please see a summary below:

- The law requires school aged children to attend school regularly
- Parents need to notify the school of their child's absence before the start of the day in person, via phone or though a note
- Children must provide a medical note if their child requires more than two days' absence
- Any child arriving after 9.30am will be recorded as unauthorised for the morning
- School's are required by the local authority to report any child whose attendance is below 90%.
- Children with less than 85% attendance may receive a fixed penalty notice of £60 or a court order with a fine of up to £450 by the local authority
- Absences from school are authorised for real illness, exceptional family circumstances and educational visits with permission granted from the headteacher
- Absences will be unauthorised for failure to provide an adequate explanation for an absence and family holidays
- Holidays taken during term time could result in a fixed penalty fine of up to £120

Our full policy will be available on our website from next Monday

RE WEEK

During the week before the Easter holiday, the school celebrated RE Week during which Easter activities took place. Classes learnt more about the Easter story from the Bible; Year 4 performed presented the Easter Story in St Mark's Church and classes across the school created banners to celebrate and showcase our Christian values.



Preparing for the summer

It has been great to finally have some sunshine. Please can I remind you about requirements for the summer to ensure children remain healthy and cool.

SUMMER UNIFORM

Girls Uniform; Girls can wear Blue & White checked Summer Dresses, / short sleeved blue shirt with skirts or shorts, Socks & Shoes

Boys Uniform: Blue Polo Shirt and Shorts, Socks and Shoes

PLENTY OF WATER

Please ensure that your child remembers their water bottle to fill up throughout the day. Children need to be kept hydrated during hot days.

Children are also advised to bring sunhats and sun cream

The school office can only assist children with PRESCRIBED medication and not over the counter Hay fever medication, cough mixture, eye-drops etc. Please call into the office for a medication permission form. Where needed, parents are advised to apply sun cream before children come to school.

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING THIS WEEK…?

We raised money for Sport Relief through fun games and activities

Year 5 worked with the school gardeners and the gardening monitors started their new job of making a wormery to make compost for plants growing in the garden.

Parents involved in the maths workshop. Please inform Mrs Eade, our Deputy, or a member of the school office about any other parent workshops that you would find beneficial

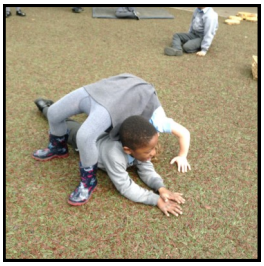
Message from Friends of St Mark's

On Wednesday 25th April after drop-off at 9.00am there will be a meeting in the school hall to discuss and begin planning for the school Summer Fair on **Saturday 7th July**. Please can as many existing FOSM members and new parents to the school come along to help us to prepare another fantastic event.

Many thanks, Vivan Muhlemann (chair and mother of Ziva in Year 4)

An Update on our Early Years

Our Early Years setting continues to go from strength to strength. We now have all-weather surfaces both in the front and back outdoor spaces and additional resources have been purchased for the children. The children are currently learning about pirates and lots of exciting learning is taking place. They were also given some tadpoles from the school pond yesterday and will be watching how they grow during the next few weeks. Next week Nursery will be starting Forest School and later in the summer term the children will be hatching chicks from eggs!



Congratulation for out stars of Term 4

At the end of each term, teachers select 3 children who have demonstrated excellent achievement in learning, excellent effort in their commitment to their work and excellent collaboration in the way they have worked with others. So many children across the school demonstrate these qualities but the children below who have been identified for **Term 4** are:

Year 1— Manuela, Sean and Gabriel

Year 2– Mesgana, Nyameka, Kailin

Year 3– Solonge, Valeria, Vivian

Year 4– Sara, Tolu and Rebecca

Year 5– Maria-Clara, Felipe and Norissa

Year 6—Chrisean, Daniel, Pierreice

Diary Dates for Term 5

Monday 16th April	**Beginning of Term 5**	**School starts at 8.55am Sharp**
Wednesday 18th April 2018	**Maths Parent Workshop**	**9am—10am** **In School Hall**
W/C 23rd April 2018	**MATHS WEEK**	
Monday 23rd April 2018	**Beginning of After School Clubs**	**3.30pm—4.30pm *4.45pm** *** Taekwondo**
Monday 30th April 2018	**School Photographers** **CLASS GROUP PICTURES**	**9.00am**
Monday 7th May 2018	**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**	**SCHOOL CLOSED**
Monday 14th May 2018	**SATS Week**	
Tuesday 15th May 2018	**Guy's & St Thomas'** **VISION SCREENING**	**RECEPTION CLASS**
Friday 18th May 2018	**Yr 5/ 6 Mixed Football Tournament**	**10am-2pm Ferndale Leisure Centre**
Friday 25th May 2018	**End of Term 5**	**School ends at 3.30pm**
Monday 4th June 2018	**Beginning of Term 5**	**School Starts 8.55am Sharp**
Tuesday 12th June 2018	**Yr6Into University transition Work-shop**	
Friday 15th June 2018	**Father's Day Breakfast**	
Monday 18th June 2018	**Yr 5/6 Bikability Cycle Confidence**	**All Week**
Wednesday 20th June 2018	**Yr6 Leavers Service at Southwark Cathedral**	**10am**
Monday 25th June 2018	**Yr6 First Aid Workshop**	
Tuesday 26th June 2018	**School Photographers**	**Individuals & Siblings**
Monday 2nd July 2018	**Maths Specialist Visiting St Marks and doing workshop**	**All Day**

Super Cool Clubs

Exciting After School Clubs in SUMMER TERM 2018

Super Cool Clubs

SIGN UP DAYS FOR SUMMER CLUBS

Summer Term After School Clubs are starting next week so its that time again for you to choose your favourite clubs and enjoy **10 weeks** of fun with your friends. There are still some places available, Please speak to Ms Bee for more details.

- **DRAMA**
- **MULTISPORTS**
- **ART**
- **COMPUTER SCIENCE**
- **TAEKWON-DO**
- **JEWELLERY MAKING**
- **GYMNASTICS**
- **CHOIR**
- **FOOD SCIENCE**
- **GIRLS FOOTBALL**
- **HOMEWORK**
- **FOOTBALL**
- **DODGEBALL**
- **TEXTILES**

Please Note:

CLUBS WITH LOW UPTAKE WILL BE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION.

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

Please look at organisations' websites to double check times and arrangements

Family Digital Workshops - British Museum

44 Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG / 020 7323 8000 / www.britishmuseum.org

Nearest tube: Holborn/Russell Square

Sat 21st Apr & **Sun 22nd Apr** FREE

Sat 21st Apr 11.00am, Fun Family Photos – Come to the Great Court to become a sailor on a galleon, a siren from the sea or a jockey on horseback. Use green screen technology skills to create a picture of your family interacting with some of the Museum's fascinating objects, FREE, just drop in Age 5+

Sun 22nd Apr, 11am, 1pm & 3 pm The Stories of Krishna - Discover the many avatars of the Hindu god Kirshna and develop computing coding skills to make characters move & play. FREE but limited (sign up on the day) Age 7+

Pop-Up Performance & Hands On Discovery: V&A Museum

Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL / 020 7942 2000/ www.vam.ac.uk

Nearest tube: South Kensington

Sat 21st Apr, 11am- 3.30pm (30 minute performances throughout the day) / FREE (All Ages)

Come along for interactive pop-up performance for families in the Museum including theatres, music, dance, storytelling and puppetry.

Sun 22nd Apr, 10.00am – 5.45pm FREE (Ages 3+) Dance with a Venetian Harelquin, draw your own silver trophy, try on a medieval gauntlet or fabulous corset. From digital interactives to touch objects, there is lots to do, make, try on and find in the galleries

Shaping Spaces - National Gallery

National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, WC2N 5DN / 020 7747 2885 / www.nationalgallery.org.uk

Nearest tube: Charing Cross

Sun 22nd Apr, 11am – 1pm & 2pm – 4pm FREE (Age 5-11)

FREE but tickets limited and allocated on first come first served basis

Free hands-on art workshops and drawing sessions

The Sunday Spot - South London Gallery

65-67 Peckham Road, SE5 8UH / 020 7703 6120 / www.southlondongallery.org

Buses: 345

Sun 22nd Apr, 2pm-4pm FREE, drop in (Ages 3-12yrs) Clore Studio

Come along and explore a new sense each week with artist Nicole Morris. Through drawing, performance and sculpture participants can try out new ways to touch, move, taste and hear the world around them

Board Games Club – Tate South Lambeth Library

Sat 21st Apr / FREE (8-13yrs), 2.30 – 4.00pm

180 South Lambeth Rd, SW18 1QP / 020 7926 6050

Like to play board games or you'd like to learn? All levels welcome. Games include Chess, Draughts, Scrabble, Monopoly and Battleships

'La Escuela' film launch & screening at Gasworks Arts

155 Vauxhall Street SE11 5RH www.gasworks.org.uk 020 7587 5202

Sat 21st Apr & Sun 22nd April 12.00 – 6.00pm / FREE (all ages)

Women from London Latin America Women's groups and Vauxhall Spanish-speaking school worked with artist-in-residence Seth Pimlott to create a film about their lives and culture - La Escuela.

Screenings of the film are shown at the Gasworks arts space between 12.00 – 6.00pm