Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Newsletter

20th November 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,

At the moment we are not allowing physical school tours of the school, so in order to provide prospective families with an idea of the school, we have created a virtual school tour. Please have look on the school website or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwSDfuOV9K0

Reception Admissions for 2020-21

If you have a child in Nursery, please be aware that it is not an automatic process to gain a place in Reception for September 2021. You will need to follow the Reception application process following this link https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/ . Click here for more guidance

Please speak to the school office or Headteacher if you would like further details. The application deadline is 15th January 2021.

Nativity Plays and school performances

Our school Nativity plays, carol concerts and music performances will be recorded and sent through to you this year. See the back page to find out when they will be available.

Covid Update

Many thanks again for supporting our measures of wearing a face mask on site, keeping your distance whilst in the line and arriving at the correct time at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you also for not waiting in the school playground to collect children and for not bringing your secondary children onto the school premises.

New Classroom Names

Nursery

Cedar Class

Reception

Ebony Class

Year 1

Juniper Class

Year 2

Oak Class

Year 3

Olive Class

Year 4

Palm Class

Year 5

Sycamore Class

Year 6

Willow Class

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Anti-Bullying and Managing Anxiety

BIBLE VERSE

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Philippians 4:6

Attendance Update

Nursery — 96.44%
Reception — 98.26%
Year 1— 98.62%
Year 2— 96.11%
Year 3— 95.4%
Year 4— 98.15%
Year 5— 92.11%
Year 6— 92.28%

WELL DONE!

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 2 and 4

Overall Attendance: 95.72%

This has been a fantastic week with so many classes achieving the school target of 96% attendance and above. Well done and keep up the good work.

OUTDOOR LEARNING AT ST MARK'S

We are pleased that each week all classes across the school have the opportunity to take part in outdoor learning. Some of the benefits of outdoor learning are that children …

- develop self esteem, take personal responsibility, co-operate with and respect the needs of others;
- extend their personal horizons through greater appreciation and understanding of the world and its people around them;
- understand the need for sustainable relationships between people and their environment;
- enhance practical problem solving and team work skills.
- promote a positive and knowledgeable response towards personal health and well-being

Cedar Tree

- Cedar trees produce cones, similar to the pine cones that we can find in the school garden.
- They are evergreen, which means that they do not lose all of their leaves at once.
- They were originally found in the Himalaya's and the Mediterranean, high above sea level.
- They can grow to be 30-40 meters tall!
- Their wood smells spicy

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; Yes, the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. Psalm 29:5

School News

At Lambeth we are passionate about the difference that foster care makes to the lives of children and young people in care. Foster carers doesn't just transform the lives of the young people who are fostered, they also have the power to change their own lives, that of, their families and all those who are involved in fostering.

To become a Lambeth foster carer, there are only a few basic criteria you must meet. You must:

- be over 21 years old
- have a spare bedroom
- be a full-time resident in the UK or have indefinite leave to remain
- have good spoken and written English

You don't have to own your own home and we welcome couples or individuals from every walk of life. Your fostering journey could take between 2 – 4 months to progress, following the steps below:

Step 1: Make an enquiry
Step 2: We'll do your assessment
Step 3: You'll attend our fostering panel
Step 4: You become a foster carer

We are proud of our caring fostering community here in Lambeth who want to make a positive contribution to children. If you have ever considered fostering or know someone who you think might be interested, this is the best time as we are improving our package of practical and financial support to all our foster carers.

To find out more about fostering, join our live online information event at on **Thursday 19 November at 7pm.**

Put your questions to our experienced team and meet other carers who'll be there to talk about their experience. Reserve your place here.

For more information contact our dedicated team:

- https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/fostering
- fosteringduty@lambeth.gov.uk
- 020 7926 8710

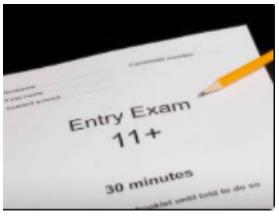
To find out more about fostering, please join our live online information event on Thursday 19 November at 7pm. Live Q & A to follow – See you then!

School Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be on **Friday 11th December 2020** which is the same day as the Christmas Jumper Day. Please ensure that you **complete the meal request form by Wednesday 25th December** to ensure a meal is ordered for your child

Year 6 Admission Tests

If you have applied for your child to go to a secondary school in the borough of Westminster, we will be allowing them to sit the entrance test next week within school. This is to help the Council complete these test safely without the need for the children to attend the different schools in large groups.



Please contact the office if you have any queries

School Updates

Anti-Bullying Week

As parents and carers, we all want our children to be happy and safe and it is natural to worry about bullying - particularly if we have experienced bullying ourselves, or we think our child may be more vulnerable to bullying. This week is anti-bullying week and the theme is United Against Bullying. It is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on bullying and consider the steps we can take together to stop it.

On Monday 16th November, we had 'Odd Socks' day . It was an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! However, there was a serious message on uniting against bullying. The theme will be further explored and discussed in each year group through PSHE and reflective whole school assemblies. Mrs Moses

KEY SCHOOL DATES	
DATE	**DETAILS**
Fri 27th Nov 2020	**Inset Day—School closed for Pupils**
Mon 30th Nov 2020	**Flu Vaccinations**
Friday 11th Dec 2020	**EY Nativity performance available from today**
Friday 11th Dec 2020	**School Christmas Lunch**
Friday 11th Dec 2020	**Christmas Jumper Day**
Friday 11th Dec 2020	**Shoe boxes to be collected (This is a new date sent through from Operation Christmas Child)**
Wednesday 16th Dec 2020	**KS 1 Nativity Performance available from today**
Thu 17th Dec 2020	**St Mark's Carol Service—This will be a virtual event this year**
Thursday 17th Dec 2020	**Year 5 and 6 Strings performance available from today**
Thu 17th Dec 2020	**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**
Mon 4th Jan 2021	**Inset Day—School closed for Pupils**
Tue 5th Jan 2021	**Children return to school**