Unique and
Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

24th November 2016

'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 and Carers,

It has been another busy fortnight here at St Mark's with lots going on and the children, as usual, participating in a range of exciting learning experiences.

We just want to remind you that the school will be **CLOSED** on Friday 25th November due to a staff training Day. We also want to make you aware of two important dates in December. Our Christmas market on **16th December** will be before and after school and we would like you to bake cakes for your child's class to sell after school.

In addition to this, the Key Stage 2 Carol Service is now going to be held on **Monday 19th December at 10.25am and 6.00pm**. Please come along to see your children perform during this important event.

KEY DATES

25th Nov SCHOOL INSET DAY (school closed)
28th Nov—2nd Dec last week for After School Clubs
1st Dec Flu Immunisations for Year 1, 2 and 3
8th Dec Christmas Lunch for Whole School
9th Dec YR 4 Visit to RAF Museum all day
12th Dec YR 5 Chess Tournament
14th Dec Key Stage 1 Nativity 2:30pm in the hall
16th Dec YR 3 Greek Banquet
16th Dec Christmas Market 8:30—9:30am & 3.30-4.15pm
19th Dec KS 2 Carol Service 10.25 am and 6.00pm
20th Dec Class Christmas Parties
21st Dec Last Day of Term 1:30pm Finish
3rd Jan SCHOOL INSET DAY School Closed
4th Jan Children Return back to school

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council are eager to make further improvements to their school and have already started planning how to do this during their weekly meetings.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our collective worship theme for this term, before we move onto Christmas, is the 'I am sayings of Jesus.' Our prayer monitors led collective worship last week with Caroline from St Mark's Church based on 'I am the Way,' and this week, Reverend Steve (with a little help from the children) focused on 'I am the Vine.'

Theme of the week: Jesus said: 'I am the Vine'

Bible Verse: I am the Vine and you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

What has Been Happening at St Mark's?

PARENTS COFFEE MORNING

It was great to see so many parents present during last Friday's coffee morning. Research shows that parental involvement within the school has a positive impact on children's outcomes whilst at school. Please see how you can become further involved within our school PSA.

Year 1 PIRATE DAY

Well done to Year 1 parents and children for fully embracing our Pirate Day last Wednesday. The children had a great Day.

RECEPTION LEARNING

Great learning experiences are taking place across Early Years.

School Stomp

Many thanks to all parents who joined us on our School Stomp around Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens to help to raise awareness of world poverty. We managed to raise a fantastic £160.00. The money raised will make a huge difference to those who struggle for health.

St Mark's Cricket Team

Well done to our Yr 5 and 6 cricket team, who finished third in a cricket tournament at the Kia Oval on Monday. They won two matches and lost two matches.

Good Gym Visit to St Mark's

Last Wednesday evening, 20 joggers from Good Gym jogged to St Mark's and kindly painted the fence of our pizza garden. We are very grateful to them for helping us to develop this important part of our school.

FRIENDS OF ST MARK'S

Hi everyone, on behalf of all the members of our organisation, I would like to be the first to welcome all new parents to our lovely school.

St Mark's C of E Primary School is like no other where we, as involved parents, unite to make a difference within our school community. I have already spoken to some of you about Friends Of St Marks (FOSM), the current PSA, formed last year.

So far, we have been involved in the organisation of the Valentine's Dance, Talent show, a fantastic Summer Fair and more recently, the Cultural Day. These and other planned events raise a lot of money for the school and we would like to do more with your help. We hold regular PSA meetings at the school, details of which are usually advertised in the school newsletter or directly informed to members. We are stronger together and can do fantastic work together. We hope to see you all there.

Vivian Muhlemann Parent (Co-Chair Of FOSM)

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