Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

25th February 2022

'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, Staff, Governors and Friends of St Mark's

Our outstanding Curriculum offer

Welcome to Term 4 ! Children and staff got straight back into things this week after the half term break. Already many teachers have planned fun and memorable learning experiences and opportunities for the children that are linked to their Term 4 topic. Class bulletins will be sent out next week, so please further extend the children's learning through visits and home learning linked to what they are learning in school.

Covid updates

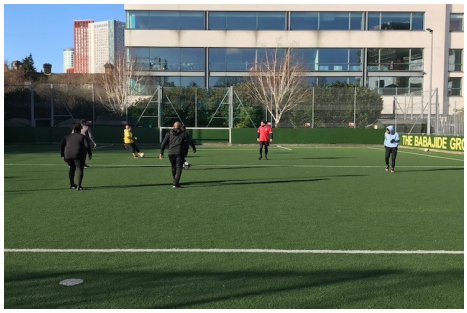
If you have been confused by where you stand in relation to Covid, please see the summary on page 3 sent from Lambeth Council. This helpful table summarises the main changes in relation to Covid and states what the current guidance is.

Parents' Evening

Thank you for attending our most recent parents' evening, where you received your child's targets; had the opportunity to speak to your child's teacher about their progress and see their books and their classroom. If you were unable to make your meeting, please speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

St Mark's United!

A big thank you to parents who attended our first Parents & Staff 5-a-side football match at short notice this morning. It was a good workout for everyone; everyone had fun and we finished off the morning with a nice breakfast! We are thankful to Lilian Baylis secondary school for allowing us to use their football pitch. We hope to make this a monthly event with the next date on **Friday 1st April 2022**. See if you can join us.



VALUE OF THE WEEK

Flourishing families

BIBLE VERSE

"If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together ."

1 Corinthians 12:26

Attendance and Punctuality

N -	92.28%	3—98.48%
R -	92.28%	4 - 96.71%
1 -	94.3%	5— 92.93%
2 -	94.69%	6— 95.47%

Overall Attendance—94.22%

There are still too many children arriving late to school. Please ensure you give yourself extra time for travel

A big welcome to Miss Trinitie Goodridge who will be working with children across the school as our new Health Mentor and Ms Fran Byrne our new Year 1 Teacher

Trial of Fruity Fridays

Children have fed back to the school council their desire to have a school tuckshop, so we are going to trial 'Fruity Fridays.' Each Friday, starting next week, children can bring 30p into school to buy a piece of fruit in the playground, sold by members of the school council. This is mainly for the KS 2 children, as children in EYFS and KS 1 already receive daily fruit.

Comic Relief 2022

Again this year, we will be dressing up in red on Friday 18th March 2022 to raise money for this charity

Our fundraising efforts for the Christmas Jumper Day were poor, with lots of children not bringing in £1. Let's do our best to hand over a cheque of around £200 for this charity collection, as we have done in the past.

World Book Day Thursday 3rd March 2022

Children and staff, get your costumes ready this weekend!

We have got lots of fun activities planned to celebrate World Book Day. If you have an old costume that you would like to donate to the school, please bring it to the school office on Monday and we will sell it on to those who want to buy one at a reduced price. The pictures below are from previous World Book Days.

Covid Update

The following guidance has been provided by the local authority to provide clarity for pupils, parents and staff on Covid related queries and questions.

Changes for educational settings in the living with Covid guidance.
Main guidance to be published on 24/02/22

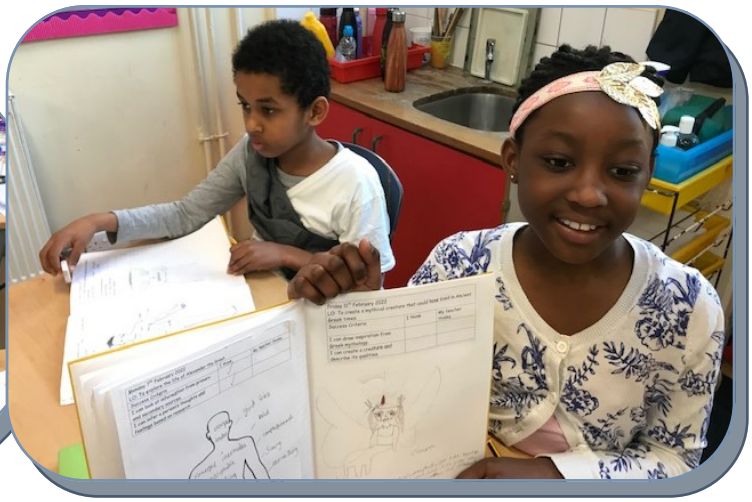
Testing for most schools	• no longer recommending regular testing for pupils and staff without symptoms
Testing for SEND schools	• Regular testing is still advised for specialist special educational needs and disability (SEND) settings, alternative provision, and SEND units in mainstream schools or the equivalent in colleges
Self-isolation following positive test	• End to the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. • Advice: Adults and children continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days or 10 days has elapsed
Contacts	• no longer asking fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days and routine contact tracing will end • Unvaccinated contacts no longer asked to self-isolate
Symptomatic individuals including staff and pupils	• If a child has any of the main symptoms or a positive test result, the public health advice remains unchanged and is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people • Anyone with any of the main COVID-19 symptoms should order a test and is advised to stay at home while waiting for the result
Prevention of spread in schools	• Ventilation with CO2 monitors • Vaccination • Hygiene measures
Main guidance	The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) will publish updated guidance on 24 February

Our outstanding St Mark's Curriculum

Olive class

Before half term, Year 3 children had Ancient China Day. They made Chinese cookies, paper dragons (with dancing included) and made clay plates and decorated them with Chinese willow patterns. As a treat children got fortune cookies! An amazing day!

Our Outstanding St Mark's Curriculum



Palm class

Year 4 had Ancient Greece Day to finish off their topic for the term. They dressed as Ancient Greeks, read Greek myths, created their own mythical creatures, made laurel wreaths and baked Greek butter cookies! What a busy day!

Willow Class

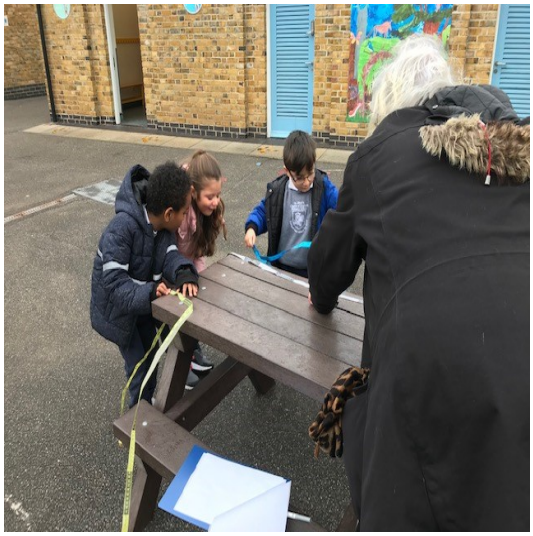
Clay Sculptures of Benin Masks

The children made their own versions of Benin Masks based on the designs they learnt about in Art lessons during the term

Our Outstanding St Mark's Curriculum

Cedar Class

Cedar Class bake every Thursday and kindly drop off a sample to Mr Ingram's office every Thursday afternoon. It is always delicious!



Juniper Class

Juniper Class had a maths lesson in the playground this week and measured different objects using tape measures. They have also begun to measure themselves as part of their work on measurement.

Term 3 Star of the term winners

TERM 3	Joyful and Positive	Self control and collaboration	Leadership and Accountability	Effort and Hard Work	Kindness and Compassion
Juniper Class	Tasnim	Christiana	Lewi	Zayn	Cerrone
Oak Class	Cale	John	Lisa	Acacia	Nathan
Olive Class	Madeleine	Erick	Trojit	David	Victoria
Palm Class	Kaiqi	Triomphe	Juanita	Erica	Jonathan
Sycamore Class	Nila C	Hamza	Miguel	Nyhla	Jastin
Willow Class	Ana	Miley	Nicholas	Jayden	Ahinoa
	Making Links	**Having a go**	**Being a good friend**	**Having their own ideas**	**Being involved**
Cedar Class	Abdias	Anthony	Santi	Isai	Jace
Ebony Class	Malachi	Yohannes	Brenda	Kamia and Kashay	Joseph

Safer Internet

Internet Safety

Last term our focus has been:

Digital Flourishing

Classes have learnt:

- How to be safe online
- To report any bullying online
- Age restrictions for social media
- Online friendship and the responsibility to manage our emotions
- The advantages and disadvantages of the internet
- The importance of making wise judgements when online
- How to avoid temptation and distraction
- Taking care what and who we listen to (Fake News).

Internet Safety Tips:

SMART

S is for **safe**- Never give your personal information to people that you do not know.

M is for **meet**- Never arrange to meet with strangers.

A is for **accepting-** Never accept emails or messages from people that you do not know as they might contain a virus.

R is for **reliable-** Not everything that you read on the internet is true.

T is for **tell-** If anything upsets you on the internet always tell a trusted adult.

Term 4 Diary Dates

Tuesday 22nd February 2022	School photographs	Individual photographs and siblings
Friday 25th Feb 2022	Parents' Football and breakfast At Black Prince Road Trust	9.00- 10.30am
Monday 28th February 2022	Parent Workshop online safety and social media	In the school hall 9-10.15am
1st March 2022	Secondary School Offer Day	
Thursday 3rd March 2022	World Book Day	Children and Adults can dress up as their favourite book characters
Friday 4th March 2022	Year 5 and 6 Basketball Tournament	
Tuesday 8th March 2022	Visit of police liaison officer to speak to Year 6 pupils about online safety	
Wednesday 9th March 2022	Year 3 visit to the chocolate factory	Parent volunteers needed
Thursday 17th March	Year 2 visit to Kew Gardens	Parent volunteers needed
Friday 18th March 2022	Red Nose Day. This is a fundraising activity and we would like all children to bring in £1 to raise	Children can wear red to school and participate in Sports Challenges
Wednesday 23d March 2022	Reception Class visit to Vauxhall City Farm	tbc
Wednesday 23rd March 2022	Musictrax Violin/Cello Concert	2.50pm
Thursday 24th March 2022	Year 3 and 4 Recorder Concert	2.50pm
Friday 25th March 2022	Mothers' Day Breakfast	tbc
w/c 28th March 2022	RE Week	Week of RE activities leading up to Easter
Monday 28th March 2022	Nursery visit to the Natural History Museum	tbc Parents Needed
Thursday 31st March 2022	Church Service at St Mark's Church	
Friday 1st April 2022	Last day of Spring Term	Children finish at 1.30pm
Tuesday 19th April 2022	Children return to school	

GAV
Growing Against Violence

Growing Against Violence (GAV) provides evidence-based public health and public safety education and training.

ONLINE SAFETY/SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

MONDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

9AM—10.15AM