Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly News

25th May 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,

So many exciting learning opportunities have taken place across the whole school during the past six weeks. During the past two weeks alone, all classes in key stages 1 and 2 have visited Durning Library; children in **Years 3** and **4** visited the Chocolate Museum in Brixton and made their own chocolate as part of their topic on chocolate; the school gardeners planted some plants with children in **Year 6** and children in **Year 2** and **Year 6** have participated in their SATs tests. Our school library has inspired children's love of reading. Please continue to read with your child or if they are fluent readers, encourage them to read every night to help them to develop their reading skills and reading comprehension. Please visit your local library also.

Attendance and Punctuality

A huge well done for a significant improvement in school punctuality. Our attendance rate for the past two weeks has been over **98%.** Sadly it has been necessarily to send out some letters to parents whose children are persistently late and to those with attendance levels of under **90%** this year. Local authority fines will need to be issued unless there is an improvement. Just a note to all parents – **please avoid returning back late from holidays after the summer, as this will also incur an automatic £60 fine from the local authority. School resumes after the summer on Tuesday 4th September 2018.**

Data Protection

GDPR – From today, new national data protection regulations have been introduced. Yesterday we sent out a privacy notice outlining how pupils' data will be stored, used and processed. Please read this carefully and speak to one of the data protection leads if you would like further details.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Taking responsibility for your actions.

BIBLE VERSE

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Galatians 6:7

Overall whole school figure—98%

Attendance Percentages this week:

Reception– 99.05%, Year 1—99.23

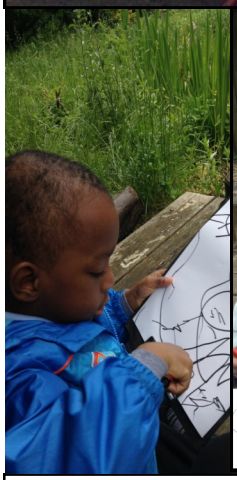
Year 3 - 95.17% Year 2—94.81%,

Year 4—97.24% Year 5—99.26%

Year 6—98.62%

Our attendance across the school was far better this week. We understand when there are exceptional circumstances that cause your child to be late, like the accident this week in Camberwell. However, there are still too many children arriving to school after 8.55am, causing them to be late. Please be in line by 8.55am as the bell goes. Thank you

Developing the Outside Learning in the Early Years….



Children and adults within **Nursery** have been busy developing their outdoor learning environment. They have created planters for flowers and herbs using tyres and flower-beds. Children continue to take part in weekly forest school sessions.

WELCOMED VISITORS

A new family of birds have arrived in our bird house this week. We have mother looking after and feeding her chicks. Although it can be fascinating to watch we need to be careful not to disturb the nest.

Please avoid touching the nest or lifting up the hatch to the house to avoid the mother abandoning the chicks.

What's been happening at St Mark's?...

Living out the St Mark's Values...

A huge well done to children, parents and staff across the school for their excellent efforts in creating banners to represent our school values. They look so beautiful, but more importantly, we all as pupils, parents and staff need to live out the values in practice across all areas of the school so they are fully embedded throughout St Mark's.

Developing Music Further at St Mark's...

Currently children in **Reception**, **Year 1** and **Year 2** are taught by a singing tutor; children in **Years 3** and **Year 4** learn the Djembe drums, recorder and xylophone and children in **Years 5** and **Year 6** learn the cello and violin.

Children in **Years 3-6** will be involved in concerts to share their learning with parents towards the end of June and will be performing in a concert with other schools at the Queen Elizabeth Hall at the Southbank Centre.

From next September, we will hold after school music clubs to enable those who are serious musicians to work towards music grades and medals. More details to follow.

School Uniform

REMINDERS

All children must to wear the correct PE Kit

Correct Kit:

White shirts,
Navy tracksuit bottoms or shorts
Trainers

NO LEGGINGS

Only small studs earrings to be worn

NO HOOPS or large studs please!!

This is for your child's safety.

Please ensure that children are wearing shoes and not trainers to school

Let's Celebrate Father's Day together with a

Father's Day Breakfast

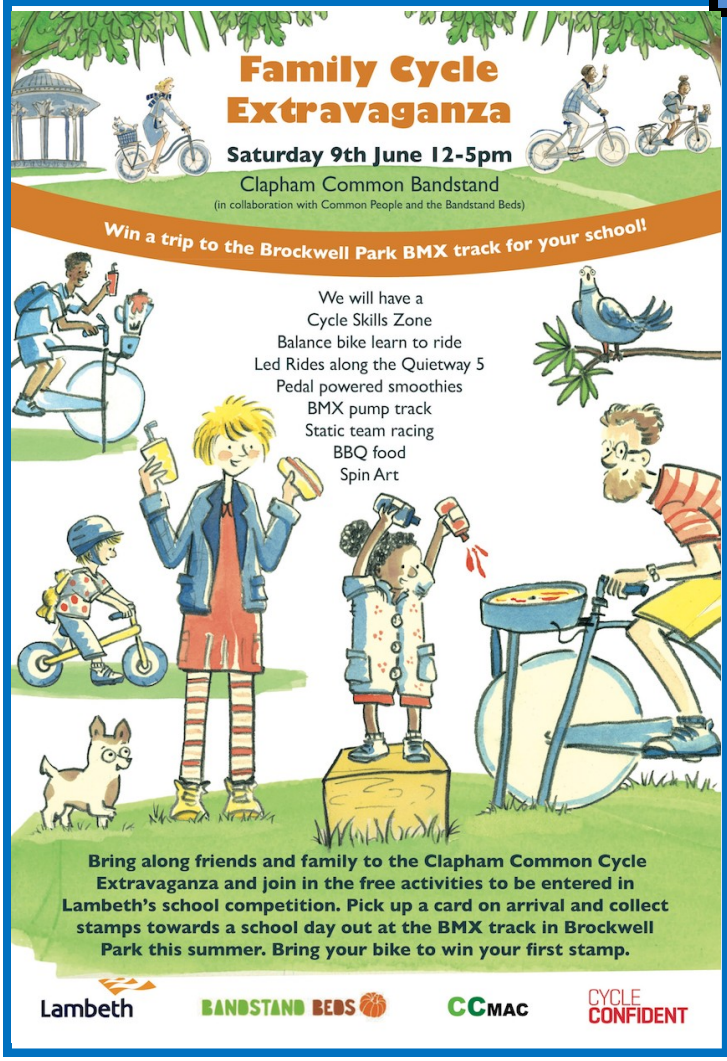
Friday 15th June – 8:30-8.55am

in the School Hall

Come and join us for Breakfast

All welcome, but especially male family members.

More details to follow.



LOST UNIFORM!!

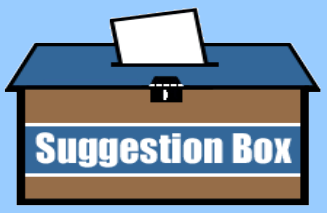
A number of school jumpers and polo shirts have been lost over the past terms. If your child has come home with extra uniform or incorrectly sized uniform, please can you return these items back to school. All uniform should be clearly labelled with your child's name. If you have lost any items please check in the Lost Property Box. A table with lost items will be on display towards the end of term.

PUNCTUALITY & LATE PICK UPS

There has been an increase in the number of children arriving late to school after the bell at 8.55am.

It is important that your child is lined up in the school playground ready to enter their classrooms at 8.55am. Children that arrive after 8.55am will be marked as late, which will effect their whole class attendance and punctuality records for the week. School ends at 3.30pm and children are expected to be picked up at this time unless they are attending an After School Club or Superkids After School Care.

RESPONDING TO SUGGESTION BOX



We have received 100's of suggestions from children and parents since the beginning of the year. Here are a few suggestions that came up quite a few times:

- More Playground Equipment - We are going to invest a lot of money in improving the school playground throughout the next 12 months
- Better School Dinners and Puddings - We are planning to review this in the summer term.
- Longer After School Clubs –After school care is available.
- Larger Ball Court - We are going to invest money in a bigger ball court.
- Create a Basketball Team-We will give pupils the chance to be involved in basketball.
- Cookery Kitchen –We are planning to work on buying more ovens for the school so children can cook at least once per year
- More Choices for Wet Play –Your class school council will ask you for suggestions.
- More Trips –We already go on many trips and there are more trips planned for the upcoming summer term.
- Encourage more water breaks during class –Children are encouraged to bring in their water bottles and drink regularly.
- Classroom Pets –Teachers and children are pressuring Mr Ingram for pets in their classrooms.

Thank You—The School Council

ST MARK'S
Church of England Primary School

SUMMER FAIR

On 7th July 2018

1.00pm -5.00pm

Parents will be informed as soon as the tickets are available for purchase

NOTE: Such school events are run by Friends of St Mark's Parents and Staff Association (PSA)

PLEASE JOIN, have your say and let's make a difference within our children's school

We need all parents to chip in and help in all ways they can to make the Summer Fair as brilliant as the past two years

Donations can also include the following:

- **Old uniforms and Jumpers –Hand in by Friday 22nd**
- **Old Teddy bears for our Tombola—Hand in by Friday 15th June**
- **Old Toys—Hand in by Friday 15th June**
- **Jam Jars with small prizes for Tombola—Hand in by Friday 22nd**
- **Old books**

The above must be good quality to sell for our fundraising please!!!

For more info: Please contact or visit School Office

THANK YOU

Summer Tem Dates for 2017/18		
Monday 16th April 2018	Return to school	
Wednesday 18th April 2018	Maths parent workshop	9am
Monday 23rd April 2018	Maths Week	
Monday 30th April 2018	Class group photo's	
Thursday 3rd May 2018	School Gardeners in to work with Year 3	am
Monday 7th May 2018	May Day Bank Holiday	
Tuesday 8th May 2018	Nursery out on a school trip to Battersea Park	
Wednesday 9th May 2018	Year 1 out at Robotics/Dance Workshop	9.05-2.00pm
Tuesday 15th May 2018	Reception Vision Screening	
Friday 25th May 2018	Chess Tournament – YR5 and Oval Cluster Schools	
Friday 25th May 2018	**Last day of Term 5**	
Monday 14th May 2018	SATs Week for Year 6	Monday -Thursday
Thursday 17th May 2018	School Gardeners are in to work with Year 6	
Friday 18th May 2018	Literacy Lab workshop Yr6	
Monday 21st May 2018	Year 3 visiting the chocolate Museum in Brixton for tasting and making	10.00am-12.00am
Monday 21st May 2018	Year 4 visiting the chocolate Museum in Brixton for tasting and making	10.00am-12.00am
Friday 25th May 2018	Year 6 given their leavers Hoodies	
Monday 4th June 2018	**Return to school**	8.55am
Thursday 7th June 2018	School Gardeners are in to work with Nursery Class	Please help us to raise money so we can reduce the cost of the school journey
Tuesday 6th June 2018	Year 6 Sponsored Silence to raise money for school journey	Please help us to raise money so we can reduce the cost of the school journey
Friday 8th June 2018	Year 6 Fundraising	Sponsored Silence and Food sale will take place this week
Tuesday 12th June 2018	YR6 Into University transition Workshop	
Friday 15th June 2018	Father's Day Breakfast	Breakfast from 8.15-8.50
Monday 18th June 2018	Yr 6 Bikeability cycle confidence	All week
Wednesday 20th June 2018	YR6 Leavers Service at Southwark Cathedral	10.30 am
Thursday 21st June	School Gardeners are in to work with Year 2	
Friday 22nd June 2018	YR4 at Into University	9.30 – 11am
Friday 22nd June 2018	YR 5/6 Mixed Football Tournament	10 – 2pm Ferndale Leisure Centre

Monday 25th June 2018	YR6 First Aid Workshop	1.30pm
Tuesday 26th June 2018	School photos Individuals + siblings	
Wednesday 27th June 2018	Year 5 and 6 Strings Concert for Parents	3.00pm start
Thursday 28th June 2018	Year 3 and 4 Strings concert for parents	3.00pm start
Monday 2nd July 2018	Maths Specialist visiting St Marks and doing workshop	All day
Monday 2nd July	Year 5 and 6 Springs Concert at Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank	For selected Year 5 and 6 child
Thursday 5th July	School Gardeners are in to work with Year 1	pm
Saturday 7th July 2018	Summer Fair	1-5pm
Monday 9th July 2018 –Wed 11th	Yr6 School Journey	Mon/Weds
Tuesday 10th July 2018	Church Service at St Mark's Church for the whole school	Arrive for 10.25
Wed 11th July 2018	Box Clever Theatre Company performing for Years 1 and 2	Road Safety theme Followed by workshops
Thursday 12th July 2018	Reception and Year 4 Working with the school gardeners	
Friday 13th July 2018	Year 6 out to see theatre production	pm
Friday 13th July 2018	Award Ceremony	9.30am Parents of award winners invited
Sunday 15th July 2018	Leaver's service at St Mark's Church 10.00am	
Week Commencing Monday 16th July 2018	Sports Day	Actual Date To be Confirmed
Wednesday 18th July 2018	Showcase Evening A chance to collect your child's report and celebrate their work	3.30-4.45pm
Thursday 19th July 2018	YR6 End of year production (all invited) Followed by a dinner for Year 6 children and parents	6-8pm
Friday 20th July 2018	**Last day of term**	School finishes at 1.30pm

A Trip or learning opportunity taking place off-site

A special school based learning activity or event

Whole school event

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

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

Family Day – Morris in May at William Morris Gallery

Sat 26th May FREE – drop in - (All ages), 1.00 – 4.00pm

Lloyd Park, Forest Road, Walthemstow E17 4PP / 020 8496 4390 / www.wmgallery.org.uk

Free drop-in event for families with children of all ages. On the last Saturday of every month we pack the Gallery full of fun activities for families to make and do together. Each event includes a make and take so you can remember your day. This month, celebrate Maytime and summer's arrival by making a decoration inspired by Morris's Labours of the Months and enjoy some Morris dancing!

Victoria & Albert (V&A) Museum

FREE (All ages) Open daily - 10.00am – 5.45pm

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

Sat 26th May, *Special storytelling event:* 2.00 – 3.00pm Join multi-award winning picture book creator Oliver Jeffers for a thought-provoking special event as he talks about his new book Here We Are. This event will include live drawing, storytelling and time for questions. After the event you can buy this book and get it signed, but please note the queue for signing can be long and patience will be needed! This event is recommended for families with children aged 3 and above

Sat 26th May & Sun 2nd June, *Pop up performance* -11.00 – 3.30pm (performance duration 30 minutes) Hear the heart-warming Japanese tale of the Monkey and the Crab, give a cheer for the delights of the marvellous music hall and delight in stories of theatrical wonder.

Fulham Palace Family Activity Days

FREE – suitable for ages 3+

Fulham Palace Bishops Avenue, SW6 6EA / 020 7736 3233/ www.fulhampalace.org

Wed 30th May - *The Tremendous Tudors:* 11am – 3.00pm Travel back in time with tales of Queen Elizabeth I's fantastic feast at Fulham Palace; a pop-up photo booth complete with top-to-toe Tudor garb; many objects to handle and a whole host of fun-filled crafts and games. No booking necessary, children must be accompanied by an adult

Thu 31st May - *The Palace during WW1:* 12.30 – 4.30pm Event takes place in the Bishop Sherlock Room. Travel back in time for an action-packed afternoon at the Palace, as part of Historic England's annual celebration of the capital's extraordinary heritage. Pop up exhibition with archive photography, and the opportunity to handle artefacts and don historical costumes! Free mini tours will also be available on the day. Children must be accompanied by an adult

Soapbox Science 2018

Sat 26th May FREE (Ages 8+) 2pm – 5pm

Queen's Stone, Riverside walkway (by Gabriel's Wharf) SE1 9PP/ www.soapboxscience.org / Nearest tube: Waterloo

London's Southbank will transform again into a hub of scientific learning and discussion, as some of London's leading scientists take to their soapboxes to showcase their science to the general public. The event's mission remains the same: to help eliminate gender inequality in science by raising the profile, and challenging the public's view, of women and non-binary people in science.

Feria de Londres – Spanish Festival!

Sat 26th May (12.00 – 9pm) & Sun 27th May (12.00 – 9.00pm) FREE (All ages)

Bernie Spain Gardens, South Bank, London SE1 9PH (Next to OXO Tower Wharf) / www.feriadelondres.com
Waterloo (5 Mins), Southwark (5 Mins), Temple (10 Mins), Blackfriars (8 Mins)

This Spring Bank Holiday, Feria de Londres, is bringing its famous Andalusian carnival spirit back to London's South Bank. Taking place this year in Bernie Spain Gardens, Feria de Londres will once again line the banks of the Thames with colourful stalls serving up delicious Spanish tapas, cocktails and tastings from official sponsors Tio Pepe, vibrant Flamenco dancing shows, interactive workshops and live Spanish music