Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

27th September 2019

'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 Pupils, Parents, Carers and Governors,

The term is flying by, but children continue to make excellent progress across the school curriculum. The children receive whole class instruction from their teachers and some children also work within groups and on a 1-1 basis with teachers and teaching assistants at various times. During the past week, children from Nursery to Year 6 enjoyed music lessons, Year 5 children began their swimming and chess lessons and children in Year 3 and 4 participated in a football tournament. We now have daily lunchtime clubs, including a school choir for children who prefer indoor activities and our school monitors and school council are fully involved in taking on responsibilities around the school.

Please see the back page for information about a **Phonics Workshops for parents**. The workshop for Nursery and Reception parents is **Monday 9.00am** in the **school hall** and the workshop for **Year 1 parents is at 2.50pm in the Art Room**. This workshop will also cover maths. Please attend to find out how you can support your child's reading, writing and Maths.

LATENESS

Please remember to collect your child from school on time to prevent fines. Also make sure that children are at school by 8.50am so they can be in line for when the bell goes at 8.55am. Lateness has an impact on children's learning .

Value of the Week

A passion to learn

BIBLE VERSE

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things."

Philippians 4:8

Attendance and Punctuality

Nursery— 95.45%

Reception— 95.56%

Year 1— 95.71%

Year 2— 96.8%

Year 3— 98.52%

Year 4— 96%

Year 5— 94.83%

Year 6— 95%

WELL DONE!

Well done to Years 2, 3 & 4!

Keep it up!

Remember that poor attendance not only has an impact on your child's learning, it affects the whole school attendance rate.

Year 5 trip Christian Youth Enterprises

Our Year 5 children went for a short but intensive trip to Christian Youth Enterprises– a sailing centre in Chichester. They enjoyed different activities and the sailing, and I am sure they are looking forward to the next adventure. The experience taught them a lot about team work and co-operation.

Year 6 Into University

This week Year 6 have been learning about World War II at Into University. They've been making posters about famous figures from that time, taking part in a drama workshop to imagine what it was like to live through the war and they took a trip to the National Army Museum. It's been a fantastic week which ended with a graduation at King's University.

More visits

This week we also had more visits from former Year 6 students. It was very nice to talk to them and see how well they were doing at their secondary schools. They looked so smart!

We still miss them!

What is happening at St Mark's

Year 5/6 took part in a dodgeball competition with 4 other schools. It was a great day for the children to sharpen their skills and have fun.

Year 3/4 took part in a football competition on Wednesday at Kennington Park. For some of the children it was the first competitive football match they have played. It was great to see a few mums, dads and grandads cheering them on.

Year 4

For the last few weeks, children in year 4 have been reading the story 'Weslandia' by Paul Fleischman. This week we interviewed his nosey neighbour on the 'hotseat'. The pictures below show some of our talented actors in role as the neighbour answering questions from the class.

What is happening at St Mark's

BIKE IT Breakfast

Cycle or scoot to school this Monday 30th September and you will be rewarded with a **FREE breakfast!**

Active travel is a great way to improve our health and to reduce London's pollution levels. Let's begin the school year with a commitment to active travel!

We will be providing a free healthy breakfast for those who arrive by bicycle or scooter in the morning. There will be a selection of cereals, pastries, yoghurts and fruit.

The breakfast will take place before school starts, so please arrive from **8:15** if you want to take part.

Phonics

Nursery & Reception

On **Monday 30th September at 9am** Mrs Parkins will be delivering a phonics workshop in the school hall to explain how we teach early reading and writing and how you can support your child at home. We hope to see as many of you there as possible!

Monday 30th September.

Year 1 Parents meeting with Miss Brockwell and Miss Hankins (Math Lead). The event will include information about all areas of learning including phonics. We look forward to meeting with you"!