Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

5th April 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,

Although it is a little early, children across the school have been learning about the last week of Jesus's life and his resurrection and how significant this is. Many thanks to Year 4 children who led the Easter service in Montgomery Hall on Wednesday and many thanks also to parents who supported the event. In addition to this Rev Steve and Sally helped us to explore the Easter story in more detail and answered lots of our questions. Children across the school have also had the opportunity to reflect on their own personal faith and interact with the peace garden.

Value of the Week

Jesus is our hope

BIBLE VERSE

"Behold, I make all things new."

Revelation 21.5

Attendance and Punctuality

Nursery— 85.81%

Reception— 88.42%

Year 1— 99.2%

Year 2— 96.0%

Year 3— 95.36%

Year 4— 94.0%

Year 5— 97.98%

Year 6— 98.67%

WELL DONE!

To the following classes who achieved over 96.%:

Years 1, 2, 5 & 6

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

Easter Activities

There are lots of events and activities taking place over Easter. Please see the attached Low Cost/ No Cost activities information and also Mr Emmanuel, our school sports coach,0 will be running his own Easter sports camp in the school from Monday 15th April to Friday 19th April inclusive. Please call him on 07775137742 to book a place.

Attendance and Punctuality monitoring

Our school attendance last year was 94.8% compared to the national average of 96.5%. Due to this we have come under scrutiny from Lambeth local authority to raise the attendance figure. Unfortunately since September 2018, we have had to issue 7 fixed notice fines for unauthorised holidays and refer five families to court hearings before a Lambeth local authority panel due to low levels of pupil attendance. Please can we all continue to support the school's efforts to raise our attendance in ensuring children attend school regularly and avoid any time off. Many thanks, Mr Ingram.

Parking outside the school

Please do not park on the zig-zag lines or the yellow lines outside the school. These lines are there to help our children cross the road safely and parking there puts them at risk.
A traffic warden informed me that he will allow parents to park in the parking bays for a short period before and after school but he would begin to issue parking tickets to vehicles on the yellow lines as it creates traffic congestion. Please also note that the car park is not available for parent parking. Thank you, Mr Ingram.

What's been happening across the school?

Despite being last week before the Easter Holidays, many things have been happening at school. We had a Capoeira performance on Monday; on Wednesday we all enjoyed the Easter play from year 4 at Montgomery Hall and children were able to share their music skills at the music concerts. Besides, children have been using the Peace Garden and have been reflecting on how they can grow spiritually during this week, in which we have had a special focus on Religious Education (RE).

★ ★ ★ Stars of the Term ★ ★ ★

At the end of each term, teachers select children who have demonstrated excellent **Achievement** in learning, **Effort** in their commitment to their work and **Collaboration** in the way they have worked with others. For this term we are also introducing a new criteria—**Wisdom**—where children have shown great ability in their decision-making. So many children across the school demonstrate these qualities daily but the children below have been identified as demonstrating these qualities for Term 4:

	Achievement	Effort	Collaboration	Wisdom
Reception	Eva	Santiago	Melek	Sheneya
Year 1	Anthony	Derek	Naliyah	Eliana
Year 2	Apryl	Emmanuel J	Manuela	Rhys
Year 3	Melissa	Olivia	Kailin	Aisha I
Year 4	Norris	Blair	Angel	Valeria
Year 5	Francisco	Sara	Tolu	Rafael
Year 6	Natalie	Thalia	Ifedayo	Gracie

HOLIDAY AND TERM DATES – ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020 (draft)

Autumn Term 2019

Start:	**Tuesday 3rd September (pupils return)**
	INSET DAY – Friday 30th August 2019 / Monday 2nd September 2019
Finish:	**Friday 18th October**
Half Term:	**Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October**
Start:	**Monday 28th October**
Finish:	**Friday 20th December**
Christmas Holiday:	**Monday 23rd December 2019 – Friday 3rd January 2020**

Spring Term 2020

Start:	**Tuesday 7th January 2020 (pupils return)**
	INSET DAY – Monday 6th January 2020
Finish:	**Friday 14th February**
Half Term:	**Monday 17th February – Friday 21 February**
Start:	**Monday 24th February**
Finish:	**Friday 3rd April**
Easter Break:	**Monday 6th April 2020 – Monday 17th April 2020**

Summer Term 2020

Start:	**Monday 20th April**
	Monday 4th May (Bank Holiday school closed)
Finish:	**Friday 22nd May**
Half Term:	**Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May**
Start:	**Monday 1st June**
Finish:	**Friday 17th July**

BANK HOLIDAYS 2018/2019

Wednesday 25 December 2019 (Christmas Day)

Thursday 26 December 2019 (Boxing Day)

Wednesday 1 January 2020 (New Year's Day)

Friday 10 April 2020 (Good Friday)

Monday 13 April 2020 (Easter Monday)

Monday 4 May 2020 (May Day)

Monday 25 May 2020 (Spring Bank Holiday)

Monday 31 August 2020 (Summer Bank Holiday)

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO 5 INSET DAYS YET TO BE CONFIRMED