Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

6th March 2020

'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, Children and Governors,

Feedback for the school curriculum

We have started Term 4 as we left Term 3, with lots of outstanding learning opportunities for children across the school. We are currently developing our school curriculum and are keen to find out what you would like your child to learn by the time they leave Year 6. **Please email your feedback to admin@st-marks cofe.lambeth.sch.uk**

Lent Activities

We have now entered the period of Lent in the lead up to Easter. Please find an attached activity sheet that children and parents can do together during the lent period. The purpose is to use this period to think of others and to sacrifice our time and energy to serve others, as we lead up to the great sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.

Secondary schools

We are very pleased to announce that 82% of the children in Year 6 at St Mark's received their first or second choice of secondary school for September 2020 and 71% actually obtained their first choice. The most popular schools were Archbishop Tenison's (6); St Gabriel's College (4); Lilian Baylis (4); Platanos College (3) ; Oasis Academy (3); Pimlico (2) and Grey Coats Hospital (2). Children also secured places at Lambeth Academy and La Retraite. If you have a child in Year 5, please begin to give serious consideration to which secondary schools you would like to apply for, if you haven't started to do so already.

Term Dates

Please note the provisional school dates attached within this newsletter. Ensure all holidays are within the holiday periods, as the school will not be able to authorise holidays within term time. If attendance is below requirements, you may have to meet with a member of the Educational Welfare Team or be fined by Lambeth local authority. Also absences impact o children's progress.

Value of the Week

Patience

BIBLE VERSE

"You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

James 5.8

Attendance and Punctuality

Nursery— 90%

Reception — 93.1%

Year 1— 92%

Year 2— 96.92%

Year 3— 96.3%

Year 4— 94.67%

Year 5— 93.33%

Year 6— 89.29%

WELL DONE!

Well done Years 2 & 3!

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

What is happening at St Mark's?

SMILE SOCIETY WORKSHOP– Fizzy Drinks

A group of student nurses led collective worship on Thursday to warn the pupils about the amount on sugar in fizzy drinks. Children were shocked to know that their daily recommended sugar intake is 5-6 cubes, yet a bottle of coke contains 14 cubes, a milkshake drink contains 10 cubes and fizzy orange contains 9 cubes. Afterwards, children in year two participated in workshops and were taught how to brush their teeth properly; they dyed their teeth; they learnt about sugar intake within different foods and drinks and learnt about the different types of teeth and their role. **In the newspaper this week Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, said that all primary schools should be water only to help fight child obesity as nearly 40% of 10-11 Year olds in London are classed as over-weight. Southwark Council is aiming to promote water only in all of its schools from April 2020 and we thank you for supporting our water only policy for packed lunches at St Mark's. Evidence shows that this approach helps learning and behaviour.**

YEAR 5/6 GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Last week a team of Year 5 and 6 girls competed against 5 different schools in a football tournament. It was a delight to see the girls showing great desire and tenacity, they kept on going. Girls football is growing throughout the world and so are their footballing talents. Great effort girls! Well done to Grace, Annia, Rebeca, Soriah, Betty, Anna, Djelika and Tolu. Great effort girls!

World Book Day

On Thursday it was World Book Day. Children came to school dressed as their favourite book character. Thank to all for making such a great effort and for such a fun character parade. Below are the names of the winners and runners-up.

CLASS	WINNER	RUNNER UP
NURSERY	Sammy (Mad Hatter)	Ezra (Pirate)
RECEPTION	Cale (Lion King)	Alicia (Greatest Showman)
YEAR 1	Santiago (Woody)	Trojit (Gladiator)
YEAR 2	Aquinnah (Swan)	Jerome (Robin Hood)& Shyla (Little Red Riding Hood)
YEAR 3	Holly (Goblen)	Ana Luiza (Little Red Riding Hood)
YEAR 4	Shary (Caterpillar)	Josiah (Isaac Newton)
YEAR 5	Maya (Mrs Root)	Deborah (Geisha Girl)
YEAR 6	Ziva (Mad Hatter)	Rania (Roman goddess)

Supporting our children at home and school

The conversations at an early age echo throughout a child's life

A child who has 30 minutes each day of directed, uninterrupted conversation with their parent will on average have had 30 million more word spoken to them than a child who does not have this interaction during the first 3 years of life.

As days and months turn into years, a gulf opens up. This gulf is difficult to overcome, and, often time, only widens as time goes on. Language is perhaps the greatest cultivator of a child's mind. Hearing words, learning new concepts and being a part of creative interactions causes explosions of brain activity. Neurons hungrily branch, form connections and lay the foundation for future intellectual capacity. And the ability to form neural connections wanes as a child gets older. The peak years are 0-3 when the brain is forming. So children who hear less language during this time may never catch up.

The above is taken from a research article called the GLOBAL CITIZEN. The article goes on to talk about how children's language development has implications for their future success in life.

Latest guidance on the Coronavirus

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus. There are general principles anyone can follow to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Washing your hands often - with soap and water, or use alcohol sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin. See **Catch it, Bin it, Kill it**
- People who feel unwell should stay at home and should not attend work or any education or childcare setting
- Pupils, students, staff and visitors should wash their hands: before leaving home; on arrival at school; after using the toilet; after breaks and sporting activities; before food preparation; before eating any food, including snacks; before leaving school
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

What should I do to prevent catching and spreading the virus?

If you are worried about your symptoms or those of a child or colleague, please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment or call 0800 046 8687 for information

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk for further information

Staff Feature

Mrs Guy—Clerical/Attendance Officer

Hello, my name is Mrs Guy or Mrs Natasha. I am the happy Clerical Officer who has worked in the school office for 20 years now. (Where have the years gone)!!

The best part of my role is knowing the pupils and staff around the school and also helping with the integral jobs in the office. The office is like the engine room of a busy ship and so we try our best to keep things working efficiently. One minute I could be assisting a child taking their asthma pump and the next minute I am ordering school dinners. I have 2 children (25 and 15) who also attended St Mark's and so have so many fond memories of their time here.

I have moved to Kent over 5 years ago and so I am living the best of both worlds. All the best things that London has to offer during the week and the beautiful Kent countryside during the weekends.

In my spare time I sing, go to the theatre, read and also dance. My children tell me I still got some moves!!!

FREE

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

WITH TRIANGLE AND OASIS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

26th FEBRUARY – 10th APRIL

PLAYGROUNDS BRINGING FAMILIES ACTIVE > TOGETHER

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	BOOKING REQUIRED		**U5s Family Gymnastics** Triangle Adventure Playground (SW8 1NE) 11am - 11:45am Ages 2 - 5		**U5s Family Mini-Sports** Oasis Nature Garden (SW4 6SP) 10:45am - 11:30am Ages 2 - 5
PM	**Family Karting** Oasis Karting Track (SW8 2PD) 4:30pm - 6:30pm Ages 8 - 16	**Family Football** Black Prince Trust (SE11 6AA) 5pm - 6pm Ages 5 - 16	**Family Karate** Ashmole Tenants' Hall (SW8 1PL) 4:30pm - 5:30pm Ages 5 - 16	**Family Boxing** Black Prince Trust (SE11 6AA) 5pm - 6pm Ages 6 - 16	
PM	**Family Fitness** Triangle Adventure Playground (SW8 1NE) 4pm - 4:45pm Ages 5 - 16	**Family Capoeira** Kennington Park Centre (SE11 4BE) 5:30pm - 6:30pm Ages 4 - 16	STARTS 4th MARCH **Family Yoga** Longfield Hall (SE5 9QY) 5:30pm - 6:30pm Ages 5 - 11	**Family Pilates** Kennington Park Centre (SE11 4BE) 5pm - 6pm Ages 5 - 11	

ATTEND THEN REFER A FRIEND

£10 SPORTS DIRECT.COM VOUCHER

*Excludes Family Karting and U5s sessions

WWW.OASISPLAY.ORG.UK → ACTIVE TOGETHER CLICK OR CALL 07960 698 774 FOR MORE INFO

@activetogetherlambeth

School Dinners

£2.50 — per day

£ 12.50 — per week

Please pay in ParentPay in advance to keep your dinner account in credit.

Thank you!

LATE COLLECTION

Please ensure you collect your child on time, otherwise late fees will be applied.

If you are running late, do let the school know and when picking up your child please ensure you inform a member of the office staff of your arrival. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dates for your Diary

March 2020 - Term 4

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
Reading and Writing week				
Maths master class Foundry - 3.30 pm	Year 6 Oval - 1.15 to 3.00 pm	Year 5 at Into-University - 9.30 to 11.30 am	Years 5/6 Girls Football League World Book Day	Years 5/6 Best Team Football Black Prince Trust - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm
9	10	11	12	13
Maths master class Foundry - 3.30 pm	Year 6 Oval - 1.15 to 3.00 pm	School Gardeners in working with Eary Years and KS1 Parent Session - How to manage your child's behaviour and enjoy being a Parent 9-10 am - School Hall	Years 5/6 Mini Basketball Norwood school - 9.00 am to 3.00 pm	Years 3 & 4 Mixed Football Black Prince Trust - 9.30 am to 3.00 pm Sport Relief - Own clothes day - bring £1 to school
16	17	18	19	20
Reading and Writing week				
Maths master class Foundry - 3.30 pm	Years 3 & 5 Visit to Durning Library Year 6 Oval - 1.15 to 3.00 pm	Years 1 & 4 Visit to Durning Library	Road Safety Theatre Year 6- School Hall - 9.15 am	Visits to Durning Library Mother's Day Breakfast - from 8.15 am
23	24	25	26	27
Lambeth Music Festival Junior Choirs - Royal Festival Hall - Leaving at 2.00 pm - Concert for Parents at 6 pm Maths master class Foundry - 3.30 pm	Years 1 & 2 Music concert at 3 pm Year 6 Oval - 1.15 to 3.00 pm	Musitrax Violin/Cello concert at 2.50 pm	Years 3/4 Musitrax Concert Year 2 out Brockwell Park - Afternoon Years 5/6 Girls Foorball League	Stay and Play EYFS - 9.00 to 10.00 am Big Green School Clean. Eco & Outdoor day
30	31	1	2	3
RE Week				
Year 5 at Into-University - 9.30 am to 2.30 pm Maths master class Foundry - 3.30 pm	Year 6 Oval - 1.15 to 3.00 pm	Years 5/6 Dodgeball Competition La Retraite School 9.30-14.30	Years 3 & 4 Music concert at 2.00 pm	Big Green School Clean End of Term 4

NOTICES

School Term Dates 2020/21

September 2020

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36		1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39	21	22	23	24		26	27
40	28	29	30				

October 2020

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40				1	2	3	4
41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2020

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

December 2020

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
53	28	29	30	31			

January 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
53					1	2	3
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13	29	30	31				

April 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
13				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17						1	2
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
22	31						

June 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22		1	2	3	4	5	6
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	28	29	30				

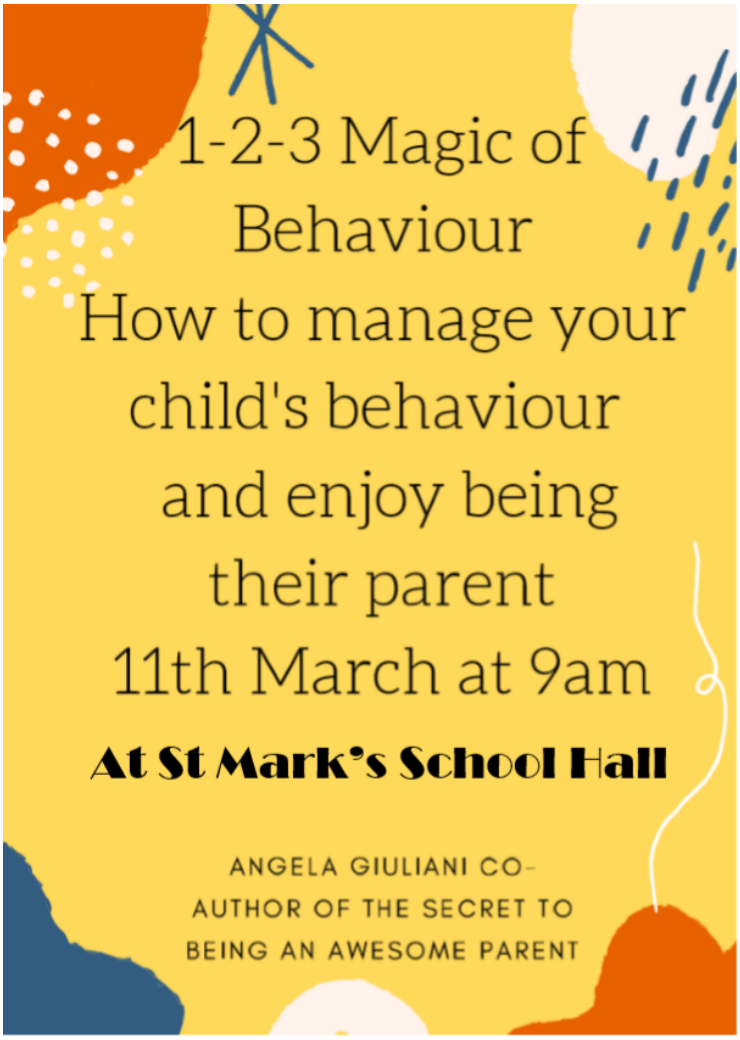
July 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
26				1	2	3	4
27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2021

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
30							1
31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
33	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
34	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
35	30	31					

School Holidays | Bank holidays | Pupil Days | INSET Days



SPORT RELIEF

Next Friday 13th March 2020 is Sport Relief day. Children will participate in a range of sports challenges and activities across the day. If children bring in £1 to give to charity, they can wear sports wear to school .

All money will be given to the Sport Relief charity who supports good causes across the world.

Act it out... 40 Challenges for 40 days of Lent

=Act/Do =Care =Speak =Think

1. Tidy up your room without being asked ☐

2. Save energy – turn off lights, TV, chargers when you leave a room ☐

3. Cut down your screen time – TV, internet or games, and suggest playing a family game together ☐

4. Begin to collect onion skins – both red and orange to make 'peche' eggs for Easter ☐

5. Say sorry to someone ☐

6. Put money into a Giving Jar. Feed it with loose change or the money you might have spent on treats – think about which charity you would like to give the money away to at the end of Lent ☐

7. Try to spend a whole day without arguing (and that includes your Mum, Dad and any brothers or sisters!) ☐

8. Send a letter or picture to a grandparent, relation or Godparent ☐

9. Be a good team player, don't hog the ball and compliment your team mates ☐

10. If someone in your family has done something special for you, write them a thank you note ☐

11. Make a friend outside your usual 'crowd' ☐

12. Put food out for birds and make sure there is fresh water that isn't frozen ☐

13. Try to find out about someone your age living in a poorer country and compare your lives ☐

14. Do chores without complaining ☐

15. Phone/email a grandparent, distant relative or friend to say 'hi' ☐

16. Check through your games and toys and give ones you don't use to a charity shop (not broken ones!) ☐

17. Make some cakes or biscuits to share with your class mates ☐

18. Volunteer – find an opportunity to help out. You may need an adult to help you with this ☐

19. Walk/cycle/scoot to school once a week ☐

20. FHB: Family Hold Back with a difference.... hold back from jumping in and taking what you want at the meal table ☐

21. Say something nice about someone behind their back ☐

22. Change your bed and if you are feeling really generous change someone else's as well ☐

23. Help end food waste, don't cook or take more than you can eat ☐

24. If the bin is full, don't ignore it – empty it and replace the bin-liner ☐

25. At the end of a special day or outing, get each member of your group or family to mention the best thing that they enjoyed and give thanks to God ☐

26. Cut down on your phone/texting time ☐

27. Make a scrap book for an elderly relative or someone you know who is ill – find out what interests them: sport, nature, cooking, holidays, and spend some time going through it with them ☐

28. Be a friend to a shy person ☐

29. Ask if you can help at school, at home, at church, or at one of your clubs ☐

30. Make a card or a note – saying something nice for members of your family or friends and hide them somewhere where they will find them ☐

31. YumYum YumYum → When you buy yourself a treat, buy two and give one away ☐

32. Set the table and clear away or do the washing up without being asked ☐

33. Run a fundraising event in aid of charity, organise a cake sale or a book swap with your friends ☐

34. litter Pick up litter outside your home, church or school ☐

35. Saturday before Palm Sunday Cut out palm leaves and write thank yous to God on them ☐

HOLY WEEK

36. Be generous with your words, pay a compliment to a family member, friend or even your teacher ☐

37. Read or draw pictures of Holy Week events ☐

38. Make an Easter garden and invite a friend round to help make it ☐

39. Make 'peche' eggs ready for Easter Sunday ☐

40. Make Easter Story cookies ☐