Unique and Valuable before God

The St Mark's News

8th January 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted say ...

WE ARE A GOOD SCHOOL!

We are very pleased that during our recent Ofsted inspection that took place a few weeks ago in December 2015, Inspectors graded our school as '**Good.**' The school now moves out of the judgement of 'Requires Improvement' from the previous inspection two years ago. The report mentions good teaching, effective leadership, good relationships, good behaviour, good progress, good subject knowledge, effective support for pupils, positive parents and ambitious leadership, amongst many other positive highlights. We now continue on our journey to 'Outstanding' without being complacent. We are fully aware and committed to responding to the Ofsted next steps. Plans are already underway to ensure that our Early Years provision is outstanding, through investment and training and the school continues to be fully focused to ensure punctuality and attendance levels remain high and in line with national expectations.

Can I thank all parents , staff, governors and children for the role they have played in enabling the school to achieve this very positive outcome and for their continued support for the school. We all share the goal of making sure that St Mark's provides an all-round, outstanding education for its pupils.

Please do read through the summary that went home with your child yesterday and for more details, come to the school office to receive a full copy of the Ofsted report.

Our Super Ticket Winners for this week

School Collective Worship theme:

'The school values

Wk 1– Resolutions; aims and goals for 2016

How good is the God we adore,
Our faithful unchangeable friend; His love is as great as his power and knows neither measure or end. We will praise him for all that is past and trust Him for all that's to come.

Attendance and Punctuality

We have reviewed the initiative of when pupils are marked late .
The decision is to keep the gate closed at 8.55 but a pupil will be marked late if they are not in their class by 9am.

We want to thank parents for the improvement in punctuality and clearly want to see further improvement. The aim is to achieve 100% and we know you will continue to support us in this.

Many Thanks Mrs Sims and Mr Ingram

Welcome back to Miss Hankins

Many of you will already know Miss Hankins who worked as the Year 3 teacher at the school last year. We are very pleased to have her back in our teaching team at St Mark's. She will be teaching and working with groups and individuals across Key Stage 2 this term.

Targeted support across the school

In response to the attainment information that we have collected from last term, we will be establishing a number of teacher led interventions aimed at supporting all pupils across the school. In addition to whole class high quality teaching and learning, we have established additional provision that will cover all areas of the school. In Early Years we have secured consultancy support to further develop the learning environment and additional adult reading will take place to support early reading. 1-1 teacher and pupil conferences will take place in Years 1-6. We have established smaller class groups across Years 5 and 6 and our Deputy Head Mrs Susan Eade, will be engaged in targeted work within Years 3 and 4. This is all in addition to the targeted groups and support that we already offer pupils with Special Educational Needs, those with Pastoral needs and those who speak English as a second language.