Unique and Valuable before God

THE ST MARK'S NEWS

Friday 6th November 2015

Welcome back to Term 2

This has been a great start to the term by all classes and children throughout the school.

Our new vision , Mission statements and school values

Last term we spent a lot of time capturing the views and feedback of pupils, parents, staff and governors across the school about what was important to us as a school and how we wanted to see St Mark's develop. We have since spent many hours developing a vision and mission statement that we believe captures our shared aspirations for the school. Our **vision statement** is: St Mark's …

'A school where children develop the passion to learn, the skills to succeed and the confidence to take Christian values into a diverse society.'

A Vision Statement shares our long term goals for the children– what we would like for them to achieve when they leave in Year 6.

A Mission Statement shares the school's commitment and actions for achieving the vision.

Our Core Values:

CHART

C - COMPASSION

H- HARD WORK

A- ACCOUNTABILITY

R- RESPECT

T- TRUST

Other school values:

JOY, PEACE, KINDNESS, SELF-CONTROL, FORGIVENESS

Our School Christian Values summarise those expectations that are central to how we treat and behave towards each other across the whole school. Our Core Values are those that are most central to us

Some of our Collective Worship Monitors helped Mrs Eade to share out core values during collective worship this week.

Mission Statement

By working in partnership with parents we will …

- Ensure children are intellectually challenged through high standards of teaching and learning
- Provide opportunities for children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally
- Encourage children to think for themselves and become independent reflective learners
- Help children to engage and work respectfully with a wide range of people
- Work in close partnership with Archbishop Tenisons's to extend our all round provision
- Provide a safe and stimulating learning environment
- Offer an inspirational curriculum which is broad and balanced

Building on Strong Foundations

We are very pleased that our last Ofsted Inspection in 2013 judged our school's behaviour as 'Good' and said:

- **Pupils behave well and are polite and courteous to adults and treat each other with respect**
- **Disruptions in lessons are rare and pupils work responsibly and with enthusiasm**
- **Pupils know how to stay safe and value extra-curricular activities**
- **Attendance is above average**
- **Pupils are supported effectively to make good choices**

We intend to build upon this strong foundation and have introduced a number of actions to further promote the highest expectations of behaviour and behaviour for learning, so each child is able to achieve to their full potential and make significant progress in their all-round development.

I met with members of the school council during the week before the half-term break and they mentioned a number of things that they though encouraged good behaviour.

- **Certificates that recognise effort, achievement and teamwork**
- **Rewards for good behaviour –golden tickets and certificates**
- **Lots of monitor positions to encourage children to be active across the school**
- **Consequences for poor behaviour**
- **The class behaviour charts**

This term the school council said they would like to introduce more playground equipment to make sure playtimes are more enjoyable.

Key Diary Dates (Updated for Term 2)

Springboard Phonics Training for Parents

Friday 13th November 9.00-10.00 a.m.

Would you like to support your child's reading? Come along to our Phonics Workshop for parents next Friday to find out how the school teaches phonics and how you can best support your child at home. Free phonics packs will be provided for all who attend? Crèche facilities are available. This workshop is aimed at parents of pupils in Reception and Year 1. Please return your slip or reserve a place at the school office as soon as possible.

Operation Christmas Child

As in former years, the school will be supporting the Samaritan's Purse shoe-box appeal and we will be sending out further details next week. We hope that you can support our efforts to send Christmas gifts to children around the world.

St Mark's Open Mornings for Parents of children due to begin Reception in September 2016

If you currently have Nursery aged children, we invite you to attend one of our Open Mornings to find out more about Reception Class at St Mark's and gain an insight into the whole school on one of the dates below. During the time, we will tour the school, visit classrooms, tell you about the application process and answer your questions.

Dates: Wednesday 25th November, Thursday 26th November and Friday 27th November all 9.15-10.00 a.m.