Unique and Valuable before God

THE ST MARK'S NEWS

Friday 23th October 2015

The end of Term 1

Oh what a night! … What a day! … What a week! … What a term!

Even though this is the last week of term and we all feel ready for a break from the routine of school, I must say that this has been an extraordinary week of hard work, focus, effort, celebration, fun and partnership across the whole school community. This culminated in a fantastic celebration event last night, which saw the school transformed into a restaurant and dance floor! Many thanks to all parents and staff who supported the event and contributed food or helped on the night. I don't think I have ever seen such generous parental support in all of my time of working in schools, so thank you very much. You will notice that there are many photographs within this newsletter, as it is the best way of sharing with you the excellent work that the pupils have been involved in within the school during the past week. We have used yesterday's events as an opportunity for children to reflect on the importance of respecting different people's cultures and remembering that although we are from a range of different cultures and background, we are one united community at St Mark's

Please don't be stuck for things to do this half term, there are absolutely loads of local activities taking place within Lambeth and across London, which are either free or very low cost. See attached details for more information.

Term 2

Begins at 8.55 a.m. on

Tuesday 3rd November 2015

School Collective Worship theme:

'A Passion for Learning'

Wk 7– Learning from others

We are many members but one body

Attendance and Punctuality

During our imminent Ofsted inspection, Inspectors will examine:

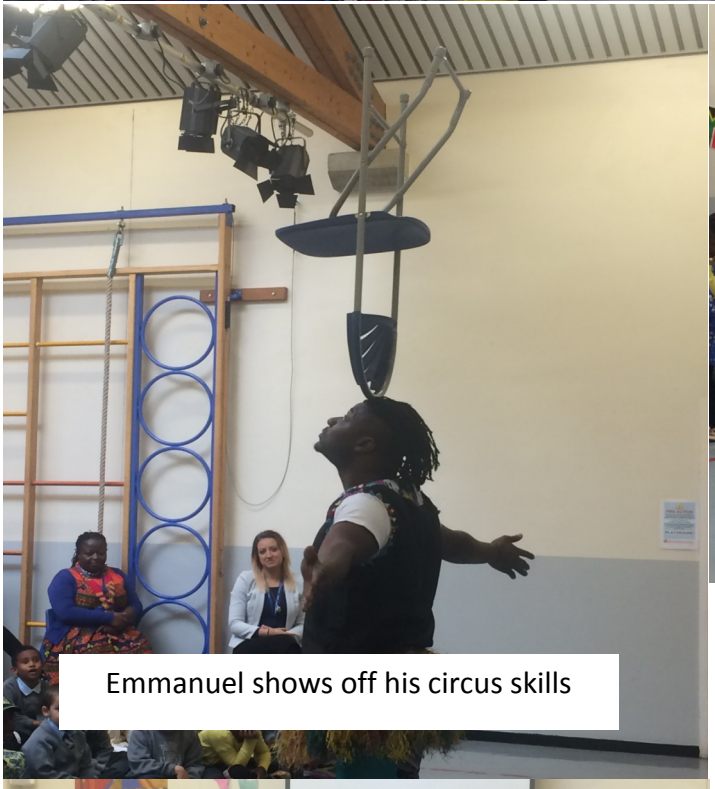
- **the absence and punctuality rates of all pupils**
- **whether attendance rates are improving**
- **whether children arrive to school on time**

Both attendance and punctuality has significantly improved in recent weeks, but it hasn't been a good week this week. Only Year 1 achieved 100% for being on time and no classes reached 96% for attendance. Please continue to support the school's efforts to make significant progress in this area by making sure your child is present and on time to school. Don't let your class or your school down.

Pictures from the visit of Emmanuel The Magnificent and the International Evening

Children dancing at the International Evening

Even our school governors were participating in the action



Emmanuel shows off his circus skills

Members of the school choir performing at the International Evening

" We thought Emmanuel was amazing and we enjoyed learning how to spin plates."

" Yesterday was excellent as we got to see and understand more of where different people come from, learn about their culture and eat different types of food." School Council

It was great to see so many colourful outfits on show yesterday

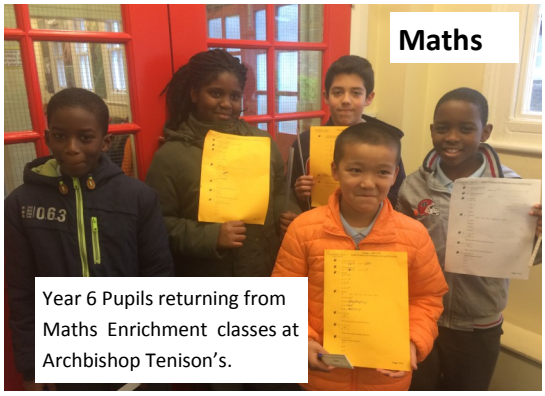
Emmanuel training up an apprentice

The St Mark's Curriculum

The most recent Ofsted handbook mentions that school inspections will consider whether the school curriculum is broad and balanced and explore how it impacts on pupils' outcomes, personal development and welfare. On Wednesday afternoon as I visited the classrooms, I was struck by the whole school coverage of the curriculum and how fully focussed the children were in their learning. This brief snapshot demonstrates that children achieving well and the planning of the curriculum is broad and balanced and sustains the children's interest.

Art

Year 3 Pupils experimenting and creating , as they use clay to make Greek pots in Art.

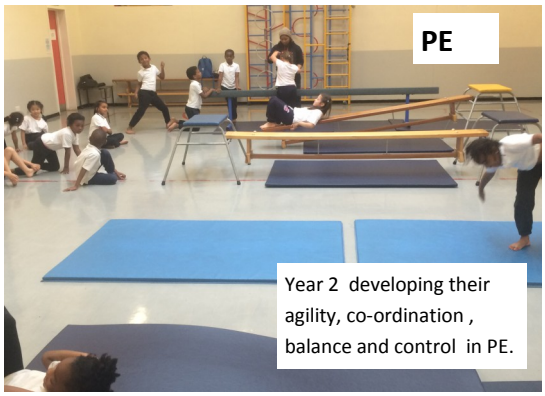


Maths

Year 6 Pupils returning from Maths Enrichment classes at Archbishop Tenison's.

Spanish

Year 6 fully involved in responding to spoken and written Spanish.

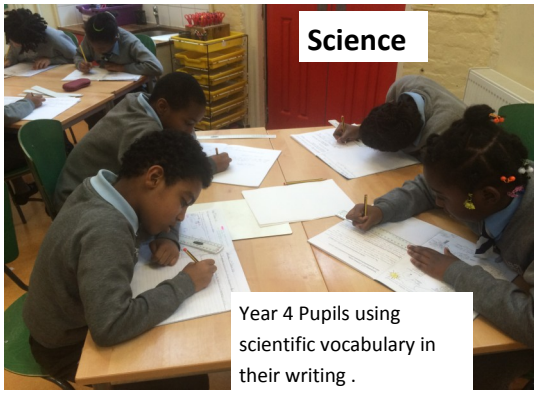


PE

Year 2 developing their agility, co-ordination , balance and control in PE.

Music

Year 1 Pupils learning to sing with clear pitch, control and expression.



Science

Year 4 Pupils using scientific vocabulary in their writing .

All of the above was seen taking place in Reception and more!