Unique and Valuable before God

# THE ST MARK'S NEWS

## Friday 18th September 2015

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It has been another whirlwind week at St Mark's which has seen many parents present at our short , introductory 'Meet the Teacher' meetings and children participating in Modern Foreign Language lessons, PE lessons and Swimming. You may have noticed that lots of the provision that formerly took place in the mornings (gymnastics, swimming, singing and MFL) will continue, but will now take place in the afternoon. This will enable us to have a dedicated, uninterrupted focus on both Maths and English provision during the morning. We are however fully committed to a broad, balanced and inspirational curriculum, which will contribute to children's all-round spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our weekly collective worship theme has been 'Being Prepared for Learning,' and I take this opportunity to ask you make sure that children always bring their school PE kit in on PE days. Please refer back to the class bulletin to find out the days for PE.

**Parent Questionnaires**

Please can you respond to the parent questionnaire which will be sent out on Monday. Your views and thoughts regarding the ways in which the school can improve are extremely important to us.

**Parent Meetings**

May I also take this opportunity to apologise for changes to the times of some of the previously scheduled meetings. Last week the morning meeting for parents was significantly better attended compared to the evening one, so we have moved future meetings to the morning. However if you are unable to attend either the Reception Welcome Meeting on Tuesday 22nd at 9.00 a.m. or the Secondary Transfer Meeting on Wednesday 23rd September at 9.00 a.m. we will run a repeat session for you at 6.00 p.m. on the same days.

**Parents Evening**

**This is a reminder that we will be holding our first parent consultation meeting with class teachers on Wednesday 30th September from 2.40-7.00 p.m. A sign up sheet will be outside in the area where your child lines up for school from Monday 21st September. Please do take this opportunity to find out about how your child has settled into their new class and to find out about school targets that have been set for them.**

**Before and After School Arrangements**

**Please note that our new before and after school arrangements will begin from Monday 21st September.**

**Many thanks Mr Ingram** **headteacher@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk**

Attendance and Punctuality

**Please continue to ensure that children are in their lines by 8.55 a.m.**

Attendance winners for achieving over 95% attendance this week are Year 1 and Year 2 . In future weeks we will acknowledge classes with the best punctuality across the school.

**School Collective Worship theme:**

**'A Passion for Learning'**

**Wk 1– Being prepared for Learning**

**Verse of the Week:**

**... For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord , and to do it...**

**Ezra Ch 7 v 10**

## School Council

Meet our newly elected school council representatives. Never mind the Labour leadership contest, children at St. Mark's have enjoyed a real taste of the democratic process by selecting members from their classes to represent them as school council representatives. Pupils who wanted to be selected were required to prepare a short manifesto explaining why they wanted the position and what they planned to achieve if they were selected.

The New leadership team from left to right:

D'Andra-May, Rebecca, Ifedayo, Naomi, Ayla, Tomiwa, Tashan, Hayyan, Natalie, William

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Please note that there are additions to the dates sent out last week and also changes to some of the times.**

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| 21st September | Meet the teacher for Year 1 parents/carers at 9.00 a.m. |
| 22nd September | A special welcome morning for our Reception Parents at 9.00 a.m. or 6.00 p.m. |
| 23rd September | Secondary Transfer Meeting for parents/carers of children in Yrs 5 & 6 at 9.00am or 6.00 p.m. |
| 28th September— 2nd October | Harvest Festival food collection for Vauxhall food bank |
| 30th September | Parents Evening. School will close at 2.30 p.m. on this day and appointments will be available for parents from 2.40 - 7.00 p.m. |
| 22nd October | Cultural Dress Day and a Celebration Evening from 6.00— 8.00 p.m. |

**We also hope to run a number of workshops to commemorate Black History Month. More details to follow**