Unique and Valuable before God

The St Mark's News
11th December 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted Feedback

Thank you very much for your helpful and positive feedback during our recent Ofsted inspection. We are currently awaiting feedback and the result. As soon as we receive this, we will issue you with a copy of the report. Can I also take this opportunity to thank those of you who have volunteered to support on class trips this year. Trips and school visits would not be able to take place without this much appreciated support.

It was wonderful to see so many of our youngest children take part in their first Nativity play earlier this week, well done. **Year 2 take to the stage next Wednesday at 2.30pm in the school hall and children in Years 3-6 will perform in the Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday 17th December at St Mark's Church at 6.00pm**. Details for all of the events for the final week are within this newsletter and a reminder will be sent out next week.

Please note that on **Friday 18th December** children are able to bring in £1 and wear their own clothes to school. As mentioned in previous newsletters, school next Friday finishes **at 1.30pm** and the children will need to be collected at this time.

Some of our Reception children starring in the Early Years' Nativity.

Shoebox Appeal

83 shoe boxes were collected in total from our school. Thank you for this excellent effort.

School Collective Worship theme:

'The School's Core Values'

Wk 6– Trust

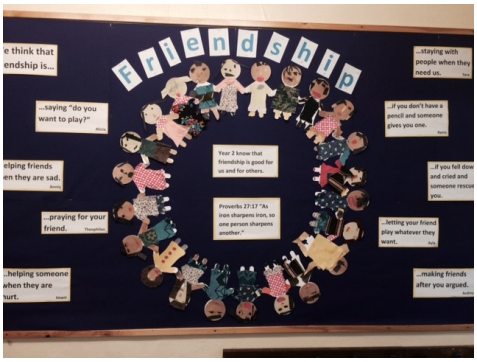
Trust in the Lord with all your heart– Prov 5

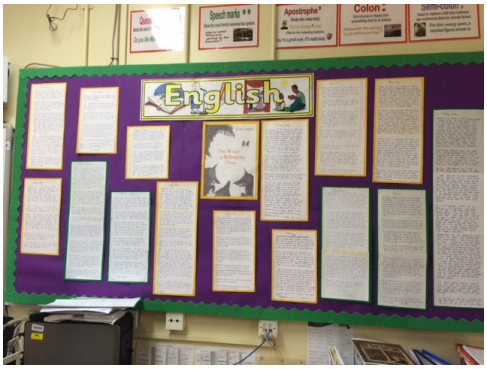
St Mark's Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday 17th December 2015 at St Mark's Church– 6.00pm followed by refreshments

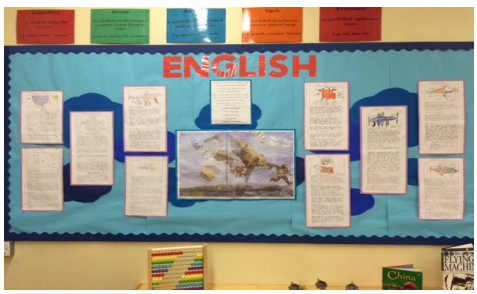
Many children across Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) will be performing on stage. We hope to see you there!

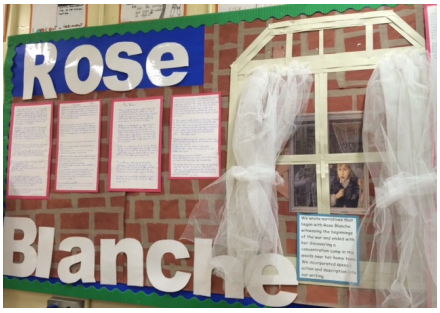
Inspiring learning environments across the school

We always endeavour to showcase and celebrate children's work and efforts and achievements both within the classroom and the school ,through high quality display work. Please do speak to a member of staff to have a look at some of the children's work in your child's classroom or around the school.









Anti-bullying Competition

Congratulations to our twelve winners of the anti-bullying competition. With over sixty entries, the judges finally chose the entries by Julia (Year 5), Gordon (Year 6), Steven (Year 5), Pablo (Year 5), Periece (Year 4), D'Andra-May (Year 4), Gracie (Year 3), Thaisa (year 5), Ana (Reception) and Max (Reception). All entries will be display around the school, but more importantly it is crucial that the whole school community works hard to challenge and eradicate all forms of bullying and encourage a positive school community in which we treat each other with mutual respect.

Key Diary Dates for the final week of term

14th December	Christmas Pantomime 2:15pm in school hall
15th December	Christmas lunch
16th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity- 2.30 pm at school
16th December	Recorder group performing at Christmas service at St Mark's Church-7.00 pm
17th December	Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert at St Mark's Church—6.00 pm
18th December	Christmas Market—8.30-9.30 am at school & Christmas Parties

Attendance and Punctuality

Unfortunately no classes reached 96%

Please lets work together to improve this

Social Media Safety

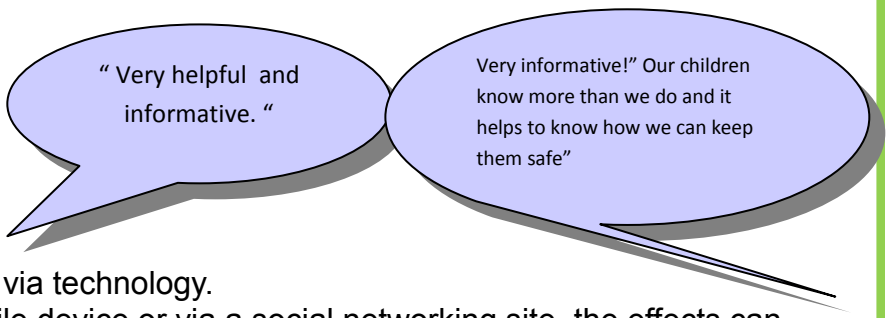
The two quotes below are from our recent parent workshop on social media safety held on Tuesday 1st December.
The information below is a summary of the presentation from Sarwan Singh, Lambeth's safeguarding children's manager .
He also spoke to children in Years 5 and 6 about online safety.

Limiting the risks that children and young people face when using the digital technologies

New communications technologies have put the world at the fingertips of children. Today's communications technology is a powerful tool .The possibilities for learning and socialising are endless but so too are the possibilities for doing serious harm to others

The risks and dangers of being online

- -Cyber-bullying
- -Inappropriate Contents
- -Grooming and sexual abuse
- -Sharing personal information



Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place via technology.
Whether on gaming sites, through a mobile device or via a social networking site, the effects can be devastating for the young people involved.

If your child is a victim of cyberbullying remember the following points:

Save all evidence of the bullying so that it can be used as proof.
Save texts or voicemails that say anything horrible.
Ask your child not to reply or retaliate to things that a bully may say or do; it might make the situation worse.
Report the bullying to a member of staff at the school.
Contact your service provider. Check out their website or call them for advice or a free number change.

On-Line Grooming

Abusers may pretend to be of the same age as the young person. The person may start to flirt, gradually progressing to inappropriate talk.
The abuser might send pictures or stream movies of a girl or boy they are pretending to be.
The person may ask the young person to send an inappropriate selfie.
They might also say their webcam is broken so the young person cannot see them.
Once they have an embarrassing photo or video of the young person, they try to use it to blackmail or threaten them and/or to meet them in person

Tips to help keep children safe on the internet and social networks

- Place your home computer in an area of your house where you can easily supervise your family's Internet activity.
- Have a discussion with your sons and daughters about their online friends and activities. Make sure they really know who their on-line friends are.
- Review the amount of time your son or daughter spends on the Internet, and at what times of the day.
- Change the profile settings to private
- Make sure they do not put unnecessary personal information on their profile.
- Set yourself as a friend on the site
- Use the parental control filters on your computer or anti-virus software and

Useful Websites for parents and children

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk
www.childnet.com
www.internetmatters.org/controls/