Unique and Valuable before God

The St Mark's News

15th January 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

A Busy Week!

It has been another fantastic week at St Mark's. Reception Class went out on a visit to the London Transport Museum as part of their Term 3 topic and Years 4-6 enjoyed working with a performance poet on Tuesday. Recorder lessons started for children in Year 3 and they will soon be receiving their recorders to take home and practice on, so parents get ready! Children in Year 5 started their swimming lessons at Brixton Recreation Centre and yesterday, children in Year 4 enjoyed an excellent Anglo-Saxon day with 'Dom' the Anglo-Saxon Warrior.

I hope by now that you have all received the Term 3 class bulletin, which outlines the learning that is planned to take place during the term. Please continue to encourage your children to take part in research related to your topics and visit the library or museum, or other events that are taking place.

Parent's Evening

We will be holding our second parents' evening meetings6 on 2nd—3rd February 2016. This is a time for you to get an update on how your child is getting on at school and to speak to your child's class teacher about their progress. A letter will be sent out on Monday. Please return as soon as possible to secure your preferred time.

Parental Support

Can I say a big thank you for your continued support for the school as we work hard to secure the best outcomes for all pupils. It was pleasing to see over 20 parents present at our Parent Staff Association meeting on Tuesday to find out and plan how to set up an official group to lead on fund raising events. If you missed it and are keen to get involved a follow up meeting will take place on **Tuesday 26 January at 9.00am.**

Over 20 parents were present at our first PSA meeting

School Collective Worship theme:

'The School Values'

Wk 2 – Joy

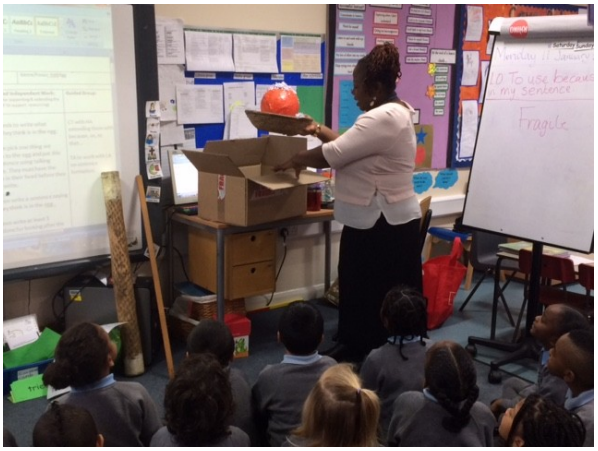
Rejoice in the Lord always Philippians ch 4: 4

The joy of the Lord is your strength Nehemiah ch 8: 10

Joy

Our collective worship focus of joy has enabled us to focus on the importance of happiness in our lives and how true, inner joy comes from God who is able to uphold us during the most challenging of times.

An inspirational curriculum which engages and inspires children in their learning



Wow! A dinosaur egg arrives in Year 1. An egg specialist also answered all of the children's egg related questions.

Joshua the performance poet steps in for Dean Atta to deliver an exciting workshop for our Year six children .

Our Year 4 Anglo– Saxon Hoard lead collective worship and terrify the rest of the school including me!

Dom and the Year 4 children learning 'Beowulf' a famous Anglo-Saxon narrative poem.

Early Years at Work

Children working hard at developing their counting and number skills

Members of Reception Class at the Transport Museum

Children writing about their weekend news

Meetings and Events for Parents

Throughout 2016 we really want to work closely with you as parents and carers in obtaining your feedback, providing you with training opportunities for how you can support your children in their learning and in developing our partnership together. These dates were first circulated in December and I have repeated them again

Tuesday 19th January at 9.00am Healthy eating on a budget

A supportive one hour workshop from trained specialists. We will be treating all those who attend to fresh juices and smoothies!

Tuesday 26th January at 9.00am Developing a healthy food policy for St Mark's Primary School

Come and join us for fresh smoothies and to share your thoughts and ideas for how we can develop a healthy food policy for the school.

Tuesday 26th January at 9.00am Establishing a Parent & Staff Association (PSA) II

During this second meeting we hope to decide on the name of the PSA; agree on a constitution (the document that states the aims and how the PSA will be run) and find out about which of you are interested in committee roles.

Friday 29th January at 9.00am -Early Writing for Reception and Year 1 Parents

Due to popular parental demand, Springboard, the group who provided the phonics training, will be returning to the school to provide ideas for parents on how they can encourage and support children's writing during the early stages of their learning.

Tuesday 2nd 3.50-7.00pm and Wednesday 3rd Feb 3.50-6.00pm Parents' Evening

Please make sure that you book a place to meet with your child's teacher to find out about their learning, progress and next steps.

Wednesday 24th March at 9.30am Easter Service

Come along to St Mark's Church for our Easter service, which will be led by our Year 4.

Parent and Staff Zumba!

We have recently started a Parent & Staff Zumba Club that takes place every Thursday at 4.45pm in the school hall. If you would like to participate, simply come along on Thursday evenings. The charge is just £2.00 per session

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

Explore Zoology - Grant Museum of Zoology

FREE (All Ages)

Rockefeller Building, University College London, University St, WC1E 6DE / 020 3106 2052 / www.ucl.ac.uk

Nearest Tube: Euston/Goodge Street

Sat 16th Jan, 1pm-4pm

Ever wondered how heavy an elephant tusk is or how sharp a shark's tooth is or how many scales a pangolin has? Well this is a great opportunity for budding animal biologists to try a spot of hands-on exploration and ask questions of the museum's enthusiastic educators. Drop in and be amazed by the natural world!

8-14's Studio: Improvising with materials - Tate Modern

FREE (Ages 8-14yrs)

Bankside, SE1 9TG / 020 7887 8888 / www.tate.org.uk

Nearest tube: Southwark/Blackfriars

Sat 16th Jan, noon-5pm

Professional artist Matt Shaw invites you to join him in improvising with a range of materials to see how you can inspire change transformation. There are no rules, just bring your curiosity and see what happens.

Winter Lights Weekend – Canary Wharf

FREE (All ages)

Isle of Dogs, E14 4HJ / http://canarywharf.com/arts-events/events/winter-lights-weekend

Nearest Tube: Canary Wharf

Sat 16th & Sun 17th Jan, 4pm-8pm

Canary Wharf will be bursting with more stunning interactive and free light spectacles for all the family; enjoy controlling light and be surprised by illuminated shapes and digital creations.

British Museum

FREE (Age 7+)

44 Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG / 020 7323 8000 / www.british museum.org

Nearest tube: Holborn/Russell Square

Discover Digital Music - Sat 16th Jan, 11am-4pm. Learn about music from around the world and create your own melodies using innovative technologies. Activity takes 30-45 minutes.

St Matthew's Project Junior Football - Brockwell Park

FREE (Ages 6-18)

Brockwell Park, (Tulse Hill side, by the swings) / www.thesmp.net

Every Saturday at 10am-12am

Free, structured football and coaching sessions for all young people of all abilities with exit routes into league football and direct referrals to Fulham FC Talent Recruitment for gifted players aged 6-10years.