Unique and Valuable before God

The St Mark's News
18th December 2015

For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given-Isaiah 9:6

We come to the end of a very busy term, which has seen so many high points and things to celebrate.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas and may we all give ourselves time to reflect upon the wonder and significance of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Don't forget that school begins on

Tuesday 5th January 2016 at 8.55 a.m.

School Collective Worship theme:

'The School Values'

Wk 7– Peace

Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1

Our Year 6 students visited Archbishop Tenison's to watch the final of their mastermind competition yesterday. Plans are already underway for St Mark's to take part next year.

St Mark's has got talent!

It has been a privilege during the past week to see the extraordinary talents of the children at St Mark's Primary School. Firstly on Wednesday, when our children in Years 1 and 2 produced an amazing Nativity performance to many of you. Then on Wednesday evening when our school recorder group performed superbly to an audience of 200 at the Police Commissioner's Service at St Mark's Church. Last night over 80 Key Stage 2 children performed with confidence and great ability during their Christmas Carol Concert, to a full house at St Mark's Church. Well done children for all of your hard work, effort and achievement and thank you parents and carers for your support for these special events.

Thanks to Mrs Judith Rust, we will have the opportunity to extend our music provision in Term 3 to allow some classes to learn the recorder and guitar within curriculum time. This is all in addition to the excellent singing lessons that already take place across the school. We have so many fantastic singers in the school that we would encourage as many children as possible to consider joining the school choir, which is after school on Mondays.

Meetings and Events for Parents

Throughout 2016 we really want to work closely with you as parents and carers in obtaining your feedback and providing you with training opportunities for how you can support your children in their learning. There are already some dates in the diary for January, which we could like you to take a note of.

Tuesday 12th January Establishing a Parent & Staff Association (PSA)

Please come along for coffee/tea and to share ideas for how we can formally establish a group to organise fundraising events for the school

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

A supportive one hour workshop from trained specialists

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.

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.

This Week

On Monday the Lantern Theatre Group performed for the whole school about the true meaning of Christmas.

Thanks to all for participating in our Christmas Market

Stars of the Term

At the end of each term, teachers select 3 children who have demonstrated excellent achievement in learning, excellent effort in their commitment to their work and excellent collaboration in the way they have worked with others. So many children across the school demonstrate these qualities but the children below have been identified for Term 2 are:

Reception	Maria-Victoria	Aisha	Nicholas
Year 1	Norris	Grace	Neriah
Year 2	Rafael	Imani	Alicia
Year 3	Jacob	Thalia	Erika
Year 4	Makeina	Hensi	Daniella
Year 5	Enitan	Rebecca	Thaisa
Year 6	Joao	Lisa	Jarrell

100% attendance Award Winners

Congratulations to Aaron, Solange, Naja, Kelvin, Esteban, Faith, Tomiwa, Bryan and Ethan in Year 1; TK, Imani, Akicia, Ziva, Ayla, William, Annia and Anna in Year 2; Juanita, Lauren, Jacob and Thalia in Year 3; Shreine, D'Andra May, Fantasy, Wenday and Jeremy in Year 4; Josie, Jayden, Marcela, Ku-Yu, Rebecca, Terrence and Tsion in Year 5 who all have 100% attendance for the Autumn Term. Children in Year 6 will be awarded their certificates in January. In the Spring Term we will recognise pupils who have achieved 96% and 98% attendance rates so all children across the school have a target to work towards.