Unique and Valuable before God

The St Mark's News
29th January 2016
Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Into University

We want all of our children to continue their education beyond secondary school and aspire to enter university. Our Year 6 children have participated in an exciting, week long project aimed at inspiring them to do just that. Into University is an excellent charity that provides school children with the aims and aspirations to go to University in the future. Throughout the week, children experienced a live theatre performance and participated in a work-shop with actors. Children also had the opportunity to participate in film making and research projects. The week culminated in a graduation ceremony at Kings College University. Throughout the week children were involved in a range of different challenges and were provided with times to reflect and think about what they want to do in the future.

School Collective Worship

Theme: 'The School Values'

Wk 4– Self –Control

Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city

Proverbs 16: 32

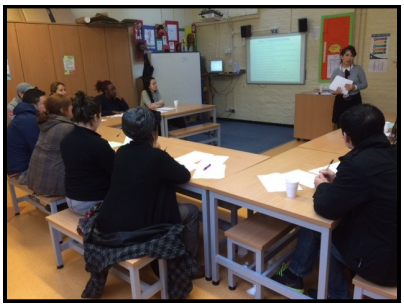
A message from our Prayer Monitors on how to demonstrate self-control...

'Count to ten, make a plan, pray to God, Yes we can!'

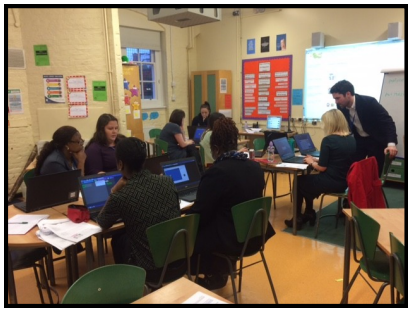
Excellent Leadership across the whole school community

I am very proud to be the head of school at St Mark's and witness the whole school community working closely together in order to move the school on towards achieving outstanding outcomes for the pupils. There has been great evidence of this during this week alone. I would like to thank all staff, parents and pupils for their hard work and ongoing commitment to moving our school from good to great.

Parent Leadership:
On Tuesday, fifteen parents gathered at school for the second meeting about setting up a Parent School Association
On Friday a similar number gathered for a very helpful workshop based on how to support children in their early stages of writing.



Staff Leadership-On Tuesday, Mr Harrowell led staff training on how to teach computer coding across the school. Each class will participate in weekly computer lessons using our new laptops. This will provide us with a fantastic opportunity to further challenge and extend children's thinking skills through computer coding.



Pupil Leadership-On Wednesday, our prayer monitors led collective worship and provided very helpful advice on how we can show our school value of self-control in the different situations that we are often faced with. In addition to this, nearly seventy children have committed themselves to taking on new school monitor positions across the school this term.
Well Done!

Attendance and Punctuality

Another pleasing week which saw four classes achieve attendance rates of over 96%. The winning classes are Year 5, Year 4, Year 3 and Year 2. Please remember that school starts at 8.55am. Punctuality has slipped slightly, so please make sure that your child is in line at 8.55am.

Thanks

Parents Evening for Years 1-6

Many thanks for signing up for our parents evening for next week. If you returned a form, your class teacher will confirm the time by today. If you have not yet booked a time, please can I urge you to do so. It is crucial that we provide you with a picture of your child's learning within class so we can work together in order to support them in the next stage of their learning. Please see below for a reminder of some of the details.

When

Tuesday 2nd February 3.50-7.00pm

and Wednesday 3rd February 3.50 – 6.00pm

Where

In the school hall

What do we hope to achieve?

- **We will update you on your child's progress towards achieving their year group standards**
- **We will inform you of your child's strengths and next steps in their learning**
- **We will inform you of any additional educational provision that your child is receiving**
- **We will advise you on how you can continue to support your child at home**
- **You will have an opportunity to look at your child's English and Maths books**
- **You will be able to ask any questions of your own relating to your child's learning**

Year Two's visit to the London Eye

Year Two experienced the best view of London today during their visit to the London Eye, as part of their topic on 'London life.' They have become very familiar with some of the significant and historic landmarks across the capital and enjoyed seeing them first hand today.

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

Creature Creations - 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 30th Jan, 1.30pm-4.30pm

Create works of art inspired by some of the weird and wonderful animals that call the Grant Museum hoe or invent your very own brand new animal, give it a name and add it to the collection.

Pop-up Performance: The King, the Parrot and the Cat - V&A Museum

FREE (All Ages)

Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL / 020 7942 2000/ www.vam.ac.uk

Nearest tube: South Kensington

Sat 30th, 11am, 1pm & 3pm

Experience the amazing sights, smells & tastes of the King's banquet & meet his beautiful parrot, just watch out for the cat!

British Museum

FREE (Ages as below)

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

Nearest tube: Holborn/Russell Square

Amazing Animal Mummies (Ages 5+) **-** Sat 30th Jan, 11am-4pm. Discover why the ancient Egyptians mummified animals and play digital games to find out which gods they represented. Drop-in activity which lasts 30-45 minutes.

Design Your Own Card Game (Ages 7+) **-** Sun 31st Jan, 11am-1pm & 2pm-4pm. Learn about card games from around the world, and work with a professional games designer to create your own personalised cards to take home. To secure a place, sign up on the day.

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

Every weekend until 28th February, 4pm-8pmIf you loved Lumiere London, you will love Canary Wharf's Winter Lights which have been extended until the end of February. 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.