



# St. Mark's C. E. (A) Primary

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## Message from Mrs Johnstone and Mr Nicholls

### Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a busy couple of weeks and there have been many activities happening both in and out of school.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January, Year 5 were visited by Sir Teachalot as part of their Learning Challenge Curriculum topic on the Ancient Greeks. Throughout the day, they learned about many aspects of the lives of the Ancient Greeks, including: the difference between the roles of men and women, their education system, the workplace, the differences between areas (such as Athens and Sparta) as well as how they prepared for warfare. The children also had the opportunity to dress up and handle reproductions of original Greek clothing such as the chiton (later called the toga by the Romans) and various items of armour including helmets, breastplates, shields and spears. Overall, the children had a wonderful day and learned many new facts about the Ancient Greeks.

As well as this, a small group of children from Year 5 visited Werrington Primary School where they had the opportunity to take part in a workshop ran by Scott Walker, a science officer at Keele University. The workshop was entitled, 'To Infinity and Beyond' and the children had the opportunity to handle real pieces of moon rock and meteorite samples. The children had an 'out of this world' experience.

This Tuesday, Year 1 visited the Wolseley Centre, which is near to Rugeley. The children had a great time and participated in a range of activities such as: making smelly potions; listening to what they could hear in the environment and touching objects to describe how they felt. They also got the opportunity to make clay animals and draw the River Trent. It was a really enjoyable trip and all of the children had fun, even though it was cold. Class 2G visited the Spode Gardens as part of their ongoing art project. They had a fantastic time sketching and exploring the gardens now that they have been improved.

Year 6 had their meeting about their residential visit to Shugborough, which is in June. Thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend. If you did not manage to attend and would like information on the visit, please come and speak to us or your child's teacher. We would like all of the children to attend the residential but if you do not want your child to go then you must come and talk to us. It is such a valuable and rewarding experience for the children.

The weather remains extremely cold; please can you ensure that children come into school in warm coats, hats and gloves. All items of clothing need to be labelled with your child's name. There have been instances of children coming to school with no coat on this week and this will lead to them getting colds. There are still a number of children who are wearing trainers for school. All children should wear black school shoes, as this is part of our school uniform. We will be checking this next week and speaking to parents if children are wearing trainers.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

## Casual Lunchtime Supervisor Required

We have a vacancy for a casual lunchtime supervisor working as and when required. You must be available to work at short notice. If you are interested in applying for this post, please leave your name and address at the school office. An application form will be sent out to you.

## New Playground Equipment



Some of you may have noticed we have some new and exciting play equipment on the playground. The children will really enjoy exploring all the different pieces to play on including a Rock & Roll Log, a Swinging Log and a Forest Climber.

## Merit Awards

Well done to all the children who have received golden jumpers and merit awards. The awards for week ending 27th January 2017 went to:- Ahmed Rehman, Husayn Mahmood, Miaraj Elnou, Harkirat Singh, Ayesha Rashid, Syeda Sassi Shirazi, Muallim Naseer, Ornesa Khalid, Muhammed Bilal, Arafat Khadarkhail, Muhammed Hussain, Kain Trull, Awaab Elhabib, Sira Begum



## Shugborough Hall Visit Y6

Just a reminder that if you would like your child to go on the 3 day residential trip to Shugborough in June, we need a £25 deposit by Friday 24th February. If your child is on or has previously been on free school meals please contact the office.

## Dates for the Diary



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February - SATs meeting in the hall for Y6 parents  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Y3 Egyptian Workshop  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February - E-Safety Week  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February - Parents Evening 3pm to 7pm  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Bee Active Fitness Competition Y3 & Y4  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February school closes for half term