



Summer Term 2 Week 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to open this week's newsletter with a heartfelt thank you: we have received an enormous amount of support and suggestions about how we can lead our pupils to become advocates for change and embrace further opportunities to challenge inequality in all its forms.

We use an approach at St. Mary's called Philosophy for Children (P4C) which enhances our pupil's communication skills when debating, discussing and sharing their ideas and beliefs. In these sessions, children explore questions around values; learn about concepts such as justice, truth and knowledge; and reflect how they feel about these concepts. Lessons taking place during this term will be refocused to provide a platform for our pupils to carefully think, question, discuss and respond to the protests and Black Lives Matter movement.

In addition to this, I am equally thrilled to announce that children in year 6 will begin an exciting unit of history learning. Over the next 4 weeks, Year 6 children will learn to challenge the reliability of sources; they will learn about colonialism and its effects; and, finally, examine the effect language in the media has in shaping our perceptions of people. Relevant and powerful, these lessons will develop the children's understanding and knowledge so that they are better prepared to debate the history of inequality.

These are just a few examples of what we are currently doing and I look forward to sharing more of our future plans and actions.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Matthews

Art Exhibition Update

Excitement is building over the forthcoming art exhibition. Across the school, children are learning about important artists and developing their art skills. Although the exhibition is some time away, the children are already producing wonderful pieces of art. This week, I would like to share with you some of the paintings produced by year 5 students with Mrs Crawford and Mr Bovelle. Inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keefe, the children have painted some truly remarkable paintings.



Year 5 Update

This week, we have been finalising plans to prepare for our Year 5 pupils return. We are so excited to welcome them back and know they will enjoy seeing their friends and teachers!

Walthamstow School for Girls have continued to go above and beyond supporting us in our wider reopening and we are so grateful for their support.

If you have a child in Year 5 who is returning, please make sure that you have ordered their lunches for the week via The Pantry online portal. All orders need to be made by 12pm on Sunday for the following week.



Class Corner

This week Reception Bubble G, otherwise known as the Lion group, have been doing some fantastic work. We particularly enjoyed learning about the Water Cycle and making our own rain clouds! We talked about the different stages and then used water, shaving foam and blue paint to recreate the precipitation stage. The boys showed lots of enthusiasm and we were so impressed with their prior knowledge and understanding. Well done Lions!

Value of the Week

This week we have been reflecting on the value of **kindness**. I am often in awe of the kind words, actions and thoughts that our children regularly share, demonstrate and model.

Luke 6:31.

**'And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.'**



Anxiety weighs down
the heart, but a **kind**
word cheers it up.
Proverbs 12:25

Key Term Dates

Summer Term 2020 First Half (24 days)

Start - Monday 20 April 2020

End - Friday 22nd May

Bank Holidays Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May

Half Term: Tuesday 26 May 2020 to Friday 29 May

2020 Second Half (35 days)

Start – Monday 1st June

Finish - Friday 17th July

This calendar gives a total of 195 days. Four Inset Days and one further day made up from Twilight sessions gives 190 school days

Useful Contacts

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Reminders

- The government has made wearing face coverings a requirement of using public transport from 15 June to coincide with the next stage of carefully easing restrictions. Please ensure that if you and your child are travelling to school using public transport that you do wear a face covering.
- Scooters and bikes will have to be taken back home by yourselves after drop off as they cannot remain on site.
- The only items pupils should be bringing into school is their water bottles of pack lunches. Please remember no book bags or satchels will be needed.
- Can I also remind you that it is extremely important to the safe start and end to the school day that all pupils are dropped off and collected at their dedicated time.