



24th March 2017

Note from Mrs Coulthard

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

On April 1st we will formally 'convert' to become a Multi Academy Trust and as such our federation name will change to become The Wings' CE Trust. This will also mean that St Mark's will no longer be a school in 'special measures'.

Tomorrow it will be two years since St Mark's were placed in to 'special measures'. In the two years that have passed the school has significantly improved to become what we know is a 'good' school. This year's SATs results have been our best ever for a number of years and there have been lots of things to celebrate. Please keep your eyes open over the next week on Facebook as we intend to showcase some of this with you. Of course, my thanks must go to the staff who have worked above and beyond the call of duty and been resolute in ensuring our children get the very best, our governors who give freely of their time and expertise, our families who have fully supported us and of course our beautiful children who have embraced the changes made and shone like the stars they are. I also must thank staff at St George's who wholeheartedly wished to partner with St Mark's and support their 'sister school'. Of course, all of this does not happen by osmosis, and I would also like to pay tribute to the determination and passion of Mrs Rice who was present during the previous inspection and has led these improvements.

This week our Y6 pupils travelled to Brathay in the Lake District to hold their first Booster Residential. They worked hard on their Maths, Writing and Artistic skills using their class novel, Swallows and Amazons as a focus which is set in the area the children were staying. As always our children did us proud and despite the horrible weather, had a fantastic time. Many thanks to the staff that gave willingly of their time.

Today there are Mother's Day events on in both schools and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all you Mums a super weekend and hope you all get spoiled by your lovely children!

Regards,
Mrs R Coulthard

Miss Young - What's been happening this week....?

This week has been another busy week at St George's beginning with our Y6 pupils attending Brathay to enhance their learning in the beautiful surroundings of the Lake District, they were joined by the Y6 pupils from St Mark's. The children took part in a number of outdoor activities whilst undertaking both English and maths booster activities. I'd like to thank all the staff who attended with particular thanks to Miss Pollard for organising the residential.

KS2 pupils have also attended the Parish Church as part of 'Experience Easter' which enhances their understanding of the Easter Story.

Yesterday we were visited by Liz Towers who came assess us for our Quality Mark which looks at the provision of basic skills across the school. The visit was extremely positive and I'd like to thank all stakeholders who took part, particularly Tina Todd, (one of our parents) who came to discuss provision from a parents perspective. I will update you once the final report has been ratified and sent back to us.

We hope you found the spelling, punctuation and grammar workshops useful as ever they were well attended and don't forget...we are all always learning.

Many thanks to everyone who came today to take part in the Mother's Day coffee morning and afternoon, we hope you enjoyed your experience with us and are very grateful for your continued support.

Children sported odd socks today for Red Nose Day and once funds have been counted we will let you know how much we have raised to support the charity.

It is with a warm heart that we will be welcoming Mrs Yates back with us on Monday, she is extremely grateful for all the support the school governors, staff, parents and children have offered and will continue to offer her.

As we often say, we are not just a school but we are a family here at St George's and the community we have is second to none during times of joy, trouble and sadness and I am extremely proud to be part of that.

Wishing you a lovely weekend as you celebrate Mothering Sunday with your loved ones.

Miss Young

What's coming up next week....?

Wednesday, 29th March

Parents Evening – all letters have been sent home please ensure you return the slip with your preferred time to class teacher. If you have not received a letter please call into the office and ask for one.

Thursday, 30th March

School closes for the Half Term Easter Break and we return on **Tuesday, 18th April**

Notices

For the safety of our pupils please do not drive onto the school car park to drop off or pick up children.

