



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Issue 8

April 2017

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'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him'. Colossians 3:17

'If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough'. Meister Eckhart 12th Century German theologian, philosopher and mystic

Our Value for April is Thankfulness

Welcome back to school, it is difficult to believe that we are in the final third of the academic year. The school ended the Spring Term with the Solemn Liturgical Dance beautifully and reverentially performed by Year 6. They told us through readings from the bible, in song, prayer and dance, the story of The Passion of Christ. The scene was set in the Garden of Gethsemane and included the crucifixion of Jesus and ended with the victory of Christ over death. The Passion is a story about injustice, doubt, fear, pain and ultimately, degrading death. It tells how God experienced these things in the same way as ordinary human beings.



The children from Reception – Year 2 re-enacted The Palm Sunday Gospel through drama and hymns. This was a very special Liturgy beautifully prepared by the children and served as a reminder of the importance of Easter to our Catholic Faith. The hymns also reminded us of the quote attributed to St. Augustine of Hippo: "They who sing pray twice".

Easter Cards— we had an incredible number of fantastic Easter Cards designed by the children. The cards were a ray of colour, cut-outs and drawings. Children throughout the school had the opportunity to view, discuss and marvel at the displays. The winners each received a delicious Easter Egg.



The School Councillors from Years 5 and 6, Michaela, Che, Llywella and Rex, spent an informative morning at the Civic Suite . When they arrived they completed a quiz about the London Borough of Lewisham, looked at Mayoral Regalia including former and current mayoral Maces and even tried out the Mayoral chair. The children went into the Council Chambers where they met the Deputy Young Mayor of Lewisham, Tekisha Henry from Sedghill. She explained how she was elected and her role . Afterwards the children finally met Sir Steve Bullock, the Mayor of Lewisham. Sir Steve showed them his Mayoral Chain and Medal and explained the work of Lewisham Council. The Councillors questioned Sir Steve on his achievements and role as Mayor.



At the end of the morning Sir Steve Bullock announced the winners of the quiz and the children were delighted to hear that it was.....St. Augustine's! A fantastic end to a thought provoking and interesting morning.

Year 5 enjoyed weekly cooking lessons at Bonus Pastor. Every Tuesday afternoon the children learned different baking techniques. They made muffins, scones, cookies and more. Word has it that parents enjoyed their learning too, over a cup of tea! They were all very grateful for the help they received from Mr Manning.



On the 23rd March, **Year 5** crossed the road to **Beckenham Place Park** to meet up with the park wardens and groundsmen. Our mission: to help renovate the park by planting a few trees. There were 75 trees waiting in bags, and the children were eager to get started. Surprisingly, they not only succeeded in planting those, but more trees were obtained for them; Oak, Hazel and Sweet Chestnut... Just imagine our astonishment to find out that 205 trees had been planted in around an hour! The children were happy to contribute to protecting the natural environment. As one of the year 5 children said: "Every puff of oxygen helps the world a bit more!"



Online Safety: PC Diane Vincent visited Year 6 to educate the children on staying safe online. The discussion covered ways the children can stay in control; laws concerning offences online and knowing that some people use the internet to be nasty to others. They were given lots of information about the internet and mobile phones, so they can make the right choices and be safe.

Transport for London visited Year 6 to give clear safety guidance on how children keep themselves safe when out and about. The children watched video clips and took part in a role play activity relating to keeping safe on buses, trains and tubes. Children were encouraged to ask questions throughout the talk about the following:

- What does citizenship mean? - Zip cards, what happens if you lose your card? - Road Safety, taking responsibility when crossing the roads. - TFL and the law, what behaviour is expected of people (including children) who use public transport.

What are the Dumps? The Dumps adventure playground is an amazing facility in Oakview Road about 10 minutes walk away from the school. Anyone and everyone is welcome (between the ages of 8-19years old) and there is always something fun to do.

Lewisham's adventure playground "The Dumps" is a safe and comfortable place for children to enjoy. The large wooden outdoor play structure is built on three levels and features ramps, walkways, swings of varying sizes, rope bridges and hideaways. They are all linked and make a great place for a game of tag. There is also a large playing field and a small animal park with a rabbit and guinea pigs. The centre opens Tuesday to Friday 3–6.30pm and Saturday 11am–4.45pm.

Online safety –know what your child is doing –Set some boundaries for your child before they get their first 'connected device' (mobile, tablet, laptop or games console). Once they have it, it can be more difficult to change the way they use it or the settings. Tell your child that it's very important to keep phones and other devices secure and well hidden when they're not at home, to minimise the risk of theft or loss. Discuss with your child what is safe and appropriate to post and share online. Written comments, photos and videos all form part of their 'digital footprint' and could be seen by anyone, this information is available on the internet forever, even if it appears to have been deleted.



Diary dates to note: more dates to follow

- 5 May Year 1 Assembly 9:10am –parents welcome
- 8 May Yr 1 to Catford Bus Garage –morning only
- 8-11 May Year 6 SATS**
- 11 May Yr 4 to Horton Kirby looking at Habitats
Yr 5 to British Museum
- 12 May Yr 6 to The Dumps (afternoon)
- 18 May Yr 3 to British Museum
- 19 May Reception Assembly
- 22-26 May Year 2 SATs**
- Yr 5 & 6 on School Journey
- 22 May Balance Bikes Reception & Yr 1
- 24 May Y1 Eltham Environmental Centre—Seasons

29 May –2 June Half term

Summer Term 19th April –19th July 2017

Half term 29th May –2nd June

Autumn 6th September –20th December 2017

Half term 23rd –27th October

To encourage **musical appreciation** & awareness, our focus for March is Jazz.



Some gentle reminders - Please go through these reminders with your children:

Birthday celebrations: only a small packet of sweets please.

School shoes: plain and black—no trainers or ankle boots.

Park further away from school and walk down inconsiderate parking will injure a child.

Whilst the weather is changeable remember a warm coat

This newsletter and other links are available on our website www.staugustines.lewisham.sch.uk

