



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Issue 5

January 2018

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John 8:31-32 Jesus said
"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Our Value for
January is
Truth & Justice

Welcome back to school. The children arrived back at school full of enthusiasm and a keenness to be back into the routine of school life, as well as looking as if they had all grown a few centimetres! Thank you once more for all your gifts and good wishes. All members of staff are appreciative of your good will and wish you Happiness, Health and Peace throughout the year. We are delighted to welcome back to the school Ms Lue-Kong (Year 3 teacher Monday and Tuesday).

At our start of year Mass, we also celebrated The Feast of the Epiphany. It was a thoughtful and reflective service where Father Emmanuel's homily reminded us on how the 3 wise men overcame adversity and hardship to find Jesus. Father Emmanuel also stressed the importance of Jesus in our lives, as well as reminding the children about showing kindness and consideration to each other both in school and the wider community. It was a timely reminder for the start of 2018.

Year 1 had their assembly on Friday 19th January. The children did a wonderful job and shared what they had been doing in class with the school and parents who joined us. They retold their own version of 'The Gruffalo' using actions and described what he looks like with his terrible claws. The children showed that they could count forwards and backwards as well as use number bonds to 10. They shared pictures of people who are special to them and led the school with the

hymn 'Build up' using actions and showed great enthusiasm. A wonderful Assembly enjoyed by parents, children and staff. Well done Year 1.



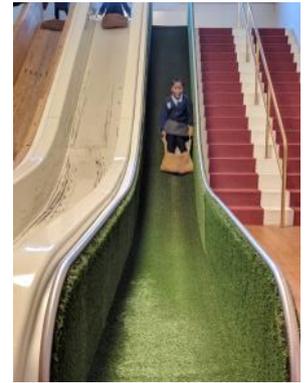
Why read with your child?

As parents know all too well, children love to re-read their favourite books over and over again. Reading exposes your child to rich language and diverse content. Book language uses a larger vocabulary and more complex grammatical structures than the short, one-way communication we tend to use when talking to our children. Books allow parents to expand the language environment as they become their children's first and most important teachers. They help parents to immerse their children in rich and varied language. Books of narrative fiction spark children's imagination as they entertain and inform them about their emotions. Books of informational non-fiction answer questions, providing concepts and knowledge that are the cornerstones of science and maths. Both types are important and all of their benefits can be realised with books in any language. Parents should read in their own language as well.



After the Christmas period I am sure lots of our children got new phones, tablets, games consoles or computers, all of which connect easily to the internet and all sorts of social media app's and sites. It is hugely important that parents regularly monitor all these devices. The UK Safer Internet Centre offers advice for families wanting to set online safety resolutions for the new year. Tips include: have an open and honest conversation; create a family agreement; look at all your accounts; use the internet together. See our school website for more details.

Tuesday 16th saw Year 5 trekking to the Science museum. It was a very busy day but staff and children were more than ready for it! On arrival they looked around the Space room - it was so cool. They had an actual lunar lander and children saw different models of all the rockets that have been into space. Next, the children had some time in the technology room where they saw Charles Babbage's Difference machine (as they had learned about this already in their Computing lessons, it was nice to see it for real) and various other things, including the very same games console Mr Morris had when he was a child (that made him feel old!).



The children watched the "Feel the Force show", which taught them all about Newton's laws of motion. It was so much fun. Natasha and John-Richard helped out with some experiments and a frog was launched from a rocket. So much was learned about all the push and pull forces the children can't wait to experiment further in the classroom.

After lunch, they had a whole hour in the Wonderlab. They were able to test out friction by sliding down special slides made of smooth wood, fake grass and plastic (the wood was the fastest because it had the least friction). They could also experience how different colours of light can fool their eyes; saw a show about electricity; experimented with centripetal force; played with ferrous liquids (it looks like alien goo and you can control it with magnets); and even made drops of water fall up. Seriously. Up! It was a great day out and everyone was shattered by the time they returned to school.

This week the children have been learning about a very special man who had a dream. On January 15th January people (in America particularly) celebrate and remember **Martin Luther King** and how he changed people's lives.

Year 3 have had an exciting start to the Spring Term with the introduction of swimming lessons, which take place every Wednesday. The children have responded extremely well to the swimming instructors and are becoming familiar with the new routines.



**Bags2School collection on
Thursday 25th January at 9am
no bags can be accepted after 10am.**

To encourage **musical appreciation** & awareness, our focus for January is Johannes Brahms & Benjamin Britten.



Future Diary Dates: more dates will follow

25 January	Bags2School
5 February	Yr 6 SATs meeting 6pm in hall
6 February	Internet Safety Day
10 February	Yr 3 Assembly at 9:10am
12-16 February Half term	
21 February	Yr 6 to the theatre
22 February	Yr 4 To the Tower of London
27 February	Lent breakfast
5 March	Silver Cross day
21 March	Parents evening
22 March	Parents evening
Spring Term	3 January 2018–29 March
Half term	12-16 February
Summer Term	17 April –19 July
Half-term	28 May –1 June

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

Earrings should be small and plain only.

Please ensure your child has a warm and sensible coat to wear – no bright logos or hoodies.

All uniform and property must be named – then if found, can be returned.

Boots can be worn to school but children must then change into shoes.

Clubs have started remember to be prompt in collecting your child.

Remember not to park on the zig-zag lines outside the school.

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

