

## Dear Parents and Carers



I can hardly believe that we have arrived at the end of the spring term. It has been a busy and wonderful term filled with lots of new learning, trips and visitors to the school.

Reflecting back over the term, each class has enjoyed either a trip or a visitor to enhance their curriculum. Here's a little reminder:

-Nursery class continued with their Foundling Museum workshops.

-Nursery, Reception and Year 1 were brave and adventurous when the Oreo and Friends animal workshop came to the school, some children even handled the snake!

-Not only did Year 2 learn lots from the online Fire Brigade workshop, last week they went back in time to The Florence Nightingale Museum.

-Year 3 have been practising hard with their dance project all term, culminating with an incredible performance at The Place yesterday. As well as this, they learnt lots about sustainable materials at the Building Centre a couple of weeks ago.

-As we know, Year 4 have been getting ready to perform their singing at The Royal Albert Hall after Easter. We are so grateful to Lis at Camden Music Service for all her support. Last Friday, the children hopped on a bus to visit Tower Bridge, many coming back very excited about the glass walkaway.

-Year 5 have been super busy, not only visiting The Charles Dickens Museum but subsequently working collaboratively with the museum on a drama and animation project – more on that to follow. Their cultural immersion has continued with their Primary Shakespeare induction morning, preparing themselves for intensive rehearsals of Twelfth Night. Year 5 have even managed to squeeze in time for the Fire Brigade workshop online too. Year 6 have been fully immersed in the following visits and experiences, including the Dioroma theatre visit, a trip to the London Metropolitan Archives (WW2 focus), a visit to The Barbican to see The London Symphony Orchestra and a whole day's workshop with the Royal Academy of Music, which culminated in a performance.

Other events worth a mention include:

- Well-Being Champion training for the School Council
- The Annual Service for LDBS Schools attended by the School Council
- A trip to Waterstones for children in Y2-6
- Whole school Safety Studies supported by our local CEOP adviser, Mary Rebelo and a visit from PC Rob and A/PS Dan, who are our Safer Schools Liaison Officers

As if that wasn't enough, of course we enjoyed a wonderful day celebrating World Book Day, attended by a children's author Jodie Lancet-Grant. Lucky children at St George the Martyr who can enjoy so many cultural opportunities that London has to offer!

Before we sign off for the Easter break, I know that you'll all join me in wishing Miss Jackson all the very best with her maternity leave which she starts today. We cannot wait for her to come back and visit us with her baby in the summer term.



**Best wishes**

**Mrs Rebecca Harris Headteacher and Miss Taryn Jackson, Deputy Headteacher**

### Looking ahead to the summer term

Please see message below from Mr Webb, our new Executive Headteacher and Mrs Whiteley, Head of School:

*We are excited to see all of the children and parents of St George the Martyr again after the Easter break. We look forward to Mrs Harris continuing to work with us to support the school to thrive. You'll get to know Mrs Whiteley well in the summer term as she will be the 'go to' Headteacher who parents see every day on the gate and when you have questions or something to share.*

*Wishing you a peaceful Easter.*

**Mrs Whiteley, Head of School, and Mr Webb, Executive Headteacher**

Meanwhile, wishing you all a very happy and healthy Easter break and we look forward to seeing you in the playground on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> April.

## Trips and visits

### Year 3's dance performance at The Place

Alongside seven other Camden schools, yesterday our Year 3 class showcased their creative dance performance at The Place, a local dance studio. Their dance was based on the theme of light. The students moved gracefully to the rhythm, portraying the beauty of light in their dance. It was an enchanting sight to see these young talents shine on stage! Mr Rutherford, Mr Martinez, Miss Islam, Mrs Harris and Miss Jackson and all the parents and carers watching their amazing performance felt super proud of Y3

### Year 4's trip to Tower Bridge

Year 4 had a great time on their trip to Tower Bridge. We visited the engine rooms and walked across the glass walkways. It was a fantastic sight to see.

Samia really enjoyed the glass 'bridge' and being able to see so many famous monuments. Antonia thought it was great that they had preserved the engine rooms for us to see.

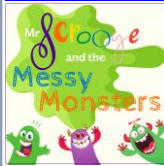
### Year 5's animation fog project with the Charles Dickens Museum

Our Year 5 class had the incredible opportunity to work with the Charles Dickens Museum, and help create an animation for their new exhibition. The children visited the museum and worked with Ben, the Education Officer, in class to learn all about how pollution would have affected people in Victorian London. They then had a chance to practice their dramatic reading, and record their voices for use in the animation. Finally, an animator worked with our class to bring the issue of pollution in Dickens's day to life. [The exhibition shows how Dickens spoke about the pollution which was so damaging to London in his day, and the fact that we are still making the problem worse around the world today.] It was an incredible experience and we all learned a lot about how our choices will have an impact for many years to come.

Edward Hoggart, Year 5 teacher

### Scrooge and the Messy Monsters play at The Charles Dickens Museum

It is warm, Spring evening and Scrooge is heading to bed. It has been four months since he was visited by three pesky spirits and he's been sleeping like a baby ever since. Well, that was until three annoying monsters showed up... <https://dickensmuseum.com/blogs/all-events/mr-scrooge-and-the-messy-monsters>



### Year 6's trip to The Barbican

The Year 6 children had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Barbican and take part in a concert by the London Symphony Orchestra. The children were introduced to the music of the famous composer George Gershwin. The children watched the musical performance and were invited to join in the concert.



## Science displays

Take a journey along our school corridors to experience the depth of science learning achieved throughout St George the Martyr. From Early Years and KS1 who investigated growing, everyday materials and animals including humans. Through Lower KS2, who looked at light and shadows, animals including humans, states of matter and sound. All the way up to Upper KS2, who examined forces, life cycles and evolution. You will see that our science displays are fantastically decorative and superbly informative. The work that every year group has produced is of a high standard and demonstrates a deep understanding of their topics.

**Nursery** have been 'Small Scientists': learning to name and explore a range of materials. We have been developing our understanding by creating a collage full of different materials. The children have been having discussions about what the materials look like and learning key vocabulary to describe what the materials feel like.



**Reception** class have been learning about underwater environments and growing. They conducted an experiment on the changing state of water from solid to liquid and what happens when salt is added to ice cubes, discovering "the salt makes it melt quicker." The children also learnt about parts of a plant and their jobs "the root goes into the soil to look for food to keep the stem up." they also learn about how to look after plants to keep the plant healthy "you need air, warmth, water and soil."

**Year 1** have been learning about every day materials and their properties. We have learnt to identify different types of materials before half term (rock, paper, wood, metal, plastic) and this half term, we have been investigating why some objects are made of more than one material and why. We have conducted some exciting experiments to compare flexibility/ elasticity of socks and paper and we conducted an absorbency test on various fabrics and paper.





**Year 2** learned so many amazing things in Science during this Spring term. During the first part of the term they explored different materials and evaluated whether they were suitable for specific uses. The highlight was their experiment on fabric durability, when they tested different fabrics to decide which would be the best choice for the making of dungarees! After half-term, they explored animals and humans' life cycles, examined each stage and observed similarities and differences between different offspring. Finally, they concluded on the basic needs of survival for a human baby and pinpointed the importance of adult care in the first years of a human baby.

**In Year 3**, the children were introduced to two important scientific concepts this term: light and nutrition. They explored how light behaves and how it is essential for life on earth. They learned about different sources of light, how it travels, and how it can be used. In addition to studying light, Year 3 also focused on the importance of nutrition for the human body. They learned about the different food groups, the nutrients they provide, and how to maintain a healthy diet. By understanding these fundamental concepts, they are now equipped with the knowledge they need to lead a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.



**In Year 4**, we have been learning about states of matter. We recapped our learning on the properties of solids, liquids and gases. We learned about the water cycle including what evaporation, condensation and precipitation are. More recently, we have been learning about sound, identifying how sounds are made and how they travel. We devised an investigation into measure how the loudness of a sound changes as the distance from the source increases and of course, made kazoos to test them.





Over the last term **Year 5** have looked at forces and life cycles in our science lessons. The class have examined pushes, pulls, friction, gravity and more. We then went on to examine different animals and comparing the stages of their development, which we will examine further in the Summer term. Our display outside the classroom highlights some of this amazing learning.



The **Year 6** class have been learning all about the human body and how our body can stay healthy. This has included learning about our blood, the cardiovascular system and different types of food groups our body needs for energy and fuel. The children conducted a study to find out how their heart changes pace during different activities.

## Year 4's Collective Worship at the Church

On welcoming us to their class Collective Worship, Year 4 reminded us that this time of year is very important in the Christian calendar. The narrators told us that it is almost time for Holy Week and today's assembly was about the Stations of the Cross and Easter.

The Stations of the Cross are represented as a series of paintings that remember Jesus' journey to the crucifixion. Imagine the scene 2000...ish years ago in Jerusalem. It is the time of Passover, and the city is very busy. Jesus and his Disciples have come to the city to take part in the annual celebrations. Jesus entered the city on a donkey to cheering crowds waving palm leaves. This is Palm Sunday. It is the start of Holy Week.

Jesus and his disciples shared a Passover meal. He asked his disciples to share some bread to represent his body, and to share some wine to represent the blood he would shed for them. Jesus told the disciples one of them would betray him. He told Simon Peter he would deny knowing him.

A short time later Jesus went to pray in the garden of Gethsemane. He was betrayed by his friend Judas and was arrested by the Romans.

### **The First Station: Jesus is condemned to death**

Jesus was accused of blasphemy. He was taken to the Roman Governor Pontius Pilot. There was no evidence against Jesus but his enemies wanted him found guilty. Pilot washed his hands to show he was not responsible and told the people to decide who they should set free. The people chose to condemn Jesus and free Barabbas.

**"Crucify him! Crucify him!"** They shouted over and over again. Jesus did not argue. He accepted his fate because he knew God was with him

**Jesus said "Dear God, please help me to forgive the people who are yelling and telling lies about me."**

### **The Second Station: Jesus receives his cross**

The guards put a crown made of thorns on Jesus' head and placed a large, heavy cross on his shoulders. Jesus knew that he must carry this cross a long way and that the way would be very hard for him at times; but he knew that God was with him.

**Jesus said "Please God; help me to carry this cross, even though it is heavy"**

### **The Third Station: Jesus Falls**

Jesus felt tired and weak as he walked along the road with the heavy cross on his shoulders. It pushes into his shoulder and the stones on the road hurt his feet. Jesus falls to the ground but the guards just yell at him to move.

**Jesus said "God, help me remember that you are here."**

### **The Fourth Station: Jesus meets his mother Mary**

As Jesus walked with the cross on his shoulders, a woman approached him. It was his mother, Mary. They are too sad to speak.

### **The Fifth Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross**

Jesus was so tired that the guards knew he could not carry the heavy cross by himself. A man named Simon of Cyrene was chosen from the crowd. They carried the cross together.

### **The Sixth Station: Veronica wipes Jesus' face**

Jesus was exhausted from the heat. His hair was tangled, and he was covered in dust from the long walk. A woman from the crowd takes a clean cloth and gently wipes Jesus' face

### **The Seventh Station: Jesus falls for the second time**

Jesus was now very sad, weak, and tired. Even though he kept trying to walk with the heavy cross, he just couldn't keep going. The noise from the crowd and from the guards made him feel even worse. Then Jesus fell, because he just couldn't take another step.

### **The Eighth Station: The women of Jerusalem weep over Jesus**

Jesus got up. He continued on the road, carrying his heavy cross. He passed some women who are crying because they are so sad to see Jesus suffer.

**Jesus said "Please don't cry because of me. Go and take care of others instead, especially your children."**

**The Ninth Station: Jesus falls for the Third Time**

Jesus was so exhausted that he could hardly take another step and it was hard for him to breathe and he had no energy left. Then Jesus fell in the street for the third time.

**Jesus said "Please help me God. Give me the strength to carry on"**

**The Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of his clothing**

Finally, Jesus reached the hill that is at the end of the long road he had to walk. Jesus knew that he would die here. The guards pulled off his long robe and threw it to ground.

**Jesus said Please God; help me to remember that I am not alone.**

**The Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross**

Jesus was in a lot of pain as the guards nailed him to the cross. He knew that he was going to die. He looked at the people who have hurt him.

**Jesus said "God, please forgive these people"**

and then he looked at his mother.

**Jesus said "Please take care of the others"**

**The Twelfth Station: Jesus dies**

Then, just as the sun should have been at its brightest, the sky became as black as night. In the darkness Jesus gave a terrible cry.

**Jesus said "It is finished"**

His head sank forward.

**Father, into your hands I give my spirit.**

And he died.

**The Thirteenth Station: Jesus is taken down from the cross**

Jesus' lifeless body was taken down from the cross. Mary, Jesus' mother, and his friends crowded around. They were very sad.

**The Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in a tomb**

Jesus' friends washed his body and covered it with a clean cloth. They put his body into a tomb, and then they pushed a very large stone over the entrance, so that no one could go inside.

Jesus had been betrayed, denied, and now he lay in a tomb – but that wasn't the end of the story...

The next day was the Sabbath: a day of rest during the Passover festivities. The following day – the third day after Jesus' death – something very strange happened

That morning, as the sun rose, Mary Magdalene and the other women returned to the tomb with spices to anoint Jesus' body. As they entered the garden, a sight greeted the women that made them stop in their tracks...When they arrived, they saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance to the cave and Jesus' body was not there. One woman, Mary Magdalene began to cry.

Behind her) a man's voice asked, "Why are you crying?" Thinking the man was a gardener she sobbed, "They've taken Jesus away and I don't know where to find him." The man spoke her name and then she realised that this man was Jesus. She ran to tell the others the good news

Jesus was seen later that day by Mary and the disciples, and for forty days afterwards by many people. His followers realised that God had raised Jesus from the dead.



## STGM Church activities



We are delighted to invite you to St George the Martyr church for our annual St George's Day family celebration on Saturday 22nd April 10am - 1pm

This year is extra special as we are celebrating the **300th birthday** of this amazing parish church! The event is free for adults and only £3 for children inclusive of all the fun activities including an amazing bouncy castle & DJ Rev Jamie!

<https://sgtm.churchsuite.com/events/usvi683d>



Rev Jamie is happy to invite you to a free Easter holiday event "Easter Eggstravaganza" at St George the Martyr Church from 11.30am - 2.30pm on Monday 3rd April. This is a chance for kids to get stuck into some Easter arts, crafts, games (and dancing!) plus make their own yummy lunch and get their face painted! Parents can chill in the comfy seats with hot drinks and biscuits or alternatively join in the fun! RSVP



## Information for Parents

### Messy Cathedral

**Saturday 1st April 10.30am – 1.00pm**

St Paul's Cathedral invites families to a FREE session of activities for all ages, including crafts, singing and storytelling, the theme being the days of Holy Week. All that fun will culminate in a Holy Communion.

Tickets on [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



**Go shine in the world as Jesus did, with compassion, honesty and integrity.**

## GOLD STAR OF THE WEEK



### Ibrahim Khalam

Since starting in Year 1, you have worked very hard to be calm, focussed and to show good learning behaviours in class. You think very carefully about your work before you start and you keep on challenging yourself; improving word choices, checking for capital letters, full stops and spellings. You share your lovely ideas and wide knowledge of the world, you seek feedback, learn from mistakes and try even harder next time. You have shown yourself to be a very effective talk partner; you listen to others and support others in their learning during group work. Consequently, you have made incredible progress and you should be very proud of yourself. From the moment you walk into the classroom in the morning, with a big smile on your face, you are curious about what we will be learning next. You have worked hard to learn use your words to express how you feel and shown that you think about the people around and how you feel. You thoroughly deserve to be recognised for all of your hard work in the playground and the classroom.

## Weekly Awards

### Star Learners / Christian Value certificates

Class	Star Learners	Christian Value
Nursery	Aaliyah	Layla
Reception	Zayn-Abdullah	Alikhan
Year 1	Aishah	Yameen
Year 2	Ayaan	Henry
Year 3	Nathan	Ahil
Year 4	Ivy	Harry
Year 5	Bentley	Ash
Year 6	Rumaysa	Maison

### Reading

CLASS	PERCENTAGE
Year 1	99%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	94%
Year 4	92%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	96%

### Attendance

CLASS	PERCENTAGE
Reception	95%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	98%
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>95%</b>