

LIVING OUT OUR FAITH

Dear St Mark's Community,

As I write this newsletter and reflect on the events of the past half term, I am always inspired by how much we have achieved at St. Mark's. The half term began with our community united in prayer as we mourned the loss of our beloved Pope Francis. We continue to pray for Pope Francis, and also for Pope Leo XIV as he begins his ministry. Since his election, Pope Leo has emphasised the importance of unity and faith. He has called for Christians to work together towards peace and justice, to embrace their faith and live it joyfully. This is something that we do so well at St. Mark's.

Our latest 'Mission of the Month' has been 'Community, participation and service', and St. Mark's Day was celebrated with Mass and activities during the day focusing on the life and writings of St Mark. Our Celebration of the Word assemblies have focused on the themes of the half term, and this week we have been recognising and celebrating those in our school community who live out their faith and follow in Jesus' example. We received over 600 nominations for our St Mark's Community Awards from staff and students, and the reasons for the nominations were so inspirational and. I was delighted to present the certificates to students in special assemblies this week - congratulations to all of the students who were nominated!

Students continue to live out their faith in so many ways, and one example of this is participation in an 'Oracy for Advocacy' conference.

This is in conjunction with schools from DoWAT and the Diocese of Westminster, and students will be speaking at Westminster Cathedral Hall in June about two topics linked to Catholic Social Teachings: Why I want to be an influencer? -

Why I want to change the world?" and "The qualities I consider essential for our leaders today." Well done to Taniya (Year 8) and Daniella and Hannah (Year 9) for representing our school at this event.

We have continued to support our school charities, and last term we donated £500 to Just Small Change. You can read more about one of the projects that has been possible due to our support and the appreciation of that community via this link [Just Small Change](#)

This has also been an important time for our Year 11 and 13 students. Year 11 celebrated a very special Mass together, received their hoodies and yearbooks before returning to school for Prom, which is always a wonderful event. These final events are even more special and poignant for Year 13 as they look ahead to university study, apprenticeships and other exciting pathways. Our ambition is that students will leave St Mark's as confident young men and women, ready to transform society and the wider world - and they are definitely ready to do that! We continue to pray for all year 11 and 13 students as they complete their public examinations.

Finally, I wanted to highlight recent opportunities and successes in the PE department. Students in Years 8-10 participated in a successful football tour to Eindhoven in Holland and received training from PSV Eindhoven coaches at their training complex, and St. Mark's students excelled in the Borough Championships. Congratulations to Thomas Hawley who won the 400m and also broke the school record, and Zuzanna Zaba who won the 200m.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms Waugh-Lucas
Headteacher



KEY dates

- 5th Jun – Year 12 parents evening
- 19th Jun – Year 7 parents evening
- 24th Jun – Music summer showcase
- 2nd Jul – Charity walk – early finish
- 8th Jul – Year 6 transition day/evening
- 16th Jul – Sports day
- 19th Jul – Last day of term

HOUSE LEADERBOARD

- 1st – More
- 2nd – Clitherow
- 3rd – Fisher

Bedrock Winners

Congratulations to our winning
Bedrock classes
7 Becket, 8 Pole & 9A2

and our individual winners
Y7 – Joylyn (7CA)
Y8 – Aloysius (8PO)
Y9 – Lynelle (9A4)

SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN

[Safeguarding
Bulletin](#)

CHAPLAINCY UPDATES

[Chaplaincy
Newsletter](#)

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

[Alumni
Newsletter](#)

