

LIVING OUT OUR FAITH

Dear St Mark's Community,

I am delighted to share with you some highlights of the past term.

School Life & Community Awards

During this half term, our 'Mission of the Month' has been 'Community, Participation and Service', beginning with our celebration of St Mark's Day. This highlight of the school calendar allows us to reflect on our special community, students past and present, and the dedicated staff who have contributed to the school's success. This year's theme was based on Mark 16:15: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation," featuring a special Mass and activities centred on the Gospel and Creation.

It is fitting that during this final week, we have been celebrating students who live out their faith and follow Jesus' example. Staff and students submitted hundreds of inspirational nominations for the St Mark's Community Awards, and certificates were presented in special assemblies this week.

Year 11 and 13

This has been an important time for our Year 11 and 13 students. Year 11 celebrated a special Mass, received their hoodies and yearbooks, and returned to school for Prom. The Year 13 final Liturgy was a beautiful occasion, enriched by our choir which many of these students have been part of since Year 7. Their Prom was a true celebration, and it was a joy to be able to share this event with them. These final events are incredibly poignant for Year 13 as they look ahead to university, apprenticeships, and other pathways and we wish them every success in the future.

Both year groups have remained calm and focused during exams. The exam revision sessions have been very well attended, and reflect the dedication of students and the commitment of their teachers who are continuing to support them until the end of the exam period. Please keep them all in your prayers at this time.

Sporting Success

Congratulations to Oghenemavwe Joseph (Year 8) for breaking the school 100m record with an impressive time of 11.54 seconds—a record unbeaten since 1997!

Other sports highlights include:

- **Rounders:** Year 8, 9, and 10 students won all of their games. The Year 10 girls continue their winning streak, having lost only one game since Year 7.
- **Netball:** St Mark's placed 3rd in the Borough, with Year 8 and 10 winning their leagues.
- **Football:** Year 7 boys finished as league runners-up, Year 9 boys reached the Middlesex Cup quarter-finals, and the Year 7, 8, and 9 girls all placed 3rd in their leagues.

Enrichment & Trips

- **Public Speaking:** Year 8 members of the VERDICT Law Society performed brilliantly at the Hounslow Rotary 'Youth Debates' competition.
- **STEM:** Year 8 students enjoyed 'The Material World', an engaging, interactive STEM production.
- **Brilliant Club:** Students celebrated graduating from The Scholars Programme at Oxford University. Working with a PhD tutor, they engaged in university-style literary theory, developing vital critical thinking, research, and academic writing skills.
- **Art:** Year 10 Art students visited Tate Britain, exploring the Hurvin Anderson exhibition and the wider collections with great curiosity.
- **Geography Field Trips:** Year 10 Geographers took an Urban field trip to Stratford, East London, visiting local communities and the Olympic Park to study urban regeneration.
- **Duke of Edinburgh:** Students in the Bronze and Silver schemes showed real commitment by successfully completing their recent practice expeditions. We are incredibly proud of them all!

And finally, our latest House Competition, 'The Great Balloon Debate' highlighted the debating and public speaking skills of many students at St Mark's.

Congratulations to More who won the Year 7+8 debate, and Fisher for Year 9 + 10.

Thank you for your continued support.

God bless,

Ms Waugh-Lucas
Headteacher



KEY dates

- 4th June - Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 12th June - Inset Day - no students in school
- 18th June - Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 22nd June - School production
- 23rd June - School production
- 7th July - Year 6 transition day
- 8th July - Charity walk - early finish
- 15th July - Sports day
- 16th July - Year 7-9 trips. Year 10 Careers Day
- 17th July - End of Term - early finish

HOUSE LEADERBOARD

- 1st - More
- 2nd - Fisher
- 3rd - Champion

Bedrock Winners

Congratulations to our winning
Bedrock classes
7CA, 8MO, 9a3

and our individual winners
Y7 - Rheanna (7CA)
Y8 - Jayzel (8BE)
Y9 - Marcus (9B4)

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CAREERS

INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS
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ST MARK'S DAY!



Year 11 Prom!



Year 8 Netball



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