

***Worship Together - Aspire Together- Excel Together***

**We have completed our first half term of 2018; it has been a very busy time and with many exciting trips and events that have taken place. Thank you to parents for your support and a reminder that pupils return to school on Monday 19th February 2018**

SCIENCE WEEK 9th-18th March 2018 - [**British Science Week**](http://www.britishscienceweek.org/)**, run by the**[**British Science Association**](https://www.britishscienceassociation.org/)**is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, featuring entertaining and engaging events and activities across the UK for people of all ages.** We have many exciting activities planned throughout the week; this includes visits from **Wild Science**, who bring creatures in for the children to handle,  **The Birdman** from Eagle heights and **Dr Jasmine** from Pro-education.

To find out more please visit the link <https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/activity-packs/>

Science Week Competition- We're having a competition to see who can design the best poster advertising science week. The best poster in each year group will win a prize, and their posters will be on show in school and on the website.

All entries have to be in by Tuesday, 20th February, so get colouring over the half term!

**Parents Maths Workshop** - Reception held a very successful maths parents workshop and would like to say thank you to parents that attended. If you were unable to attend and have any concerns or questions please request to see Ms Bentaleb.

**Healthy Cooking Club** – Year 1 parents have been taking part in a Family Healthy Cookery Club, parents and pupils have made healthy smoothes, pizzas and other delicious foods that they can share and teach at home.

**Science Museum** – Year 2 classes visited the Science Museum where they attended a workshop and watched a show about The Three Little Pigs as part of their science topic.

**Natural History Museum** – Year 3 visited the Natural History Museum and attended a workshop as part of their science topic to learn more on Stone Age and Rocks.

**Junior citizenship** - Year 6 classes attended an event at the Old Kent Road Fire Station on Tuesday 30th January where they learnt about road and rail safety, trading standards, fire and web safety. Photos can be viewed on the school website gallery page.



**Cinderella** - Year 6 classes were kindly invited to be part of the audience of the classic Cinderella story performed by pupils at Sacred Heart secondary school on 5th February. They very much enjoyed the performance and got to see some previous pupils of English Martyrs’.

**Maths week 2018** – Th**e whole school took part in Maths Week,** from 29th January to 2nd of February 2018. All the classes enjoyed a week of teaching and learning of maths using story books. Each class went on a maths trial. Years 1 & 2 visited our local area, Years 3 and 4 visited the Dulwich Park and the Year 5, the London Eye for maths investigations. The week was completed with children showing off their designed maths costumes. Some families participated in a family quiz and the winners were:

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| **First prize -   Shakthi's family (5E) scored 340** | **Second prize - Mensah family (6T) scored 100** |
| **Third   prize - Attah family (2E) scored 64** |

**London Eye –** Year 5 classes had the fantastic opportunity to visit the London Eye as part of Maths week, where they experienced difference learning styles (Kinaesthetic, visual and auditory learners), the visit will enhance their learning in maths.  Both classes had a wonderful time and said the views were amazing.

**Termly Learning Conferences with Parents** - Our Spring term learning conferences will take place on 7th and 14th March between 3.15pm and 6.00pm.  These meetings give you the opportunity for you to speak to the teacher about your child's schooling.  Letters to make appointments will go out immediately after half term. Please return the slips directly to the class teacher (not the office) as teachers will be coordinating their own appointments.

Events in Southwark during half term – To get out and about during the holidays why not visit Southwark Libraries who are celebrating the beginning of the Year of the Dog in collaboration with Snowflake Books. Their fun activities are designed to help children discover traditional Chinese life and literature. There will also be sessions at Peckham Library, Canada Water Library, John Harvard Library and Dulwich Library. On Monday 12th from 10.00am – 3.00pm. Also lots of museums are free; why not check out what Southwark have to offer by visiting <http://www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage>

**Relationship Education** – Week beginning 26th of February 2018, we shall be following the ‘Journey in Love’ programme during our R.E/PSHE curriculum time. A ‘Journey in Love’ is the recommended Programme of study for use in Catholic schools for Sex and Relationships Education. It has been written as a progressive scheme of work to support the Religious Education, PSHE and Science curricula taught within school. Letters have been given to parents giving more information and inviting parents to attend a workshop.

**Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education** - In line with National Government guidelines, we will be delivering Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education lessons in the spring term 2018. The Drug and Alcohol Education is part of the National Curriculum orders which are mandatory for all pupils. The lessons will be age appropriate and taught from Reception through to Year 6; children will therefore build on their knowledge gradually throughout their time at school. A letter has been given to parents, if you wish to discuss this please make an appointment with Ms Akpojotor through the office.



**Ash Wednesday – 14th March 2018 - The first day of Lent**

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 40 days before Easter Sunday, and is observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

**Shrove Tuesday** (**Pancake Tuesday**) is a day on 13th February preceding [Ash Wednesday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ash_Wednesday) (the first day of [Lent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lent)), which is celebrated in some countries by consuming [pancakes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancake) before the fasting period of Lent. The expression “Shrove Tuesday” comes from the word [*shrive*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shriving), meaning “[absolve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Absolution)“. Shrove Tuesday is observed by many Christians, and [Roman Catholics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholics), who “make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God’s help in dealing with.”

God bless you and your families, wishing you all a very safe and enjoyable half term holiday.

Please remember to listen to your child read and support them with their homework.

Mrs Aapah