



ST. MARK'S NEWS

Issue No. 9

10th February 2012

Just when we thought that we would get away without snow this winter, the downfall arrived.



St Mark's has a very open site, with the pupils and staff having to walk along covered paths outside of buildings to get from one place to another. This meant that as the Site team arrived on Monday morning they found that the snow was at least a foot deep in places, covering steps, paths and ramps. Upon investigation, it was decided that the site was too

dangerous for our pupils and staff to be moving around until the paths, ramps and steps could be cleared and treated. It was for this reason we had to close the school until Tuesday morning. I would like to thank all the site staff, cleaners and other staff who from 6am picked up shovels and brooms to help clear the premises. Also those staff who answered telephones, contacted parents using Parentmail and ensured that the 3 pupils who arrived into school were looked after until they could be picked up.

Elaine Heaphy – Headteacher

Flame Congress is inspired by the events of September 2010 & by what is to come in Summer 2012.

September 2010 saw the historic visit of Pope Benedict XVI with powerful, memorable scenes in the Piazza at Westminster Cathedral, at the Big Assembly, Twickenham, and in Hyde Park. Thousands of young people joyfully celebrating faith and being affirmed in their voice and role in a vibrant Church. 2012 is the year when the Olympics comes to Britain. Pope John Paul II – himself a keen sportsman – wrote magnificently about the relationship between sport and faith. In his name, the Pope John Paul II Foundation for Sport will seek to continue to develop sport within the Church in the months and years following 2012.

These inspirations set the scene for an event where thousands of young Catholics are invited to participate in an event which will offer them the very best of Catholic Youth Ministry in England and Wales: **speakers – local and international** – who will set their hearts on fire with messages of hope, faith, challenge, justice, and leadership in adversity; **music** which will be used back in schools and parishes to bring fresh animation and participation in liturgy; a **dynamic atmosphere of joy and participation** which happens when young people come together in such numbers and are well led, and completely engaged.

All in all, Flame Congress will be an event to ignite young hearts and souls afresh with the joy of the Gospel message; it would be devastating for your young people to miss it! **A limited number of places are available for our Year 10 -13 pupils. Letters have been issued.**



Sports Results

This year our pupils have been working and training hard to acquire the skills needed to achieve their best in the many sporting fixtures taking place.



Basketball Results

Year 7

Vs Passmores Won 24 -22 Player of the match **Kundai Muteweri**
Vs Mark Hall (Mark Hall – no Year 7 team)
Vs West Hatch Lost 20 – 34 Player of the match **Tom Middleditch**

Year 8 and 9

Vs Passmores Won 66-13 Player of the match **David Baranai**
Vs Mark Hall Conceded game to St Mark's
Vs King Harold Won 27 - 17 Player of the match **Ali Sbai**

We have now played all the league games and go into the playoffs unbeaten.

Year 10 and 11

Vs Passmores Won 28-22 Player of the match **Dexter Blake**
Vs Mark Hall Won 28-22 Player of the match **Modupe Odulaja**
Vs Roding Valley Won 37-34 Player of the match **Kunmi Sosanya**
Vs West Hatch Won 36-31 Player of the match **Dexter Blake**

We have now played all the league games and go into the playoffs unbeaten.

Rugby Results - EMERGING SCHOOLS - UPPER CLAPTON RFC

Copy of the email from the coordinator of the competition: -

'Please find below the results and final standings from the tournament at Upper Clapton RFC. There was some great rugby played throughout the day and I hope all the children enjoyed it.

Just to clarify, that the top placed Trophy team and the top placed Shield team from Years 7 and 8 progress to the Essex Finals as well as the top Shield team in Year 9.

The results are as follows;

Year 7

1st = Davenant (Won 5 inc. 1 by default)

2nd = St. Mark's (Won 4)

3rd = Passmores Academy (Won 2, finished 3rd due to head to head result v St. Nicholas)

4th = St. Nicholas (Won 2)

Joint 5th = Roding Valley & Stewards (No wins, neither team scored a try and both teams conceded 5 tries)

Davenant (Trophy) and **St. Mark's (Shield)** will progress to the Essex Finals.



Year 8

1st = West Hatch School (Won 5)

2nd = Stewards School (Won 2, scored 10 tries)

3rd = Roding Valley High School (Won 2, scored 6 tries)

4th = Davenant School (Won 2, scored 5 tries)

5th = St. Mark's (Won 2, scored 4 tries)

6th = Passmores Academy (Won 1)

7th = St. Nicholas (Won 0)

West Hatch (Trophy) and Roding Valley (Shield) will progress to the Essex Finals.

Stewards School were entered into the Trophy hence why they finished 2nd and didn't progress.



Year 9

1st = Stewards School (Won 3)

2nd = Roding Valley High School (Won 1)

3rd = St. Mark's School (Won 0)

Stewards will progress to the Essex Finals.

The Essex Finals will take place on

Wednesday 7th March at Southend RFC. It

is envisaged that the games will kick off at

12 noon, but details will follow closer to the time.



Well done to all who played and a big thank you to all the staff who give their time to train and organise the teams.

Friends of St Mark's - 100 Club

The Friends of St Mark's would like to invite you to join / renew membership of the 100 Club. The Club's aim is to raise funds to benefit the school, it is run by the Friends and we need at least 100 parents to take part by donating £ 10 per year. We appreciate that many parents lead very busy lives and find it increasingly difficult to attend fund raising functions so the 100 Club is a very easy and convenient way to support St Mark's financially. It is very similar to a raffle, you 'buy' a number for £10. Each month three winning numbers are drawn with prizes of £25, £15 and £10. Every month £50 is used for prize money and the remaining £50 goes to school funds, last year this helped to finance the Year 11 and Sixth Form Prom discos and paid for equipment and instruments for several Departments. Cheques should be made payable to 'Friends of St Mark's' and handed into the School Finance Office as soon as possible. You may purchase as many numbers as you wish at £10 per number – this invitation extends to other family members and friends, though please ensure we have their correct details in order to forward any prize money to them.



Safer Internet day

This will take place on 7 February. As part of this initiative from CEOP (The Child Exploitation Online Protection unit of the UK Police service), your child will be shown a video about keeping safe online.

On Safer Internet Day, Tuesday 7 February, CEOP will broadcast the "The Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet". It will be available from 7am on thinkuknow.co.uk/parents and youtube.com/ceop. CEOP encourage parents to watch this at home.



Kerrie Fitzjohn Memorial Walk

12 February at 09:30 at Harlow Town Park. Please join the many people who would like to continue the great work that Kerrie started in raising money for cancer research. All welcome to participate by walking / running or just donating. Walkers /runners can register on the day. More details of the route can be found at

http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=1321875



St Mark's West Essex Catholic School

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Harlow Essex
CM18 6AA

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Physics teacher

MPS (including Outer Fringe allowance)

The governors are seeking to appoint a teacher of Physics for September 2012 to teach across the ability range at KS3 and KS4 Science, as well as Physics GCSE and A Level. The post will be permanent subject to a probationary period and would be ideal for an NQT or a teacher with experience. This is an opportunity to join us at an exciting period in the development of the department. The successful candidate will be a highly motivated and enthusiastic professional and be an excellent classroom practitioner.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children Appointments are subject to satisfactory medical and enhanced CRB clearance and references

Please telephone 01279 770160 for an application form and further details or download it from our web site.

Visits to the school are welcome by appointment

Closing date: **Friday 2nd March 2012**

Interview date: **Thursday 8th March 2012**

A reminder that school closes for pupils at **3.30pm, Thursday 9th February 2012** and opens again on **Monday 20th February 2012 at 8.50am.**

We would like to wish you all a restful and safe half term break.