

Chaplaincy Update March 2019

Shrove Tuesday at St Matthew Academy

Pancake Day comes from the old English custom of using up all the fattening ingredients in the house before Lent, so that people were ready to fast during Lent. A very simple recipe to use up these ingredients was to combine them with some flour and make pancakes! Pupils at the primary phase were afforded the opportunity to sample some delightful pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

Mr Carpenter, a parent of a pupil in the primary phase with the support of six the youth chaplaincy team 'The Light Bearers' from the secondary phase cooked, tossed and served up over 300 pancakes. Toppings included lemon, sugar and chocolate. The Academy raised £145 for the various charities the Academy supports. The Academy would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Carpenter, the youth chaplaincy team and Ms Toprak for their efforts in making Shrove Tuesday at SMA a memorable and successful event.

Ash Wednesday at St Matthew Academy

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a solemn 40-day period devoted to reflection, prayer, spiritual preparation and fasting before Easter. As an outward expression of faith, Catholics on Ash Wednesday may have ashes applied to their foreheads in the shape of cross.

This year the Academy held several services led by Deacon Javier to mark the start of Lent.

The Academy would like to take this opportunity to thank Deacon Javier for leading the services and the pupils in Year 10 (Jack Morrin, Christine Despabiladeras, Rochelle Raymond – Carter, Ashley Vital, Liyema Mbalula, Luke Bayrev and Karl Ammanudeen) for their contributions throughout the services.

Upcoming Events (April – July)

SMA Charity Week

During the last week of term (week commencing 1st April – 5th April), the Academy will be launching SMA Charity Week. There is an edge of competition to this year's charity week as each House will be awarded 10 House points for each successful 'charity stall' set up on their designated day. There will also be opportunities for pupils to lead on other initiatives for example sponsoring a teacher not to use their mobile phone for a week.

The Three Parks of Lewisham Challenge

On Saturday 15th June 2019 we hope that the SMA community participates in the SMA 'Three Parks of Lewisham Challenge'. Essentially, all members of our SMA community will have to walk to three parks across Lewisham in the quickest time possible to raise money for Lewisham Hospital Children's Ward, CAFOD and the Southwark Crisis Fund. This will be the second year of the charity walk. It is the Academies intention that this charity walk will grow each year. We pray for lots of sunshine and an ice-cream van at the park of completion of the walk!

Other events which will be led by the Chaplaincy Team during this term and next include Easter assemblies, Year 6 and 11 leavers mass, Feast of St Peter and St Paul services and end of term services.

The Chaplaincy Team also has an extended youth Chaplaincy Team 'The Light Bearers' led by Erhi Eudvie, a member of the Chaplaincy Team which support on leading various charity events.