



Stratford St. Mary Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We are in the process of introducing some 'deeper thinking skills' into our curriculum and are extremely lucky to have been offered the support from Mr Marcelo Staricoff to work with us on this project. Mr S has worked with Miss Rivers at her previous school to support the implementation of debating skills and philosophical discussions.

Mr S (a previous primary headteacher) is a researcher of creative thinking approaches to the curriculum. He has published articles, spoken at national and international conferences and shared with schools the practical approaches that help schools to build on their existing practice. The aim is to create inspirational 'learning to learn and to think' classroom and school cultures, in which all children are able to thrive.

We would like to offer this wonderful opportunity to all Years 5 and 6. The plan is for the Year 5 children in the Owls class to join the Swans class for an hour on alternate Friday afternoons for their 'thinking' sessions' (but as tomorrow is National Philosophical Day, we would like to begin then). This will involve a zoom call with the class, Miss Rivers and Mr S.

We hope this will create a thirst for thinking at a deeper level and enhance the children's oracy skills and enable them to articulate ideas and arguments and hopefully inspire them to question the world around them.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Rivers & Mrs Bilner