



St Mark's C E Primary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians

Newsletter No 8

Parking again!



Despite repeatedly asking parents to respect the rights of our neighbours to be able to use their drives and come and go as they wish parents are still parking over drives. Evidence attached. I would not wish to name and shame, but if this continues I may have to!

Entrance display for Remembrance

It is with great sadness that I am writing this. Two hard working members of staff, Sarah and Toni spent a very long time putting together a display for Remembrance Day next Friday

This display was completely ruined last night during Karate Club. All the poppies were taken off the display and left lying around to be trampled on. Some were posted through side doors into the class corridors.

To allow this to happen is very upsetting for all who were met with the devastation on Friday morning – especially of course Sarah and Toni. It shows a shocking lack of respect for school property and also for all those who we are commemorating.

It will take much of the weekend to fix the display. This sort of thing cannot happen again. Unfortunately this is not the first time that damage has occurred during Karate Club and under the terms of the school's let we have the right to cancel the let with immediate effect, however, I would not wish to do this as the children gain a great deal of fun and enjoyment from the club.

I have discussed the issue with Sarah Padget the Karate Leader and we have jointly decided that for the foreseeable future, and to prevent the possibility of further damage and the possible ending of the let agreement that from now on parents should drop their child(ren) at the school door and



then return later to pick them up. Waiting within the school lobby will not be permitted.

On a happier note

Children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 6 have all recently enjoyed a taster karate session, children have been given a flyer regarding the club, if you would like more details please call Sarah Padget on 01323 848677

Attendance

At St. Mark's we are always looking at ways to promote good attendance.

Over 168 children achieved 100% attendance last term, which is fantastic news! Well done to those children and their families.

However this does mean that 120 children were absent during Term 1 for at least one day!

To ensure that we keep focussed on raising the attendance, the Local Authority School Liaison Officer is working with us on "Project 95".

The aim of this Project is to ensure that every child is achieving at least 95% attendance. Anyone whose attendance is below 95% may be involved.

You may be invited to come and talk with myself, the Local Authority School Liaison Officer and Attendance Officer to discuss how we can work together and raise the attendance of your child/children to at least 95%.

We are well aware that sometimes there are good reasons for a child to be absent from school and of course this will be taken into account but **ALL** pupils under 95% will be monitored.

Very shortly, you may receive a letter from me inviting you to the initial meeting if you are to be part of "Project 95" and start the positive process of supporting your child in achieving higher attendance. They too may then be one of the pupils who achieve 100% in the future.

Working together will help ensure that all the children's attendance will improve. I very much hope that you will support us to achieve our aim.

Attendance 17th October to 21st October

Congratulations Leeds 😊

Group		AEA	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
EY Camber	97.9	0.0	2.0	0.1	100.0	97.9
EY Windsor	96.6	0.0	3.4	0.0	100.0	96.6
Year 1 Arundel	95.0	0.0	3.4	1.6	100.0	95.0
Year 1 Bodiam	97.3	0.0	2.4	0.3	100.0	97.3
Y2 Leeds	98.3	0.0	1.6	0.1	100.0	98.3
Y2 Pevensey	83.0	0.0	3.9	0.7	100.0	83.0
Y3 Lewes	97.4	0.0	1.6	1.0	100.0	97.4
Year 3 Deal	97.2	0.0	2.4	0.4	100.0	97.2
Y4 Dover	96.6	0.0	1.6	1.8	100.0	96.6
Y5 Hever	96.1	0.0	2.8	1.1	100.0	96.1
Y6 Rochester	90.6	6.9	1.8	0.7	100.0	97.5
Totals	95.0	0.7	2.5	0.7	100.0	95.7

Tunbridge Wells Library

BBC radio presenter Andy Garland is visiting Tunbridge Wells library on Sunday 6 November at 11.30 to read from Dolan's Roost by Margaret Paice, a children's book from 1974

The book inspired his love of reading. Andy will also do a Q and A about books and reading.

The event is free, just drop in.

For more details contact the library 03000 41 31 31 email tunbridgewellslibrary@kent.gov.uk

Cross Country

Well done to the children who took part in the recent cross country races at Tunbridge Wells Rugby Club and Eridge Park!

Christmas Dinner arrangements

It's possibly a little early to be advising parents of Christmas dinner arrangements, but as they are now in place it seemed worth advising you.

Tuesday 13th December will be the Juniors Christmas dinner either turkey or vegetarian option.

Wednesday 14th December will be the Infants Christmas dinner turkey or vegetarian option.

Cooking the Christmas dinner is a lot of additional work for the kitchen staff and as we have asked them to cook over two days we have made the decision that the only alternative on both days will be jacket potato with either cheese, tuna or beans.

This is the first year in which we have had to split the dinners over two days, but as the school expands we have decided that this is the very best way to ensure that the children have a memorable dinner.

School Photo's

Please check your child's book bag/rucksack they should be in there!

Yours sincerely

Mr R Dugate
Headteacher