



St Mark's C E Primary School

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Newsletter No 16

Dear Parents,

What a fantastic start we have had to the new term, lots of happy, well rested children have started the term in a very positive manner. There are, however, a few housekeeping reminders that need to go in this letter.

School dinner payments

Please remember that payments should be in advance on your Caterlink account. There are one or two accounts which are regularly late and it would be very helpful to the school kitchen and office if chaser letters were kept to a minimum!

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit in school. For this term juniors should have a warm pair of track suit bottoms and top with them along with their usual kit as they will be outside unless it is pouring!

School Uniform

Here's an excerpt from the school prospectus

At St Mark's we take pride in how our pupils present themselves and have a practical and simple uniform for all children.

School uniform requirements – winter

BOYS' UNIFORM

Mid-grey trousers, Gold Polo Shirt
School sweatshirt/cardigan with school emblem
Grey or black socks

GIRLS' UNIFORM

Mid-grey skirt/pinafore **or** grey trousers
Gold polo shirt
School sweatshirt/cardigan with school emblem
Grey or Black Socks or Tights

Dates to remember

January 2018

17th (Weds) Drama workshops
25th (Thu) 2.30pm EYFS Reading Info session

February

1st (Thu) Young Voices concert at the O2
2nd (Fri) EYFS visit library –volunteers please
6th (Tues) 2.30pm EYFS open afternoon
8th (Thu) 9.10 am Year 1 Assembly
9th (Fri) last day of term
19th (Mon) back to school

March

22nd (Thu) 9.10 am Year 2 Assembly

May

14th – 17th SATS week

BOYS' and GIRLS' PE Kit

Black shorts, Gold T-shirt with school emblem

Bare feet/plimsolls (trainers may be worn for outdoor activities)

BOYS' and GIRLS' Shoes

Black - no boots, trainers, high heels or open-toed sandals.

Please would you ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. Thank you.

Lateness /Arrival time

Another excerpt

St Mark's school hours are as follows:

Infants (Early Years, 1 and 2): 08.55 – 15.05

Morning Break: 10:30 – 10:45

Lunchtime Break: 11:55 – 12:55

Afternoon Break: 14.00 – 14.10

Juniors (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6): 08.55 – 15:15

Morning Break: 10:30 – 10:45

Lunchtime Break: 11:55 – 12:55

Please ensure that children arrive at school **punctually** for 8:55 a.m., but not before 8:45 am, as the school does not assume responsibility until that time. In case of bad weather we endeavour to open the doors at 8:45 to allow children into the building.

On some days office staff can watch up to 20 children arrive at school after the school day has begun, and this will not be related to bad traffic or weather.

Supervising younger siblings at collection and drop off

Please do not let them on the equipment, this is for their safety. At this time of year the trim trail equipment can be extremely slippery and we would not want to sustain and injury. St Mark's children know that they may only use the equipment if given permission by a member of staff and if they see a sibling on it they may be tempted to join them!

Attendance

Friday the 5th January saw a **staggering 30 children** off school for a variety of reasons, that represents approx. 10% of the school roll, or a whole class.

Congratulations this week go to Bodiam who had 100% attendance for the day. Well done.

Daily Readers

Congratulations to Y4 Farnham, Y3 Deal and Y5 Hever who had the highest daily readers this week.

The Courier

Last week the Courier published an article about SATS results in Wealden which included a St Mark's school and has led to confusion amongst staff and parents. I would just like to clarify that the St Mark's referred to was St Mark's Hadlow Down not us.

Class	Good Book Certificate 
Yr R Camber	Grisha
Yr R Windsor	Maya
Yr 1 Arundel	Darcey
Yr 1 Bodiam	Maisie
Y2 Leeds	Cacey
Y2 Pevensey	Dawood
Y3 Deal	Jack
Y3 Lewes	Joshua
Y4 Dover	Aimee
Y4 Farnham	Freya
Y5 Hever	Philip
Y6 Rochester	Farhan

Christmas Jumper Day

Wow, doesn't Christmas seem a long way away, it's only three weeks! The school raised a terrific £177.92 on the day. Thank you.

If you have!

Does anyone have a trampette the school could have, preferably without a handle? If you do please let the school office know. Thank you.

Healthy Lunch Boxes

All schools promote healthy eating and celebrities like Jamie Oliver are massively helping the cause. We are seeing more and more chocolate bars/biscuits sneaking into lunch boxes, and less fruit, vegetables and sandwiches! Please could we see a reversal, more fruit, vegetables and sandwiches and less chocolate, crisps and processed foods. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Bird
Headteacher