



St Mark's C E Primary School

15th September 2023

Newsletter No 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Harvest Festival

Please can children bring a non perishable food item (no glass items) for our Harvest Festival to donate.

We are short of walkers to help walk the children to the church. If you are able to help, please see your child's teacher as soon as possible please. We will be leaving the KS2 playground at 9:10am and will return to school approximately 11:30 am and would be most grateful for any helpers please! Early Years will not be walking to the church this time.



No Nuts!

Please can we remind you that we are a nut free school. Therefore children are unable to have nuts or sandwiches with peanut butter or certain chocolate spreads that contain nuts. Thank you.

Reception Places for September 2024

If your child or someone you know has a child that is due to start Primary School in September 2024,

We are offering Early Years tours with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher at 9:30 am or 11am on the following dates:

October: 30th, 31st

November: 2nd, 3rd, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th

If you would like to book on one of these tours, please let the office know the date and time you require.

Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

Term 1

September

21st (Thurs) ASC Coffee Meeting
2:15pm
25th (Mon) Harvest Festival at Church
26th (Tue) Y6 Bowles Rock Parent Info meeting 3:15pm
27th (Wed) PTA AGM
29th (Fri) McMillan Coffee Morning

October

3rd (Tue) Y3 Trip: Kent Life
3rd (Tue) Y2P Sharing Assembly
9:15am
5th (Thurs) Y6R Sharing Assembly
9:15 am
9th (Mon) Parents Evening 3:30 pm – 7pm
12th (Thurs) Parents Evening 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
13th (Fri) Parent Reps Meeting 9am
16th (Mon) Early Years trip to Hargate Forest (afternoon)
18th (Wed) – 20th (Fri) Y6: Bowles
19th (Thurs) Y2 Explorers Topic Day
20th (Fri) Wear Red – Show Racism the Red Card
20th (Fri) Last day of Term

Term 2

30th (Mon) Term 2 starts
1st Nov (Wed) Y2 Guy Fawkes Theatre



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

School Photos

Please note there is a change of date for the pupil and sibling photographs. This will now take place on Thursday 9th November.

Read to Succeed!

We are very excited to share with you our new reading initiative. Yesterday, this was launched to the children in assembly and so you may have already heard something about it.

We are asking the children to aim towards reading 5 times a week (they can of course read more than this if they wish to). Children in KS1 should aim to read for approx. 10mins per session and in KS2 up to 20-25 mins but they can of course read for longer if they wish.

Please record each read in the reading record, you can put times if you wish but this is not necessary. Each week the reading record will be looked at by an adult and the number of reads noted down.

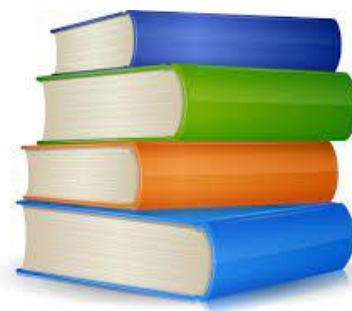
When your child reaches a milestone they will receive a reward! The timing of rewards will be specific to each child but we would like to be clear that every child will receive it when they have completed the number of necessary reads.

Milestones:

25 reads: Badge

50 reads: Bookmark

100 reads: a Book!



We have purchased a wonderful new book cabinet, that will sit outside the main hall, and filled it with enticing books. When your child reaches 100 reads (whenever that may be) they will come and choose their very own brand new book from the cabinet to take home with them!

As the year progresses, more milestones will be added and we will keep you posted about these as well as update you at regular intervals.

This initiative launches on Monday 18th September, reads will be counted from then and a special sticker will be placed in reading records to show it has launched so please remember to bring your reading records in on Monday 18th.

Please speak to your class teacher, or Mrs Smith, Mrs Crane or Mrs Coton if you have any queries! We can't wait to get started!

Why is it important to teach grammar to our children?

The main purpose of grammar is to improve the speaking and writing skills of our learners. Grammar is essential to support children to become better communicators, especially when expressing their emotions and ideas as it furnishes them with correct language and structure.

To ensure our children's success with English it is vital that they can access help at home, however grammar can be a challenge for all of us therefore please see the attached link for free Grammar Training for Parents.

We do hope this is useful and should you require any further advice please contact Mrs Lake (Yr 6) or Mrs Kington (Yr 1).

[Free Online Training: Helping Parents with Home Learning. Getting to Grips with Grammar! - Dandelion Learning](#)

Nourish Job Opportunity

Nourish have a job for a cook's position at Bishops Down Primary School. The hours are 27.5 hrs per week between 8.30am and 2pm term time only.

If you are interested, please ring Teresa Adonis-Taylor, Operations Manager at Nourish contract catering on 07796 025 222.

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

On Fridays we celebrate children for their effort and achievements throughout the week:

Attendance: Year 1 Arundel

Punctuality: Year 5 Lullingstone

Attendance for last week was 96.6% 😊

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EY Camber	Camber Class	For a super first full week in Camber Class!
EY Windsor	Windsor Class	For a fantastic first full week in Windsor class!
Y1 Arundel	Oscar	For his sensational sentences about Biscuit Bear! Well Done
Y1 Bodiam	Zayn	For super contributions in our Maths
Y2 Leeds	Kyra	For great understanding of her tens and ones
Y2 Pevensey	Darcie	For a great attitude to learning!
Y3 Lewes	Hunter	For great effort in Maths
Y3 Deal	Bonnie	For improvement in spelling and handwriting and for her beautiful manners
Y4 Dover	Trayton	For his excellent participation and effort in our maths lessons this week.
Y4 Farnham	Savannah	For greater confidence in contributing to class input
Y5 Lullingstone	Penny	For working hard in maths to improve your Roman numeral and place value knowledge.
Y5 Hever	Ella R	For her excellent map and atlas skills during Geography and working brilliantly with her partner!
Y6 Rochester	James	For rising to the standards of year 6 by creating a very informative and beautifully drawn Rochester Castle fact-file
Y6 Oxford	Isabella	For carefully explaining her thinking in a Maths reasoning paper

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher