



# St Mark's C E Primary School

## 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

### Newsletter No 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Head Girl and Head Boy Positions

We have pleasure in announcing the Y6 children appointed to the following positions:

Head Girl: Nancy  
Deputies: Ayesha and Bettany

Head Boy: Anton  
Deputies: Alex and Finn

Well done all of you – we are sure you will be a great asset to St Mark's!



#### National Trust Family Pass

The National Trust are once again giving families a chance to visit their properties with **free** family passes this autumn. If you fancy a weekend out in the fresh air and visiting some local heritage sites with your children, visit their website to find out more.

#### PTA Second-Hand Uniform Sales

This September, we made £112 from our nearly new uniform sales! Thank you for supporting the PTA and for this environmentally friendly option as an eco-school. We are keen to promote this scheme: our next sale will be at our Christmas Village event on 10 December – please see attached flyer.

#### Uniform Orders

Thank you for embracing the new ordering system with our uniform shop on Parentmail. We are now having to order in stock from our supplier and you will receive an email when the order has been fulfilled.

Dates to remember  
Added dates in yellow

#### Term 1

##### September

25<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Harvest Festival at Church  
26<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Y6 Bowles Rock Parent Info meeting 3:15pm  
27<sup>th</sup> (Wed) PTA AGM  
29<sup>th</sup> (Fri) McMillan Coffee Morning

##### October

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

#### Term 2

30<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Term 2 starts  
1<sup>st</sup> Nov (Wed) Y2 Guy Fawkes Theatre  
9<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) School Photos: individual and siblings (school age only)



**Aspire, Believe, Succeed**



### **Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

We are looking forward to our Macmillan Coffee Morning next Friday. Please can cake donations come to the office from Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September please and here is a reminder of the timings:

9:00 – 9:20 am - Year 1 and Year 2

9:25 – 9:45 am – Early Years

9:50 – 10.10 am – Year 3 and Year 4

10:15 – 10:35 – Year 5

10:40 – 11 am – Year 6

Here is the Just Giving page for donations:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-marks-c-e-primary-school-1694794740813?utm\\_term=BW5zVbR2B](https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-marks-c-e-primary-school-1694794740813?utm_term=BW5zVbR2B)

Raffle tickets for Toni's cake will be available on the day or in the playground on Tuesday and Thursdays at pickup. Thank you for your support.

### **Peer Mediator Training**

This week year 6 had the opportunity to experience and understand the role of Peer mediators in readiness to train to become St Mark's Peer Mediators. Peer Mediators are pupils specially trained to use a scripted process to help other children resolve playground disputes. Maidstone Mediation kindly met with the whole of Year 6 to discuss friendships, conflicts and the principles of Mediation. Next, a group

of 12 children will undertake further training to become Peer Mediators. The process of mediation is simple and anyone can follow it to help others to reach an agreement - but the right attitude is vital.



### **Operation Christmas Child**

Although a few months away, many charities look ahead to a time of year that can be difficult for children around the world for several reasons. Christmas, for most, is a magical time with a gift or two often being exchanged. Children affected by war and natural disasters for example, often go without, so that's where Operation Christmas Child comes in. You may remember this as the good old shoebox initiative where boxes are filled with both useful and fun gifts to be shipped to children wherever they may be needed. If you are interested in helping at a processing centre and offering a little amount of time to help this cause, applications are open for the centre in Tonbridge throughout November. It's a really uplifting thing to take part in knowing that you could put a smile on a child's face this Christmas. [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk)

### Poppy Appeal

As in previous years, we will be taking part in the Poppy Appeal. We believe poppies will be available to buy at school in the week of 30<sup>th</sup> October. Details to follow.

The appeal organisers have asked us to let you know that last year, collectively between all the schools in Tunbridge Wells they managed to raise £10,079.61 - fantastic amount.

Thank you very much for your continuing support, it is greatly appreciated.

### Maynards Sanctuary

During the summer holidays, Mrs Bert spent some of her free time volunteering at Maynards Sanctuary, a small family-run, rescued-animal sanctuary not far along the A21 towards Lamberhurst.



*Maynards Sanctuary*

To help fund the sanctuary, buy their feed and provide much needed veterinary care for the animals (including ex-battery hens, unwanted hatching-project Peking ducks and goats), they are offering 'Mini Maynards' experiences and gifts via their website. If you're stuck for present ideas, it may be worth a look! [www.maynardssanctuary.co.uk](http://www.maynardssanctuary.co.uk)

### Mega Camps

Mega Camps will, once again, be holding their holiday camp at St Mark's during October Half Term. Please see attached flyer and book directly with them.

### 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 97.5% 😊

## This week the Head's Heroes are:

EY Camber	Camber Class	For trying super hard at following and understanding the new school routines – you are just fab!
EY Windsor	Craig Junior	For having a fantastic 'can do' attitude and being so enthusiastic about our new learning and routines in school!
Y1 Arundel	Amaeyah	For her super Maths skills this week! 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Sam	For showing kindness and consideration towards his peers by sharing class resources.
Y2 Leeds	Dev	For consistently contributing in class and sharing his lovely ideas
Y2 Pevensey	Orla	For showing great friendship to the new members of Pevensey Class
Y3 Lewes	Paris	For showing resilience and perseverance during Maths
Y3 Deal	Alanna	Improvements in handwriting. Well done, Alanna
Y4 Dover	Logan	For persevering with his number lines to 10,000
Y4 Farnham	Amelia K	For perseverance with number lines this week
Y5 Lullingstone	Alaina	For showing kindness and being helpful to other children during our ICT coding lesson
Y5 Hever	Zac	For his hard work, focus and excellent listening skills in all lessons. A fantastic example for others in our class!

Y6 Rochester	Jamie	Showing super resilience to trust his good ability to tackle challenging rounding questions – great maturity!
Y6 Oxford	Lois	For her friendship skills. Lois is the first to help and can always be relied upon by her peers and her teachers.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird  
Headteacher