



# St Mark's C E Primary School

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Newsletter No 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

## ECO Action

Over the past couple of weeks, the ECO committee have begun to work their magic across the school grounds by taking part in some litter picks. The children at our school are fantastic at using the bins and recycling boxes for any rubbish but, being quite an open site, we often get litter blowing into the school grounds. As the year goes on, we hope to involve more classes in litter picks around the local area and we'll certainly have some experts among us by then!



## PTA News

What a busy start to the term it's been! Following on from the **PTA AGM** you can soon find the minutes on the website, along with the list of school funding requests.

<https://www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=St+Marks+PTA&pid=22>

We'd also love to hear from anyone who has any background or contacts in **grounds work and maintenance**...we need your advice with the area around the container. Please grab one of us or email [secretarytn4@gmail.com](mailto:secretarytn4@gmail.com)

Don't forget to email us and book your place for our **Arty Autumn** crafts on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October after school. We're looking forward to it!

Dates to remember  
Added dates in yellow

## Term 1

### October

9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Parents Evening 3:30 pm – 7pm  
10<sup>th</sup> (Tues) World Mental Health Day – wear yellow accessory  
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  
19<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y3 and Y4 Rock 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

### November

1<sup>st</sup> (Wed) Y2 Guy Fawkes Theatre  
9<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) School Photos: individual and siblings (school age only)  
17<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Friendship Friday  
28<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Y3D Sharing Assembly 9:15am  
29<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Y1,2, 3 Pantomime (in school)  
30<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y5L Sharing Assembly 9:15am



**Aspire, Believe, Succeed**



### **Year 3 Trip to Kent Life**

Year 3 spent the day at Kent Life learning about life in Stone Age Britain. The children enjoyed a variety of fun activities including grinding grain to make flour, trade, tools and weapons and the highlight of the day meeting Claud, a Stone Age man!



### **Mr Nourish's Birthday**

Mr Nourish wants to thank everyone who came to see him today for his Birthday Lunch. He really enjoyed reading all the cards that the children made.

Mr Lawrence would like to thank everyone who booked a lunch today as this directly impacts the funding we get as a school.

We hope you all enjoyed the cake.

### **Read to Succeed**

Thank you for your support with rolling out Read to Succeed! We would just like to clarify how we will be counting reads in school.

We are counting 1 read per day. Therefore, children could have a maximum of 7 reads in a week (one each for the 7 days). If they are reading extra, brilliant! We want to continue to build that intrinsic love of reading, but we will only count 1 read a day.

In other words, if you eat 4 portions of peas a day, great! But that only counts as 1 towards your 5 a day!

We apologies for the confusion of this, but just want to make it clear moving forward.

Many thanks,  
Mrs Smith, Mrs Coton and Mrs Crane

## **SDP 2023-24**

Every year we review the progress we have made and identify areas of focus for continued Development for the future. This self-review and evaluation are part of our ongoing school Development cycle and helps us to devise the 'School Development Plan' or SDP.

The SDP runs in-line with the academic year from September 2023 – July 2024. It is very important that all members of the school community are aware of this plan. All parents, staff and school governors are asked to work towards these goals, as of course are the children.

Our targets this year are:

Target 1: We will all become brilliant writers.

Target 2: We will learn to identify our thought processes and choose helpful strategies to tackle challenges more effectively.

Target 3: We will all be supported to be the best we can be.

Target 4: To develop our Church School Distinctiveness by addressing the SIAMS improvement areas.

Please take time to look through the attachment to see how you can help to drive this forward. Many thanks for all of your help and support.

## **Contacting Class Teachers**

This is just a reminder of how you can go about making contact with your child's Class Teacher. Phone messages to the office will be passed on to Class Teachers. Emails can be sent to the office [office@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marks.kent.sch.uk) and these will be forwarded as appropriate, or via the year group email addresses that go to the teachers of that year group. These are:

[eyfs@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:eyfs@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year1@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year1@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year2@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year2@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year3@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year3@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year4@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year4@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year5@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year5@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

[year6@st-marks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:year6@st-marks.kent.sch.uk)



## **No scooters or bikes/balance bikes**

Please remember that, to avoid accidents and collisions, children should dismount from scooters, bikes or balance bikes as soon as they come on to the school grounds.

## **Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality**

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

Extra playtime goes to:

**Attendance:** Y3 Lewes

**Punctuality:** Y1 Bodiam

Attendance for last week was 96% 😊

## This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Eva	For willingness to try new activities and returning to tricky challenges
EYFS Windsor	Sienna	For always trying her best and challenging herself in our new learning!
Y1 Arundel	Reuben	For always being so kind and considerate to everyone 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Sophie	For great work in phonics, working hard on her own and helping her friends
Y2 Leeds	George H	For always being eager to complete his task and help his friends
Y2 Pevensey	Siena W	For showing great kindness and awareness of others feelings
Y3 Lewes	Jacob	For demonstrating a good understanding of subtraction through his explanation to the class
Y3 Deal	Gamze	For her beautiful behaviour on our trip to Kent Life
Y4 Dover	Archie	For demonstrating excellent fellowship, team spirit and encouragement of others in our basketball lesson.
Y4 Farnham	Aiyanna	For demonstrating excellent manners and thankfulness
Y5 Hever	Tommy	Making a great effort to become more independent when starting tasks
Y5 Lullingstone	India-Rose	For her fantastic perseverance and effort during swimming this week. Well done!
Y6 Rochester	Kaylie	Beautifully representing an ideal St Mark's pupil by always showing kindness, respect and enthusiasm to learn
Y6 Oxford	Martin	For his metacognition. Martin is making a better effort to concentrate and then evaluate his work
Nurture Group	Arthur	His amazing attitude to school life

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird  
Headteacher