



St Mark's C E Primary School

8th December 2023

Newsletter No 13

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to our friends at Blue Diamond Garden Centre for the generous donation of our lovely tree again this year! We look forward to welcoming everyone to the PTA Christmas Village on Sunday 10th December 2pm – 5pm.



Football

On Wednesday the football team played in a match against St Peter's. Two early goals from St Peter's meant we had to fight to stay in the game. Brilliant goals by Ned W and Alex meant we came close to equalising at the end. The final score was 4-3 to St Peter's. St Mark's already showed great improvement from our last game, especially in the second half. Congratulations to our man of the match, Alex, with his two goals. A huge thank you to Benjamin's Dad, who was roped in last minute to help with the coaching!



Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

December

10th (Sun) PTA Christmas Village
11th (Mon) Christmas Church Service
12th (Tue) Y4-Y6 Panto at Assembly Halls
13th (Wed) Christmas Lunch
13th (Wed) Christmas Jumper Day
13th (Wed) EYFS Christmas Production 9.30am
14th (Thurs) KS1 Christmas Production 9.20 am and 2pm
14th (Thurs) Y6 Crossteach Christmas Experience
15th (Fri) last day of term
18th until 22nd Mega Camps. See flyer

January

2nd (Tue) Inset day
3rd (Wed) Term 3 begins
8th (Mon) School Clubs start this week
17th (Wed) Year 3 and 4 Rock Day
19th (Fri) Year 6 to the Amelia Centre
25th (Thurs) Y3 Rocca Trip
26th (Fri) Year 6 to the Amelia Centre
30th (Tue) Young Voices at the 02
30th (Tue) EYs Classes to Sainsbury's

February

1st (Thurs) Y4D Sharing Assembly 9:15am
2nd (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am

Term Dates etc are on our website
www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Netball

On Thursday 30th November, the St Mark's netball club braved the cold in a friendly match against Benchley & Matfield Primary. This was our first experience of playing an actual match. Our opponents were strong, but we showed perseverance and continued giving our best. It was a great opportunity to practice the skills we've been working on over the last two terms. It was a great end to our netball club and Mrs Hurter would like to thank everyone for their enthusiasm during the term.



Girl's Football

The girls' football team had their first match last Friday against Speldhurst. They battled hard and played with great team spirit, smiling to the end, but were unfortunately beaten by a stronger side. Their behaviour was impeccable and we would also like to thank the parents and carers for taking them to the match and giving them lots of support.

Year 6 Ice Skating



On Thursday the 7th December Year 6 had the great opportunity to visit Calverley Grounds and experience ice-skating! Some of us had never ice-skated before and it was an exciting challenge for all of us. It was amazing to see how much we all improved by the end of the session, although the improvement came from falling many, many times! Also, it was pleasant to instruct and help others, and skate around the rink with them, even pull each other over.

'I had fun and I kept pushing until I could skate without holding the railing.' Said Lily, Y6 Rochester.

'I had so much fun and I flew

around the ice rink like a bird!' Emmeline exclaimed.

'Although I fell down (a lot!) it was still thoroughly worth it.' laughed Seby.

'Even though I fell over 22 times, I enjoyed it and it was fun.' Said Ben.

'It was hard at first, but I soon got the hang of it and now I can skate properly.' Mihran recalled.

By Emmeline, Ben and Jamie



Year 3 Foods from Around the World



We would like to say a huge thank you to you all for the wonderful selection of food sent in yesterday. The children (and staff!) enjoyed sampling foods from a variety of different countries. We were so impressed by the beautiful manners displayed by the children, not to mention the delicious cooking by all of you!



Well done everyone it was a fantastic afternoon!

Christmas Tree Festival

Here is the wonderful tree which has been decorated by St Mark's children (co-ordinated by the Leading Lights) which is available to view, along with other trees decorated by local businesses, at the Charles the Martyr Church until tomorrow at 6pm



Be Eco-Minded this Christmas

As an ECO school, we'd like to remind you of a few ways in which you can try to be a little more environmentally friendly at this time of year:



1. Use wrapping paper without shimmery gold/ silver/ glitter embellishments
2. Avoid shiny bows and ribbons – find paper bows of re-useable materials for this instead
3. Try to recycle as much gift packaging as possible
4. Look out for the days on which charities or the council are offering real Christmas tree recycling services
5. Keep old Christmas cards and cut the front off of them so you can use them as gift tags the following year

The Big Ambition Survey

We have been notified by the Children's Commission for England, Dame Rachel De Souza, that there has been an amazing response to the survey and the deadline to complete the survey has been extended. The new deadline is Friday 19th January 2024 and the survey can be found here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

On Fridays we celebrate children for their effort and achievements throughout the week:
Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: EY Camber

Punctuality: Y2 Pevensey

Attendance for last week was 95.24% 😊

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Hugo	For his determination to learn all the Nativity songs and his confident singing during rehearsals.
EYFS Windsor	Romi	For her fantastic commitment to our Nativity and such beautiful loud singing!
Y1 Arundel	Mason	For his incredible re-telling of Little Red- Riding Hood. I'm so proud of you! 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Nune	An amazing piece of independent creative writing
Y2 Leeds	Averie	For showing fantastic independence when drawing a number line to help her subtract 2-digit numbers
2 Pevensey	Cherry	For always showing a positive attitude towards her learning
Y3 Lewes	Phoebe	For an excellent attitude to learning and showing kindness to all
Y3 Deal	Alex	For working hard with his daily phonics lessons
Y4 Dover	Jacob	For showing wonderful friendship and teamwork throughout our DT project
Y4 Farnham	Lois	For consistent hard work in all lessons
Y5 Hever	Hannah	For her mature and focused attitude to English
Y5 Lullingstone	Ella J	For gaining more confidence to ask for help and contributing to class discussions. Well done!
Y6 Rochester	Sofie	For her fellowship which shines through in her modesty and generous spirit
Y6 Oxford	Alex C	Displaying highly impressive shooting ability during the football match by scoring twice! Excellent!

Congratulations to each and every one of you 😊

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher