



St Mark's C E Primary School

12th January 2024

Newsletter No 16

Dear Parents and Carers,



Number Day

On Friday February 2nd we will be celebrating 'Number Day'. The children can come in to school wearing any item of clothing that has a number on it or they can really go to town and dress up as anything mathematical! It could be as simple as a sports/football shirt, or as creative as turning themselves in to a calculator!

During the morning, all children across the school will be partnered with another year group and have fun developing their maths and number skills.

Pyjama Day in support of Barnardo's

Everyone looked calm and relaxed in their pyjamas today in assembly! Thank you to all those children who have worn their onesies and PJs and donated to Barnardo's. Here is the link if you have yet to make your donations:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/victoria-lake-1704298288540?newPage=true>

Thank you for supporting this cause.



Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

January

17th (Wed) Year 3 and 4 Rock Day
18th (Thurs) Census Day special menu
19th (Fri) Year 6 to the Amelia Centre
24th (Wed) Y6 Police Talk
25th (Thurs) Y3 Rocca Trip
26th (Fri) Year 6 to the Amelia Centre
30th (Tue) Year 6 Oxford Sharing
Assembly 9:15 am
30th (Tue) Young Voices at the 02
30th (Tue) EYs Classes to Sainsbury's

February

1st (Thurs) Y4D Sharing Assembly
9:15am
1st (Thurs) Year 5 Ancient Greece in-house visit
2nd (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am
2nd (Fri) Number Day
5th – 9th Children's Mental Health Week
6th (Tue) AIM Writing Day at St Barnabas (selected children have been informed)
6th (Tue) Safer Internet Day
9th (Fri) Chinese New Year Celebration Day
9th (Fri) Last day of term 3 – Mid term reports

Term 4

19th (Mon) Term 4 starts
21st (Wed) Author Workshop Y2, Y3, Y4
26th (Mon) Parents Evening
29th (Thurs) Parents Evening

Term Dates etc are on our website



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Read to Succeed

We are delighted that our 'Read to Succeed' initiative continues to march on.

It is fabulous to see so many children displaying their reading badges (25 reads) so proudly on their uniform.

A huge congratulations to those children who have collected their 50 reads reward, a book mark, and are making strides towards 100 reads.

This week we have had our very first "100 reads" readers come and select a book from The Book cabinet outside the hall. Hearing the ooh's and ahh's as they selected their reward from the book selection was fantastic.



Please remember we are asking you to support this initiative by reading as frequently as you can at home. The dream would be reading 5 times a week but any reading is going to help our young readers improve and counts towards the initiative.

Please remember it is not how many times you read within one day but on each different day that you read. EYFS/Yr1 children should be aiming to read their whole book each time, Y2 and LKS2 children should be aiming for approx. 15 minutes at a time and UKS2 children should be reading for a minimum of 20-25 mins per day.

Please, please mark this reading in their reading record so that when these are counted up in school your child's reading will be counted. In KS1 all children receive additional Friday playtime for every set of 5 reads at home they have completed.

We have added some new rewards to encourage that pleasure for reading amongst our pupils.

Number of Reads	Reward
25	Badge
50	Bookmark
100	Book, from The Book Cabinet
150	Hot chocolate party – Golden Ticket invite will be issued
200	Book, from The Book Cabinet
250	Become a Reading Ambassador – Pizza Party with Mr Bird
300	Waterstones trip to buy book of choice with Mrs Crane



Perhaps your child would also be interested in applying for a Blue Peter Book Badge – see link for further details:

[Blue Peter Book badge | Find out how to earn the Book BP badge - CBBC - BBC](#)



Champion Chanzige

This week, Phil from charity Champion Chanzige visited the school to talk about the Bridging the Gap project that the children, led by Leading Lights, have funded. The children heard how children in rural Tanzania don't go to school because they don't have a uniform, books and pencils. The school has raised enough money for every class to sponsor a child to go to school and pupils discussed how this showed St Mark's values of fellowship, friendship and thankfulness.

After assembly, KS2 children had a chance to enjoy a Tanzanian primary school lunch.... Most did not like their cup of watery porridge - and the ones that did thought it was nowhere near enough to eat and were thankful they could look forward to Yorkshire pudding and mince for their own lunch!

Clubs

Just to remind you that Mrs Coleman has training on **Monday 15th January** and there will be NO art club on that day only.

Census Day

Census Day is on Thursday 18th January. The kitchen will be doing a special menu for that day - please see attached menu. (This menu has also been uploaded, with the usual menu, to our website for information).

This meal change was already input into the lunch ordering section of Parentmail as: Census Main Meal and Census Vegetarian menu. So please just order as usual.

As you are probably aware, funding in schools is currently under pressure. The 18th January is our Census Day and we receive funding based on how many KS1 children have a school lunch that day so we would be most grateful if as many KS1 children as possible could order a lunch that day.

Thank you for your help.

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 Deal

Punctuality: Y4 Dover

Attendance for last week was 96.7% 😊

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Yaqubur	For always showing kind friendship to all of his classmates and for helping them in their learning
EYFS Windsor	Damian	For demonstrating wonderful focus when retelling the story of Goldilocks to the whole class!
Y1 Arundel	Elias	For his enthusiasm and pride in his work 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Samuel	For his exceptional geography work! 😊
Y2 Leeds	George.C	For super effort and showing others what it means to be kind
Y2 Pevensey	Rowan	For producing work to the best of her ability, to create a lovely piece of writing.
Y3 Lewes	Kelly	For being an amazing princess whilst hot seating for our story 'The Ringing Singing Tree'
Y3 Deal	Kenda	Thank you for bringing your wonderful smile to St Mark's Primary School. Welcome to Deal Class!
Y4 Dover	Katus	For showing great fellowship when he supported his peers in a maths lesson this week.
Y4 Farnham	Ana	Displaying good manners towards adults and peers
Y5 Hever	Annette	For your consistently positive attitude towards learning.
Y5 Lullingstone	Isaac	For demonstrating fantastic focus when starting tasks and listening attentively to instructions.
Y6 Oxford	Filip	For always contributing his thoughts and enthusiastically engaging himself in all that he is learning.
Y6 Rochester	Khadeejah	Offering intelligent and insightful thoughts regarding all world religions. Great maturity!

Congratulations to each and every one of you 😊

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher