



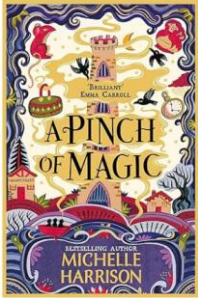
St Mark's C E Primary School

23rd February 2024

Newsletter No 21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4! It is lovely to have the sun make a welcome appearance and see the daffodils growing.



Read to Succeed

Over the half term break I read "A Pinch of Magic" by Michelle Harrison. It was a gripping tale of adventure and friendship between 3 sisters caught in a magical curse. A truly fabulous read and if anyone in years 5 or 6 would like to

borrow this and enjoy the magic themselves then please come and find me.

I hope the half term break gave lots of you opportunities to read towards our Read to Succeed initiative. The book cabinet is bulging with books desperate to make their way home with you as a result of you having read 100 times. New texts are being added all the time as myself and Mrs Coton like nothing more than a browse around a bookshop!

Here is a reminder of the different rewards you can work towards:

- 50 reads = a fabulous book mark
- 100 reads = a choice of book from the book cabinet
- 150 reads = a golden ticket invite to a hot chocolate party
- 200 reads = another choice of book from the cabinet
- 250 reads = an invite to a pizza party with Mr Bird
- 300 reads = an invite to visit Waterstones with Mrs Crane and Mrs Coton to choose a book

Don't forget that World Book day (7th March) is just around the corner too - who will you come as?

Keep reading everyone, it opens windows to so many worlds and so many opportunities!

(Continued next page)

Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

Term 4

February

- 26th (Mon) Parents Evening
- 29th (Thurs) Piano Assembly
- 29th (Thurs) Parents Evening

March

- 1st (Fri) PTA Film Night: EYFS, Y1 Y2
- 5th (Tue) Y2 trip: Wakehurst Place
- 5th (Tue) SENCo Surgery
- 5th – 7th March Book Fair
- 7th (Thurs) World Book Day
- 7th (Thurs) Girl's football team away to Skinners Kent Primary
- 7th (Thurs) Boy's football team away to Skinners Kent Primary
- 8th (Fri) PTA Film Night: Y3 Y4
- 11th (Mon) Boy's football team away to St Matthews
- 11th (Mon) PTA Film Night: Y5 Y6
- 12th (Tue) Science Visits
- 19th (Tue) Y2 Leeds Sharing Assembly 9:15 am
- 20th (Wed) Y4 Roman Workshop
- 21st (Thurs) Y1 Arundel Sharing Assembly 9:15 am
- 22nd (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am
- 25th (Mon) Easter Church Service

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



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Read to Succeed (continued)

The book fair will be with us again on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March. The fair will be open from 3pm until 3.45pm in the main hall.

Please do come in and browse and make a purchase as this helps raise money for books for school. Unfortunately, we will not be accepting cash payments and the book fair does not accept apple pay so can we kindly ask that you bring a card to make payments. Thank you

Mrs Crane

Forest School

Mr Bird launched Forest School to Year 2 on Wednesday. A lot of fun was had by all, despite the rain!



Girl's Football Team

Whilst it was unfortunate that the Girl's football team match was cancelled due to a water logged pitch, we are sure you will agree that they look fabulous in their new football kit!

We wish them luck for their match on 7th March at Skinners Kent Primary.

St Mark's Community Larder

This week any donations of instant coffee or tinned beans (kidney, chick pea, lentils etc) would be gratefully received. Please drop them into the school office.

Many thanks for your support.



School Uniform

We would like to remind parents of our uniform policy (link to the policy on our website below). Please remember that on PE days children should come to school in their school PE t-shirt, plain dark joggers and their school jumper with trainers. Trainers should not be worn on non-PE days please.

[Uniform Policy \(st-marks.kent.sch.uk\)](http://st-marks.kent.sch.uk)

Science Week Competition

In just a couple of weeks, schools up and down the country will be taking part in events to celebrate British Science Week 2024. This aims to bring together all things 'STEAM' (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths). Alongside several events taking place across school, starting from today we are running an in-school competition to design a time machine. All the information can be found on the attached information poster, so get those thinking caps on and see what you can create. You can get started straight away, giving you plenty of time. We look forward to seeing all entries from EYFS to Yr6 which will be judged by our House Captains. **The closing date for entries is the end of Wednesday 13th March.**



ECO Update

You may notice that now Spring has sprung and warmer days are creeping in, the bulbs around the school site have started to bloom. Could the ECO Committee remind everyone to take care to stick to paths and to not pick the flowers.



Whilst the weather remains a little wet and windy, the Committee have been carrying out energy surveys in school this week checking to see if classes are being mindful of recycling, turning off lights and ensuring pupils and staff pick up litter. In the coming weeks, they hope to plant some wildflowers, potatoes and carrots as well as commence outdoor litter-picks. They also have plans to install some bug hotels around the new sensory garden.

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

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

Extra playtime goes to:

Last week of term 3:	This week:
Attendance: Y2 Leeds	Attendance: Y1 Arundel
Punctuality: Y6 Rochester	Punctuality: Y4 Dover

Attendance for this week is 96.4% 😊

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Isla	For being a fantastic role model in her learning this week
EYFS Windsor	CJ	For choosing independently to apply his learning in his plan, do, review time!
Y1 Arundel	Nicolas	For being enthusiastic and inquisitive in his learning
Y1 Bodiam	Alice	For joining Bodiam class with a positive attitude
Y2 Leeds	Eva	For great participation in our workshop and responding the feedback amazingly, improving her work
Y2 Pevensey	Casey	For maintaining focus in class and putting lots of effort into his written work
Y3 Lewes	Annie	For being a good role model to her peers
Y3 Deal	Bella	Working hard to complete her work and for being a kind, helpful member of Deal class

Y4 Dover	Robbie	For encouraging and supporting his peers during our first tennis lesson
Y4 Farnham	Amelia S	For always putting in maximum effort into her learning
Y5 Hever	Eshan	For showing friendship to others by supporting them with their learning in maths
Y5 Lullingstone	Trevor	Always working hard and having such attention to detail
Y6 Oxford	Tommy N	For careful work and concentration throughout all learning this week
Y6 Rochester	Willow	For showing impressive knowledge of the human circulatory system which enhanced our learning
Nurture Group	Florence O	Her outstanding portrait and positivity about others
Congratulations to each and every one of you J		

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher

Kent Children's Centres

Please **CLICK this link to see this week's SWAY** showing you everything that's going on in our Children's Centres and within the local community along with lots of useful information for yourself and your family....

Our **NEW TIMETABLE** starting on the 19 February is in our SWAY.

NEW IN SECTION 5.1 - Pregnancy, Your Baby, Breastfeeding...

- **Kent Baby Matters** - FREE regular sessions run by Kent Sling and Cloth Nappy Library including **Sling workshops and Antenatal classes** throughout February and March - take a look at the flyers in Section 5.1 for more details and class dates.

NEW IN SECTION 5.2 - Baby and Child Development

- **Speech and Language UK – Resource Library** for families, take a look at their link in *Section 5.2*
- **World Book Day** is three weeks away - collect a 'World Book Day 2024' **£1 token** from any of our Children Centres. In *Section 5.2* there is lots of information available and a link showing you lots of **activities for families** to enjoy together, along with **free audiobooks**.

NEW IN SECTION 5.6 - Your Health and Wellbeing

- The '**Kent Wildlife Trust**' are offering a **FREE 4-week wellbeing programme** in nature, **for parents who are expecting a child** or have a child under 2 years old - for dates and information take a look in *Section 5.6*.
- The '**BeYou Project**' - supporting LGBTQ+ young people across Kent and Medway - take a look in *Section 5.6* to find out more.

NEW IN SECTION 6 - SEND SUPPORT

- '**Contact**' - the charity for Families with Disabled children, take a look at an article from their Newsletter on '**Free Childcare Hours for Two-Year-Olds**' - more information and details on how to apply in *Section 6*.
- **Autism Central** where you can find a range of wellbeing resources for parents and carers and details of upcoming events