



St Mark's C E Primary School

1st March 2024

Newsletter No 22

Dear Parents and Carers,

Read to succeed

Our reading incentive continues to gather momentum with children continuing to visit the book cabinet marking their 100 reads, which is a delight to see. A huge congratulations to all those who have reached 100 reads and have claimed their book.

It was also amazing to hand out the first 7 golden tickets for those who have made it to 150 reads. A hot chocolate party is planned for 26th March so if you are nearing your 150 reads keep reading to gain your invite to this celebration. Don't panic if you aren't at this point as there will be celebrations throughout the year as children reach this reading milestone.

Remember World book day on 7th March (this coming Thursday). What to come dressed as is a hot topic in the staffroom at present and we are looking forward to seeing you all in your favourite book character costumes. World book day vouchers will be given out by class teachers from Tuesday 5th so look out for these to claim your World Book Day book.

The Book Fair is back in the main hall from Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th March from 3-3.45pm so please do come and look. Please remember this is a cashless event that requires card payments not apple pay or similar.

Keep reading!

Mrs Crane and Mrs Coton



Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

Term 4

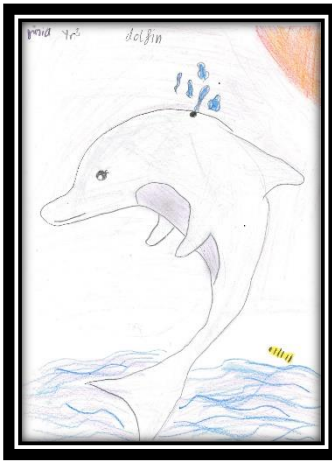
March

- 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
- 13th (Wed) EYs Vision and Hearing Check
- 13th (Wed) EYs, Y1 and Y2 Phonics Workshop 4:30 pm via Teams
- 15th (Fri) Red Nose Day
- 18th (Mon) Y6 to St Mark's Church for Easter Experience
- 19th (Tue) Y2 Leeds Sharing Assembly 9:15 am
- 20th (Wed) Y4 Roman Workshop
- 21st (Thurs) Y1 Arundel Sharing Assembly 9:15 am
- 23rd (Sat) Litter Pick 2pm
- 22nd (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am
- 22nd (Fri) EYs Ugly Bug dress up
- 25th (Mon) Easter Church Service

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



Aspire, Believe, Succeed



House Logo Design

On Friday the School Council had the exciting privilege to announce the winner of our House Logo Design competition. Well-deserved congratulations for super designs goes to Jessica Yr 6 Rochester - Red Panda, Genievieve Yr 3 Lewes - Turtles, Florence Yr 3 Lewes - Leopard and Mia Yr 3 Lewes - Dolphins. Thank you to everyone who participated, your designs were fantastic!



World Book Day – 7th March

World book day outfits are available from the PTA (please see attached flyer for the details)

St Mark's Community Larder

This week any donations of coffee, legumes, coffee or cereals would be gratefully received. Please drop them into the school office.

Many thanks for your support.



Litter Pick - 23rd March

We are grateful to the Mums who are arranging a litter pick on Saturday 23rd March (please see attached flyer for the details).



Red Nose Day – 15th March

Just a reminder that, as usual, we will be supporting Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. We invite children to come to school dressed in red in exchange for donation to our Just Giving Page:

[St Mark's C E Primary School is fundraising for Comic Relief \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com)

Winter Lantern Festival

On Saturday 10th February many of the families from St Marks - current and ex pupils - joined the annual Winter Lantern Festival procession through Tunbridge Wells town centre. Our families took turns to hold the St Mark's School banner proudly as we walked along and, as far as we could see, we were the only school represented! Some wonderful lanterns were on display from home made to completed kits...it really was magical and thank you to everyone who braved the rain and took part. We can't wait for next year!



Being Inbetween “Their Voice” Project

The Amelia Centre are running a project in the next few weeks in response to the ‘Being Inbetween’ exhibition by Carolyn Mendelsohn which is on display in The Amelia Scott from April. They are looking for future journalists and filmmakers aged between 9-13 years old to take part in this fantastic opportunity at the Amelia Scott Centre.

This project will explore issue based journalism, encouraging the group to create short video documentaries on issues that are important to them while empowering the young people's voices and celebrating their perspective, building resilience, confidence and skills of the people shaping the world of tomorrow. If we empower young people to use their voice and build their confidence. The result will be presented and celebrated in a screening event at the Amelia Scott. The work will then be subtitled, and played on loop, on an externally facing screens for all to see – giving the participants a public platform to have their voices heard.

To sign up, the students need to complete the relevant form attached to this newsletter and send it via email to Bethan.Minter@tunbridgewells.gov.uk.

More information can be found here <https://theamelia.co.uk/whats-on/being-inbetween-my-voice-project.html>

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: Y2 Pevensey
This week’s Attendance: 96.4% 😊

This week the Head’s Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Ethan	For showing good friendship to others and always including his friends in his games
EYFS Windsor	Mehran	For his focus and attention in his reading this week. Well done Mehran!
Y1 Arundel	Nicolas and Mason	For fabulous artwork linked to the lonely beast.
Y1 Bodiam	Monty	For consistently producing work of a high standard, but especially in Geography this week
Y2 Leeds	John	For always engaging and persevering with his learning Well done!
Y2 Pevensey	Harriet	For her positive attitude to school life and her learning
Y3 Lewes	Jasimne	Making new strong friendships within the class
Y3 Deal	Melissa	Excellent classroom contributions and for improvements in reading comprehension
Y4 Dover	Hallie	For her excellent effort and enthusiasm in English this week
Y4 Farnham	Nathanael	Looking out for his friends and communicating effectively with them
Y5 Hever	Oliver	For completing his English work to a high standard and showing perseverance
Y5 Lullingstone	Amelia D	For her fantastic narrative of an innovated Greek myth. It was a pleasure to read!
Y6 Oxford	Ava	For her valuable contribution to St Mark’s as a School Councillor and for improving her metacognition in lessons by recognising what she needs
Y6 Rochester	Sam	For always being dedicated to improving his English Language skills – great resilience!
Nurture Group	Ivan	For his fantastic attitude to learning in Nurture Group

Congratulations to each and every one of you J

Yours sincerely,
Mr S Bird
Headteacher

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....

FEBRUARY

NEW IN SECTION 5.3 - Parenting Support

- **Family Lives** have some ***new links*** offering support and information in relation to:
 1. Teen's aggressive behaviour?
 2. School avoidance and anxiety
 3. Keeping kids occupied on a budget
- **PDA Supporters Group Kent** - Support group for parents and carers of children with PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance) - take a look at their website in *Section 5.3*

NEW IN SECTION 6 - SEND SUPPORT

- **THIS WEEK - Kent Autistic Trust (KAT)** – Parent/Carer Support Groups on Zoom - dates and booking details in *Section 6*.
- **Heart 2 Heart Parent Group – Tunbridge Wells** - NEW parent group in Tunbridge Wells for those who have a **neurodiverse child/children** or young adult - take a look at the flyer in *Section 6*.
- *Nuffield Heath, Knights Park* are starting a ***NEW PROGRAMME "Inclusive Fitness: Home Ed and SEN Movement Sessions"*** take a look in *Section 6* for dates and booking details.