



St Mark's C E Primary School

5th July 2024

Newsletter No 36

Dear Parents and Carers,

Read to succeed

Last Friday we held our very first Pizza party (250 reads) This was a great success and the children enjoyed being served pizza by Mr Bird and taking part in a range of games and activities.

The read to succeed project runs until the end of term. There are further hot chocolate (150 reads) and pizza (250 reads) parties booked so please keep on reading right until the last minute. The book cabinet has been re-stocked (100 and 200 reads) and Mrs Crane is eagerly awaiting someone to reach the 300 read mark so she can accompany them to Waterstones (this is planned for Thursday 18th July).

We feel 'Read to Succeed' has been well received this year and Mrs Crane and Mrs Coton are already looking at new rewards for next year.



Dates to remember
Added dates in yellow

Term 6

July

8th (Mon) Meet the teacher (Y1 going to Y2) 2.30 pm

9th (Tues) Meet the teacher (Y3 going to Y4) 2:45 pm

10th (Wed) Y5 Forensics Day, Skinners School (invited children only)

10th (Wed) Meet the teacher (EY going to Y1) 2:30 pm

11th (Thur) Meet the teacher (Y2 going to Y3) 2:45 pm

11th (Thur) **Girls Football Tournament** 1pm

12th (Fri) Y5 Trip to Tower of London

12th (Fri) **EYs Beach Day**

12th (Fri) PTA Uniform sale - 3pm (in the outside classroom)

15th July w/c Enrichment Week

16th (Tue) Rocksteady Concert KS2

16th (Tue) Meet the teacher (Y4 going to Y5) 2:45 pm

17th (Wed) Y6 Matinee show

18th (Thur) **Read to Succeed**

Waterstones visit

18th (Thur) Y6 Evening Show 6pm

19th (Fri) Whole School Picnic

19th (Fri) **Leavers Church Service**

19th (Fri) **Y6 Celebration BBQ**

22nd (Mon) Sports Day

23rd (Tue) Reserve Sports Day

23rd (Tue) Last day of school

2024-2025 Academic Year

Term 1

September

2nd (Mon) Inset Day

3rd (Tue) Inset Day



Aspire, Believe, Succeed



Year 6 Kent Police Day

Year 6 went on their very last school trip to Kent Police in Maidstone. Along with watching police dogs in action, car chases and other demonstrations, the children enjoyed learning all about the varied roles of our police constabulary.

They had their fingerprints taken, got locked in a police cell and ran around collecting stickers, sweets and general 'merch'!

A great day was had in the sunshine where the police made us all feel incredibly welcome.

Nature Makers Club

Here at Nature Makers Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Sevenoaks, we value inclusivity and accessibility. As a result, this summer, we have collaborated with a local charity to offer two free events on Tunbridge Wells and Rusthall Common, and we are offering HAF spaces at our summer holiday club. All our events are inclusive and SEND-friendly, and they are great fun for the whole family.

Nature Makers does Earth School @ Tunbridge Wells and Rusthall Commons (FREE) July 26 & August 19

This is a FREE event; however, places are limited and need to be booked in advance.

Nature Makers Big Earth School Play Day @ Little Elses Woods July 31

A lovely 2hrs making campfires, weaving with willow and having lots of fun. Tickets are available now!

Nature Makers Earth School and Yoga Holiday Club @ Pembury Scout Hut 10-2 pm August 5-8 & 12-15 **We Accept HAF Vouchers For This Club**

A summer holiday club for children aged between 4 & 11. Give your children a few hours to get creative and have fun in the woods. Spaces are limited, so book soon.

www.nature-makers.co.uk/tunbridge-wells-tonbridge

School day change:

Just a reminder of the changes of timings for the school day for all pupils from September 2024:

Doors open: 8:35 am

Registration: 8:45 am

School ends: 3:15 pm

Wraparound Care

As you know, we offer Wraparound Care at St Mark's from 7:45 am until 6pm. We have been taking requirements from our regulars for next year and have a few spaces left. If you require a place for 2024-2025 please contact the school office with your requirements and we will do our best to accommodate you. More information can be found here: [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Wrap Around Care at St Mark's \(st-marks.kent.sch.uk\)](http://St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Wrap Around Care at St Mark's (st-marks.kent.sch.uk))



Wimbledon Festival of Tennis

On Monday a team from St. Mark's took part in the Wimbledon Festival of Tennis at Tonbridge Tennis Club. We were asked to take a mixed ability team of children who took part in 10 differing tennis skill challenges. We had an hour to practice the challenges and then scored points in timed events.

Everyone had great fun taking part in the event and the children represented the school impeccably. We came very close to winning the team event with an amazing score of over 1000 points. Each of the 7 coaches also had to choose an individual who showed skill, perseverance and the ability to listen and learn. Of these 7 awards St. Mark's children won 3, two going to Nathanael for his willingness to listen and tennis skills and one to Manuel, who despite hurting his foot in the first event continued to join in the challenges and support the team.

We were very proud of our team and their effort and behaviour and would also like to thank the parents and carers who took them to the event and stayed to support us.

Headlice

Please can all children's hair be checked this weekend for headlice. Please treat hair if appropriate. Thank you.

Sports Day

We are still hoping for some gazebos for our sports day on 22nd July so please let the office know if you have one that we could borrow. We would need to them from 8:30 am please.



Swimming Gala

On Thursday 27th June, St Mark's took part, against 10 other teams, in the Tunbridge Wells Schools Swimming Gala. It was an exciting evening including a diving event, freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke races together with a 2-length open swim and boys, girls and mixed relay. All the swimmers and divers gave their very best and we were so impressed with the way they behaved and encouraged each other.

We had some individual wins and an excellent mixed relay victory, but it was difficult to tell

how we had done until the results were announced. Listening in reverse order we were excited to find we had finished 4th overall, and had won the shield for winning the Group B team event.

However, our success did not end there: Ned and Willow won a silver medal for the team diving event, with Willow winning the individual silver medal and Ned the individual bronze medal, Chloe won the silver medal in the open swim, Seb won a gold medal in the Year 5 boy's free style and Nathanael won a gold in the Y5 backstroke.

A special mention must be given to Nathanael, who despite being in year 4 stepped up to swim and win the year 5 race and also to Seb, who not only won the Y5 freestyle, but also helped the team by volunteering to swim the year 6 backstroke and breaststroke races, as well as taking part in the boy's open swim and helping our relay teams.

Well done once again to all the swimmers and divers for a great team effort and for the way they represented St Mark's and supported each other. Thank you too to all the families who brought the children to the event and stayed to support them.

PTA uniform sale

Don't forget that the PTA will be selling preloved uniform before the end of term on Friday 12th July!

PTA storage container - we need help!

This summer we are swapping our current storage container for a shiny NEW one, along with setting up a permanent second-hand uniform shop onsite this next academic year! We need volunteers to help clear the container on Sunday 28th/Monday 29th July. Please let us know if you are able to help - it is so useful to have an onsite storage facility but it desperately needs updating. All help welcomed!

PTA emails

Don't forget that we have new emails! We will still receive emails sent to the previous address but please use these going forward:

For general enquiries:

pta@st-marks.kent.sch.uk

For preloved uniform:

pta.uniform@st-marks.kent.sch.uk

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

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

Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: Y4 Farnham
Punctuality: Y3 Deal
This week's Attendance: 95%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Dhriti	For being a wonderful friend and classmate. You are a superstar!
EYFS Windsor	Dea-Rose	For always thinking carefully on her work in class!
Y1 Arundel	Harry	For his use of ambitious vocabulary when recounting our school trip to Eastbourne 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Barnabas	For being such a kind and trustworthy member of Bodiam Class.
Y2 Leeds	George C	For always being caring to his friends and helping them when they are sad.
Y2 Pevensey	Rowan	For her great focus in lessons and taking pride in her work.
Y3 Lewes	Hamnah	For always showing excellent fellowship towards everyone.
Y3 Deal	Ahad	Excellent work on his sewing skills.
Y4 Dover	Logan	For always showing excellent manners.
Y4 Farnham	Farnham Class	For showing respect and excellent manners during our illustration workshop
Y5 Hever	Mark	For a great first week in Hever Class!
Y5 Lullingstone	Ella R	For showing fellowship during class sporting activities.
Y6 Oxford	Isabella H	For always going above & beyond for your peers & teachers. We appreciate you!
Y6 Rochester	Ella N	For always participating in class life and making a wonderful happy and positive contribution during 'Darwin Rocks'.

Congratulations to each and every one of you

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher