



St Mark's C E Primary School

26th September 2025

Newsletter No 4

<https://www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We had such a lovely morning! It was great to see all the parents join us for our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

This is the 11th year running and they get better each year! To date, we have received donations of £600 in cash donations or on our JustGiving page and there is still time to donate if you have not done so already:

<https://cm25.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/CM25058764>

Thank you to Toni for her super Labubu cake for the raffle which was won by Mrs Gifford and Camber Class!



Dates to remember.

Added dates in yellow.

September

29th – 3rd Oct EYFS 2026 Tours

30th (Tue) Y2P Sharing Assembly 9am

30th (Tue) Y2 Campfire on KS1 playground

October

1st (Wed) Y3-6 Girls Rugby Tournament

2nd (Thur) Y6R Sharing Assembly 9am

2nd (Thurs) School Census

6th – 9th Book Fair

6th (Mon) PTA AGM

6th (Mon) Parents Evening

8th (Wed) Y5&6 Rugby Tournament

9th (Thurs) Parents Evening

10th (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting

10th (Fri) World Mental Health Day

13th (Mon) Harvest Festival at Church

14th (Tue) Whole School Flu

Immunisation

16th (Thur) EYFS Hargate Trip – change of date

16th (Thurs) Y2 Victorian Day

17th (Fri) Show Racism the Red Card

17th (Fri) End of Term 1

20th – 24th Mega camps at school

27th (Mon) Term 2 starts

28th (Tue) Year 5 to Amelia Centre

29th – 31st Year 6 Residential at Bowles

6th (Thurs) Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop

Term Dates etc are on our website

www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk



Follow us! Please click links above

Aspire, Believe, Succeed

SUPERHERO DAY



School Census

Next Thursday is our school census day. As previously advised, the school receives funding based on how many Key Stage 1 children have lunch that day.

We would therefore be grateful if you would book your child a school lunch for Thursday, please. The menu is on Arbor as usual and includes Spider-Man Crispy Chick Web Wrap and Captain America's Shield of Crispy Quorn Wrap (both with Curly Fries).

Thank you for your support with this.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival will take place on 13th October at St Mark's Church. Please can children bring a non-perishable food item (no glass items) to donate.

We would be grateful for parent walkers to accompany the children on the walk to church please. If you are able to help, please see your child's teacher as soon as possible please. We will be leaving the KS2 playground at 9:10am and will return to school approximately 11:30 am. Early Years will not be walking to the church this time.



Year 3 Trip to Ramslye Allotments

On Monday, our Year 3 children enjoyed a wonderful trip to Ramslye Allotments – and the sun was shining to make the morning even better! The allotment was bursting with seasonal vegetables, and the children were amazed to see how much is growing at this time of year.

During the visit, the children took part in a fun fruit and vegetable treasure hunt, exploring the different plots to spot a variety of colourful produce. They also got their hands dirty with some composting, had a go at planting and watering, made some allotment art scarecrows, and even discovered some seed heads – sparking lots of great questions about how plants grow.

It was a fantastic morning full of learning, teamwork, and fresh air. A big thank you to Jacqui from the allotments for enabling us to visit and showing us around!



NHS Workshops

At St Mark's we work in partnership with the NHS and their Emotional Well-Being Teams. As part of this partnership, the NHS in Kent is providing workshops for parents on a variety of different topics. These workshops include:

- Supporting your child with worries and fears 7/11/2025
- Introduction to Understanding Autism 08/10/2025
- Understanding Your child's Behaviour 30/09/2025
- The Mind, the body and you 09/12/2025
- Understand ADHD 20/11/2025

If you would like to join the workshops, please open the attached leaflet; just scan the QR code for the workshop you would like to attend and then register for that workshop.

PTA News



A BIG THANK YOU to Jana and Cally and all those who gave up their Sunday morning to sort through all the generous donations of preloved uniform. All uniform sales will happen on the LAST DAY of each half term, so come bag a bargain! If you have uniform needs, you can email pta.uniform@st-marks.kent.sch.uk or join our WhatsApp Community

Don't forget the AGM is fast approaching. For any ideas for fundraising or events this year please do let us know: pta@st-marks.kent.sch.uk or join the WhatsApp Community.

Finally...Christmas is not far away now! We will be starting the prep and need YOUR help for running stalls and elves for building the grotto. Come join our WhatsApp Community Christmas Fair planning

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING INVITATION

2025 / 2026

— MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER —

— 2PM @ ST MARK'S SCHOOL —

:::: ALL WELCOME ::::

ST MARK'S PTA

Email: Pta@St-Marks.kent.sch.uk

Applications for 2026 Trainees

Did you know that St Mark's works with Teach Kent & Sussex to provide exceptional school-based teacher training? Schools like ours play an important role in training new teachers, many of whom hear about us through our community networks. Whether you have spent time working in a school environment, are a recent graduate, or are looking for a complete change in career, teaching could be for you.

Why not join one of Teach Kent & Sussex's free to attend Train to Teach information events to find out more? To register please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/train-to-teach-information-events-4632813>

Team your existing skills and life experiences with Teach Kent & Sussex's high-quality teacher training and qualify as a primary or secondary school teacher in 11 months (full-time training) or 20 months (part-time training). Financial help as you train is available, with bursaries and scholarships for up to £31,000 in some secondary subjects.

Teach Kent & Sussex is in partnership with national education provider, Ambition Institute. The programme enables you to learn what makes an effective teacher through evidence-based and subject focused theory. You will then put this learning into practice with your peers and personal mentor in a school environment.

This training route aims to give you the best start to go on and support thousands of children and young people over the lifetime of your career. It will provide you with the strong foundation skills to allow you to benefit from the continuity of your professional development, including Ambition's Early Career Framework and National Professional Qualifications.

For more information about the Teach Kent & Sussex Teacher Training programme please visit www.teachkentandsussex.org.uk

Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 5** Menu can be found on our website [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Home](#) under "quick links"
- **No nuts or nut spreads please.** Please click below for lunchbox ideas and recipes. [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- **The cut-off to decline/consent to your child's Flu Vaccination is 4pm on 9th October.** <https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/> - select *Seasonal Flu*. The school's unique code is: **KT118613**

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

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

Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: Year 3 Lewes
Punctuality: Year 2 Pevensey
This week's Attendance: 96.8%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

Y1 Arundel	Cillian	For always trying his best and showing pride with his writing.
Y1 Bodiam	Beau	For great effort and determination to improve his phonic skills when reading.
Y2 Leeds	Henry	For brilliant independent work and great sentences about a Victorian classroom.
Y2 Pevensy	Elijah	For always being ready for learning and participating in lessons.
Y3 Lewes	Sophie	For always having a great attitude to her learning.
Y3 Deal	Reuben	For always listening well and being ready to learn.
Y4 Dover	Yunus	For being ready and respectful at all times. A brilliant start to the year!
Y4 Farnham	Veliyana	For your thoughtful contribution in science. Well done!
Y5 Hever	Brandon	For catching up so quickly this week and always being ready and respectful.
Y5 Tonbridge	Alvin	For your careful word choices when writing your fairy tale and for the enthusiasm and pride you bring to all your learning.
Y6 Oxford	Archie	For giving 100% in everything you do!
Y6 Rochester	Bella	For your willingness and courage to rise to the challenges of year 6 with positivity and resilience. Well done!
Nurture Group	Ana	For her beautiful friendship cake. Well done!

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Bodiam – Zara, Charlotte, Abigel, Sophia

Rochester – Bella, Lois, Jessie J, Louis, Ketav

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher

