



# St Mark's C E Primary School

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Newsletter No 5

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Year 2 Campfire

On Tuesday afternoon, Year 2 went onto the Key Stage 1 playground for a campfire. We were having a campfire because in our story 'The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark', Plop the owl visited a Scout campfire. We wanted to find out what it feels like to go to a campfire. When we were at the campfire, we sang some songs with actions and watched the flickering, crackling flames.

"My favourite part was watching the flames because it was cool." Evie

"I loved the singing because the actions were fun." Reggie

"My favourite song was 'Hey Joe' because it was hard to push all the buttons." Theo

We thought of lots of words to help us describe the fire and the atmosphere when we came back to class. These included flickering, crackling, exciting, joyful, energetic, and relaxing.



Dates to remember.

Added dates in yellow.

## October

6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Book Fair

6<sup>th</sup> (Mon) PTA AGM 2pm

6<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Parents Evening

6<sup>th</sup> (Mon) **Girls Football Match at St James**

6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> **Scholastic Book Fair**

8<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Y5&6 Rugby Tournament

9<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Parents Evening

10<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> (Fri) World Mental Health Day

13<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Harvest Festival at Church

14<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Whole School Flu Immunisation

14<sup>th</sup> (Tue) **Year 5 CAT Tests**

15<sup>th</sup> (Tue) **Year 5 CAT Tests**

16<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) EYFS Hargate Trip – change of date

16<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y2 Victorian Day

16<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) **Year 4 CAT Tests**

17<sup>th</sup> (Fri) **Year 4 CAT Tests**

17<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Show Racism the Red Card

17<sup>th</sup> (Fri) End of Term 1

20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Mega camps at school

27<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Term 2 starts

28<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Year 5 to Amelia Centre

29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Year 6 Residential at Bowles

6<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop

13<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) **Individual and Sibling School Photos**

14<sup>th</sup> (Fri) **Friendship Friday**

14<sup>th</sup> (Fri) **Children in Need – wear a spotty accessory**

Term Dates etc are on our website

[www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk)



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## **Rugby Tournaments**

We have had success in Rugby over the last couple of weeks. Year 3 and 4 mixed rugby was last week and Years 3-6 girls' rugby took place on Wednesday. We are very proud of our teams and would like to thank Mrs Sheppard and Harry's Dad for supporting them with training sessions.

Here are the match reports:

**Mixed Rugby:** On Thursday morning we played at Juddian's Rugby club. There were 12 schools, but we only competed against 6 schools. We won the first round we drew the second round, and we didn't lose any matches. Mrs Sheppard and Harry's dad taught us how to tag, pass, and score a try. We felt nervous and excited at the same time. It was very sunny. Luckily, it wasn't raining because some of us didn't have rugby boots. Finally the best part of the day was the medals! Thank you, Mrs Sheppard. Written by Rowen



## **Girls' Rugby**

Our first game was against St Matthew's. We played really well until the whistle blew. We drew but that meant that we had to play them again. We fortunately won the following games against Solefields and Woodlands. Our team included Bella, Aiyana, Clair, Hedia and Kyla. Everyone was very supportive, and we all had a great time. In the end we got gold medals and certificates. Written by Bella-Logan and Aiyana.

On Wednesday, this week some of the girls from St Mark's represented our school at a rugby tournament. We all tried our best and worked really hard as a team. We played 6 games in total – we won 5 and drew 1. Everyone worked hard and we supported each other throughout the day. We had a great time, and I am very proud of our team. Written by Phoebe

## **Harvest Festival**

As detailed in last week's newsletter, we have the Harvest Festival at St Mark's Church on 13th October. We mentioned we would be grateful for non-perishable food items and Rev Claire has said they are in particular need of the following items for the Community Larder please:

Cereals, pasta, rice, tins of soup, tuna or tinned meals (e.g. chicken curry), toilet roll, shampoo, washing-up liquid, or laundry powder / liquid. All donations will be very gratefully received.

## **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Thank you so much for all your support last Friday for our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was lovely to welcome so many parents, and we had so many cakes donated! We are thrilled to announce that the grand total amount raised was **£800!!**

We still have one silver tray and a container with a pink lid – if these are yours then please pop to the office to collect.

**500 Story Writing Competition**

The exciting 500 words competition is now open for entries. Go to: [www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words](http://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words)

The closing date is 7th November. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality and not on spelling, punctuation, and grammar. The children have been

told about this in assembly this morning and seemed very keen to give it a go! You will need to submit your own child's entry as this is not a St Mark's project, but we are happy to help if you do not have a computer at home.



**PTA News**

Final reminder – come and join our AGM on Monday – we would love to see you there! Please see the attached flyers for further details and information about our pre-loved uniform sales.

**Children in Need – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

This year, Children in Need is taking place on 14<sup>th</sup> November. As usual, we invite children to join in by wearing a spotty accessory alongside their uniform, e.g. spotty socks, hairband, tie, etc. Whilst we will not be collecting donations for this charity at school you are, of course, able to donate directly at:

[We're there for you- BBC Children in Need](http://www.bbc.co.uk/childreninneed)

**Reminders**

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 6** Menu can be found on our website [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Home](http://www.stmarkchurchofenglandprimaryschool.co.uk) under “quick links”
- **No nuts or nut spreads please.** Please click below for lunchbox ideas and recipes. [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)
- **The cut-off to decline/consent to your child’s Flu Vaccination** is 4pm on 9<sup>th</sup> 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:

<b>Attendance:</b> Y1 Arundel
<b>Punctuality:</b> Y2 Leeds
<b>This week’s Attendance:</b> 97.3%

**This week the Head’s Heroes are:**

Y1 Arundel	Harrison	For trying really hard with his letter formation and phonics. 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Cobey	For showing great readiness to learn and not be distracted by those around him. Well done!
Y2 Leeds	Colby	For great independent work and showing kindness to his friends.
Y2 Pevensey	Mehran	For showing his is ready to learn and challenging himself in Maths and English.

Y3 Lewes	Georgia	For showing empathy and kindness to every member of Lewes Class and for her positive approach to learning.
Y3 Deal	Victoria & Elias	For showing bravery when they performed their French dialogues to the class from memory.
Y4 Dover	Siena W	For a neat, creative, and informative piece of work on the uses of a river.
Y4 Farnham	Leo	For super reflection in Maths and persevering with mistakes to progress.
Y5 Hever	Florence	For your attention to detail in every lesson that shows an outstanding readiness to learn.
Y5 Tonbridge	Nirvi	For your effective use of relative clauses and your careful word choices in English this week. Well done!
Y6 Oxford	Florrie	For showing maturity and choosing what will help you learn, even when it's not the easiest choice! 😊
Y6 Rochester	Lois	For showing great courage to present during our sharing assembly; it was a delight to see your confidence.
Nurture Group	Kyra	For being respectful when thinking about her peers' beliefs.

## This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Oxford – Yusuf, Archie, Hallie, Isabella F

Hever - Florence, Phoebe, Ram, Scarlett, Hamnah, Sumayah, Brandon, Jasmine, Selena, Amaaya

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird  
Headteacher

