



St Mark's C E Primary School

17th October 2025

Newsletter No 7

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy end to Term 1 this week. We had the Harvest Festival at St Mark's Church, Year 2 had their Victorian Day, EYFS went to Hargate Forest and Year 4 had a visit from Southeast Rivers. Together with Year 4 and Year 5 CAT tests and the whole school flu immunisation, it has been a very busy week!

I hope you all have a lovely, restful half term break.

St Mark's A Team Football Victory

On Monday, St Mark's A team beat St Matthew's football team 3:2.

Kevin scored the opening goal, and Robbie added two brilliant goals, including one from a throw in. Despite strong saves from their goalkeeper and two late goals from St Matthew's, St Mark's held on for a brilliant win in our first match of the season. Written by Elie

We would like to thank Elaine Cole for managing the team. The Manager's Man of the Match was our goalkeeper, Tom.



Dates to remember.

Added dates in yellow.

October

Term 2

27th (Mon) Term 2 starts

28th (Tue) Year 5 to Amelia Centre

29th – 31st Year 6 Residential at Bowles

November

2nd (Sun) Kent Under 11 Cross Country Series

6th (Thurs) Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop

10th (Mon) Inter School Cross Country Race

13th (Thurs) Girls' Basketball Tournament

13th (Thurs) Individual and Sibling School Photos

14th (Fri) Friendship Friday

14th (Fri) Children in Need – wear a spotty accessory

19th EYFS and Y6 National Child measurement programme

20th (Thurs) Piano Assembly

24th (Mon) Parliament Trip to London – invitations only Y5/Y6

25th (Tue) Y3D Sharing Assembly 9am

27th (Thurs) Y5T Sharing Assembly 9am

30th (Sun) PTA Christmas Village

December

2nd (Tue) KS2 Cooking Challenge

2nd (Tue) EY/KS1 Fitness Food Workshops

5th (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting

Term Dates etc are on our website

www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk



Follow us! Please click links above

Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Read to Succeed 2025-2026

This year's Read to Succeed reward is off to an excellent start!



We have already given out over 110 pencils or badges for those who have already accumulated 25 reads. This is fantastic! Keep up the reading.



Remember -

- You can read anything (audio books count too)
- Record your read in your reading journal (children in KS2 can do this themselves, parents just need to sign it)
- Have your reading record in school so reads can be counted (bring it daily so you don't miss out)
- Read for at least the minutes indicated per year group/key stage - see FAQ's for details
- Reading is an essential skill - so get reading and earn rewards!

Our aim this year is to have every child choose a book from the reading cabinet for 100 reads.

Victorian Day in Year 2

On Thursday, Year 2 dressed as Victorians for the day. It was not a normal school day because we had to sit in row, for some of the day the boys and girls were separated, and the teachers were strict! Our lessons included arithmetic with sums on a chalk board, reading, writing dictation and PE drills. The boys made boats and thaumatropes and boats which were children's toys from the Victorian times and the girls sewed bookmarks and baked bread. Everyone had a fantastic day.



Gymnastics and Cheerleading Clubs

Gymspire have let us know that they have spaces in their Gymnastics and Cheerleading clubs which take place at school – please see attached flyers for further details. All club information is on our website: [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Clubs](http://www.stmarkscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk)



Show Racism the Red Card

Today we wore red to show our support for "Show Racism the Red Card".

Further information can be found here:

[Home - Show Racism the Red Card](#)

NHS Flu Vaccination

The Immunisation Service would like to invite parents to book an appointment at one of their community clinics if your child missed the FLU vaccination during the recent school visit. If you gave consent but your child was not immunised, you will have received an automated email with a link to book an appointment.

Alternatively, if you missed the opportunity for your child to be vaccinated at the school session you can complete a consent form via our website at <https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/> using the school code: KT118613 please contact the team directly on 0300 123 5205 option 1 for more information about community clinic availability & bookings.

If your child was vaccinated on their recent visit, you are invited to complete the following surveys [Parent / Carer Survey](#) or [Young Persons Survey 11-19 year olds](#) You can also visit the Immunisation Service website for further details: <https://family.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms>

Early Years visit to Hargate Forest

On Thursday morning Camber and Windsor class took a stroll through the deep, dark wood... Hargate woods. Inspired by our book 'The Gruffalo,' we went to search for him. We followed a scavenger hunt finding objects that were orange like his eyes, spikey like his prickles and maybe an acorn or two for the mouse!



After walking for a while with no sign of the Gruffalo we decided to build some houses to entice the characters from the story in. These must've worked because on the way back through the woods we saw... THE GRUFFALO!

PTA News

It is wonderful seeing so many of the children coming out with the starts of their reading rewards - we've seen badges worn proudly! If you didn't know, the PTA funds this successful reward scheme which is in its third year.



If you're looking for a fireworks event look no further - Dunorlan Fireworks is organised by the RoundTable and we are once again selling tickets to this fabulous family event. For every ticket sold, the Round Table give £1 to St Marks PTA. Tickets are available on the playground after school (look for the sign) or email pta@st-marks.kent.sch.uk

Dunorlan Fireworks

Tickets and Prices

Adult (over 16): £10.50
Child (5-15 years): £6.50
Under 5's: Free

Family - 2 adults & 1 child: £22.00
Family - 2 adults & 2 children: £28.00

Carers can gain free admission when showing their DLA, PIP or ESA to the gate marshals.

Saturday 1st November 2025
Gates open @ 5.30pm with the display at 7pm.

Please email PTA@ST-MARKS.KENT.SCH.UK
or find us on the playground

Cash or Bank Transfer ONLY:
St Marks CEP School PTA Tunbridge Wells
Sort Code: 30 98 77
Acc No:01230703

We will earn £1 per ticket sold in commission.

[HTTPS://WWW.DUNORLANFIREWORKS.CO.UK](https://www.dunorlanfireworks.co.uk)

We met to plan for the Christmas Village on Monday - thanks to all who attended. Rotas for volunteers are starting to be circulated on your Class What's App groups - the magic can't happen without you so get signed up! Join us on **Sunday 30th November 12-3pm!**



Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 1 Menu** can be found on our website [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Lunches](#)
- **No nuts or nut spreads please.** Please click below for lunchbox ideas and recipes. [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

On Fridays we celebrate children for their effort and achievements throughout the week:
Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: Year 1 Bodiam
Punctuality: Year 1 Arundel
This week's Attendance: 95.3%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

Y1 Arundel	Callie	For her all round cheery disposition and always being ready to learn. 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Alisa	For being a welcome addition to Bodiam class. A joy to have!
Y2 Leeds	Mimi	For always trying her best and being respectful to everybody.
Y2 Pevensey	Theo	For his courage explaining his creations during Victorian day to the class.
Y3 Lewes	Bryanna	Being a valued member of Lewes Class. Good luck in your new school!
Y3 Deal	Mason	For always trying hard and taking pride in your work.
Y4 Dover	Davina	For her attention to detail and creativity when drawing her pumpkin.
Y4 Farnham	Averie	For contributing positively and getting involved in lessons!
Y5 Hever	Theo	His thoughts on philosophy and excellent thinking skills
Y5 Tonbridge	Gamze	For showing determination and using metacognition to edit your writing and improve your spellings. Well done!
Y6 Oxford	Logan	For amazing attitude to learning in maths and some super participation!
Y6 Rochester	Cary	For being an absolute Super Star! You are always courageous, compassionate and respectful – thank you!
Nurture Group	All	Great start to the term, full of respect, kindness and always ready to work.

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Tonbridge – Scarlett, Tyler, Audrey, Alanna, Kyla, Karina, Olivia, Giselle, Ivan, Orla, Manahil, Finley, Sienna, Autumn, Hedia and Kenda.

Dover - Orla, Nayeli, Elspeth, Siena W and Ellie

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher

