



St Mark's C E Primary School

31st October 2025

Newsletter No 8

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term break.

Apples – from tree to plate!

A few years ago we were grateful to Mr Breach, parent of a current and a former pupil, who donated fruit trees to the school. These trees were planted in our Forest School area, and the children picked the fruit during their recent Forest School sessions. Several dishes have then been cooked using the apples during activities with the children, including today's delicious, caramelised toffee apple bread and butter pudding!



Thank you once again Mr Breach for your donation – it has been lovely for the children to see the progression from tree to plate!



Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

Term 2

November

2nd (Sun) Kent Under 11 Cross Country Series#

3rd (Mon) Football Match v St John's

6th (Thurs) Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop

6th (Thurs) Football Match v Southborough

7th (Fri) PTA Crazy Hair day/bottle donation

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

27th (Thurs) Y5T Sharing Assembly 9am

30th (Sun) PTA Christmas Village

December

2nd (Tue) KS2 Cooking Challenge

2nd (Tue) EY/KS1 Fitness Food

Workshops

4th (Thurs) Y3D Sharing Assembly 9am
DATE CHANGE

5th (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting

9th (Tue) Rocksteady Concert 10am

10th (Wed) EYFS Nativity 9:15 or 2pm

Term Dates etc are on our website

www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk



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Year 5 to Amelia Centre



On Tuesday, Year 5 attended a workshop at the Amelia Centre about ancient Greece, Rome, and the Egyptians. We were allowed to handle real artefacts from thousands of years ago and look for clues to work out what they were used for. We also learned about the myth of Pandora's Box and reenacted the story using freeze frames, which was lots of fun.



“On Tuesday, Year 5 went to the Amelia Scott Centre to learn more about ancient Greece. We had lots of fun and held genuine Greek artefacts. The classes also acted out a Greek myth - Pandora's Box and were split into groups where we learnt the Greek alphabet and handled objects from rich Greek people.” Written by Sumayah – Hever Class

Reading lists

We are delighted to let you know that we have updated our school website with suggested reading lists for each year group. You will find these on the year group pages here: [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Year Groups](#)

In addition to that we would like to draw your attention to the following useful websites:

[Words for Life | National Literacy Trust | Words for Life Book lists for children and young people | Words for Life Bookfinder | BookTrust](#)
[Official Blue Peter Book Club | Share your reviews - CBBC](#)



Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all those children who took part in the Tunbridge Wells District Summer Reading Challenge – St Mark's came 7th out of 41 local primary schools!

Y6 Residential at Bowles

Year 6 have spent 3 days/2 nights on their residential at Bowles. They have had a wonderful time, learning new experiences and teambuilding fun with their friends! Activities have included skiing, bouldering, archery, pool raft, team ropes and more! They have been very well behaved and a credit to the school but we think they will be tired tonight!



PTA News

Hope you've had a good half term and are back re-charged and ready!! Here's what's coming up:

"Fireworks" hair - in exchange for a bottle (alcoholic / non-alcoholic / as long as it's non-perishable)
- Friday 7th November! **Please no dyed hair for the children in Year 4 who will be swimming!**

Crazy Hair Day!

Friday 7th November

CAN YOU MAKE YOUR HAIR COLOURFUL
LIKE A FIREWORK OR SPARKLY LIKE A
CHRISTMAS TREE?

HOW CRAZY CAN YOU MAKE YOUR
HAIR?

In exchange for a fun CRAZY HAIR DAY,
please bring a bottle for the tombola stall
at the Christmas Village.

Champagne or shampoo, gin or ginger
ale, we don't mind ... we just want lots of
them!
(unopened and in date please!)



EYFS and Key Stage 1 parents...with song practicing already happening and parts bring given out, it's time to plan your nativity costume! The PTA have your back 😊 with a range to hire for £2 - catalogue is attached to this email.

We have lots of other things in the pipeline through November and the elves are busy prepping for the fabulous Christmas Village - keep a look out for updates!

Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 2** Menu can be found on our website [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Lunches](#) and also on the quick links tab on our website.
- **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: Y6 Oxford

Punctuality: EY Camber

This week's Attendance: **96.02%**

This week the Head's Heroes are:

Y1 Arundel	Isla-Mae	For embracing every part of school life and always giving her best!
Y1 Bodiam	Hugo	For always being enthusiastic and excited about our learning!
Y2 Leeds	Edward	For always trying his absolute best in everything he does! 😊
Y2 Pevensey	Arthur	For great concentration and effort during reading.
Y3 Lewes	Iwinosa	For a fantastic attitude to learning and trying her best in every part of the day!
Y3 Deal	Reggie	For always having a positive attitude to learning.
Y4 Dover	Orobosa	For having a positive attitude towards his learning, especially with Accelerated Reader.
Y4 Farnham	Gabby	For always putting herself forward and contributing to class discussions.
Y5 Hever	Jessica	For her positive attitude to learning in maths and her determination when solving 4-digit subtractions.
Y5 Tonbridge	Leila	For overall positivity and sharing brilliant vocabulary in English!
Nurture Group	Ethan	Spreading love and cuddles around school.

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Bodiam – Nathan and Evie

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher

