



St Mark's C E Primary School

7th November 2025

Newsletter No 9

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 4 Anglo-Saxon Workshop



On Thursday, children in Year 4 took part in an Anglo-Saxon Workshop where they took part in a range of different activities. Children used Runes to write their own names and create bookmarks. They then formed a Witan where they had important decisions to make ensuring they kept the Thralls, Churls and Thaners all happy. Children then looked at clothes and artefacts from the Anglo-Saxon period. After lunch, year 4 had a chance to look at weapons and tactics used by the Anglo Saxons and learnt about the Battles of Stamford Bridge and Hastings. The children all had a fabulous time.



Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

November

- 10th (Mon) Inter School Cross Country Race
- 13th (Thurs) Girls' Basketball Tournament
- 13th (Thurs) Individual and Sibling School Photos
- 13th (Thurs) Girls Basketball Tournament
- 14th (Fri) Friendship Friday
- 14th (Fri) Children in Need – wear a spotty accessory
- 17th (Mon) Netball match with Bishop Chavasse at home
- 19th EYFS and Y6 National Child measurement programme
- 20th (Thurs) Piano Assembly
- 21st (Fri) PTA Gift donation/jolly jam jars and wear PE kit
- 24th (Mon) Parliament Trip to London – invitations only Y5/Y6
- 27th (Thurs) Y5T Sharing Assembly 9am
- 28th (Fri) PTA Own clothes day – chocolate and cakes
- 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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Sports News

Cross Country: Last Sunday, a group of St Mark's pupils took part in a race. Year 3s and 4s raced first. Although Hal slipped, he showed great perseverance. Next up was Year 5s and 6s. Sam G (who fell straight away) came 6th place with Bentley right behind him. Everyone did a superb job, but a special shout out goes to Mrs Sheppard for making this happen!
Written by Bentley

Football: On Monday, the St Mark's B team faced St John's in an intense football match. Although the team lost, we played very well with a halfway line power shot by Rory. Manuel made some amazing saves in goal and Arthur, the Captain, was very encouraging. Overall the team played well but lost. Written by Odin

After we lost to St John's earlier this week, we weren't feeling that confident yesterday, to play against Southborough Primary. Happy to say that we drew one-all! We had a solid assist from Rory, with Tyler firing at goal. Luke K stepped up for defence, delivering some excellent blocks, and Manuel ensured some great saves in goal. Our team's defence was strong, with some exceptional tackles made by Jacob, Rory and Josh. Arthur was great at getting at the ball and passing to his teammates. By half-time, we felt positive that we could win but we were satisfied with the full-time result and most importantly, we all enjoyed ourselves! The Man of the Match, who was chosen by the Southborough team, went to Luke K. Hopefully, we will win our next match, which we are looking forward to! Written by Joshua L



School Lunches

The Christmas lunch for all pupils will take place on Tuesday 16th December. The menu was sent out to parents and is also available on our school website. The kitchen would be most grateful if you could sign up early to this lunch if your child would like it to assist them in planning.

We have noticed that there are a large number of pupils who do not have school lunches ordered for them on Arbor. Please may we politely remind you that lunches should be booked on Arbor for each day – these should be booked at least the day before, but whole weeks or even whole terms can be ordered at once if convenient. Many thanks.

PTA News

Hopefully, everyone received their "Christmas Village Survival Guide" this week and we look forward to seeing your kiddos' crazy hair/home clothes and lots and lots of lovely donations please!!

Don't forget, sign up for rotas, and empty jam jars are available outside the main front office doors for collection and returned full and beautifully decorated!

Mental Elf 2025

Please see the website below regarding the West Kent Mind's Mental Elf Festive Fun Run. This will be taking place on Saturday 6th December at Racecourse Park, Tonbridge. You can run, walk, or skip 5k of festive fun with family and friends whilst raising vital funds for mental health support in West Kent. [Sign up to Mental Elf 2025](#) 🧝

Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 3** 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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- Suggested pupil reading lists: [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](#)

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: 97.6% 😊

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Aria	For becoming more and more confident when speaking in front of the class.
EYFS Windsor	Frida	For challenging herself and being so enthusiastic about her learning!
Y1 Arundel	Willow	For her outstanding effort with improving her handwriting. 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Abigel	For challenging herself in writing yesterday and writing 3 sentences independently about famous bears.
Y2 Leeds	Louis	For brilliant choices all week and really engaging with his learning!
Y2 Pevensey	Ruby	For working independently and showing eagerness to learn.
Y3 Lewes	Arran D	For using beautiful figurative language in his writing, especially when using a simile. "He remembered the sun was as yellow as a butterscotch canary."
Y3 Deal	Layana	For excellent listening and amazing work in English.
Y4 Dover	Casey	For his effort and creativity when writing our narrative this week. Some super sentences, well done!
Y4 Farnham	David	Demonstrating courage and compassion when taking part in our Anglo-Saxon Workshop
Y5 Hever	Scarlett	For her courage in speaking up and her honesty at all times. A great new pupil at St Mark's.
Y5 Tonbridge	Manahil	For your care and attention to detail when writing. You always challenge yourself to produce your best work in all subjects. Well done! 😊

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Rochester: Jessica Ketav Kevin Isabella Felix

Dover: Hal, Iris, Rowen, Sienna C and Avery

Yours sincerely,
Mr S Bird
Headteacher

