



St Mark's C E Primary School

19th December 2025

Newsletter No 15

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

So Term 2 has now come to an end and what a finale it has been! The children in years 1-3 have enjoyed a pantomime at school and years 4-6 went to the Assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells for their pantomime. Thank you to the PTA for their kind donation. Also this week, we have had the Christmas service at church, Christmas lunch and many Christmas activities taking place such as bauble making, baking, and decorating biscuits. We finished the week off with our St Mark's Got Talent Show this morning – we were treated to dance, singing, magic, gymnastics, piano playing and more! Well done to all the children who entered – it was a fabulous end to the term.



Sports Activities

We would like to thank everyone for their support with sporting activities this year. Without you taking your children to and from: football/netball matches, rugby and basketball tournaments and to cross country races, we would not be able to join in with so many events and have so much fun. A special thank you to those parents who have helped coach our teams and referee matches for us. We look forward to taking part in many more events next year and hope for your continued support. Ms Truscott / Ms Gifford and Mrs Sheppard

PTA News

Drumroll please... We are excited to announce that this year's Christmas village raised a wonderful total of **£4500!!!!** Thank you to ALL of you; for leading, volunteering, sending in donations and spending your ££s!

And to top it off, our St Mark's School Christmas tree raised **£90** in donations so thank you for supporting this.

More exciting things planned for 2026 but for now wishing you a Merry Christmas. The PTA

Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

December

22nd -23rd Mega camps

January

5th (Mon) Inset Day

6th (Tue) Term 3 starts

21st (Wed) EYs Hearing Screening

22nd (Thurs) Y2 Georgian Workshop

23rd (Fri) Y6 to Amelia Centre

27th (Tue) Y6 Oxford Sharing Assembly
9am

29th (Thurs) Y4D Sharing Assembly 9am

30th (Fri) Year 6 to Amelia Centre

30th (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am

February

6th (Fri) Great Athletes Visit

13th (Fri) Pupil Mid-Year Reports

13th (Fri) Term 3 ends

16th – 20th MegaCamps at school

23rd (Mon) Inset Day

24th (Tue) Term 4 starts

Term Dates etc are on our website
www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk



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Aspire, Believe, Succeed



Football News

Last week our team played Skinners Primary. Unfortunately, we lost 6:1 with an amazing free kick from Asher, outside the box! Overall our team was confident and made some good runs.

Written by Asher

On Thursday last week, the North squad played a match against Skinners Primary School. Luckily, the first half went fully in our favour because we went 3 goals up (3:0) to us thanks to a brilliant hat-trick from Robbie and a wonderful cut-back assist from Sam.

During the second half, our team suffered terrible slips due to the awful pitch conditions. We opened the

second half with a goal from Sam. Then we were punished with them having scored 2 goals from a player slipping behind our right back. The end score was much better than our last time of playing them (the score was 4:1 to them that time). Now we got our revenge with a 4:2 win to us. For now, we are top of the league table, wanting more trophies! Written by Robbie



Read to Succeed

The reading challenge has continued at quite a pace this term.

The new reading bugs for 75 reads are whizzing out of the office and have been received well by the children.



To date we have given out:

288 badges or pencils for 25 reads, with 3 classes having had everyone receive one!

187 bookmarks for 50 reads

103 reading bugs for 75 reads

15 books for 100 reads

This is phenomenal! That is a total of 593 rewards given out. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this incentive.

Keep up the reading over the Christmas break. We will award a maximum of 14 reads for the Christmas break - quite an achievement if you manage to read on Christmas day/Boxing day!

If Father Christmas brings you something to read don't forget to share this with your teacher when you return. We are always on the lookout for an exciting new book. Mrs Crane

Message from Rev Claire, St Mark's Church

It was lovely to celebrate Christmas together at church on Monday. Thank you so much for all the star prayers which the children wrote. They will be decorating our church Christmas tree and look amazing!

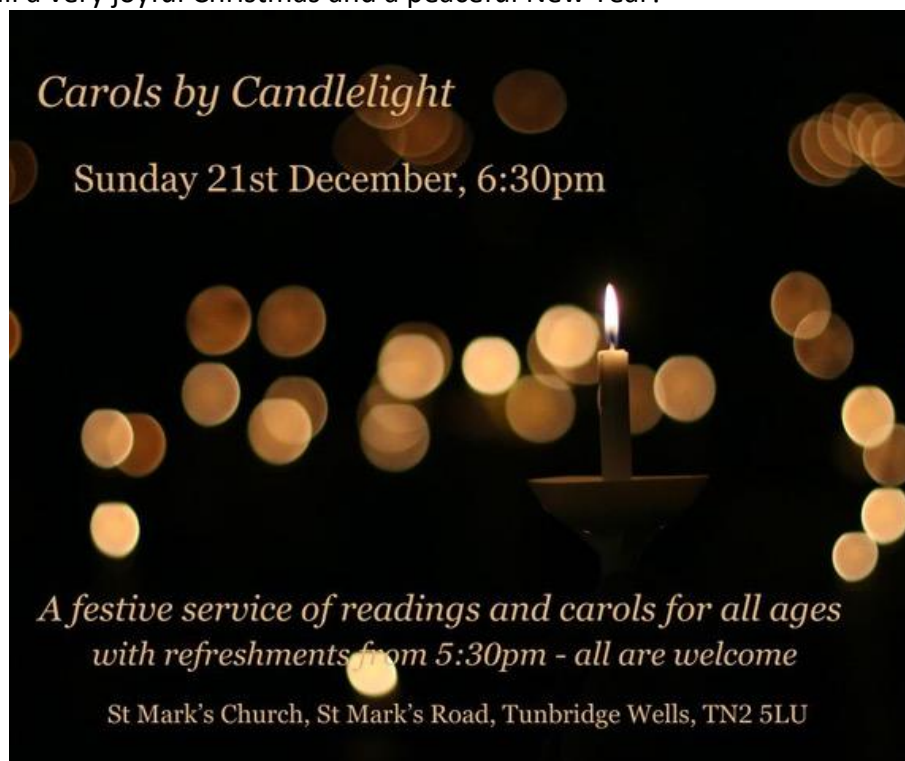
All are welcome to our services.

This Sunday at 6:30pm, Carols by Candlelight with our Christmas Choir

Christmas Eve at 4pm the Christingle service and

Christmas Day at 10am - All-Age Christmas Communion.

We wish you all a very joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year!



Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 1** 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: Y5 Tonbridge
Punctuality: EY Windsor
This week's Attendance: 95%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Jake	For giving his best in all areas of his learning and for spreading the best smiles around our class!
EYFS Windsor	Caden	For being such a thoughtful, respectful and kind member of the class!
Y1 Arundel	Aliah	For always trying her best and being a super helper all week!
Y1 Bodiam	Clarice	For being a joy to teach!
Y2 Leeds	Giles	For always being a super polite member of the class, lifting everyone up.
Y2 Pevensey	Rita	For her courage challenging herself in her learning and the kindness she shows when supporting her peers.
Y3 Lewes	Vrishank	For beautiful cutting and folding skills when crafting.
Y3 Deal	Elias	For his confidence in performing his fantastic solo magic in the talent show!
Y4 Dover	Orla	For her super listening and careful following of instructions when making her wattle and daub.
Y4 Farnham	Kayden	For settling into year 4 really well and producing some great work.
Y5 Hever	Mantra	An excellent presentation to the class showing developing oracy skills
Y5 Tonbridge	Audrey	For the care and craft you put into all your writing and for having the courage to share it with us – your Viking saga was fabulous! 😊
Y6 Oxford	Yusufur	For consistently following the school rules and showing kindness and manners around the school.
Y6 Rochester	Jeet	Your readiness and commitment to make clear writing progress by incorporating new language and key skills – excellent!

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Tonbridge: Leon, Scarlett, Tyler, Alex, Audrey, Alanna, Melissa, Gamze, Kyla, Ethan, Olivia, Giselle, Alvin, Ivan, Orla, Manahil, Ruu, Nirvi, Sneha, Karina, Finley, Sienna, Autumn, Kenda, Josh.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher

