



# St Mark's C E Primary School

6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Newsletter No 19

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Great Athlete Visit

The children all had a fabulous day today with our visiting athlete – Commonwealth gymnast Courtney Orange! Each class participated in fitness circuits with Courtney before hearing all about Courtney's sporting journey to becoming a National Gymnastics champion six times before becoming a professional dancer. Children had the opportunity to ask him questions.



Here he is performing a 30 second handstand.

Thank you for sponsoring your child. There is still time to do so! Please click on the QR code below. We receive a percentage of the money raised which will go towards PE equipment for the school. Last year we were able to purchase a vault, lacrosse and indoor athletics equipment, footballs and tennis balls so it is a great opportunity to obtain some further sports equipment. Thank you.



Dates to remember.

Added dates in yellow.

## February

9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Y3 Deal Friendship Workshop  
9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Girls Team football match  
11<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Y3 Lewes Friendship Workshop  
13<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Pupil Mid-Year Reports  
13<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Y3 Y4 Athletics Competition  
13<sup>th</sup> (Fri) PTA Valentines Treat Sale  
13<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Term 3 ends  
16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> MegaCamps at school  
23<sup>rd</sup> (Mon) Inset Day  
24<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Term 4 starts  
24<sup>th</sup> (Tue) EYs Hearing Screening  
27<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Y4 Dover swimming starts swimming  
27<sup>th</sup> (Fri) PTA School Legacy Disco Y5 and Y6

## March

4<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Year 1 Wakehurst Place  
5<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) World Book Day  
6<sup>th</sup> (Fri) PTA Uniform sale and sweet treats 3:15pm  
9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Book Fair NEW DATE  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Science Week  
9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Parents Evening 3.30-5.30  
12<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Parents Evening 3:30 – 7pm  
17<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Y2L Sharing Assembly 9am  
19<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y1A Sharing Assembly 9am  
20<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Red Nose Day  
20<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting  
23<sup>rd</sup> (Mon) Year 6 Easter Experience  
24<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Rocksteady Concert  
29<sup>th</sup> (Sun) PTA Easter Hunt  
30<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Easter Service at church

Term Dates etc are on our website  
[www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk)



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**Aspire, Believe, Succeed**

## PTA News

**SAVE THE DATE: St Marks Golf Day - Friday 15th May.** Raising money for the Year 6 Legacy Fund again. Mike H and Keith C will be organising the day with Peter Breach and details are to follow. Please kindly let us know if you are interested, so we can gauge numbers. Thanks Peter Breach 07710077668

Don't forget your coins for the treat sale **NEXT FRIDAY** before we break for half term!

## Year 5 – Creating Circuits



In Year 5, we have been learning how to create circuits and programme crumbles and sparkles. All of us managed to make a working programme with one sparkle and some of us managed 3 sparkles all doing different things at different times! The children worked as teams to programme and problem solve and Finley said, "It worked for everyone...I thought it was very exciting!"

## World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on the 5th March. Children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite book character. Also, this year, children are invited to bring into school, for World Book Day, anything that they love reading including

comics, football annuals, their favourite books. This year is the National Year of Reading, and the slogan is '***If you're into it, read into it!***' Additionally, your child will be coming home with a World Bood Day Voucher, please see the link below which shows you where you can exchange the voucher for a £1 book. Finally, please look out for St Mark's reading newsletter which will be coming out shortly with ideas to support your child reading for pleasure.

[Free £1/€1.50 World Book Day Books & Tokens - World Book Day](#)

**St Mark's PTA**

# Treat Stalls

Last day of each term:

17 <sup>th</sup> October	19 <sup>th</sup> December
13 <sup>th</sup> February	2 <sup>nd</sup> April
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	

Both playgrounds after school - CASH is KING

The poster features a festive design with colorful confetti scattered around the text. At the bottom, there are illustrations of various candies, including a pink lollipop, a purple bag of 'Gummies', and several wrapped candies in different colors.



### Y6 Trip to the Amelia Centre

On Friday 23rd January, the Year Six went on a very informational trip to the Amelia Scott Centre. Once there, we learnt about Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution. We learnt the story of the peppered moth and how it adapted to the sooty, black buildings of Manchester by turning black from white. After that, we played a very fun game of adapting an animal to its habitat. My group won the activity and we got 80 points! This was a very memorable trip for us.

*Written by Aaradhya*

Last Friday year six went to the Amelia Centre for research about World War II. The first thing we did was understand how evacuation effected woman and children during the second World War. After that, we learnt how people would have to black out their window in case of emergencies during the night. We used different materials. First was some black card, it covered the window well, but you could still see some light. There was also paper and some cloth. We used tape, torches and clothes pegs.

The next activity was the blitz. We tried on a WW2 helmet; it was very heavy and hard to wear. We went into a room where there were a shelter and two tables. What we didn't see was how there was a glass window over the shelter.

After that we saw a teddy that was from an evacuee and photos donated by a Jewish girl who was rescued by The Kinder transport and given refuge at The Beacon Hotel.

*Written by Ana*

### Winter Olympic Curling

Year 1 were celebrating the opening of the Winter Olympics by taking part in some curling today!



### Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 6** 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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- **Please remember to park considerately during drop off and pick up and avoid parking over driveways (both residents and the school).**
- **Please remember that no smoking/vaping is allowed on site.**
- **Please also remember not to bring dogs on site (except guide dogs).**
- **Please be courteous towards all children, staff, and adults.**

## 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> EY Camber
<b>Punctuality:</b> Y4 Dover
<b>This week's Attendance:</b> 96.1%

### This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Colette	For an imaginative and very detailed recreation of We're Going on a Bear Hunt – or should we say We're going on a Rumi Hunt!
EYFS Windsor	Gabi	For her kindness, in the words she says to others! I have been listening to Gabi's kindness all week!
Y1 Arundel	Jamie	For trying exceptionally hard to write a story with a beginning, middle and end - on his own! 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Freddie	For showing greater focus during carpet sessions
Y2 Leeds	Hugo	For always being a superstar, being ready and respectful.
Y2 Pevensey	Aria	For her brilliant creativity during DT lessons!
Y3 Lewes	Jasmine	For excellent participation in the athlete visit today.
Y3 Deal	Reuben	For always being a great example of our school rules. Reuben is always respectful, safe and ready to learn.
Y4 Dover	Leo	For the resilience he has shown when building his pavilion. Well done!
Y4 Farnham	Delilah	Excellent hard work in English and always wanting to try her best!
Y5 Hever	Alana	A really positive attitude to her learning. Lots of focus and concentration showing she wants to be the best she can be!
Y5 Tonbridge	Kenda	For the enormous progress you have made learning your multiplication and division facts. Fantastic! 😊
Y6 Oxford	Toby	For showing great dedication to his work and making independent improvements to be the best he can be!
Y6 Rochester	Ana	For sowing secure learning and application of algebraic equations by teaching a classmate – super progress! 😊

### This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Finley, Amber, Asterix and Leila always ready, safe and respectful. (Farnham)

Dover: Jasmine, Logan, Harriet, Rowen, Jessica

Yours sincerely,  
Mr S Bird  
Headteacher

