



St Mark's C E Primary School

24th April 2026

Newsletter No 27

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term. As the days grow lighter and warmer, we're excited to build on the progress the children have made from last term, and to celebrate their achievements together

As the weather begins to warm up, please ensure that children bring a filled water bottle to school each day. Summer caps may be worn and should be clearly named. If the weather becomes very warm and sun cream is required, we recommend that an 8-hour sun cream is applied before school.

Celebrating St Mark's Day

Today we celebrated St Mark's Day by reflecting on our school story, *The Feeding of the 5000*. As part of this, children across the school decorated wooden fish to help them explore the themes of sharing, generosity and faith shown in the story. The fish represent the miracle at the heart of the story and will be displayed around the school as a reminder of what we have learned and celebrated together.

Reminders

Lunch 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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Parking - as a school community, we all play a part in keeping our children safe. Please help us maintain a calm and safe environment at drop-off and pick-up times by parking responsibly. **Try to avoid stopping in the road** to let children in or out of the car — this can be dangerous and causes congestion, and **do not park across dropped kerbs or driveways.**

Communication – please remember to look at your emails from Arbor for reminders and consent for trips. We send these out from 4.30pm each day.

Dates to remember.

Added dates in yellow.

April

25th (Sat) Mini London Marathon
27th (Mon) Teacher led clubs start

May

1st (Fri) PTA Toys & Bottles donations -Non-Uniform
4th (Mon) Bank Holiday
6th (Wed) Y3 Y4 Rock Day
8th (Fri) PTA Meeting 9am
11th to 14th SATs week
11th Parent Coffee meeting with NELFT
15th (Fri) PTA Cake donations – Non-Uniform
17th (Sun) PTA Summer Fair
19th (Tue) Y5 Mosque visit
19th (Tue) Y3L Sharing Assembly 9am
21st (Thurs) Y1B Sharing Assembly 9am
21st (Thurs) Y6 Workshop
22nd (Fri) INSET DAY
25th – 29th Half Term
25th – 29th MegaCamps in School

June

1st (Mon) Term 6 starts
2nd (Tues) Y1 Minibeast Workshop
3rd (Weds) Y3 Roman Workshop
4th (Thurs) Y4 Howletts Trip
5th (Fri) PTA Meeting 9am
5th (Fri) PTA Uniform sale
11th (Thurs) Y5 Globe Theatre Trip
17th (Weds) EYFS to Godstone Trip
18th & 19th (Thurs & Fri) Bikeability Group 1
19th (Fri) Y6 Trip to Rochester Cathedral
25th & 26th (Thurs & Fri) Bikeability Group 2

July

2nd (Thurs) Y5H Sharing Assembly 9am
3rd (Fri) Parent Rep meeting 9am
8th (Weds) Sports day - EYFS & KS1 in AM & KS2 in PM
14th (Tues) Y6 Show – 2pm
15th (Weds) Y6 Show – 6pm
20th (Mon) Leavers Church Service 9.30am
21st (Tues) Term ends
22nd July to 28th August MegaCamps



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Playground Markings

Have you seen the latest upgrade to our playgrounds?! The playground markings are looking amazing and have been a huge hit with the children—thank you so much to our PTA for helping to fund this fantastic addition.



We also removed the redundant exercise equipment, and something special will be arriving soon!

Year 2 Workshop

On Thursday afternoon, Year 2 went on an adventure with Amy the explorer. We learnt about the 5 oceans and 7 continents of the world. We travelled to the South Pole Antarctica, the Amazon rainforest in South America, the Grand- Canyon in America, Victoria Falls in Africa, and the Great Barrier Reef in Australasia. Penguins, in Antarctica, stay still to keep warm - how funny! Victoria Falls is the largest waterfall in the world, and you can usually see rainbows in the spray because the sun is reflecting off the water. Did you know the Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean. The equator is an imaginary line around the globe, if a country is a long way away from the equator, then it will be a cold country and if the country is close to the equator, it will be a hot country. (Children's voice)



PTA Messages

Dear Parents, this weekend, 40 of St Marks pupils will be travelling to London to run in the Mini London Marathon! Please do sponsor them if you can:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/donation-form/mini-london-marathon--2026>

The rest of the children will be completing the race at school through the daily mile runs.

If you can, please share this link with your friends and family. Every penny raised goes straight back to the children and will be supporting the school's reading goals, including furnishing a library space for all the children to use!

SAVE THE DATE!

St Mark's May Fair on Sunday 17th May, 11am to 2pm. Buy your raffle tickets here:

[PTA May Fair Raffle 2026](#)

Scholastics Book Fair

We are delighted to share that the Scholastic Book Fair raised an impressive **£820.92**, which will go directly towards supporting new books and resources for our pupils.

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

On Thursday, this week we celebrate children for their effort and achievements throughout the week. Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: Y6 Rochester
Punctuality: Y1 Bodiam
This week's Attendance: 96.7%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Aria	For looking after our butterflies so well over easter. She confidently shared what she had seen when they emerged from their chrysalides and was a great scientist!
EYFS Windsor	Izzy	For her positive attitude and resilience, always! Izzy is our ray of sunshine!
Y1 Arundel	Lidia	For her super handwriting this week! 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Charlotte	For persevering when working on challenging maths. Well done for not giving up!
Y2 Leeds	Bella	For super contributions in maths. Keep it up! 😊
Y2 Pevensy	Candis	For her focus and contributions during our English lessons this week.
Y3 Lewes	Jasmine	For her beautiful creative writing.
Y3 Deal	Chloe	For joining in well in lessons and answering questions in a whole class discussion.
Y4 Dover	Abdul	For his outstanding effort and presentation in science this week.
Y4 Farnham	Lucy C	For her superb attitude in all she does! Well done.
Y5 Hever	Mia	For her focus on graphs and tables in maths and for coming back after Easter with such a sunny, positive attitude.
Y5 Tonbridge	Olivia	For consistently being ready, showing respect and being focused. You are a pleasure to have in class! 😊
Y6 Oxford	Franklin	For the resilience and perseverance he has consistently shown this year 😊
Y6 Rochester	Alicia	For consistently showing readiness and determination to learn and excel; your commitment to learning is unparalleled. 😊

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

LEWES CLASS – Arran D, Zayn, Ethan, and Mara

Dover: Jesse, Avery, Carter, Ellie, Leo

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher



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