



St Mark's C E Primary School

1st May 2026

Newsletter No 28

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the sun (finally) comes out to play, please can we ensure that children have sunscreen on before coming into school, and that they bring in a hat and water bottle for when they are outside.

A big thank you to all those who brought in a bottle or toy to support our PTA Summer Fair event, due to take place on Sunday 17th May.

The next non-uniform date is Friday 15th May, and we ask that you bring in cakes and any more bottles you can donate please.

Make sure you buy your raffle tickets online [here](#)

Tug of War tickets [here](#)

Meet the animal's tickets [here](#)

Reminders

Lunch menu can be found on our website [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Lunches](#)

On Thursday 21st May, the lunch will change to fishy Friday - Fish Fingers and Chips!

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.



Follow us! Please click links above

Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

May

4th (Mon) Bank Holiday

5th (Tues) **Rapid Fire Cricket Tournament**

6th (Wed) Y3 Y4 Rock Day

7th (Thurs) **Y4D trip to Amelia Centre**

8th (Fri) PTA Meeting 9am

11th to 14th SATs week

11th (Mon) **Y1 Trip to Tunbridge Wells Garden Centre**

11th (Mon) Parent Coffee meeting with NHS Mental Health Education Practitioner at 2.30pm

13th (Weds) **trip to National Portrait Gallery**

14th (Thurs) **Y4F trip to Amelia Centre**

15th (Fri) PTA Cake donations – Non-Uniform

15th (Fri) **West Kent SFA School Tournament**

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

21st (Thurs) **Colour run**

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

7th (Tues) **Rocksteady concert at 10am**

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

Water Polo

Voice of Archie:

"Last term on Thursday a selected team of 6 went to a Water Polo competition against other schools. Luke, Rory, and Elie were in goal for different games and had some great saves."

Voice of Martin:

"We played 7 matches in total. Lost 1, Drew 1 and won 5. The team played great and we came 3rd out of 8 schools. We all enjoyed our games very much."



London Mini Marathon

Voice of Eva T:

"Last weekend, some of St Mark's Went to London to do a mini marathon, some of us did 2.6km, we were very proud of ourselves! We achieved a medal after we finished.

Quite a few of us were lucky enough to see Joe Wicks and Nitro and Fury from Gladiators.

We would like to say thank you to the people that sponsored us, we raised over £1,645!"

The TCS Mini London Marathon also rewards schools with £10 for every child who completes the event, which brings the fundraising efforts up to over £2,000! Again, a big thank you from all the staff at St Mark's.



In-School Mini Marathon

Written by Hallie and Isabella G in Yr6 Oxford:

"Last week, Year 6 Oxford tried really hard to conquer the school mini marathon. After a long week of running, it's our privilege to announce that we have officially won and beaten the other classes at the mini school marathon. Although we all tried our hardest, we want to personally shout out Franklin and Bentley because Franklin was on crutches and helped to do the maths to find the average. On the other hand, Bentley ran double the amount that was required of him. The whole class would like to give a MASSIVE well done to our class teacher, Miss Gifford for her perseverance and dedication and dedication. She also encouraged us to keep going no matter what. We are all so grateful that this was set up for our school to enjoy exercising as a whole."



PTA Messages

Whoop, whoop! Well done to the students who ran in the London Mini Marathon - the total is currently at £1,645... but this total will rise as the organisers donate, as well as our own KS2 students participating in their own runs around the school. Keep sponsoring using the same link and let's see if we can get the total to £2000!

DON'T FORGET to buy your [raffle tickets here](#) - we have EVEN MORE amazing prizes to be won including state of the art coffee machine!

Please sign up to the rotas for the May Fair - someone in your year will have been asking in your class/year WhatsApp group. Please let them know if you can help - we need you!

Next donation day: Friday 15th May for **CAKES**

Upcoming Events

School and PTA

MARCH
20
Red Nose Day
Children can wear red clothes along with school uniform.

MARCH
23
Big Summer pre loved uniform Sale
KSI playground.

MARCH
27
PTA Easter Egg Hunt
Buy tickets here:
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/st-marks-pta-easter-egg-hunt-2026>

APRIL
02
End of term /
Treat Stall
Happy Easter

APRIL
05
Back to School

APRIL
25
London Mini Marathon 2026
Donate here:
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/donation-form/mini-london-marathon-2026>

MAY
01
ALL DAY
Donations of toys and bottles.
Non-uniform Day.

MAY
15
ALL DAY
Donations of cakes.
Non-uniform

MAY
17
11AM-2PM
Pta Events
May Fair 2026

All dates and important information can be found on the websites below.

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

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/organizations/st-marks-cep-school-pta-tunbridge-wells>

Online Safety

Below, you will find links to trusted and certified online safety organisations and resources, including nationally recognised bodies that offer guidance and support for children, parents, and schools. These resources provide up-to-date advice on staying safe online, reporting concerns and promoting responsible digital use.

[Help your child stay safe online](#)

[‘What I wish my parents or carers knew...’: A guide for parents and carers on managing children’s digital lives.](#)

These can also be found on our website: [St Mark's Church of England Primary School - Safeguarding](#)

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: 97.04%
Punctuality: Year 3 Dover
This week’s Attendance: Year 5 Hever

This week the Head’s Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Joseph	For working hard to write a whole sentence independently. Well done!
EYFS Windsor	Frida	Beautiful handwriting and always being careful with her work.
Y1 Arundel	Reuben	For drawing a fantastic map of our local area 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Freddie	For greater focus and concentration during whole class teaching.
Y2 Leeds	Orla	For working hard in her spellings and using resources to help her achieve this.
Y2 Pevensey	Kian	For making excellent choices and transferring PE skills into playtime games.
Y3 Lewes	Ethan	For demonstrating excellent conceptual understanding in maths and working hard to extend and challenge himself in problem-solving tasks.
Y3 Deal	Adam	For his consistently positive classroom behaviours. Adam is always polite, respectful, and ready to learn.
Y4 Dover	Sienna C	For her detailed diagram of a rainforest using our newly learnt vocabulary.
Y4 Farnham	Julie	For always doing her best in every lesson, particularly this week when ordering decimals, PSHE relationships and Art.
Y5 Hever	Brooke	For focus and concentration in the afternoons and excellent thinking skills :)
Y5 Tonbridge	Ivan	For bringing energy and enthusiasm to the classroom and for always trying your hardest with the learning. 😊
Y6 Oxford	Isaac	For always being ready to learn and for giving your best effort to all you do 😊
Y6 Rochester	Jessie	For always setting a super example of readiness to learn and for your sincere courage to show your empathic nature when writing.
Nurture Group	Ethan L	For his enthusiasm during Nurture Group/

This week’s Unsung Heroes are:

Hever: Paris, Hamnah, Selena, Genevieve, Brooke, Mantra, Scarlett, Amaaya, Phoebe, Florence, Jasmine
Rochester: Felix Asher Cary Henry Flora Vanessa

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher



Follow us! Please click links above



Aspire, Believe, Succeed



GYMSPIRE
Academy



CHEERLEADING AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

NEW CLASS AVAILABLE IN YOUR SCHOOL!

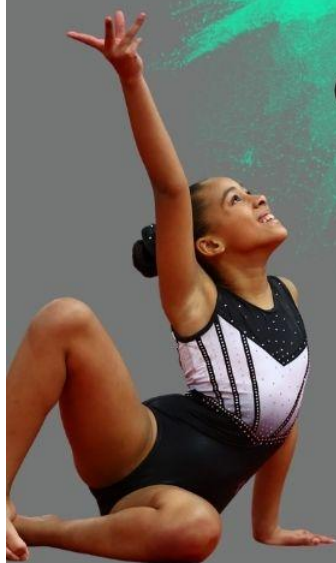
**Every Thursday After School
3:15pm - 4:15pm**

Come and try a class for FREE!

**OPEN TO BEGINNER AND
ADVANCED LEVELS**

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

BOOK NOW VIA: WWW.GYMSPIREACADEMY.COM



Friday 8th May

7- 9PM



Silent Disco



Sign up at
Church

Or book your place -
Tel 01892526069



St Mark's Church



TN2 5LU

£5 a Ticket



£15 per Family

All Ages Welcome

3 Fabulous Playlists!

Children need an accompanying adult