




# St Mark's C E Primary School


8<sup>th</sup> May 2026


Newsletter No 29


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

Dear Parents and Carers,

 To all our Year 6 children taking their SATs exams next week, we ask that you keep our values close: **aspire** high, **believe** in yourself, and **succeed** by giving your very best.

 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 17<sup>th</sup> May.

 The next **non-uniform date is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**, and we ask that you **bring in cakes and any more full 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](#)

## Tonbridge Triathlon 2026

Having regularly talked to children about how we all set targets to work towards and challenge ourselves, I decided to take part in the Tonbridge Sprint Triathlon once more, which took place on Monday morning. I completed the course, with a personal best in the cycling element. This shows that if we are dedicated, courageous and try our best then we can all **Aspire, Believe, Succeed!**

It would be lovely to hear about any sporting/music achievements that the children have completed outside of school. We could share these in a Friday assembly.

## Reminders

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

**Parking – Please 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, driveways or on the grass verges.**

Dates to remember.  
Added dates in yellow.

## May

11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> SATs week  
11<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Y1 Trip to Tunbridge Wells Garden Centre  
11<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Y4D Worries Workshop in school  
11<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Parent Coffee meeting with NHS Mental Health Education Practitioner at 2.30pm  
13<sup>th</sup> (Weds) trip to National Portrait Gallery  
14<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) Y4F trip to Amelia Centre  
15<sup>th</sup> (Fri) PTA Cake donations – Non-Uniform  
15<sup>th</sup> (Fri) West Kent SFA School Tournament  
17<sup>th</sup> (Sun) PTA Summer Fair  
19<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Y5 Mosque visit  
19<sup>th</sup> (Tue) Y3L Sharing Assembly 9am  
19<sup>th</sup> (Tues) TWGGS in to see Y6  
20<sup>th</sup> (Weds) KS1 Parents invited to the classroom for story time at 2.40pm  
21<sup>st</sup> (Thurs) Y1B Sharing Assembly 9am  
21<sup>st</sup> (Thurs) Y6 Workshop  
21<sup>st</sup> (Thurs) Colour run  
22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri) INSET DAY  
25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Half Term  
25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> MegaCamps in School

## June

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

## July

2<sup>nd</sup> (Thurs) Y5H Sharing Assembly 9am  
3<sup>rd</sup> (Fri) Parent Rep meeting 9am  
7<sup>th</sup> (Tues) Rocksteady concert at 10am  
8<sup>th</sup> (Weds) Sports day - EYFS & KS1 in AM & KS2 in PM  
14<sup>th</sup> (Tues) Y6 Show – 2pm  
15<sup>th</sup> (Weds) Y6 Show – 6pm  
20<sup>th</sup> (Mon) Leavers Church Service 9.30am  
21<sup>st</sup> (Tues) Term ends  
22<sup>nd</sup> July to 28<sup>th</sup> August MegaCamps



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## KS1 Cricket Tournament

Written by Theo and read by Charlotte and Giles.

“On Tuesday some of us from KS1 went to a cricket tournament at Skinners Primary School. We went against 4 different teams and played 4 matches. We won 1 match and lost 3, but our last match we lost by 3 runs. We all had a really good time and played great as a team.”



## Year 1 Chinese Feast

Thank you so much for supplying a wonderful array of food from China. The children enjoyed their feast, and all the children tried a variety of foods from Chinese snacks, spring rolls, bean sprouts, sweet and sour pork, egg fried rice, crispy seaweed amongst other tasty delicacies. The children went to lunch with very full tummies, and this afternoon will be enjoyed and feast of delicious deserts. Hopefully, they will share with you all the wonderful dishes they consumed.

From the Year 1 team 😊



## Year 3 and Year 4 parents

The first week after half term we will be running another online Multiplication workshop online for Year 3 and 4 parents. A date will be soon to follow. It will give information on why times tables are so important, how to prepare your children for the MTC and what the MTC involves. More information will follow in the coming weeks. Hopefully, many of you can join us. From Miss Horan.

## PTA Messages

ONE WEEK TO GO until our May Fair 2026!! We have everything from a bumper BBQ and bar, ice cream sundae making station to bouncy inflatables, animal handling, forest school, coconut shy, tombola's, and toy stalls! Don't forget the opportunity to soak your favourite Head Teacher - a true sport. Then unwind with a massage and cool drink from the bar whilst being entertained by our resident DJ, Kings Quarter and for the first time - Morris Dancers...well it wouldn't be a true May Fair otherwise!

### Last reminders:

- Next Friday 15th: **CAKES AND BOTTLE** donations for a non-uniform day
- Sign up to rotas
- Help from any strong folk at 8am Sunday 17th May for gazebos...please, please!
- RAFFLE TICKETS! <https://www.zeffy.com/en-gb/blog/online-raffle-app-websites?Raffle>

## Leaders Estate Agent donation to school

If you instruct Leaders Estate Agents to sell or let your home, they will donate £250 to the school! T&Cs apply, please ask the office for a copy.

## 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:

<b>Attendance:</b> Y6 Rochester
<b>Punctuality:</b> EY Windsor
<b>This week's Attendance:</b> 96.2%

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

EYFS Camber	Bert	For his fantastic attitude towards learning. He embraces any new learning in the classroom and shows his new skills and knowledge in activities.
EYFS Windsor	Maisy	For fantastic listening during learning sessions and challenging herself!
Y1 Arundel	Callie	For showing super resilience this week in maths. 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Zara	For showing compassion and kindness to others and always being ready to learn
Y2 Leeds	Ivy	For working really hard on her presentation! Well done 😊
Y2 Pevensey	Aria	For her positive attitude to learning.
Y3 Lewes	Scarlett	Applying her knowledge of fractions to solving reasoning questions.
Y3 Deal	Chloe	For her fabulous effort in class and following all our school rules.
Y4 Dover	Jesse	For his attentive listening and brilliant contributions during our Victorian workshop.
Y4 Farnham	Eva	For superb English work this week and always trying her best! Well done!
Y5 Hever	Oliver	For brilliant self-awareness that has meant his work is beautifully presented and something to be proud of. What a fantastic improvement!
Y5 Tonbridge	Nirvi	For your exemplary attitude to learning. You are a fantastic role model – always ready, respectful, and willing to challenge yourself! 😊
Y6 Oxford	Luke B	For the energy, effort, and positivity you bring to Oxford Class! 😊
Y6 Rochester	Vanessa	For your quiet kindness and compassion which you extend to everybody and does not go unnoticed; you light up our day. 😊
Nurture Group	Ollie	For his help and kindness with his peers. Well done, Ollie!

## This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Bodiam – Freddie, Evie, Abigel

Oxford – Caleb, Hallie, Alexandra, Zoya, Toby, Martin

Rochester – Louis, Asher, Sam, Aaradhya, Odin, Sattva

### 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](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird  
Headteacher



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**Aspire, Believe, Succeed**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**7- 9PM**



# **Silent Disco**



Sign up at  
Church

Or book your place -  
Tel 01892526069



**St Mark's Church**



TN2 5QU

**£5 a Ticket**



**£15 per Family**

All Ages Welcome

3 Fabulous Playlists!

Children need an accompanying adult

**WEDS**  
27th May  
10am-1pm  
1.30-4pm

# KIDS POND DIPPING

**PRICE:  
DONATION**



AT NOTCUTTS GARDEN CENTRE, TONBRIDGE ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, TN2 4QN

**A great opportunity to learn about nature & have fun!**



**Raising funds for Folly Wildlife Rescue - your local wildlife hospital**





# GUITAR LESSONS

LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR AT  
YOUR SCHOOL



FOR MORE INFORMATION ——— LESSONS ———

Email Rupert Horne:  
[info@guitarclubs.co.uk](mailto:info@guitarclubs.co.uk)

LEARN TO READ MUSIC, PLAY  
SONGS. STUDY GRADES.  
EXPLORE POP, ROCK, BLUES,  
FINGERSTYLE & MORE!



30 MINUTE SMALL GROUP LESSONS



LESSONS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY





**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](http://WWW.GYMSPIREACADEMY.COM)**

