




St Mark's C E Primary School


15th May 2026


Newsletter No 30

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

 Well done to all our Year 6 children who took their SATs exams this week! We were so proud of you all for giving your very best.

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

 Make sure you buy your raffle tickets online [here](#)
Tug of War tickets [here](#)
Meet the animal's tickets [here](#)

Kent Test Dates

Monday 1 June 2026: Registration opens at www.kent.gov.uk/kenttest

Tuesday 1 July 2026: Registration closes at midnight.

Thursday 10 September 2026: Children who attend a Kent primary school sit the test in their school.

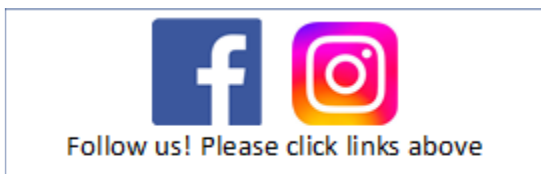
Thursday 15 October 2026: Kent Test Decisions emails are sent after 4pm to the email address used to register the child.

Reminders

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

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.

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

17th (Sun) PTA Summer Fair
19th (Tue) Y5 Mosque visit
19th (Tue) Y3L Sharing Assembly 9am
19th (Tue) TWGGS in to see Y6
19th (Tue) **Girls Cricket Tournament**
20th (Weds) KS1 Parents invited to the classroom for story time at 2.40pm
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 (Tue) Y1 Minibeast Workshop
3rd (Weds) Y3 Roman Workshop
4th (Thurs) Y4 Howletts Trip
5th (Fri) PTA Meeting 9am
5th (Fri) PTA Uniform sale
10th (Weds) **Jamie Smart Trip**
11th (Thurs) Y5 Globe Theatre Trip
11th (Thurs) **The Amelia Summer Reading Challenge**
17th (Weds) EYFS to Godstone Trip
18th & 19th (Thurs & Fri) Bikeability Group
18th (Thurs) **New Reception Children Welcome Morning**
19th (Fri) Y6 Trip to Rochester Cathedral
23rd (Tue) **The Amelia Summer Reading Challenge**
24th – 26th (Weds - Fri) Bikeability Group 1&2

July

2nd (Thurs) Y5H Sharing Assembly 9am
2nd (Thurs) **Transition Day**
2nd (Thurs) **Y3 Knex Workshop**
3rd (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting 9am
7th (Tue) Rocksteady Concert at 10am
8th (Weds) Sports day - EYFS & KS1 in AM & KS2 in PM
14th (Tue) Y6 Show – 2pm
15th (Weds) Y6 Show – 6pm
20th (Mon) Leavers Church Service 9.30am
21st (Tue) Term ends
22nd July to 28th August MegaCamps

Year 1 Trip to Tunbridge Wells Garden Centre

On Monday, the children in Year One visited Tunbridge Wells Garden Centre as part of their Science learning about plants. The children enjoyed taking part in a treasure hunt where they identified a variety of different plants, before listening to the Plant Manager, Andy, talk about some fascinating species. They learnt about plants that have existed since the time of the dinosaurs, as well as some amazing carnivorous plants and how to help pollinators. The children had a wonderful time and greatly enjoyed this hands-on learning experience. Thank you to the Garden Centre for welcoming us for this activity and to all the fabulous Year One parents who helped to make this trip possible.



National Portrait Gallery Trip

On Wednesday, a group of Year 4 and 5 children went by train to the National Portrait Gallery in London. We all created portraits. First, we made continuous line 'scribbly' drawings. Next, we used ink to shade in our portraits and then we made collages out of our portraits by cutting up an image of David Bowie. After a busy morning, we had a picnic nearby. 'It was the best day ever!' Voice of Manahil.



Tonbridge Class Music

In music, Tonbridge were lucky enough to be able to use beautiful, authentic instruments to create their own pieces as part of our work this term on the Balinese Gamelan.



PTA Messages!

Looking forward to seeing you at the weekend! Thank you for all the donations and to those of you how who have volunteered your help it can't run without you! Please, if anyone else has any availability to help out on Sunday, reach out via your class WhatsApp group chat; the Year 1, 5 and 6 rotas currently low on support, so if anyone else is able to help it would be hugely appreciated



We have QR codes available for stalls on the day, but don't forget we always say CASH IS KING!

A very BIG thank you to our sponsors - Leaders - who have helped us advertise our May Fair 2026.

In their words "2026 is seeing a significant increase in virtual valuation requests, as they offer a quick and convenient way for our customers to gain an initial understanding of their property's value without the need for an in-person visit. This approach is proving especially popular with those looking to explore their options before committing to a sale."

Virtual valuation link: <https://www.leaders.co.uk/online-instant-property-valuation/>

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

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

Attendance: Y6 Rochester
Punctuality: Y6 Oxford
This week's Attendance: 97.3%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

EYFS Camber	Jack	For his dedication to learning this week. You have joined in in all our lessons and worked hard to write an independent sentence. Well done, Jack!
EYFS Windsor	Jasper	For confidently using his voice in class to ask for the things he needs and wants from his Teacher's and friends.
Y1 Arundel	Olivia	For trying exceptionally hard in all areas of her learning. Well done 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Nathan	For his kindness and thoughtfulness towards all in the class.
Y2 Leeds	Iwinosa	For her determination to learn to count in her 5s to help her with her 5 times tables.
Y2 Pevensey	Holly	For her creative use of vocabulary in all her writing!
Y3 Lewes	Mara	For having confidence in her own ability and producing high quality work in every task she is set. Mara is an exemplary student.
Y3 Deal	Lily	For her positive attitude to learning and enthusiastic participation in lessons.
Y4 Dover	Luca	For his dedication to practising his spellings-well done!
Y4 Farnham	Lilly	For great observation skills, on our school trip, and always trying her best. Well done!
Y5 Hever	Scarlett	For her maturity in assessing and understanding the risks behind belonging to an online community and gaming
Y5 Tonbridge	Kyla	For the care and effort you put into all your learning and for the extremely high standards of being respectful and ready you achieve every single day. You are a pleasure to have in class! 😊
Y6 Oxford	The whole of Oxford Class!	For being a fantastic group of young people! The way you handled SATs and the challenges of Y6 is phenomenal! Well done!
Y6 Rochester	Rochester Class	For brilliantly proving you are all intelligent and dedicated learners! You coolly managed the challenges of SATs showing yourselves to be a mature and impressive Rochester Class! 😊
Nurture Group	Delilah	For her compassion towards others and always being respectful.

Yours sincerely,
Mr S Bird
Headteacher



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Aspire, Believe, Succeed

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

KIDS POND DIPPING

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

Notcutts
GARDEN INSPIRATION SINCE 1897

Raising funds for Folly Wildlife Rescue - your local wildlife hospital



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FOR MORE INFORMATION ——— LESSONS ———

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info@guitarclubs.co.uk

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FINGERSTYLE & MORE!



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