St Mark's C E Primary School

23rd October 2026

Newsletter No 8

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

The final week before half term has been a busy one with various sporting events, Year's 1- 6 walked to church for the Harvest Service and Year 6 Residential at Bowles.

Bowles Visit

The Year 6s have had a fantastic time at Bowles Activity Centre over the past few days and haven't let the weather deter them. The children have challenged themselves, embraced new opportunities and worked amazingly in supporting one another. We are all incredibly proud of how they have conducted themselves and represented the school. The children spent their final night around the campfire sharing uplifting comments about what they'd achieved together – it was really wonderful. The children will give a full write-up after half term.

Thank you to all of the supporting adults for making this visit possible.





Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

October

23rd (Fri) Last Day of Term 1
26th – 30th Mega Camps

November
2nd (Mon) Term 2 starts back to school
3rd- 6th EYFS Parent 2027 tours
6th (Fri) Y5 to Amelia Centre
9th (Mon) Anglo Saxon Y4 Workshop
12th (Thurs) Van Cols individual photographs
12th (Thurs) Y1 Phonics Meeting – 2.45pm
26th (Thurs) Y5 Tonbridge Sharing Assembly

Term Dates etc are on our website
www.st-marks.kent.sch.uk

Follow us! Please click links above

Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Accelerated Reader Texts

This week our AR bookshelves have had a huge revamp thanks to the rewards accrued through your generous purchasing at the Scholastic book fairs.

Bookshelves up and down the school are now bursting with a wide range of new and exciting texts.

A big thanks to Mrs Vickers who has spent her time labelling the texts up, so they are in the correct bands.

We are thrilled with how they look and hope that the children thoroughly enjoy all the brand-new books.



Harvest Church Service

In the last week of Term 1, Year 1 to 6 walked to St Mark's Church for our Harvest service. It was a chilly start to the morning, reminding us that Autumn is here as the leaves have started to fall. The children carried their contributions for our Harvest collection up to church and filled tables with their generous donations. This food will be used to support the weekly Community Larder run by the church. Thank you everyone for their donations.

The church looked beautiful with many flower displays showing the wonderful colours of autumn and fresh produce available at this time of year. Rev. Claire talked to us all about Michaelmas, the changing of the seasons and darkness approaching and that Christ's light is with us always, lighting the way. The children all joined in with hymns, songs, and poems to give thanks for the harvest.

Year 6 children read the reading and our Leading Lights, led us in the prayers



Girl's Y5 & Y6 Football

On Monday, some of the girls from years 5 and 6 went to St James to play football. We lost 2-1, we all tried our hardest and had lots of fun. Genevieve scored our first goal, Mia saved lots of goals. And a big thank you to Mrs Sheppard and Miss Truscott for helping us get this far.

Ellie and Orla





PTA News



Key reminders:-

- Buy your Dunorlan Fireworks Tickets from us http://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/dunorlan-fireworks-tickets
- There are lots of key dates coming up over the next few weeks - please refer to the 'PTA Key Dates' flyer and get these in your diary!
- Christmas Planning Meeting - Monday 9th November at 7.30pm in The Bull, Frant Road - hope to see you there!

Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 9** 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)

Head's Heroes, Attendance and Punctuality

On Fridays we celebrate children for their effort and achievements throughout the week**:**
Extra playtime goes to:

Attendance: Y5 Tonbridge
Punctuality: Y6 Oxford

This week's Attendance: 88.5%

This week the Head's Heroes are:

Y1 Arundel	Frida	For displaying the school values this week and showing creativity during our Autumn craft lesson. 😊
Y1 Bodiam	Darlah	For her careful and detailed autumn painting.
Y2 Leeds	Eddie	For always showing respect with his fantastic manners and putting 100% effort into his learning.
Y2 Pevensey	Logan	For her fantastic attitude to learning. Logan always challenges herself and tries her best.
Y3 Lewes	Evie	For hard work and perseverance in Maths. Keep up the great work!
Y3 Deal	Winter	For showing a fantastic attitude towards learning in maths. Keep it up!
Y4 Dover	Whole Class	For showing compassion and care towards Ms Truscott this week! Well done for being so kind and respectful towards your teacher.
Y4 Farnham	Jaspavit	For adapting quickly and positively to new school life, becoming a valuable member of the class!
Y5 Hever	Jessica	For showing real grit and courage on Thursday and always being ready and respectful 😊
Y5 Tonbridge	Stanley	For showing great courage when speaking in our debate. Well done! 😊

This week's Unsung Heroes are:

Tonbridge: Asterix, John, Mark, Lilly, Lucie, Julia, Finley, Leila, Averie, Kayden, Julie, Dev, Aysha, Florence, Eva, Amber, Daisy.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bird
Headteacher