St Mark's C E Primary School

6th November 2026

Newsletter No 9

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the October half term break. We have been straight back into lots of interesting activities and learning. The Parent tours for September 2027 have also been well attended this week which was lovely to see.

Year 5 Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome

Today, Year 5 visited the Amelia Centre where they had a workshop on the ancient civilisations of Egypt, Greece, and Rome. They got to handle artefacts that were 5,000 years old and acted out the story of Osiris, Isis, Set and Anubis. It is through these stories that the ancient civilisations explained the seasons and how the Nile was created. They had a fantastic trip. John, "I really enjoyed it and learned so much!"





Dates to remember.
Added dates in yellow.

November

9th (Mon) Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop
9th (Mon) Football Team A & B – Road to Wembley
12th (Thurs) Van Cols individual and sibling photos
12TH (Thurs) KS2 Girl's Basketball (after school)
12th (Thurs) Year 1 Phonics meeting 2.45pm
16th (Mon) PTA Jolly jam jars handed out
16 - 20th Open Classrooms
16-20th Anti- Bullying Week
19th (Thurs) Maggie Piano Assembly 10am
20th (Fri) PTA Elfridges donations
24th (Tues) Y3D Sharing Assembly
26th (Thurs) Y5T Sharing Assembly
27th (Fri) PTA Jolly jam jar donations - Wear a Christmas colour or accessory.
30th (Mon) Year 6 to St Marks Church for Cross Teach

December

3rd (Thurs) William Piano assembly 10am
4th (Fri) Parent Rep Meeting
4th (Fri) PTA chocolate or cake donations – Own clothes day
6th (Sun) PTA Christmas Village
7th (Mon) NHS Flu Immunisations
9th(Wed) EYFS Nativity 9.15am or 2pm
10th (Thurs) KS1 Nativity 9.15am or 2pm
14th (Mon) Whole School Christmas Service at St Marks Church
15th (Tues) Rock Steady Concert
15th (Tues) Christmas jumper day and Christmas Lunch
18th (Fri) Last day of Term 2 & PTA Treat

Follow us! Please click links above

Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Year 1 Toys from the past

On Wednesday afternoon the children in Year 1 had a visit from the Amelia Centre and got to experience and play (carefully) with toys from the past. It was a lovely afternoon and the children enjoyed being able to play with different toys.





School Lunches

The Christmas lunch for all pupils will take place on Tuesday 15th December. The menu was sent out to parents and is also available on our school website. The kitchen would be most grateful if you could sign up early to this lunch, if your child would like it, to assist them in planning.

We have noticed that there are a few pupils who do not have school lunches ordered for them on Arbor. Please may we politely remind you that lunches should be booked on Arbor for each day – these should be booked at least the day before, but whole weeks or even whole terms can be ordered at once if convenient. Many thanks.

PTA News

- **Christmas Planning Meeting** - come and join us! Monday 9th November, 7.30pm at The Bull, Frant Road or send any ideas to pta@st-marks.kent.sch.uk
- **Collect your Jolly Jam Jars and Money Tree Envelopes** - Monday 16th November. Please see the attached flyers for further details.
- **Christmas Raffle** - can any parents or carers help us source prizes? Contact the PTA team - pta@st-marks.kent.sch.uk."

Mental Elf 2026- Saturday 14th November

A fun, festive event and a great opportunity for students, staff, and families to get involved, while supporting their local mental health charity.

With the Tunbridge Wells Christmas Kick-Off taking place on the same day, there's even more reason to join us! Enjoy the festive celebrations, soak up the Christmas atmosphere, and make a whole day of it.

🎄 Find out more and buy tickets here: Mental Elf Festive Fun Run – West Kent Mind

Reminders

- Lunch menu next week: **Week 3** 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: Y2 Leeds
Punctuality: Early Years- Windsor

This week's Attendance: 96.8% ☺

This week the Head's Heroes are:		
EYFS Windsor	Alya	For always listening carefully and showing she is ready to learn!
Y1 Arundel	Lockey	For trying his best in all aspects of learning and displaying the school values with a smile on his face!
Y1 Bodiam	Bert	For deepening the moment in his writing. Great work!
Y2 Leeds	Andriy	For using brilliant listening ears this week and following lots of instructions. You have shown great interest in learning about the Wright Brothers.
Y2 Pevensey	Joshua	For his consistent effort and attitude to learning, especially in maths.
Y3 Lewes	Tanika	For always working hard in all lessons and being a great role model.
Y3 Deal	Maya	For being a fantastic role model and always trying your best in every lesson.
Y4 Dover	Sidney	For the resilience you have shown with your writing this week. You should be very proud of yourself! 😊
Y4 Farnham	Arran D	For his hard work in slowing down handwriting and considering the presentation of his work. A big improvement!
Y5 Hever	Zahid	For making so many right choices to improve his learning and behaviour. What a star!
Y5 Tonbridge	Amber	For the care and effort you put into your writing across the curriculum – it is a joy to read! 😊
Y6 Oxford	Autumn	For your super public speaking skills show during your Charles Darwin presentation and creative approach to the homework! Well done 😊
Y6 Rochester	Florence	For consistently demonstrating a readiness to learn, courtesy and respect- a fantastic role model for all of St Mark's. Thank you! 😊

Yours sincerely,
Mr S Bird
Headteacher