

School Uniform



Boy's Uniform – EYFS to Yr 5

Winter: Grey trousers, yellow aertex shirt, school sweatshirt/cardigan*, grey or black socks, black shoes.

Summer: Grey shorts, yellow aertex shirt, school sweatshirt/cardigan*, grey or black socks, black shoes.

Girl's Uniform – EYFS to Yr 5

Winter: Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore, yellow aertex shirt, school sweatshirt/cardigan*, grey or black socks, grey or navy tights, black shoes or plain black boots.

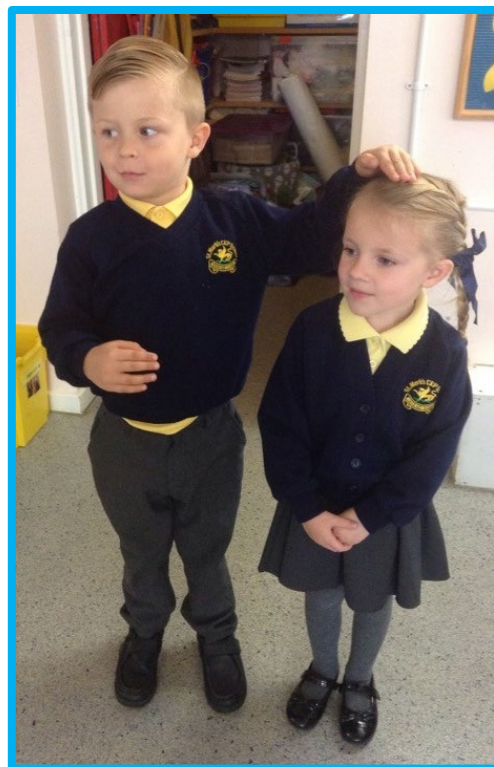
Summer: Yellow and white checked summer dress, school sweatshirt/cardigan*, white socks, black shoes.

Coats: Waterproof in a dark colour (the school sells logo'd reversible fleece jackets)

PE Kit: Black shorts, House colour T-shirt with school emblem*, trainers and KS1 must also have plimsols

Bags: EYFS and KS1 – school book bag* and school PE bag

* asterixed items must be purchased from the school office.





Labelling of uniform items

Please ensure that all items of your child's school uniform are clearly labelled

The school has signed up with My Nametags www.MyNametags.com and the School ID is 32672 should you wish to order personalised nametags. The school receives a small commission for any name tags purchased, so please do consider using this site.

Jewellery, Make-up and Hairstyles

It is our school policy to discourage children from wearing jewellery during school hours. The exception is small stud earrings for children with pierced ears. However, for health and safety reasons, even those need to be taped up or removed during PE lessons. If your child is wearing stud earrings please provide him/her with his/her own, clearly labelled roll of tape available from pharmacies or Boots.

Children are not allowed to wear any form of make-up including nail WE seek parental co-operation in maintaining natural colours for hair and hairstyles. Styles containing beads or braids are acceptable where it is appropriate to hair type or cultural reasons. No extraordinary non-conventional styles.

Patterns including Mohicans, shaved patterns, tram lines, fringes that fall over the eyes, slogans or motifs are unacceptable.

Shoulder length hair must be tied back in plain, simple hair bands (black, brown or yellow) only.





Lunch and Snacks

All children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to free school meals under the Government Universal School Meals Initiative. Dinner registers are taken at the beginning of the school day when the children are told what the menu is and they are able to select either main, vegetarian or a jacket potato. Our meals provider is Caterlink.

Mid-morning snacks

Under the Government's healthy school policy we offer the Infants a different piece of fruit or vegetable every day which they eat during the morning.

In addition, under 5's are entitled to free milk, should they wish to take up this option. This scheme is operated through Coolmilk www.coolmilk.com should you wish your child to benefit from this scheme please register on line. Over 5s have the option of purchasing milk from this provider which may also be booked online.

Lunchtime

To facilitate the smooth running of the lunch hour we group the children to eat with their Infant or Junior peers respectively. Infants generally use the lunch hall from 1145 until 1225, followed by playtime.

Regardless of their age, children at St. Mark's have the opportunity to choose between bringing their own packed lunch and purchasing a healthy cooked meal from the school's caterers.

Lunchboxes

In the case of packed lunchboxes we would encourage parents to pack a healthy, balanced lunch for their children including protein, carbohydrates and fruit. It should be packed in a clearly labelled, non-breakable container or bag. A non-fizzy drink in an unbreakable container should accompany the lunch but water is also available to all children in the dining hall. Please ensure that your child can open everything that is in their lunchbox, we know from experience that they find items such as yoghurts in a tube and drinks with straws hard to open.

Please refrain from providing your child with nut products as there is a high risk of serious allergic reactions if other susceptible children accidentally come into contact with contaminated products in the dining hall.

Whilst we strongly encourage a healthy, balanced lunchbox, we do understand that parents sometimes wish to include special items in the lunchbox (e.g. chocolate biscuit or small bag of crisps) which their children like. We think these are acceptable as part of a healthy, mixed diet but do encourage you to keep them to an absolute minimum.



Dates and Times

School Times

EYFS and KS1 8.55 am to 3.05 pm, KS2 8.55 am to 3.15 pm

Term dates 2021/22

Staff Development/Inset Days for 2020/21
(these may be subject to change)

Wednesday 1st September 2021, Monday 1st November 2021
Tuesday 4th January 2022, Tuesday 19th April 2022 and Monday 6th June 2022

Yellow	Bank holidays
Black	School days
Grey	Holidays

August 2021							September 2021							October 2021							November 2021						
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December 2021							January 2022							February 2022							March 2022							
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April 2022							May 2022							June 2022							July 2022						
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August 2022						
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Attendance and Absences

The School Day

Infants

Early Years, 1 and 2 08:55 – 15:05

Lunchtime Break: 11:55 – 12:55

Please ensure that children arrive at school punctually. Children may go into their classrooms from 8:45 am so that they are settled and ready to start their learning journey at 8:55 am.

At the end of the day please be on time and wait in the relevant part of the school's playground to collect your child. If you are going to be late please phone the school office to notify the school and we will hold your child at the office until your arrival. Children will only be released by staff into the care of their parents/carers. If you require your child to be picked up by anybody else (childminders, grandparents, play dates etc) please let the school know. We will not be able to let the children go home without authorisation from you. The Early Years children will be released from the gate that leads onto the infant playground. Please space out so that we can see everyone. If you would like to speak to your class teacher, we are more than happy to do so, but, please allow us to dismiss all the other children first.

Absence due to illness

If your child is ill and will be absent from school please phone the school office on the first day of absence before 9:00 am. You may be asked to provide a written note of explanation or a doctor's certificate, to be given to the class teacher on their return. Absences may also be emailed to office@st-markskentschuk

Should your child be absent due to sickness and/or diarrhoea there must be 48 hours since the last episode before your child can return to school.



Medicines in School

Sometimes it is unavoidable that pupils have to take medicines during school hours. This can be a long-term arrangement, for example in the case of asthma inhalers, or a short term necessity, for example in the case of antibiotics for short-term infections.

Our school office is happy to help administer these medicines providing the following information and authorisation has been received from the guardian/parent:

written authorisation by the parent that the medication can be administered by the school office — forms are available from the school office.

written instruction as to the exact administration procedure and dosage

medicines are provided in their original container, clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage instructions

medicines need to be delivered to the school office by the parent, not the pupil

We will not give antibiotics if they need to be taken 3 times a day as these can be administered, before school, immediately after school and at bedtime.

Infectious diseases

If you think the disease is contagious or infectious please notify the school immediately. This will enable us to notify the relevant government bodies if necessary. Depending on the illness we may ask you to provide a doctor's note stating that your child is no longer contagious before they can return to school.

School closure due to extreme weather

Here's hoping we will have a mild winter but if not and the school is forced to close as a result of bad weather please listen to the following radio stations KMFM 96.2/101.6 FM, BBC Radio Kent 96.7/104.2 FM and Heart FM 103.1/102.8FM. We will publish closures on the website. The school phone will also be manned, during the morning from 8.30 am on all days.

If the school has to close in the course of a school day we will send a parentmail out to inform you. Please ensure that if you change your contact details at any point you inform the school.

If the site has to be evacuated in extreme circumstances all children will be sheltered at Broadwater School and will have to be collected from there.



Forest School

When and What?

The children are put into mixed class groups of up to 15 children. They each have a Forest School session once a week for at least one term. Your class teacher will notify you of the dates your child will be taking part.

They will need warm, waterproof clothes and wellies – they will get muddy!

During Forest School sessions, children will:

Have opportunities to develop their communication skills,

Manage and talk about their feelings,

Build positive relationships with both adults and peers,

Challenge their physical abilities through climbing and creating,

Have opportunities to foster responsibility and empathy

Improve their knowledge and understanding of the natural world

Being outside and taking part in physically challenging activities raises children's self-esteem, enabling them to handle more challenging or negative events in a more positive way in the future. Children also have ownership of their learning; following their own interests and choosing their own challenges.

Children develop their emotional intelligence through self-control, flexibility/adaptability and social competencies. During Forest School sessions children will have opportunities to identify their strengths and weaknesses, take risks, learn how to communicate effectively with adults and their peers, problem solve in a calm and controlled manner and develop an innate motivation to learn, explore and investigate.

Risk taking and the benefits

Through risk taking, children gain an awareness of their own boundaries and limits. It is by taking risks that children actually learn how to be safe.

