



# St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 8

Spring Term  
12th January 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,



## Diary Dates

16th Jan	Young Voices O2 London
19th Jan	NEARS Samba Event @ Handcross
29th Jan	Bag2School KS1 Multi Skills @ Warden Park
30th Jan	Basketball Festival Year 3 & 4 @ Haywards Heath College
1st Feb	Basketball Festival Year 5 & 6 @ Haywards Heath College
5th Feb	NEARS Interplayland @ Bolney Primary
9th Feb	Year 5 & 6 Horrible Science Workshop @ Ardingly College
12th Feb	Half Term
16th Feb	Parents Evening 3.30-6 pm
21st Feb	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
22nd Feb	Laurel Girls Tag Rugby Tournament 10 am - 12 pm
1 pm - 3 pm	Laurel Boys Tag Rugby Tournament
28th Feb	Maths Challenge Year 4 Christs Hospital Full Governors Meeting
1.15 pm	

## Parking in the lane—near miss

A neighbour contacted us concerned that they witnessed a near-miss between a car and a child just before Christmas so we are, once again, asking people to take care when dropping off and picking up. Please try not to park beyond the school field as there is no path for children to walk along. It is better to park the other side of the school where there is a footpath or at the Victory pub and walk across to school. I am very concerned that one day there could be a serious accident. We've attached the one way system information again to this newsletter.



## Leaving the parking space in front of the field

On the topic of parking, the parents of our child in a wheelchair has requested that people leave the space in front of the school field free for them as it is easier to get the wheelchair onto the path due to the dropped curb whereas the disabled space doesn't have a dropped curb.

## Parents/carers consultations

We will be holding our parents/carers consultations on **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd February**. Bookings will open on MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) this Sunday (14th Jan) at 5pm for you to book on.



## School day timings consultation

The government has asked all schools to ensure that the school week is 32.5 hours from September 2024. Although we are open for this time currently, it only counts from registration so we need to extend the school day by 10 minutes a day. We would like to hear from parents what options they would prefer so please answer this quick poll: <https://forms.gle/ezo4BPN9XJ3sfkpe8>

The options are:

1. Extend the day by 5 minutes each side—this would mean the gate opening at 8:40am and closing at 8:50am for registration and the end of the day being 3:20pm.
2. Add 10 minutes on the beginning of the day—this would mean the gate opening at 8:35 and closing at 8:45 for registration and the school day ending at 3:15pm.
3. Add 10 minutes of the end of the day—this would mean the gate opening at 8:45am and closing at 8:55am for registration and the school day ending at 3:25pm.

## PE days

As it's a new term, some classes have changed the days they do PE. Please see below for each class:

Bluebell: Monday and Thursday

Fern: Monday and Tuesday

Bramble: Monday and Friday

Laurel: Monday and Friday



Together, in God's love, we will shine

## Storm basketball club

If you're interested in joining a basketball club for boys and girls, take a look at the links below—available in Crawley, Horsham and Haywards Heath!

3-7 year olds: <https://stormbasketballclub.com/baby-ballers/>

5-18 year olds: <https://stormbasketballclub.com/>



## Gift Tree - Glue Sticks

Those who have been with us for a while, might remember the gift tree where we placed items that the school needed for people who wanted to buy a couple of things to support the school. We are bringing this back as we are getting through resources like glue sticks very quickly. If you would like to buy some items of stationary for the school, glue sticks are the thing we are most in need of so any donations would be gratefully received!

## Safeguarding Spot – Staying Safe Online

Millions of shiny new technical devices will have been gifted over the Christmas period, including new mobile phones, consoles, tablets or computers, and in the excited rush to get up and running, many neglect to set these devices up safely.

So whether you are an online safety expert, or a complete novice, it is vitally important that your devices are set up correctly and safely to help keep you protected from nasty viruses and those pesky cyber criminals.

To find out the top tips for staying safe online, visit the National Cyber Security Centre's website: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online>

## Worship Spot

This week, we learnt all about the Book of Ruth in the Bible. Ruth is a small book but with a great message of loyalty and generosity. Check out this video to find out more information about one of the only books all about a woman!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oh1eoBeR4Jk>

## Praise Postcards

The following children have received a postcard in the past few weeks:

Bea Brewer, Florence Copley-Williams, Jennifer Bethune, Maia Taylor, Niamh Kerr, Orla Kerr, Orla-Rose Pooley, Ruby Jose, Aidan Pears, Blaise Wheble, Ethan Dean, Jamie Moore, Oliver Hobden, Oscar Rowberry, Scott Langridge, Esmé Clarke, Lilly-Belle Hutchins, Marley Challen, Fabian Dove-Wallington, Georgia Bentley, Hattie Jefferies, Yvie Goosen, Ethan Tyler-Tarrant, Hunter-Blu Kelly Wise, KipSzajdzicki, Vinnie Koureas, Felicity Mills, Finley Land Smith, Luca Gorvett, Harper Green, Mihaela Stoyanova, Toby Ponsford, Aiden Khazanehdari, Star Wheble, Tommy Southon, Ollie Stenning.



## **MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

### School Attendance

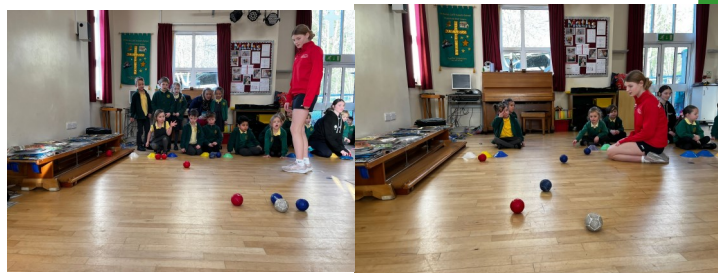
You might have seen the new national campaign to improve school attendance called

'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts'.

Please remember that even one missed day of school can have an impact on your child/ren's learning. We know children do get ill and that can't be helped but please think twice about the impact on your child and others in the class before you book a term time holiday.

### New Aged Curling

Bluebell and Fern had the chance to try New Aged Curling this week and had loads of fun!



### Artist visit

On Monday, we were lucky enough to have the comic artist, James Parsons, to do workshops with each class. The children loved it and hopefully came home and told you all about it!



### Non prescription medicines and creams etc.

Please remember that if your child needs to apply lip balm or cream etc. during the school day, please drop it off at the school office rather than putting it in their bag. This means we can ensure no other children use it and can supervise your child using it.

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