



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 1

Autumn Term
12th September 2024

Diary Dates

12th Sept	Bramble Swimming
12th Sept	Warden Park Open Evening
18th Sept	FGB Meeting
26th Sept	Bag2School
27th Sept	Individual Photographs
10th Oct	Girls Tag Rugby Festival Year 5 & 6
	Boys Tag Rugby Festival Year 5 & 6
13th Oct	Laurel Class
16th Oct	To Windmill Hill Residential
21st Oct	Dogs Trust Visiting Parents Evening
24th Oct	Harvest Festival Parents Evening
25th Oct	INSET Day
28th Oct	Half Term
1st Nov	Children Return to School
4th Nov	NEARS Cross Country
12th Nov	Dolphin Get Active Year 3 & 4
14th Nov	NEARS Football Year 4, 5 & 6
15th Nov	Flu Vaccination
21st Nov	Sports Hall Athletics 3 & 4
11th Dec	Basketball Festival Year 5 & 6
17th Dec	Pantomime
20th Dec	Christingle Service
	End of Term
6th Jan	INSET Day
7th Jan	Children Return to School

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome Back

We have had a wonderful start to the school year and it has been so lovely to see all our families on the playground. For some of our children, this is the first time at school, we wish to congratulate them all on how well they have they have joined our school.



Christmas at St Mark's

I know this is very early but we will be sending home the Christmas Cards your children have made at school so you can order them next week. They need to be back in school by 30th September so we can send them off to be made.



Parents/carers consultations

This term's parents/carers consultations will be on Monday 21st and Thursday 24th October. Details on how to book will come out in the next few weeks.

Worship spot

We have loved getting back to Tuesday Church—don't forget this is open to everyone after drop off on Tuesdays. Join us for a 20 minute service with a small talk and lots of fun action songs. Tea and coffee before and after the service for adults.

Safeguarding spot : back to school social media

This time of year parents all over the country will be focusing on their children. Whether they're going to school for the first time, or they're seasoned educational veterans, the same feeling will fill parents and guardians. A feeling of concern for the year ahead but also excitement and pride that they're embarking on the same journey, you yourselves made years prior. In recent years it has become a tradition to post 'back to school' content, to Facebook and Instagram. However, this practice comes with unseen dangers. Over on his blog Wayne Denner has written about this issue extensively, in a short but worthwhile read he exposes some of the potential issues, lurking in the e-space. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.waynedenner.com/protect-your-child-the-hidden-dangers-of-posting-back-to-school-photos-on-social-media/>



Together, in God's love, we will shine

Clubs

Just a reminder that we still have places available on our afterschool clubs : 3.20 pm - 4.20 pm at a cost of £6.50 per session Please remember if you would like to book onto the clubs you will need to click on this link and make relevant booking

<https://cool4schoolclubs.ipalbookings.com/>

Monday - Woodland adventures

Tuesday - Drama

Wednesday - Art club

Thursday - Football club

Friday - Film club



Headlice

Please continue to check your child/ren's hair for lice. We are unable to put out communication when a case is found in school so we rely on parent/carers' vigilance.

Vision in Action council—elections

Children will be able to apply and present to their classes why they should be chosen to represent them on the VIACs next week with the new council being announced next Friday.



School photos

Individual and sibling photos will be happening on 27th September

Funding for Schools

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they may also be entitled to sum of money paid to their school to boost their learning. The money the school receives for this will go directly to support your child in their education. Even if you're not sure if you're eligible, please check to see if you are entitled as this will have a positive outcome for your child. These children bring funding to the school that helps towards teaching support, school trips, resources for your child etc. and free school meals in Bramble and Laurel. **We have a census on the 3rd October and it's important you apply before this.**

Eligibility Criteria

Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

Income Support

Income based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income Related Employment and Support Allowance Support under Part VI of the 4 Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of state Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax credit run on paid for four weeks

Please see the link below to apply. Don't hesitate to contact the school office you need support with applying.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school->

Kidslingo Lunch Time French Clubs at St Mark's

Following on from the success of our French day at the end of last term, Kidslingo will now be offering French lunchtime clubs to all children. Existing customers will be automatically re-enrolled but we have spaces in both KS1 and KS2 clubs starting next week (subject to minimum numbers). Classes offer quality, fun-filled language learning taught through music, movement, singing, signs, story-telling, role play and so much more. Learning a new language provides young children with a wealth of cognitive, social, and emotional benefits that contribute to their overall mental health and well-being. Each half hour session costs £6.50 per week per child payable in advance for a half-term block of 5-6 weeks. Separate classes are held for children in KS2 and KS1 & Reception to ensure teaching is age appropriate and engaging. To book, use the following links or email Charmaine.davis@kidslingo.co.uk for more information or visit our website.

KS1: https://www.thinksmartsoftwareuk.com/ocr/lesson_booking.php?t=ohXLDiJo1tKwICX8uGpBRg%3D%3D&u=L3qDI8J7MABeE59obquzZQ%3D%3D&p_id=8&c=285

KS2: https://www.thinksmartsoftwareuk.com/ocr/lesson_booking.php?t=ohXLDiJo1tKwICX8uGpBRg%3D%3D&u=L3qDI8J7MABeE59obquzZQ%3D%3D&p_id=8&c=286

Census day—3rd October

If your child is in Bluebell, Fern or receives free school meals, please can you order for them to have a school lunch on Thursday 3rd October as our school funding for meals is linked to this day. You can still send in a packed lunch but it helps us if you order a school dinner for this day. Please do this by 18th September before the cut off.

