



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 6

Autumn Term
29th November 2024

Diary Dates

11th & 12 Dec	KS1 Nativity
13th Dec	FOSM Christmas Fayre
17th Dec	Pantomime
18th Dec	KS2 Carol Concert
19th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
20th Dec	Christingle Service End of Term
6th Jan	INSET Day
7th Jan	Children Return to School
7th Feb	FOSM Valentine Disco
17th Feb	Half Term
21st Feb	Full Governors Meeting
24th Feb	Easter Holidays
7th April	
21st April	



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Christmas Dates

Just a reminder of all the dates coming up—for more information, see the letter that went out last week:

11th & 12th Dec 2pm—Bluebell & Fern Nativity performances

13th Dec 3:20pm—FOSM Christmas Fayre - Please remember to drop off all donations to the school office.

17th Dec 1:30pm—Panto in school - Please remember to consent and pay

18th Dec 5pm—Bramble & Laurel carol concert

19th Dec—Christmas lunch and jumper day - Remember to order meal by 5th December.

Lost Property

We have cleared a great deal of the Lost Property, and any items named have been returned to children, therefore we only have the following items in Lost Property, if any of the items belong to your child, please come and collect from the office. If the items have not be claimed by Friday 13th December we will be disposing of them due to lack of storage space.

1 pair of small blue gloves with Ice cream motif

1 age 9 - 10 sweatshirt - unnamed

1 age 5 - 6 cardigan - unnamed

Please remember to name all items.

Sue Uff - Co-Headteacher from November 2024

I am delighted to be working with Ms Kelsey and the staff at St Mark's! I have been a teacher in West Sussex for nearly 30 years, 7 of those as a Headteacher and Co-Headteacher in a church school. During my teaching career I have had the pleasure of teaching in very large schools and small village schools with children in classes across the primary age range. I am passionate about the quality of children's education and about the positive opportunities all children should be given in this ever-changing world, to prepare them for their future lives. Outside of teaching, I am married with two children who are both in secondary school. I love musical theatre and exploring new cities and places with my family. Please come and say hello on the gate in the morning, and contact me through the school office if you need to speak to me on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

Wellbeing Champions

Every newsletter, we are including a little bio from one of our wellbeing champions. This time it's Florrie in Year 5's turn:

Dear readers,

I'm called Florrie, I'm 9 years old and I'm in Laurel class. I have wanted to be a wellbeing champion since Year 3. It can be easy for someone to say "I'm OK", but it's hard to say "I need help", and that's why I wanted to be a wellbeing champion, to increase people's confidence. My aim as a wellbeing champion is to raise awareness that being different is okay.

Together, in God's love, we will shine

Signing children in when late and after a sporting event etc

Please can I remind you that you need to sign children in at the school office if you arrive after 8:50am or when there is no longer a member of staff on the gate. This is due to fire procedures. For the same reason, please remember to take your children to the school office to sign them in after an event or appointment, do not walk around the school site to drop off into their classrooms.

Sophie Davies : Mrs Davies is delighted to be joining the St Mark's team as SENCo to cover Miss Button's maternity leave. Before Miss Button left, they spent time together so that Mrs Davies could begin to learn all about St Mark's and she is keen to get started and meet everybody! Mrs Davies works full time as an Assistant Head and SENCo at another primary school but will be here every Thursday until Miss Button returns, likely until late May 2025.

Mrs Davies is an experienced teacher who has taught primarily in key-stage one, but has also worked in key-stage two with children with additional needs. She has a degree in Linguistics, a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education, a National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership and the National Award for Special Education Needs Coordinators. She enjoys supporting children with all aspects of the curriculum but has a particular passion for English, especially teaching phonics.

In her spare time, Mrs Davies enjoys amateur dramatics, cooking, reading and spending time with her family and friends. She has two, big, grey cats called Rocco and Ritzy!

Mrs Davies is very much looking forward to becoming part of the lovely team at St Mark's - she already feels very welcomed and is keen to get to know everybody better. If you see her around the school, please do say hello and introduce yourself! Should you wish to discuss any matters related to SEND, Mrs Davies would be very happy to organise a meeting or phone call on a Thursday. She can be contacted via sdavies@st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Worship Spot

With advent starting on Sunday, we learnt all about what advent meant for Christians in worship today. We discussed the different ways we wait for Christmas and how it feels to wait for something you are excited about.

Bramble Trip

Last week, Bramble went to Fishbourne Roman Palace to learn all about what Roman life was like. They had a great time looking round and learnt lots!



Laurel Trip

Laurel visited Battle Abbey last week to learn about the Norman invasion and the end of the Anglo-Saxon period. They reacted the battle and explored the world of the monks.



Safeguarding Spot—Gifts

The Child Accident Prevention Trust has published a list of eight gifts most likely to cause an accident this year. If interested please follow the link below. It's always important to remember that prevention is always better than repairing: <https://capt.org.uk/8-dangerous-gifts-to-avoid-this-christmas/>

Praise Postcards

The following children have received praise postcards in the last couple of weeks:

Georgia Bentley, Georgina Bostock, Matej Bukovsky, Louis Carlisle, Freddie Cartmell, Esme Clarke, Barnaby Clarke, Theo Clayton, Emily Durrant, Connie Goozee, Isabell Gorvett, Isabella Hartfield, Amara Heaver-Lewis, Ambrose Hobden, Summer Joslova, Scott Langridge, Vinnie Koureas, Toby Ponsford, Wilfred Potter, Jack Robinson, Mia Robinson, Thomas Scrase, Aliyana Small, Edward Szajdzicki, Gaia Tackie, Chloe Webber, Reeve Young

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