



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 3
Autumn Term
10th October 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Diary Dates

16th Oct	Bluebell & Fern - Geography Walk
20th Oct	Bramble Mosque Visit 11am - 12.30 pm
21st Oct	Harvest Festival in Church 3.30 pm Parents Evening 6 pm Parents Evening
23rd Oct	Parents Evening
24th Oct	3.30 pm
25th Oct	6 pm
27th Oct	24th Oct Bag2School
31st Oct	25th Oct Senco Parents Appointments
4th Nov	27th Oct Half Term
	31st Oct Nears
	4th Nov Cross Country Staplefield Bonfire
11th Nov	11th Nov Remembrance Service
19th Nov	19th Nov Get Active Dolphin Centre Years 5 and 6
27th Nov	27th Nov Sports Hall Athletics Year 5 and 6
28th Nov	28th Nov FOSM Christmas Fayre
4th Dec	4th Dec Laurel Trip To Herstmonceaux
5th Dec	5th Dec Whole School Flu Vaccination
9th Dec	9th Dec Nativity Performance
10th Dec	10th Dec Nativity Performance
11th Dec	11th Dec Peter Pan Pantomime
18th Dec	18th Dec Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper Day
19th Dec	19th Dec Christmas Service End of Term
5th Jan	5th Jan All Children Return to School

Parents/Carers consultations

These will be held on Tuesday 21st October and Thursday 23rd October from 3:30-6pm. SENDCO Telephone Appointments, Friday 25th October 9 am -3 pm. Please remember to make arrange your appointment by Wednesday 15th October. Please remember due to time constraints we can only offer one meeting per child per class.

Parent Readers

We would welcome some more parents who feel they could give up a bit of time each week to listen to individual children during the school day. Reading is so important as it helps children access the whole rest of the curriculum and daily practice is so helpful. If you're interested, pop into the school office to speak to Mrs Richardson about getting a DBS with what days/times you could do.

Job Vacancy

We currently have a 1 day a week school secretary position available from January, combined with a Clerk to Governors role. [If you are interested, please find more details here and the application form to complete.](#)

Closing date is 3rd November at 9am.

Socks for PE

Could children bring a spare pair of socks in their PE kit as this will help if their socks get wet (or sweaty) or if they are wearing tights.

Cool4School at Parents/carers evening

Come and chat with our Cool 4 School team first-hand to see what we're all about! We're more than just child-care. We provide exciting enrichment activities, creative projects, sports, and plenty of opportunities for children to grow in confidence and make new friends.

We'd love to hear your thoughts too. Your feedback really matters to us, and it helps us shape the clubs to best support St Mark's families.

Your feedback really matters to us

Praise Postcards

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

Isaac Abellan, Billy Bickerdike, Axel Booth, Winnie Booth, Georgina Bostock, Matej Bukovsky, Bruno Carlisle, Freddie Cartmell, Donnie Daniel, Aaron Fenn, Florence Floyd, Barnaby Gaynor, Florence Gaynor, Isabella Gorvett, River Green, Amara Hever Lewis, Isabella Hartfield, Albie Hobden, Ambrose Hobden, Olivia Horner, Hazel Hutchins, Summer Joslova, Freya Kidd, Anna-Mae Liu, Rose Koureas, Vinnie Koureas, Finley Land Smith, Ivy Neen-Gurney, Lily-Mae Payne, Lexi Pinnington, Harvey Ponsford, Wilfred Potter, Caelan Power, Una Power, Mia Robinson, Edward Szajdzicki, Gaia Tackie, Emilia Taylor, Diezel Wheble, Elliott Willmer, Reeve Young

Together, in God's love, we will shine

Staplefield Bonfire Night—4th November

We will be selling tickets for the Bonfire night on the 4th November from the school office. They are £5 and children aged 15 and under free.

Year 6 Children :

Please remember to apply for Secondary School Transfer by Friday 31st October 2025. Apply online at: westsussex.gov.uk/admissions



BAG 2 SCHOOL Bag2School Collection Friday 24th October 9 am in the church porch. Bags of clothing can be left in the porch from the day before.

Please be careful not to block any of the doors. Collection bags will be sent home with pupils soon. If you need more - they will be available in reception or bin bags are also fine to use. Bag2school can take all clothing, shoes etc. except for uniforms. Bag2school pay for the clothing by weight so let's make this a huge collection this time please and raise some lovely funds for St Marks.

Cool 4 School Coffee Morning - Join Us!

Dear Parents,

We'd love you to join us for our **Coffee Morning at St Mark's on Monday 10th & Friday 14th November 7am - 9:45am.**

If your child is already booked into **Breakfast Club**, you're very welcome to pop in before you dash off. A quick coffee (or tea), a chat, and a smile to start your day.

It's a relaxed opportunity to:

- Meet the Cool 4 School team and other parents
- Share feedback and ideas on what you'd like to see more of in our clubs
- Hear about the exciting activities we have planned for the year ahead
- Enjoy a hot drink, **cakes, croissants, yoghurt, granola & fresh fruit** while you chat

We'd love this to be a chance to reconnect, celebrate what's new, and continue building a positive, supportive community for our children. ☐

☐ Please let us know if you can join us and RSVP with your proposed date and time to pop in, to info@cool4schoolclubs.co.uk or Text/ Whatsapp 07475724576. It would be wonderful to see you there.

Warm regards, The Cool 4 School Team



Worship spot—Harvest Festival

Everyone is invited to our Harvest Festival Service held at St. Mark's Church on Tuesday 21st October at 9am. We will be collecting donations for the Handcross Pantry.

Child starting school next year?

If your child will be 4 years old by 1st September 2026, it's time to start applying for school places! Please tell your friends and family to get in touch for a personal tour if they have children starting next year. To apply and for more information, visit this link: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/>

Reminders :

10th October
12th October
15th October
20th October
24th October

Christmas Card Artwork Return to School
Order Individual Photographs for Free Delivery
Book Appointment for Parents Consultation
FOSM AGM Meeting - all invited
Completion of Consent to Photograph/Film/Social Media
Consent to Administer Non-Prescribed Medicine

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Safeguarding spot—Anger management for children

Every year many thousands of children are referred to Childline for anger issues. Anger management in children is one of the top mental health concerns in childcare. Anger and the ability to control it are key skills of adulthood. Violent thoughts frequently bubble underneath human interactions. Anger is the quickest way for those thoughts to become reality. For this reason it is tightly regulated in our society. Children must learn to overcome anger so that they do not fall a foul of strict controls on violent conduct. However, this is difficult for children to learn to manage since anger is remarkably powerful. Yet as parents and teachers there is no choice but to teach them to reign these emotions in. This can be hard knowledge to impart, but the NSPCC has produced helpful resources to aid you in that vital mission. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/arguments-conflict-family-tension>

Cycle to School Week 2025 next week

We know it's hard for most of our families to cycle to school but from **Monday 13 - Friday 17 October** is cycle to school week.

The Bikeability Trust are asking schools and families to **make a pledge** to swap the school run for pedal power, and have the chance to win cycling prizes!

Could you try parking further away from school and cycle a small part of the journey? Make your pledge here, and win a prize too!

[Cycle to School Week - Bikeability](#)

NEARs Y5/6 Football competition

11 children went to St Pauls Secondary School, to take part in the NEARs football competition this week and we are so proud of their sporting attitude. We had 3 children support the Twineham team as they didn't have enough children to compete which was so kind of them. Overall St. Mark's came 2nd out of 8 schools!



Fern Teddy Bear picnic

Fern loved bringing their favourite teddy bears into school for the teddy bear picnic they held. We spent the day sharing about our bears through talking and writing. Then the children used their DT designs to make a healthy skewer for the picnic. They loved sharing the picnic with lots of grown-ups on the paddock.



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