



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 8
Spring Term
8th January 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Diary Dates

14th Jan	Net Games - Year 1
22nd Jan	Basketball Festival Years 3 and 4
29th Jan	Inclusion Festival KS2
2nd Feb	Multi Skills Festival - KS1
5th Feb	Basketball Festival Year 5 and 6
9th Feb	Childrens Mental Health Week
13th Feb	Half Term
16th Feb	Young Voices Ready Set Dance
20th Feb	Ardingly College
24th Feb	Easter Holidays
16th Mar	SAT's Week
30th Mar	Sports Day
10th Apr	Half Term
11th May	INSET Day
14th May	Reserve Sports Day
22nd May	Year 6 Leavers Service
25th May	INSET Day
29th May	INSET Day
1st June	INSET Day
19th June	INSET Day
6th July	INSET Day
20th July	INSET Day
21st July	INSET Day
22nd July	INSET Day

Happy New Year and welcome back.

It's been lovely seeing everyone return to school after the Christmas holidays. Please remember with current weather conditions, all children need coats and weather appropriate clothing in school—we know some children are not keen to wear them but it is very cold and wet out at the moment so they need them with them.



Rocksteady



You might remember last year we had a rocksteady visit us to promote learning how to play instruments in a band. The children really enjoyed the assembly where they demonstrated it but, as a small school, we did not have enough children interested for them to come in and teach. They have taken away their minimum numbers so they are coming in again on Wednesday 21st to demonstrate to the children again and will be starting teaching lessons on Friday 30th January to interested children. We will be sending more

information out on the 14th but here is a link to find out more information now: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

Basketball clubs

Storm Basketball club have some spaces for children from Reception to Year 4 afterschool on Mondays or Saturdays. To find more information and to book on, please go to their website: <https://stormbasketballclub.com/want-to-play/baby-ballers/>



INSET days this year

Just a reminder that the remaining INSET dates this year are: Monday 1st June, Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd July.

Safeguarding Spot— A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives

As we sent out earlier in the week, the children's commissioner's guide for parents on how to manage children's lives is a really useful read. If you haven't already, you can access it here: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>



Praise Postcards

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

Billy Bickerdike, Connor Boakes, Axel Booth, Sam Bostock, Esme Dowling, Amara Heaver-Lewis, Hunter-Blu Kelly-Wise, Aiden Khazanehdari, Freya Kidd, Vinnie Koureas, Suki Moore, Archie, Daisy Payne, Lexi Pinnington, Lilah Rowberry, Aliyana Small, Mihaela Stoyanova, Emilia Taylor, Alexander Tyler Tarrant, Reeve Young

Together, in God's love, we will shine

Extra Music Lessons at school

Our piano, woodwind and guitar teachers have spaces for new learners. If you are interested, please follow the steps below for each teacher:

Piano: pianowithlaura@outlook.com

Woodwind: sarahfgrose01@gmail.com

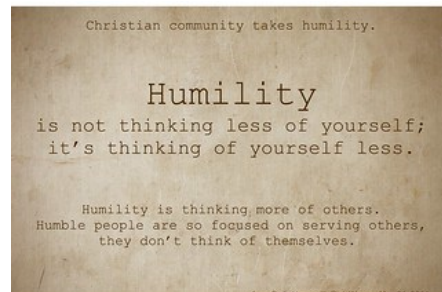
Guitar: <https://www.sussexmusic.school.com/stmarksprimary>



Worship Spot - Humility

This term in collective worship, we will be talking about Humility and what it means to be humble linked to our school value of Respect. We are hoping to support children to develop the skills to:

- Serve each other
- Ask for and accept help
- Sympathise with experiences of others
- Avoid being arrogant and boastful while still being able to be proud of ourselves



Tea towels

Don't forget we still have tea towels for sale in the school office for £5. They are lovely, feature every child in the school and are raising money to support the school choir to travel to the O2 in London for the Young Voices event in February.

KS2 Parkour

Bramble and Laurel have started doing Parkour in PE this term and they are really enjoying having a go! Here are some pictures of Laurel in their first couple of sessions.

