



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 11
Spring Term
2nd March 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Diary Dates

5th March	World Book Day
13th Mar	Rocksteady Concert in Hall
12th Mar	Netball Tournament @ St Paul's
16th Mar	Ready Set Dance
18th Mar	Ardingly College Hockey Festival Year 3 and 4 EGST
20th Mar	Comic Relief Day
23rd Mar	Netball festival Year 3 and 4 Warden Park
26th Mar	Bluebell trip To Brighton Sealife Centre Fern Trip to Brighton Model Museum
27th Mar	Easter Service
30th Mar	Easter
10th Apr	Holidays
5th May	Bramble Trip to Ardingly College Shrek Performance
11th May	SAT's
14th May	Week
15th May	Girls Football Ardingly College Year 5 & 6
22nd May	Sports Day
25th May	Half
29th May	Term
1st June	INSET Day
19th June	Reserve Sports Day
6th July	Year 6 Leavers Service
20th July	INSET Day
21st July	INSET Day
22nd July	INSET Day

World Book Day— Thursday 5th March

This Thursday is World Book Day. As usual, we will be running special book related activities on this day with children moving to each class with a mixture of children from across the school. Children are welcome to dress up in a book related costume or wear comfy clothes like PJs or loungewear on this day to celebrate. No donation needed.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Comic Relief—Friday 20th March

COMIC RELIEF On Friday 20th March, we will be raising money for comic relief. The children have decided that they would like to wear red and have a bake sale. Please can we have donations of cakes for the sale on Friday morning and a suggested donation of £2 per child for the dressing up plus some money for cakes.

Parking

Did you know that you can park in the car park by the village green and walk along the path to school? As the weather is getting brighter, why not try this? It will make the lane outside of school less congested, and get some fresh air and exercise.



Tea towels

We have lots of tea towels left over so we are selling them off for £2 or three for £5. You can purchase them from the office or on MCAS. (MYAS/PAYMENTS)

Bags2School

The bags went out last week for Bags2School donations. The collection is this Thursday, 5th March. Please drop all donations to the church porch. You can use black bags if you have extra.

Trips and sporting events

We struggle to get timing right in sending out information/permission for these events as if we do it too early, we don't get many responses but we also hear that sending them later makes it difficult for parents to organise. We will trial sending out all events as soon as we know about them so please fill the permissions out as you get them.

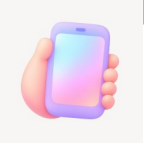
Praise Postcards

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

Florence Amos, Georgia Bentley, Connor Boakes, Theo Clayton, Lily-ai Clingo, Arlo Frid, Amara Heaven-Lewis, Ambrose Hobden, Isabella Hartfield, Jaxon James, Hunter-Blu Kelly Wise, Aiden Khanzandari, Freya Kidd, Daisy Payne, Lilah Payne, Jack Robinson, Lila Roddy, Mihaeel Stoyanova, Edward Szajdzicki, Edward Walker, Reeve Young,

Together, in God's love, we will shine

Safeguarding Spot— Guidance for parents/carers about mobile phones



NSPCC have put together guidance on children, mobile phones and online safety. It addresses one of the most common questions schools are asked: when is a child ready for a phone, and how can families manage the risks?

The guide offers balanced, practical advice on readiness, boundary-setting, parental controls, and ongoing conversations about safe and responsible use. Including or signposting this resource in a parent newsletter can help reinforce consistent messages between home and school, reduce anxiety, and support a shared approach to online safety. Please see this link for the guidance: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/children-phones-online-safety/>

Worship Spot—Comic Relief

We will be raising money on comic relief day for this charity but the children have also chosen comic relief as their national charity to raise money for, along with our local charity, the Handcross Pantry. This means, we will be organising more events across the school year to raise money for these two great charities so keep an eye for our next fundraising events.

Love swimming?

Kangaroos are a local Mid-Sussex charity based in Haywards Heath. They are running a Swimathon on Friday 3rd April at the Dolphin and are looking for teams to join the fun. For more information, visit this link: <https://www.givewheel.com/fundraising/11480/swimathon-2026/>



Punch and Judy show

Fern and Bluebell had a hilarious time enjoying one of our St. Mark's Enrichment Curriculum activities: watch a puppet show. Even the adults had a blast!

Young Voices at the O2.

The choir had a fantastic time last week performing at the O2 in London with a choir of thousands of other children. Thank you so much to the staff who volunteered their time to take them: Mrs Price, Mrs Sykes and Ms Kerr.



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