



St Mark's CE Primary School

Newsletter 14
Summer Term
24th April 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Diary Dates

27th April	Bake Sale
5th May	Bramble Trip to Ardingly College Shrek Performance
6th May	Tennis Festival @ Warden Park
11th May	SAT's
14th May	Week
12th May	Bramble Trip To Brighton Museum Year 5 - Quidditch Festival
15th May	Girls Football Ardingly College Year 5 & 6
22nd May	Sports Day
25th May	Half Term
29th May	Term
1st June	INSET Day
3rd June	Laurel STEM Day
5th June	Bramble Visit To Ardingly College to see Shrek
19th June	Reserve Sports Day
22nd June	Laurel Outdoor Pursuits Day
24th June	Inspiring Minds Year 4 and 5 @ Ardingly College
25th June	Fern trip to Brighton Synagogue
26th June	Warden Park Induction Day
29th June	KS1 Multi Skills
6th July	Year 6 Leavers Service at Christ Hospital
7th July	Sports Festival Year 5 and 6 @ St Pauls
17th July	End of Year Church Service
20th July	INSET Day
21st July	INSET Day
22nd July	INSET Day
1st Sept	INSET Day
2nd Sept	Children Return To School



Meals ordered and not taken

Did you know, school has to pay for all school meals ordered, even if they are not eaten? Last month, we wasted £160 on meals that were ordered but then not taken by children. Sometimes this is because of illness but sometimes people are ordering meals and then sending children in with a packed lunch. Please only order a school dinner for your child if they will be eating

INSET 1st June

We have an INSET day on Monday 1st June and then school ends on Friday 17th July as we have three INSET days the following week.

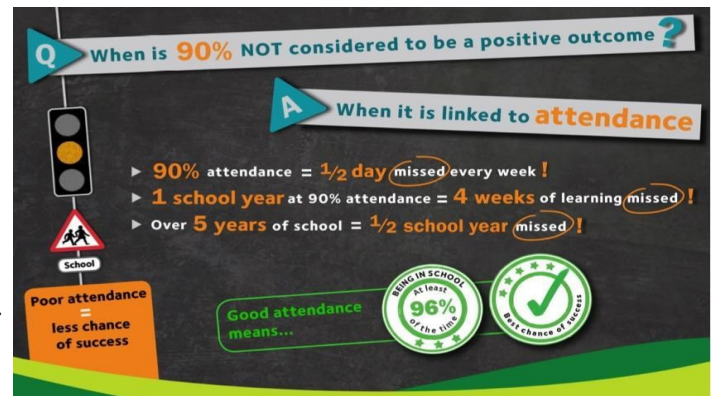
Bake Sales

The annual FOSM bake sale competition starts on Monday 27th April, so please bring money for cakes on sale at the end of the day. Remember, the winning class will get a prize!



Term time holidays—rule change

We have been informed by West Sussex that the rules around fines for holidays have changed and that fines can now be issued if children go on holiday for just under a week, where as previously it had to be 5 days. We wanted to warn families in case this might affect any planned holidays. As always, we try to encourage holidays in the school holidays as missed learning can make quite an impact, especially when it happens at least once a year.



Praise Postcards

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

Aria Benson, Georgia Bentley, Connor Boakes, Joseph Boakes, Matej Bukovsky, Bruno Carlisle, Louis Carlisle, Haper Clayton, Theo Clayton, Billy Coulton, Donnie Daniel, Esme Dowling, Harper Dowling, Isabella Gorvett, Luca Gorvett, Harper Green, Leni Hadingham, Jasper Hardman, Isabella Hartfield, Maddison Hawkins, Amara Heaver-Lewis, Olivia Horner, Ayla Hornett, Hazel Hutchins, Chloe James, Summer Joslova, Archie-Bear Kelly-Wise, Hunter-Blu Kelly Wise, Freya Kidd, Vinnie Koureas, Ivy Neen-Gurney, Daisy Payne, Harvey Ponsford, Rex Ponsford, Wilfred Potter, Una Power, Phoebe Ramsden, Jack Robinson, Mia Robinson, Alliyana Small, Sophie Steadman, Mihaela Stoyanova, Edward Szajdzicki, Kip Szajdzicki, Leo Tackie, Edward Walker, Chloe Webber, Diezel Wheble, Star Wheble, Reeve Young,

Together, in God's love, we will shine

Safeguarding Spot—online safety hub

Our IT providers, Virtual IT, have set up a parent online safety hub to support parents with guidance around keeping their children safe online including some great guides on how to set up parental controls. There is an app and a website where you can find out the latest trends to be aware of and how to support your child in managing their screen time. For more information, please see this website: <https://virtualit.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

Trustees Wanted for HomeStart

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to your local community?



We're looking for new Trustees to help shape the strategic direction of HomeStart CHAMS, a local family support charity dedicated to helping families with young children through challenging times.

As a Trustee, you'll use your skills, experience and perspective to help guide our future, strengthen our impact and ensure we continue to support families who need us most. We welcome people from a wide range of backgrounds. Experience in areas such as working with families or young children, fundraising or finance, would be helpful, but is by no means essential.

You don't need previous trustee experience — just a commitment to our values, an interest in our work and the ability to think strategically and work collaboratively.

If you'd like to be part of a supportive, purpose-driven team and help create lasting change for local families, we'd love to hear from you.

Come and join us — your contribution can make a real difference.

To apply, visit: <https://homestartchams.org.uk/trustee-volunteers/>

Worship Spot

This half term's theme is Wisdom and Truthfulness. This is linked to our school value of Honesty.

Cricket festival

Eight of our Year 3,4 and 5 children went to a cricket festival at Burgess Hill Cricket Club yesterday. They were a credit to the school and had a lovely time!



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