



St Mark's C of E Junior School

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Weekly Newsletter - Friday 28th March 2025

www.stmarksjunior.com

All enquires: admin@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk

Our Value in focus this term is: JUSTICE

Headteacher's Message:

This week we had our second Charity Fayre of this academic year. We were so impressed by the amount of thought, preparation and time which went into the children's stalls. You really did a fantastic job raising money for your chosen charities.

I can confirm that the combined total raised was an incredible **£675.85**.

Why are we doing it?

Our Value in focus this term is **Justice**. We have been learning about our responses when things don't feel fair.

We have also been learning that we all have different needs at different times so justice / fairness isn't about things always being the same for everyone..

Our children have been moved into action to show **generosity** and **compassion** by raising funds for charities that are close to their hearts. These charities are working tirelessly to bring about **justice** for people and animals in need. This week, led by our wonderful children, we joined in with the amazing work that is happening to end poverty and make the world a fairer place.

Have a super weekend, Mrs A Fitch and the Staff Team



Learning Highlight of the Week

Class 1: Class 1 enjoyed their Maths lesson with *Magical Maths* and Computing this week. In Computing, they looked at animation and the transitional effects between slides whilst using PowerPoint.

Class 2: The children went on their first walk around our locality this week as part of their Geographical field work. They looked at land use mapping .

Class 3: In English, the children have been doing independent work, creating newspaper articles based on the explosion of Mount Vesuvius and its effect on Pompeii.

Class 4: In Computing, the children used microbits. They programmed the microbits to make shapes or messages.

Class 5: In Art, Class 5 enjoyed creating Pointillism inspired artwork of Durdle Door.

Class 6: For their computing lesson, Class 6 used Excel formulas to plan a party with a budget.

Class 7: In the playground the children looked for objects/marks on the playground. Using chalk, they integrated these objects into a piece of art work.

Class 8: For PSHE the children made an anti-bullying video or poster campaign.

Eco Champions—Litter Picking Initiative

You may have seen in last week's newsletter a poster from Thea, Nicole and Abi in Year 6 asking for help with litter picking around the school. The children were keen to improve our school environment and so have taken it upon themselves to take action.

Thank you to those children who helped this week and we hope you can join them again next Wednesday for more litter picking.

All Year groups are welcome and they meet under the Willow Tree.

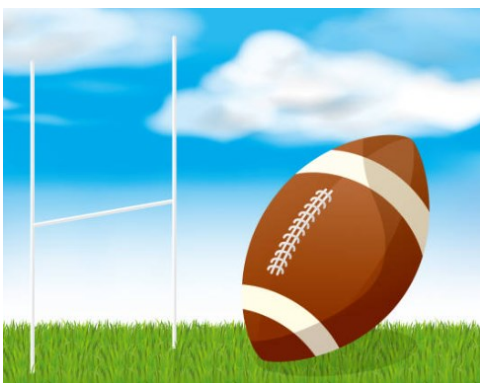


Year 5 and Year 6 Rugby Club

Rugby club was due to finish this week however, Mr Sim will be running two additional Rugby club sessions at lunchtime, so that that more children will be able to come along. During these sessions we will be selecting a team for a tournament in the Summer Term.

The two lunchtime sessions will be **Thursday 3rd April** and **Wednesday 9th April**. Children will need to change in school and bring a **packed lunch**.

Please sign up through Parent Pay if your child is interested in attending. There is no charge for this club.



Wildlife Quiz

On Wednesday, four Year 6 children participated in the first round of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz against Naunton Park Primary School. The children answered a range of questions including multiple choice, individual questions, animal identification and a specimen round.

The scores were very close through each round with St Mark's scoring a respectable score of 29.5, but in the final round they were pipped to the post.

Well done to Maddie, Amelia, Holly and Violet!



Girls Football

On Wednesday the girls football team played in a friendly match against St Gregory's. It was a challenging, fast paced match on Astro turf. They did such a great job considering this was the first time many of the girls had played on this surface.

The game finished 2-2, a fantastic result! Well done to all the players!



Magical Maths Club

We have a new club starting after Easter run by Magical Maths. Magical Maths is a super fun educational after school club. It is designed to boost children's confidence and further engage with Maths. The club leader will take on different characters and the children will learn some mind-blowing maths tricks. They will learn to calculate impossible numbers in their heads, play maths sport and solve some unbelievable puzzles.

Your child will have brought home a Magical Maths flyer with the sign up details on it. Alternatively to sign your child up for this club please visit

www.magicalmathsclub.com.



Elite Artistic Roller Skating Competition

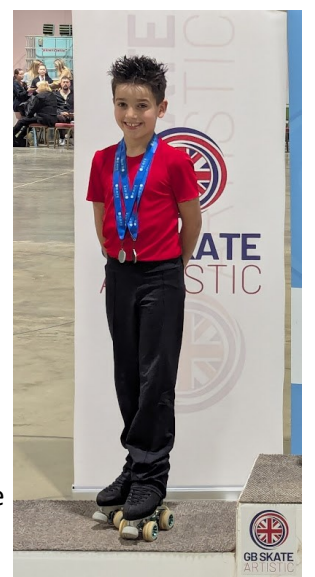
In the Autumn term Jaxon was selected to trial for the Competition Team with Elite Artistic Roller Skating. After a successful trial period he was invited onto the team and has been working hard learning new skills and routines.

Last weekend saw his first experience of a competition, he travelled to Great Yarmouth to join competitors from around GB for the GBSA Spring Solos 2025.



Jaxon performed with confidence and charm and on day one got himself 8th place, day two saw him gain an amazing 2nd place. He achieved 2nd in his combined score for the whole weekend so came home with two silver medals and a huge grin!

Well done Jaxon, such a fantastic achievement and this was your first competition! We are all suitably impressed and look forward to hearing more about your skating in the future.



Teaching & Learning Owls

Gold - William

Silver - Peter & Darcey

Bronze - Ollie & Heather

Congratulations to our owl badge winners!



Hockey Tournament

You may remember from last weeks newsletter that some Year 6 children took part in a Quicksticks Hockey tournament at Pates School on Thursday, 20th March.

The children played some amazing hockey and really worked well as a team. We won one of our five games, triumphing 4-1 against Charlton Kings!

This was the first hockey match for this team of children, and they gave it their all.

We couldn't be prouder of them for their effort and sportsmanship throughout the tournament!



Lost property

A reminder to please check that your child's school clothes are clearly labelled (hand written is absolutely fine).

We have a team of Year 6 office helpers who look through the lost property every day. It would be great if they could reunite more items of clothing with their owners, as well as stopping the lost property pile from mounting up! Many thanks!



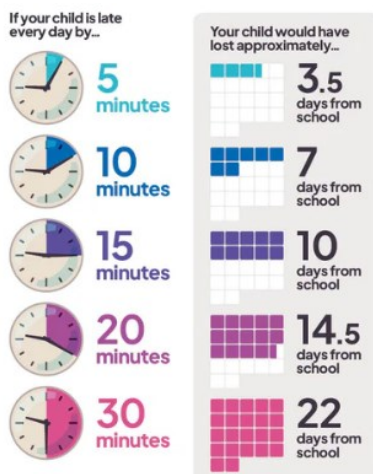
School Punctuality—Reminder

Please be reminded that children should arrive in the school classroom between 8:35am and 8:50am. Lessons start promptly at 8:50am and so any child arriving after this time will miss valuable learning time.

Should your child arrive late please can they enter the building via Reception and report to the school office as a late arrival. **They will need to give their name, class and a good reason for their lateness.**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Did you know that in one school year...



thank you!

A huge thank you to our awesome Site Team who pulled together to cover recent absences.

Their dedication and hard work to keep the school clean and safe for us all is so much appreciated!



Extra Curricular Clubs - SPRING TERM 2

Monday

Boys Football Y5-6	FINISHED
Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.30pm
Gardening Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm
Gym Club Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm
Chinese Language Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm
Hockey Y5-6	FINISHED
Netball Y5- 6	FINISHED
Recorders Y3-6	Lunchtime

Tuesday

Orchestra Y3-6	FINISHED
Tennis Y4-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm

Wednesday

Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.30pm
Cyclestars Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm
French Club Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.15pm

Thursday

Girls Football Y4-6	FINISHED
Coding Club Y5-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm
Choir Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm
Outdoor Learning Y5-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm



Letters Sent Home

- Magical Maths Flyer/letter



School Term Dates

2024-25

Term 3: Mon 6th Jan - Fri 14th Feb 2025

Term 4: Mon 24th Feb – Fri 11th Apr 2025

Term 5: Mon 28th April – Fri 23rd May 2025

Term 6: Tue 3rd June – Fri 18th July 2025

Inset Days: 2nd June, 21st July



Outdoor Learning - Spring Term 2

Class 3: Thursday Afternoon

Class 4: Thursday Morning

Please ensure your child wears suitable outdoor learning clothes to school and brings wellies and a warm waterproof coat every Thursday

Please note: all children must wear long trousers for safety reasons.



2024 - 25



March

Mon 31st - Pioneer Year 6 Residential

April

Tue 1st - Pioneer Year 6 Residential

Wed 2nd - Pioneer Year 6 Residential

Mon 7th - Book Look Class 7

Mon 7th - Experience Easter with Open the Book at St Mark's Church Y3-5 **Children Only**

Tue 8th - Easter Service **Children Only in School**

Tue 8th - Book Look Year 4

Wed 9th - PTA Bake Sale

Thu 10th - Book Look Year 3, 5 & Class 8

Thu 10th - PTA Discos

Thu 10th - Year 4 Roman Experience Trip

Thu 10th - Class 1 Cookery DT Session 9-12

Fri 11th - Class 2 Cookery DT Session 9-12

Fri 11th - End of Term 4

Mon 28th - Start of Summer Term

May

Mon 12th - Rags Collection

Mon 12th - 14th - SATs Week

Tue 20th - School Beat Session

Tue 20th - Swimming Gala

Wed 21st - GWR Trip Year 6

Wed 21st - Spring Fayre

Thu 22nd - Book Look

Fri 23rd - End of Term 5

Advance Notice of a Few Dates

Tue 10th June - Sports Day

PE - Spring Term 2

Children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days.



Class 1: Monday and Thursday

Class 2: Wednesday and Friday

Class 3: Wednesday

Class 4: Friday

Class 5: Tuesday and Thursday for non-swimmers

Class 6: Tuesday and Thursday for non-swimmers

Class 7: Tuesday and Friday for non-swimmers

Class 8: Tuesday and Friday for non-swimmers

Remember: tracksuit tops should be plain navy only. A school sweatshirt is absolutely fine.