



St Mark's C of E Junior School

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Weekly Newsletter - Friday 15th November 2024

www.stmarksjunior.com

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

Our Value in focus this term is: TRUST

Headteacher's Message:

We have had lots of fun in our feel good clothes today, to raise money for Children in Need.

Today, the children have been finding more out about how our money will be used to make a difference to others. We know that there are children in our own school community whose lives are enhanced significantly by Children In Need funding. Our donations really do change lives.

A special shout-out to Naomi and Heather in Year 4 who made and sold cakes for their Year Group, raising £46.50, adding to these valuable funds so generously.

Thank you Heather, Naomi (and Mum!) for your compassion and hard work!

Overall we have raised just over £250. Thank you so much!



This week, was **Anti-Bullying Week** and **Odd Socks Day**, with the theme: **Choose Respect**.

On Tuesday, we all wore odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique and how, when we all play our unique part, the world is a better place! As part of **Anti-Bullying week**, the children took part in numerous activities to raise awareness of how we can stand up for what is right: Year 3 designed an anti-bullying superhero, Year 4 wrote an acrostic poem, Year 5 produced anti-bullying posters and year 6 designed a hand art piece exploring how they can show respect.

Remembrance Day

As a school community, we gathered together to give thanks for and remember those who gave their lives so that we may know peace and freedom today. After a short introduction about the significance of this time, the Last Post was played (by our very own Mr Sim!) and the children observed two minutes' silence with utmost respect and sensitivity. We then reflected on how we can be people who bring peace to others, wherever we go. Thank you to all those who were able to buy poppies. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are suffering at this time; may we bring peace, hope and love to others.

Have a super weekend

Mrs A Fitch and the Staff Team



Learning Highlight of the Week

Class 1: In PE, the children have been learning 8 different balances in Yoga, which they put together to form a sequence.

Class 2: Class 2 have been making fossils out of Plaster of Paris, linking to work they have been doing in Science on rocks and soil.

Class 3: In Computing, the children set up a database for Gingerbread people.

Class 4: Class 4 also enjoyed computing this week. They created a flow chart and were learning how to get AI to recognise an object. In addition to this, last week Mr Averis and Class 7 challenged class 4 to a TT Rockstars battle. Up until the last 20 minute class 7 were winning, however Class 4 stormed to victory. Well done Class 4 and bad luck to Class 7. Class 4 have now challenged Class 3!

Class 5: Computing has been very popular this week. Class 5 really enjoyed using all the skills they have learnt over the term, making their own game in Scratch.

Class 6: As part of anti-bullying week the children enjoyed making anti-bullying posters.

Class 7: Class 7 have been busy making Viking portraits out of clay.

Class 8: In English, the children wrote a newspaper report on a UFO sighting, using formal language.



Football Results

Our football teams have played in some fantastic football matches this week. On Monday the boys teams played league matches at home against Leckhampton. The boys played with great sportsmanship, managing to secure a win and draw.

Yesterday the girls' team played away to Warden Hill. They blew our socks off with their decisive win!

Well done to all the teams for representing St Mark's so brilliantly.

Boys League matches against Leckhampton

Won 4-3

Draw 1-1

Girls match against Warden Hill

Won 5-1



Teaching & Learning Owls

Bronze - Poppy, Naomi, Lottie, Ruby and Sienna

Silver - George

Congratulations to the children for achieving their owls!



Dreamcoat Stars

Honey and Summer performed in the professional production of **Dreamcoat Stars** last week. They were individually selected from their stage school to take part, which was a huge achievement for the girls.



Dreamcoat Stars is one of the UK's biggest nights of musical smash-hits. It featured four incredible singers from the hit show *Joseph* and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat who came together for an evening of musical theatre and festive songs.

The girls loved learning the songs and being part of the whole production—a truly magical experience for them.

Congratulations to Honey and Summer, we are all very impressed!



Open Days at St Mark's

Please join us

*for a **tour of the school** led by our Year 6 children
followed by a short talk*

from the Headteacher and Senior Leaders

Monday 18th & Wednesday 20th November

10.50 - 11.50am

To book your space, please contact our school office:

Email: clerical@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk

Phone: 01242 702280

Accompanying children are welcome!

pudding Pots / Yoghurt Pots

If you have any rice pudding pots / yoghurt pots, could you bring them into school on Monday, washed out for Miss Thornhill and Class 1.

Many thanks!



Christmas Lunch— 19th December

It's not too late to order your child a Christmas Lunch on ParentPay or email clerical@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk

1. Christmas Turkey with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Sausage and Gravy
2. Parsnip and Sweet Potato Loaf with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing and Gravy

It would be really useful if you could let us know if your child is having a packed lunch instead.

Please place your orders by Monday.



Extra Curricular Clubs - Autumn Term 2

Monday

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Boys Football Y5-6 | Lunchtime |
| Baking Buddies Y3-6 | 3.10pm - 4.30pm |
| Gym Club Y3-6 | 3.10pm - 4.00pm |
| Chinese Language Y3-6 | 3.15pm - 4.15pm |
| Netball Y6 | 3.10pm - 4.15pm |
| Recorders Y3-6 | Lunchtime |
| Running Club Y3-6 | 3.10pm - 4.00pm |

Tuesday

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Orchestra Y3-6 | 3.10pm - 4.00pm |
| 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 | Lunchtime |
| Coding Club Y6 | 3.10pm - 4.00pm |
| Choir Y3-6 | 3.10pm - 4.00pm |



Letters Sent Home

No letters this week.



School Term Dates

2024-25

- Term 1: Wed 4th Sept – Thu 24th Oct 2024
- Term 2: Mon 4th Nov – Fri 20th Dec 2024
- Term 3: on 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 & 3rd September, 25th October, 2nd June, 21st July

2024 - 25



November

- Mon 18th - St Mark's Open Day 10.50-11.50am
- Mon 18th - Gloucester Mosque Workshop @ St Mark's Year 5
- Mon 18th - Hindu Community Centre Visit Year 4
- Tue 19th - Parents' Evening
- Wed 20th - St Mark's Open Day 10.50-11.50am
- Thu 21st - Parents' Evening
- Fri 22nd - We the Curious trip Year 4
- Tue 26th - National Child Measurement check for Year 6

Fri 29th - Musical Theatre Performance

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Class 1 & 3 | 9:30-10:30 |
| Class 2 & 4 | 10:45-11:45 |
| Class 5 & 7 | 1:30-2:20 |
| Class 6 & 8 | 2:20-3:10 |

December

- W/C 2nd - Bikeability Week Year 6
- Tue 3rd - PTA Christmas film Night after school until 5.15pm
- Wed 11th - Panto 2pm performance
- Thu 12th - Carol Services: 5.30 – 6.15 (Yellow & Green house plus choir, orchestra and recorders) 6.45 – 7.30 (Red & Blue house plus choir, orchestra and recorders)
- Thu 12th - Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)
- Mon 16th - Year 6 Making day
- Tue 17th - Rocksteady concert for Rocksteady Parents 9.30am
- Tue 17th - Christmas Fayre
- Wed 18th - PTA Discos Y3 & Y4 – 6-6.45pm / Y5 & Y6 – 7-8pm
- Wed 18th - Thursday Lunch Menu
- Thu 19th - Caterlink Christmas Lunch (Festive Menu Only)
- Fri 20th - End of Term 2



PE - Autumn 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: Tuesday and Wednesday**
- Class 4: Tuesday and Friday**
- Class 5: Tuesday and Thursday**
- Class 6: Tuesday and Thursday**
- Class 7: Tuesday and Friday**
- Class 8: Monday and Tuesday**

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

