



St Mark's C of E Junior School

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Weekly Newsletter - Friday 18th October 2024

www.stmarksjunior.com

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

Our Value in focus this term is: **FACE VALUES**

Headteacher's Message:

It is the season of Harvest! At **Harvest time**, we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for. Out of this, our hearts and minds are turned towards others who we can help.

As mentioned in last week's Newsletter, we are supporting the work of the **Foodbank**. This charity is part of the continued enormous efforts to provide food for those in need in our local area. There is, of course, significant need at this time by people affected so acutely by the rise in the cost of living.

How can we help?

If you can spare any of the items on the list to the right, please bring them in by

Thursday 24th October.

A representative from the Foodbank will be joining us here at school, for our **Harvest Festival** on Thursday to receive the goods and to explain to the children how their donations will be helping families in real need at this time.

We would love to be able to give a super generous donation from St Mark's!

Donations will be collected on **Thursday 24th October.**

THANK YOU!

Have a super weekend,



Essential Items

Pasta, Pasta sauce
Tinned soup / cuppa soups
Tinned meat (hot and cold)
Instant noodles,
Microwave rice
Cereal
Biscuits
Coffee
UHT milk

Learning Highlight of the Week

Class 1: Class 1 have enjoyed Science this week. They experimented with slate and chalk to identify whether they were permeable or impermeable.

Class 2: In their Geography lesson, Class 2 have been using Google Earth to locate famous landmarks of the UK.

Class 3: In Scratch, the children have been coding using block broadcast.

Class 4: The children really enjoyed PE this week, where they took on the challenge of circuits - a great way to make fitness fun as well as improving coordination, agility, and balance.

Class 5: In History, Class 5 have been looking at crime and punishment in Anglo Saxon times. There were some extreme forms of punishment for people found guilty of committing a crime.

Class 6: Science was a highlight for Class 6. They have been looking at air resistance with different sized helicopters. They also enjoyed learning a fun fact that if you were to drop a hammer and a feather from the same height on moon they would both land simultaneously as the moon has virtually no atmosphere / air resistance.

Class 7: In English, the children have been making their own IMovies, with a twist on a classic fairy tale.

Class 8: Class 8 enjoyed making Viking portraits out of clay.

Football Tournament

Last Friday the girls football team took part in the ESFA football tournament. The groups stages took place at Rowanfield Junior School. The girls played brilliantly and we **won** our group beating Lakeside, Bishops Cleeve and Rowanfield.

Having won the group we then went onto the finals at Charlton Kings Junior School. We won our group there beating Leckhampton & Charlton Kings getting us to the main final against Swindon Village. It was 2-2 after extra time and we ended up losing on penalties to the reigning champions.



The children played 95 minutes of football

and were awarded with 2nd place out of 20+ schools. Every single member of the team tried their very best and battled right until the end. They all very much deserved the silver medal. **A huge congratulations and well done to the team and thank you to Mrs Campbell for her expertise overseeing the team.**

Good luck to the boys who are playing today!

Inset Day

Next Friday 25th October is an inset day. This means that the school will be closed to children.



Magic Show

Flyers for the PTAs **Magic Show** fundraiser came home this week.

We hope you can come along to the show on **Wednesday 23rd October 6.15-7.15pm.**

Admission £5 Children and £5 Adults, payable on the door.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The show is not suitable for children under 3.



Cheltenham District FA match

Two children from year 6, Sam and Asa have been selected to play for the District FA Schools team. This is an immense achievement for the boys who went through a series of extremely competitive trials to make the final cut! They played their first match last week.

The team drew 1-1 at full time, so went to extra time, where they conceded defeat. This was the first time the team had played together and they hadn't even trained together yet, so well done to the team for such a close result!

Asa and Sam, all of us at St Mark's are so proud of you!

We are very much looking forward to the next instalment.



Cross Country

Yesterday the boys took part in the cross country competition at Ashley Manor.

As always, a firm favourite in the race calendar. A hilly race in beautiful surroundings on what was a warm autumnal afternoon. A vast improvement from last weeks weather!

All of our children dug deep in what is always a very challenging course, especially for those whose first time it was. Every one of our competitors ran their absolute best and we couldn't have asked any more.

In addition, the support that they gave each other was so impressive. Some excellent examples of encouragement and compassion on show. Congratulations to all the boys who raced yesterday.

Good luck to the girls who are racing today!

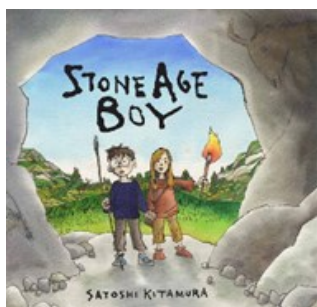


Stone Age Day - Year 3

Next Monday 21st October is the Stone Age themed day for year 3.

A reminder that children can come dressed up if they would like to.

You do not need to buy anything new!



Lost Property

We have accumulated quite a lot of lost property this term. If your child has lost anything you are welcome to come to the office and have a look through our collection! Many thanks.



Teaching & Learning Owls

Well done to Violet, Maddie, Scarlett and Abigail for earning their **GOLD** Owl badges and to Niall for achieving Silver.

Congratulations to all our Owl winners!



Extra Curricular Clubs - Autumn Term 1

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
Choir Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm
Dynamos Cricket Y4-6	3.10pm - 4.10pm



Contact Details

Have you recently moved house, changed your phone number or email address? If so please email clerical@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk so that we can update your records.

Thank you!



Letters Sent Home

- Musical Theatre Letter
- School Lunch Menus
- We the Curious Trip Letter Year 4



2024 - 25

October

- Mon 21st - Book Look Class 1
Mon 21st - Stone Age Day Year 3
Tue 22nd - Book Look Classes 2 - 8
Wed 23rd - PTA Magic Show 6.15-7.15pm
Thu 24th - Harvest Festival (Just children)
Fri 25th - Inset Day - School closed to children
Thu 31st - Secondary School Application Deadline

November

- Thu 7th - Greystones Farm Class 1
Fri 8th - Greystones Farm Class 2
Mon 11th - Anti-Bullying Week
Tue 12th - Odd Socks Day
Tue 12th - School Beat session Internet Safety Year 6
Fri 15th - Children in Need
Mon 18th - St Mark's Open Day 10.50-11.50am
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
Wed 4th - Year 6 Making day
Thu 5th - Christmas Fayre
Wed 11th - Panto 2pm performance
Thu 12th - Carol Services: 5.30 - 6.15 (Yellow & Green house plus choir) 6.45 - 7.30 (Red & Blue house plus choir)
Wed 18th - PTA Discos Y3 & Y4 - 6-6.45pm / Y5 & Y6 - 7-8pm



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**



PE - Autumn Term 1

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.