



# St Mark's C of E Junior School

*Growing together, becoming all we are created to be*

**Weekly Newsletter - Friday 6th September 2024**

[www.stmarksjunior.com](http://www.stmarksjunior.com)

All enquires: [admin@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk)

**Our Value in focus this term is: Respect**

## Headteacher's Message:

Three days in and we're in full swing! The children have returned to school raring to go, with excellent attitudes to their learning and in their relationships. It really has been a joy to see!

A particularly warm welcome to our new starters in Year 3 and to those in other year groups too. We have been amazed with how quickly the children have adjusted to the new routines and expectations with such a motivated and engaged approach.



## Communication

We know that there is a lot to remember and get used to at this time of year so please do not hesitate to get in touch, check the newsletter or your child's Year Group Page on the school website.

The class teachers will lead the children out of school at the end of the day so, once all of the children have been dismissed, please do use this as a time to have a quick chat with the teacher. For any longer conversations, please arrange an after-school appointment via the school office or by emailing [clerical@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:clerical@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk).

There will also be a member of the Senior Leadership Team on the playground at both ends of the day so this is often a good time to have a quick word. We are all here to help!



**We are delighted to inform you that St Mark's have secured Musical Theatre sessions during the school day, for all of the children in the Autumn Term.** The sessions will be run by Emma Ward: a highly regarded teacher, running private classes through 'Emma Ward Dance and Performing Arts' - I know some families at St Mark's attend

with great enthusiasm!

This is a super opportunity for all children to benefit from this extremely worthwhile experience.

The children will have an hour session per week on a Wednesday or Thursday from the week of 23rd Sept to 25th November. The sessions will culminate in a

performance to parents of a famous musical (to be revealed in the first session!) on the afternoon of **Friday 29th November - save the date!**



We work extremely hard to give all children as many different opportunities to access a range of experiences as possible at St Mark's. It may well be that these sessions take some children well out of their comfort zone, but my hope is that through the term, with all of us taking part, confidence will grow and we will see children achieving something they never thought possible!

Your child's curriculum map and letter from their year group team has been sent today. Please do take the time to read and digest the information as we head into an action packed term!

***Have a super weekend***

***Mrs A Fitch and the Staff Team***

## General Reminders

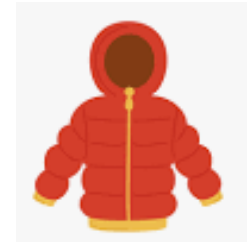


**Children should have water only to drink** in their water bottles. No squash, unless parents have asked for special permission from the class teacher, due to a medical reason.

**Snacks for break time need to be healthy.** This can include rice cakes, crackers, breadsticks, cheese, fruit, veg sticks and cereal bars for example. No crisps or chocolate please.

Friday is treat day so snacks can include chocolate or crisps but no sweets.

**Lastly all children must have a coat in school at all times.**



## iSingPop

**A reminder that on 16th September iSingPOP will be coming to St Mark's, where the children will be involved in a singing and performing project.**

On **Friday 20th September 2024**, there will be 2 concerts in **St Mark's Church**, where we can join together as a community to celebrate the children's achievements.

**The first concert will begin at 2pm for Red and Blue House. The school choir are invited to take part in both concerts. The second concert will begin at 6pm for Yellow and Green House (plus children in choir).**

We hope the children are as excited as we are for this brilliant opportunity.



## The School Day

Please be aware that learning starts at 8.50am.

This means that your child is missing out on essential learning if they arrive after this time.

Therefore, in order to avoid your child from falling behind, any work missed due to a late arrival may well be sent home with your child to be completed at home for the next day.



## Year 3 Message

Year 3 Parents can you help?

Please can you bring in 2 or 4 pint (washed out) milk bottles for the children to use by next Friday.

Thank you so much!



## Asda—Cashpot for Schools initiative

Asda have started a new initiative to raise money for schools. Parents can sign up for the app and every time they shop the school will get money. There's £65 in the pot already!

Asda's new Cashpot for Schools initiative has raised almost £1million raised for UK primary schools in its first 72 hours!!! The industry first campaign sees Asda donate 0.5% of the value of its customers shopping to a primary school of their choice – every time they shop using Asda Rewards. All 22,000 state funded UK primary schools are able to get involved, and since the campaign was launched on Monday morning – fronted by the nation's favourite PE teacher Joe Wicks – a massive £960,000 has already been allocated to school cashpots.

Please sign up to Asda Rewards and shop to support our school.

Thank you!!!!

[Asda's Cashpot for Schools initiative racks up almost £1m for schools in first 72 hours](#)



## Extra Curricular Clubs - Autumn Term 1

**Most clubs start next week unless indicated below**

### Monday

Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.30pm	(starts next week)
Gym Club Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm	(starts next week)
Chinese Language Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm	(starts next week)
Netball Y6	3.10pm - 4.15pm	(starts 16/09/24)
Recorders Y3-6	Lunchtime	(starts 16/09/24)
Running Club Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm	(starts 16/09/24)

### Tuesday

Orchestra Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm	(starts 17/09/24)
Tennis Y4-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm	(starts next week)

### Wednesday

Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.30pm	(starts next week)
Cyclestars Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm	(starts next week)
French Club Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.15pm	(starts next week)

### Thursday

Choir Y3-6	3.10pm - 4.00pm	(starts next week)
Dynamos Cricket Y4-6	3.10pm - 4.10pm	(starts next 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**



## Letters Sent Home

- iSingpop Letter
- Panto Letter Year 3
- Curriculum Maps and Letters
- Letter from Bea and family



## 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.**

## 2024 - 25



### September

Wed 4th - Start of Term  
Tue 10th - Year 6 Trip to London  
Thu 12th - Year 3 Parent drop in  
Tue 17th - Flu Immunisations All Day  
Thu 19th - iSingPop Recording Day  
Fri 20th - iSingPop Concerts - 2pm for Red, Blue and Choir, 6pm for Yellow, Green and Choir  
Mon 23rd - Cycle to School Week

### October

Tue 1st - Year 6 2023-24 cohort reunion  
Wed 2nd - Coffee with Mrs Fitch - Year 3 & 4 Parents  
Thu 3rd - Rags Collection  
Wed 9th - Coffee with Mrs Fitch - Year 5 & 6 Parents  
Thu 10th - World Mental Health Day  
Tue 22nd - Book Look  
Thu 24th - Harvest Festival (Just children)

### November

Mon 11th - Anti-Bullying Week  
Tue 12th - Odd Socks Day  
Fri 19th Children in Need  
Fri 29th - Musical Theatre Performance Timings tbc

### December

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)

## Outdoor Learning - Autumn Term 1

**Outdoor Learning will start week commencing 30th September. The Outdoor Learning timetable will be shared with you in due course.**

*For Outdoor Learning children are required to come to school wearing their own clothing they do not mind getting dirty. In addition to this and as we approach the winter months they must have warm clothing and waterproof coats.*

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

