



St Mark's C of E Junior School

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Weekly Newsletter - Friday 5th June 2026

www.stmarksjunior.com

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

Our Value in focus this term is Respect

Headteacher's Message:

I hope you all enjoyed a restful half term break and were able to spend some quality time together as families. It has been an excellent start to the new half term, with pupils returning full of enthusiasm, positivity and readiness to learn.

Sports Day Reminders—Sports Day will take place next **Wednesday, 10th June 2026** (weather permitting).

Please note that **children will need to bring a packed lunch** on Sports Day, as there will be no school dinners available.

The day will consist of inter-house activities in the morning, followed by races in the afternoon, with a picnic lunch in between.



Timings

9.10am - 11.50pm - Inter-house class activities (e.g. Long Jump, Hit the Wickets, and Long Distance Throw). (Parents are invited to this session too!)

12.00pm - 12:45pm - Picnic lunch on the field

12.55pm - Children meet in the hall; parents find a spot by the track. House captains will lead each house out and around the track

1.15pm - 2.55pm - Races



Parents are welcome to attend all or part of the day. If you are joining us for the morning session, please remember to sign in at Reception.

As we move into the final part of the school year, there is a real sense of excitement across the school. This term is always a special one, with many opportunities for pupils to showcase their talents, celebrate their achievements and take part in memorable experiences. From trips and events to end-of-year celebrations together with some fond farewells, there is certainly a great deal to pack in.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are very much looking forward to a busy and successful final term together. **Have a super weekend, Mrs A Fitch and the Staff Team**

Teaching & Learning Owls

Gold - Annabelle

Silver - Isabella, Nancy, Bea & Tanaka

Bronze - Jack

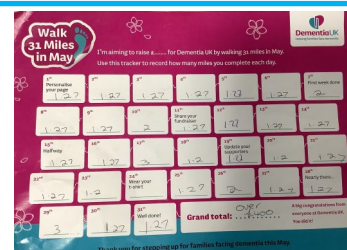
Congratulations to our badge winners!



Fundraising Achievement

Congratulations to Bea in Year 3, who took part in the 'Walk 31 Miles in May' campaign.

Bea raised over £400 for Dementia UK—what an outstanding achievement! Well done, Bea!



Learning Highlight of the Week

Class 1: In PE, Class 1 have enjoyed practising their tennis skills, focusing on developing their racket control and ball skills.

Class 2: In History, the children took part in a fun and engaging quiz to deepen their understanding of the life and society of the Ancient Egyptians.

Class 3 & 4: This week, Year 4 have a joint learning highlight, with both classes enjoying their Outdoor Learning lessons. They were encouraged to carefully observe the space around them and notate what they could create or improve within the Outdoor Learning classroom area. They shared ideas and explored the natural environment before using logs and other materials they discovered to build their own mini Outdoor Learning gym.

Class 5: PE was also a highlight for Class 5 this week. The children particularly enjoyed their first Rounders lesson of year, where they developed key skills including, catching, bowling, batting and fielding.

Class 6: In Geography, the children have been learning about South America. They have explored key features of the continent, including its countries, capital cities, and which hemisphere it is located in.

Class 7: In Science, Class 7 have been learning about blood and its components. They have explored the different types of cells, including red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets, and have been learning about their important functions within the body.

Class 8: In PE, Class 8 have enjoyed taking part in mini basketball tournaments while developing their shooting, dribbling, and passing skills.

Gardening Volunteers

During half term, a team of volunteers from **GE Aerospace** kindly donated paint, raised beds, arches, and—most importantly—their time to help transform our sensory garden. Led by Mrs Reilly, the team worked hard painting and planting, and the results are fantastic.

Thank you all so much for your generosity and support—we truly appreciate it!



Reading Award

Well done to Sienna, who has successfully completed the Year 5 reading list! Your hard work and commitment to reading have been fantastic to see. Congratulations, Sienna!



The Local Offer/Glos Families Directory for families with SEND

We have been asked to make you aware of the wealth of information, guidance and support available on the Local Offer/Glos Families Directory. The Local Offer is a central source of information on services for children and young people aged 0-25 years with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families in Gloucestershire. It includes specialist activities and support.

Please click on this link for further information.

[Gloucestershire's Local Offer, Support for families with SEND](#)



Gloucester Cathedral Leavers Service

The Year 6 children are looking forward to their Leavers Service at Gloucester Cathedral next **Tuesday 9th June**.

The children need to wear smart school uniform, black shoes and can wear their leavers hoodie.



DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

We hope the children have a wonderful afternoon.

Safer Roads and Community 20s and The Cheltenham Town Centre Roads Safety Scheme



We have been asked to share the below safer road schemes with our families.

These schemes aim to reduce collisions and make it safer and easier for people to walk, cycle and move around their communities. They are also expected to bring wider benefits such as better public health, less noise and improved local environments.

Gloucestershire County Council welcomes your views – Consultation closes on 19th June.

To have your say, you can complete the online survey by clicking [here](#) or leave comments on the [interactive map](#)

OR attend an in-person event: -

- Cheltenham High Street (Outside the Cornish Bakery) – Wednesday 3 June, 10am-6pm
- Webinar – Tuesday 9 June, 6-7:30pm – which you can register to attend
- Montpellier Gardens – Wednesday 10 June, 10am-6pm

To get a paper copy of the survey contact—Gloucestershire County Council's Cheltenham office - Saint Georges Rd, Cheltenham, GL50 3EW. Paper copies also available at the events.

After 19th June public engagement – the Council will decide which proposals should move forward to formal Traffic Order (TO) consultation, later in 2026. Following consultation, a decision will be made to:

- Proceed as proposed
- Proceed with changes
- Not proceed

If approved, works in Cheltenham are expected in late 2026 to early 2027.

For any enquiries, please email: speedlimits@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Safer Roads and Community 20s



School Lunch Payments – Please Keep Your Account in Credit

We kindly ask all parents to ensure their ParentPay account for school lunches remains in credit. If you have any outstanding balance, please arrange to clear it over the **weekend**.



Did you know? On ParentPay, you can set up your account to receive an automatic email alert if your balance falls below a set amount (suggested amount £5) — helping you stay on top of payments with ease.



Extra Curricular Clubs Summer Term 2

Monday

Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.30pm	
Chinese Language Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm	
Gardening Club Y3-5	3.15pm - 4.00pm	
Gymnastics Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.00pm	
Netball Y5-6	3.15pm - 4.00pm	
Recorders Y3-6	Lunchtime (last club 15th June)	
Rounders Y5-6	3.15pm - 4.00pm (last club 22nd June)	

Tuesday

Orchestra Y3-6	12.30pm - 1.00pm (last club 9th June)
Choir Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.00pm (last club 9th June)
Tennis Y4-6	3.15pm - 4.10pm

Wednesday

Baking Buddies Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.30pm
Cricket Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.15pm

Thursday

Coding Y6	3.15pm - 4.00pm
Kids with Bricks Y3-6	3.15pm - 4.00pm
Outdoor Learning	3.15pm - 4.15pm

Friday

Athletics (With the Ball)	3.15pm - 4.15pm
---------------------------	-----------------

Keep us up to date

If you have moved house, changed telephone numbers or set up a new email account please let the office know so that we can accurately maintain our records to ensure that we can contact you in case of an emergency and communicate with you effectively.



Thank you!

School Term Dates - 2025-26

Term 5: Mon 13th April – Fri 22nd May 2026

Term 6: Mon 1st June – Mon 20th July 2026

**Inset Days: 1st June 2026,
20th July 2026**



Letter Sent Home

- Year 6 Production Letter
- Staff Changes Letter



2025-26



June

Tue 9th - Y6 Leavers Service, Gloucester Cathedral (Pupils only)
 Wed 10th - Sports Day
 Wed 10th - Pioneer Residential Meeting in Hall 3.15pm
 Mon 15th - Midsummer Concert 6.30pm
 Wed 17th - Drayton Manor Y6 Trip
 Thu 18th - Rocksteady concert for Rocksteady parents (pm)
 Fri 19th - PTA Lido Evening
 Fri 19th - Prince of Wales Athletics Event
 Tue 23rd - Year 6 Production Matinee Performance
 Tue 23rd - Piano Recital (Mrs Bennett's Pupils & Parents)
 Wed 24th - Year 6 Production - Evening performance
 Wed 24th - Whole Class Photos and Year 6 Leavers Photographs
 Thu 25th - 'Explore our World' Day Year 5 at Bournside
 Thu 25th - Year 4 Cheltenham Trip
 Mon 29th - Fri 3rd - Bournside Transition Week
 Tue 30th - Rags Collection

July

Tue 7th - Burnham-on-Sea Trip Year 3
 Wed 8th - Fri 10th July - Y6 Residential
 Thu 9th - Cheltenham Music Festival Year 5 Trip
 Tue 14th - Year 3 Egyptian Day
 Thu 16th - Y6 St Mark's School Leavers Service - 1.45pm
 Thu 16th - PTA Disco

Outdoor Learning - Summer Term 2

Class 4: Thursday Morning

Class 3: Thursday Afternoon



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.

PE - Summer Term 2

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



Class 1: Wednesday & Friday

Class 2: Tuesday & Friday

Class 3: Monday

Class 4: Friday

Class 5: Tuesday & Thursday

Class 6: Tuesday & Thursday

Class 7: Monday & Wednesday

Class 8: Wednesday & Friday

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