

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.
Colossians 3:23



St Mark's C.E. Primary School Newsletter – October 2022

Mrs Dacombe's Message

I would like to start and say a huge welcome to our new families who have joined us this term. We are overjoyed that you have chosen to be part of St Mark's Christian family. Lots has already happened this term. We have had class worships, cross country and football matches, as well as all the exciting learning that is taking place each and every day. It has now become a daily occurrence that a child comes to my office to show and celebrate their amazing achievements. I am going to need to ask Mrs Todd to order more stickers soon! As always, the door at St Mark's is always open. If you want to speak to us, just contact the office and we will get back to you as soon as we can. We hope to see lots of you at the events we have coming up in school.

Class	% Attendance	No. of children late
Miss Bourner	92.5	2
Miss Kemp	96.7	5
Miss Teasdale	95.6	7
Miss H. Morgan	98.5	5
Miss Morgan/Miss Johnson	95.1	4
Miss Hodgers	96.2	6
Mrs Munns	95.6	6
Mr Attewill	95.6	6
Mrs Headlam	95.5	6
Mrs Khan	93.9	5
Miss Shannon	91.4	8
Mrs Edinboro/Mrs Mallam	91	4
Miss Boagey	95.5	8
Miss Fraser	97.4	6
ARB	84.4	1

Dates for your diary

10/10/22 - Dr Bike in school for KS2 children to have their bike checked.

17/10/22 – KS1 Harvest Festival 10.00 (Year 1) and 14.00 (Year 2). Parents invited.

18/10/22– Nursery Prayer Spaces 10:30am

20/10/22 – Reception Harvest Festival 10.00 (Miss Bourner’s class) and 14.00 (Miss Kemp’s class). Parents invited.

8/11/22 and 9/11/22 – Parent’s evening 3.30 – 6.00

1/12/22 – Year 3 Christingle Service 9.30 and Year 4 Christingle Service 14.00

3/12/22 – Christmas Fayre – details to follow

7/12/22 - Rocksteady Concert – timings to follow

13/12/22 – Reception Nativity Play 9.30 and 14.00. Parents invited.

14/12/22 – Year 5 and 6 Christmas Celebration 9.30 and 14.00. Parents invited.

15/12/22 – KS1 Nativity Play 9.30 and 14.00. Parents invited.

16/12/22 – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner day

Y3 Parents & Carers

We have had such an amazing week, whilst some of the children have had a splashing good time at swimming, the other children have been busy learning about the water cycle and learning jobs in French. I wonder if any of you would like to become an actress when you are older? Or perhaps a farmer? We have been particularly impressed with the way that the children have taken to using the laptops, logging in all by themselves and accessing their online portals to practise using Word. Well done to all of the children!

Y4 Parents & Carers

Year 4 have started their year off so well. They have come into our lessons with energy and very keen minds. They loved learning about mummification and using their new knowledge to mummify a tomato. They even helped to tidy up all of the organs that they removed. We have also been learning about different states of matter; focussing particularly on melting. I wonder if they can remember what they tried to melt

Y2 Parents & Carers

What a fantastic start we have had in Year 2! The children have blown us away with their amazing, intelligent expanded noun phrases. We have been working hard on adventure stories. In maths, we have been focusing on place value and skip counting. We have made some fantastic vehicles in DT and enjoyed learning about toys in History.

Y1 Parents & Carers

We are so pleased with how well Year 1 have settled into the year! In English, we have been working hard to identify and write the sounds we know in our writing and use some capital letters and full stops. In Maths, we have been focusing on place value including understanding 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to'. The children are enjoying our foundation subjects so far, including making cars from recycled materials in DT, learning about seasonal changes in Science and navigating iPads and laptops in Computing lessons.

Upcoming Year 1 events:

Monday 17th October – KS1 Harvest Festival. Year 1 parents are invited to attend at 10am.

Tuesday 18th October – Year 1 Sports Festival trip at Durham Sports Campus, Stockton. Miss Morgan's class AM and Miss Teasdale's class PM.

Year 5 Parents & Carers

We have had an amazing start to the year! Year 5 have impressed us with their maturity and enthusiasm to work. We have been working hard including expanded noun phrases in our writing and created some lovely setting descriptions. They have been working hard with their place value up to 1,000,000 and even adding and subtracting numbers with more than 4-digits. Children are thoroughly enjoying our foundation subjects so far. They have investigated different blood types in Science, designed a wind turbine in DT, learning lots about the Mayans in history and many more. We are looking forward to the year ahead with this amazing attitude!

Upcoming Year 5 events:

- Year 5GS – Tuesday 11th October – Northfield School, scavenger hunt.
- Monday 10th October - Year 5 girls' football match

Reception Parents & Carers

We are so proud of how well the children have settled into Reception this half term. The children have been excited to explore their new classroom and make lots of new friendships. Over this half term, we have been learning all about our bodies and identifying the different stages of the human growth cycles. The children have loved painting self-portraits and drawing pictures of the people in their families. We have explored family diversities and read lots of beautiful stories surrounding this.

Upcoming Reception events:

- 20/10/22 – Reception Harvest Festival 10.00 (Miss Bournier's class) and 14.00 (Miss Kemp's class). Parents invited.

Year 6 Parents and Carers

Year 6 have had a good start to the year, taking on the responsibility of prefect jobs and acting as role models to the rest of the school. We have been working hard to produce setting descriptions and instructions in writing, and in maths we have focused on perfecting the four operations. We have particularly been enjoying P.E. as well as our other foundation subjects. There are some Y6 pupils who still need to apply for secondary school, so just a reminder to do this.

Upcoming Year 6 events: Monday 10th October - Year 6 girls' football match

Keeping children safe during community activities, after-school clubs and tuition: Questions to help parents and carers choose out-of-school settings

As we start a new school year, parents may well be looking for after-school clubs, theatre groups or sports' clubs. The DfE has a document that helps parents identify the safeguarding issues to consider when choosing a provider. Keeping children safe during community activities, after-school clubs and tuition: Questions to help parents and carers choose out-of-school settings.

Parents can access the guidance here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-safeguarding-children-in-out-of-school-settings/keeping-children-safe-during-community-activities-after-school-clubs-and-tuition-questions-to-help-parents-and-carers-choose-out-of-school-settings>