



Growing and Learning Together in God's Love

# St Mark's CofE Primary School

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## News Update – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### A message from Mr Applegate

It was great to have Boris the Robot share with us on Friday about what it means to be HeartSmart. For a reminder of our 'High Fives', see the back of the green home-reading log.

If you are able, please bring in a tin of food or packet of dried food for our Harvest Worship on Friday. We'll be splitting our donations between Foodbank and May Place. Thank you.

The deadline for applications to be a school councillor, Raising Hope Foundation Ambassador, Christian Voice Ambassador or Eco Team member is this Friday. Please remind your children to get their applications in!

See our website for the latest curriculum newsletters as well as the presentations from the curriculum evenings.

And do join us for a coffee or tea on the McMillan Coffee Morning, held jointly with Immanuel. Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept, from 9am, in the main hall. Finally, we are close to confirming the Christmas performance dates- we'll let you know next week.

Mr Applegate ☺

### Harvest – What can you give?

On Weds 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, Foodbank are talking to our pupils about why it exists and how it works. This is to help our pupils understand the needs of others and how giving makes a huge difference. On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September, it would be great if you could bring in dry/tinned food. Your donations will be shared between Foodbank and May Place

### Parents' Evening

We'll open up booking for these soon; they will take place on the following dates:

- 21st Nov, 4-6:30pm
- 26th Nov, 4-6:30pm
- 28th Nov, 5-7:30pm

### Respond To School At Home



This week, we are looking at our value of Forgiveness. We'll be thinking about how it makes a huge difference when we forgive ourselves and others. It takes a huge load off our shoulders. It's easy to take forgiveness as just meaning 'sorry', but why not talk to your children about how forgiveness also means changing our behaviour – both towards ourselves and others.

### Desperate Plea! We need a favour



Do you know anyone who can lay tarmac/asphalt? We have 3 small projects that need some tarmac laid. These areas will allow more bikes to be stored at school, give the children more activities to do during lunch and play time, and also help solve the problem of the flooded paths by putting in an alternative route. Please ask around and get in touch with the office. We can contribute, but would really value 'mate's rates' or a huge favour from a company or builder.



- Year 1 – Cody, Sophie, Manuel
- Year 2 – Izabella, Rickey, Samaria
- Year 3 – Nyle, Matthew, Jack, Elliot
- Year 4 – Teagan, Lucas, Zac
- Year 5 – Nathan, Carolina, Harrison
- Year 6 – Harini, Ethan, Preston, Sofia

Head Teacher: Mr Charles Applegate  
Deputy Head: Mrs Claire Cooper  
Assistant Head: Mrs Nicola Ford  
Assistant Head: Mrs Rebekah Alsey





# Dates for your diary....

## Autumn Term

Curriculum Evenings – See Below

21<sup>st</sup> Sept – Harvest

28<sup>th</sup> Sept – Election Day

28<sup>th</sup> Sept – McMillan Coffee Morning.

**Parents, please join us from 9am**

10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y6 SATs Info Evening,

6:15pm

29<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y6 Residential Week

7<sup>th</sup> Nov, 6pm – Y5 Residential Meeting

12<sup>th</sup> Nov – Anti-Bullying Week

19<sup>th</sup> Nov – Road Safety Week

21<sup>st</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents' Evenings

1<sup>st</sup> Dec – FOSM Christmas Fayre

## Spring Term

11<sup>th</sup> Jan – Autumn reports out

27<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evenings

## Summer Term

26<sup>th</sup> April – Spring Reports out

13<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs Week

7<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day

14<sup>th</sup> June – Reserve Sports Day

5<sup>th</sup> July – Transition Day

12<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Reports out

Something to think about...

Don't rub it in...  
... rub it out!



## Curriculum Evenings for September

You are invited to a brief meeting to learn more about your child's year group. They will be held on the following day and times:

**Weds 19<sup>th</sup> September**

**6:30pm – 7:00pm**

Year 4

**7:15pm – 7:45pm**

Year 5

## Cleaner Wanted

Hours of work are 3:30pm until 5:30pm, Monday to Friday. Pay: £7.78 per hour. Contact the office for more information. A free DBS will be applied for.

## INSET DAYS

**2018 2019**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2018

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2019

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun 2019

(not 1<sup>st</sup> Jul)

## FOSM AGM

FOSM – Friends of St Mark's – is our fantastic group of parents and friends of the school who help to organise events and fundraise for our school. We are always looking for additional support so that we have capacity to run these events. Please come to our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 7pm at St Mark's to find out more. Coming along doesn't mean you are roped into every event! Thank you.

## Foundation Governor Needed

We're in need of a foundation governor to join our governing body. A foundation governor is someone who is a fully fledged governor, represents and looks out for the Christian ethos of the school, and is themselves a regular church-goer (counted as at least 1-in-4 Sundays). Governors play an exciting and important role in the life of our school. We meet about twice per half term, usually around 5 or 6pm. There is also plenty of training available. If you are interested, please do speak with Mr Applegate. We'd be really grateful.

## Lollypop Man

Please note that Noel, who mans the Woodbury Road crossing, will be away for the foreseeable future due to illness. He's asked us to say how much he will miss the children and he hopes to be back soon.

## Windmill Hill Yr 5

There is a meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov @ 6pm for Yr 5 Parents about PGL 2019.

### **What exactly are RPs and mopeys?!**

Previously, we've had 'Achievement Points' – these worked well for a many years, but are in need of a revamp. Last week, we introduced 'RPs' – or 'Recognition Points', which are given to pupils for attitudes and behaviours that show what we are about at St Mark's. This includes, but not limited by: using excellent manners; helping a friend in need; making excellent progress in learning; being particularly resilient in class; tidying up without being asked; picking up litter because it's the right thing to do; showing our Christian values, learning behaviours or HeartSmart High Fives in an amazing way; and so much more. Each child keeps a tally of their points given in a week, and these are then added up at the end of the week as a class. The KS1 and KS2 class with the highest number of points get a class prize. We restart the points the following week. The children are already enjoying getting RPs. Gold, silver and bronze awards aren't linked to these points, though. They will be given out at the end of term based on the child's overall efforts, progress and attitude shown each term. We know that sometimes children don't always do the right thing, though. If children are not making wise choices and are demonstrating poor behaviour, they will be given a mopey. This is like a warning. After 3 mopeys, a consequence is put in place, which is usually around the child being removed from lesson(s) for a period of time, and stationed in another class. This is dependent on the age of the child, though. An appropriate 'reflection form' will be completed, which helps the child to see how their behaviour impacted on the learning of others. This form will get sent home so that parents are aware of the issues, although it may be the case that parents get a phone call about it, too. We hope that our new systems will help even more children to want to do the right thing, help them learn from their mistakes, and of course recognise all of the good that goes on day-in, day-out at our school.

### **Applying for a school place in Reception**

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, the deadline for applying for a school place is 15th January 2019. If you are looking for a Reception school place for September 2019, you are welcome to come along to one of our school tours.

The tour will last approximately one hour. Please telephone the school on 01256 346111 to book your place.

1. Thursday 4th October 10:30am
2. Tuesday 9th October 2pm
3. Wednesday 17th October 10:30am
4. Wednesday 7th November 10:30am
5. Tuesday 13th November 2pm
6. Wednesday 14th November 7pm
7. Thursday 22nd November 10:30am

### **Explorers 30th September 2018**

#### **A message from Immanuel Church**

Immanuel Church is pleased to announce the return of our Sunday School 'Explorers' during the morning service on Sunday 30th September. Following closely the topics covered in school, this is a fun, lively, creative group of worship and prayer for children from Reception to Year 6. Each child will have the opportunity to take part in the activities and create something to take away with them. The Explorers group will then run on the last Sunday of each month (excluding December when there will be other exciting events to take part in!)

We hope you can join us, enjoying time in your local church community from 10am to 11am. There will be tea, coffee and soft drinks after the service which we'd love to share with you and your family. See you there! Please be advised that parents will be expected to stay during the service.

### **Snappers Photography**

Snappers Photography will be in school next week to take individual and sibling photographs and have asked us to pass on the message: *We would like to inform you that there will not be a proof order option, meaning that you will not get a paper form to fill out. The order of your child's photos can be done online only. We will provide you with a contact sheet / password card with your online credentials to your personal gallery. Once you have them, use the search bar to write the given URL -www.snappersphotography.co.uk (type it in the search bar - not google) and enter your access code on the login page. Once logged in, select and order your favourite photos. The Photos can take up-to 5 working days before they are available to view online. If you register your details, we will email you when the photos are ready to order. If you register your details we will email you when the photos are ready to purchase.*

# A helpful guide to staying safe online

Social media sites are very popular now. However, even though the age restriction for using the sites is 13+, many parents still allow children younger than this to be active members, followers and sharers.

If this is you, be sure that you know what they are doing online, and what information, photos or videos they are sharing or creating with others.

Check out the NSPCC parent support website for really helpful information.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware)

# NSPCC

**Something to think about:** How do you model good online behaviour to your

Chat platforms are often sources of difficulties. Children can chat with friends they know and also with complete strangers. This can be done on the PS4, X-Box, mobiles, tablets- almost any device.

**It's so important that you keep a close eye on your child's use of technology.** Innocent apps or video games still allow the opportunity for unkind messages to be sent or received.



Where is technology used by your child? How secret is it?  
Are age restrictions obeyed?  
What is the culture of being safe online like in your home?

If you are concerned about cyber-bullying, you can talk to the parents of the children involved, speak to the police, or speak to school. Try to take screen-shots or photos of the messages sent- it's difficult to do anything when they are deleted.



**Age-appropriate messages we learn at**



**Be a good communicator**

Use good manners at all times and never be rude or mean to anyone in emails, texts and online conversations



**Be careful what you post**

Think before you post and agree not to post information photos or videos that could put you at risk or embarrass you or your friends now or in the future



**Listen to your feelings**

**and act if you feel uncomfortable**

Always tell a trusted adult if anything you see or hear online makes you feel sad, scared or confused

