



Growing and Learning Together in God's Love

# St Mark's CofE Primary School

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www.stmarksprimary.net

## News Update – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### A message from Mr Applegate

Welcome back to school! I hope you've had a relaxing break amongst the busyness of Christmas.

Over the break, TitheGrove kindly carried out some groundwork and laid tarmac in a few key areas in our playground. This will alleviate the flooding issues for the pathways, provide extra playground space, and give more space for bike racks. We are grateful to them for their generosity towards our pupils, our school and our community.

Mr Carter was touched by the generous gifts and good wishes towards his early retirement. We welcome Mr Blake as our new Site Manager. Thank you in advance for making him feel welcome.

Have a great week! Mr Applegate 😊

### After-School Clubs

We currently have some spaces in most of our after-school clubs due to start next week.

If your child is interested in any of these clubs, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Places will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

### Chicken Pox

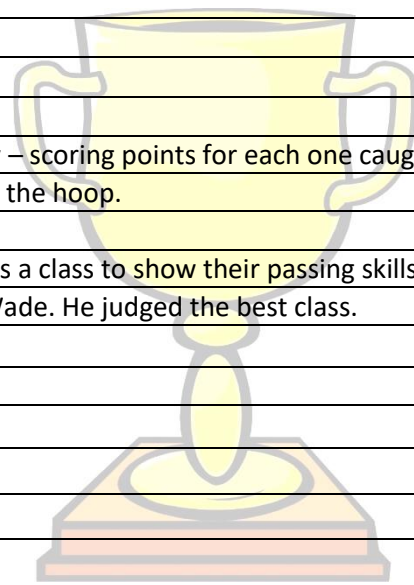
We have had a number of children coming down with Chicken Pox across KS1.

If your child hasn't already had them, please look out for any symptoms and only send your child back to school once all blisters have scabbed over.

Thank you

## The children enjoyed their Interclass Challenges in the Autumn Term! Well done to the winners!

Year	Activity	Winners
Year R	In Autumn 1 - fastest changing class.	Puffins
	In Autumn 2 - completed a Santa's relay.	Penguins
Year 1	In Autumn 1 - completed musical balances.	1H
	In Autumn 2 - had throwing and catching activity – scoring points for each one caught.	1C
Year 2	In Autumn 1 - had to get as many bean bags into the hoop.	2R
	In Autumn 2 - completed a relay challenge.	2B
Year 3	In Autumn 1 - completed a tag rugby challenge as a class to show their passing skills.	3CB
	In Autumn 2 - played hockey matches with Mr Wade. He judged the best class.	3B
Year 4	In Autumn 1 - had a netball challenge.	4EH
	In Autumn 2 - had a tri- golf challenge.	4T
Year 5	In Autumn 1 - completed a football tournament.	5T
	In Autumn 2 - had a hockey tournament	5GP
Year 6	In Autumn 1 - had a football tournament.	6P
	In Autumn 2 - had a hockey tournament	6D



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





# Dates for your diary....

## Spring Term

January – Autumn reports out  
17<sup>th</sup> Jan - Year R National Child  
Measurement Programme (**Autumn  
Born Children**)  
Mid-January - Flu Vaccine Years R-5  
27<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March – Parents'  
Evenings

## INSET DAYS 2018 2019

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2019  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun 2019  
(not 1st July)

## 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

## FOSM



15<sup>th</sup> Feb – FOSM School Disco  
8<sup>th</sup> March – Cake Sale  
30<sup>th</sup> March Easter Egg Hunt (11am –  
12pm)  
3<sup>rd</sup> May FOSM Summer Disco  
21<sup>st</sup> June – Non Uniform Day  
29<sup>th</sup> June- Summer Fun Day

**New Years** is all about getting  
another chance. A chance to  
forgive, to do better, to do more,  
to give more, to love more.

**Find out the results of our parent survey –  
visit...**

[stmarksprimary.net/parent-feedback](http://stmarksprimary.net/parent-feedback)

## Are you interested in training to become a teacher? We can help!

St Mark's CofE Primary are excited to be part of the Aspire Teaching Alliance. This is a group of local schools who have formed an alliance to provide high quality, on-the-job training for those wanting to go into primary school teaching. The programme is fully accredited by the University of Winchester, and successful candidates gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), as well as a PCGE.

If you think you have a desire to teach, we have just started recruiting potential trainees to our School Direct programme for 2019/2020. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in training to become a teacher and would like more information, representatives from Aspire Alliance will be at the following locations in the forthcoming months:

Information Events and Application Workshops **at Overton CE Primary School**, Court Drove, Overton, RG25 3ES

Coffee Mornings 8am to 9am (starts with a short presentation at 8am)

Wednesday 9th January 2019  
Wednesday 13th February 2019  
Tuesday 12th March 2019

Information Evenings 6pm to 7pm (starts with a short presentation at 6pm)

Tuesday 22nd January 2019  
Monday 25th February 2019  
Monday 25th March 2019

Speak to Mr Applegate or visit our website for more information.



# Results of our Parents' Questionnaire November & December 2018

Thank you for giving your feedback. We really do value it, and act on it. Here's a summary of the results.

100% of parents said they would recommend St Mark's to other parents!

275 responses were given		Strongly agree	Agree	Strongly Agree or Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy at St Mark's.	72%	27%	99%	1%	0%
2	My child feels safe at St Mark's.	75%	25%	100%	0%	0%
3	My child makes good progress at St Mark's.	58%	39%	97%	3%	0%
4	My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	49%	46%	95%	5%	0%
5	St Mark's makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	56%	43%	99%	1%	0%
6	St Mark's deals effectively with bullying. (47% said 'I'm not sure as my child hasn't been in this situation.')	24%	27%	51%	2%	0%
7	St Mark's is well led and managed.	71%	29%	100%	0%	0%
8	St Mark's responds well to any concerns I raise.	56%	42%	98%	2%	0%
9	Would you recommend St Mark's to another parent?	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%
		Yes, daily or almost daily	Yes, 3-4 times per week	Only a few times a week	Not very often	
10	Does your child read regularly at home?	53%	28%	13%	6%	

## One thing I am pleased about...

- My child has settled quickly into his class. He loves his teacher and as a result of this he is so happy to come each morning.
- My child's enthusiasm for learning, which reflects well on the school.
- The open door policy and regular updates from the school.
- My child's progress and love for reading.
- How well my child's work is progressing and how they are being challenged. We also really appreciate the school clubs.
- The staff have worked hard to form positive relationships with my child.
- The reception team are always so friendly and helpful.
- How the children feel cared for and included. The school is secure. Good clear communication between school and parents.
- Less confident children being encouraged to "have a go". For example, speaking in worship etc.
- How the staff have supported my child when I asked for help because of his anxiety.
- The teacher has been amazing for my child. She has made the transition to big school as easy as possible. She is approachable, nurturing & we have seen real results in my child's learning.
- The incentives the school gives the children to make them want to learn.
- My son's progress and passion for learning.
- How much my son loves going to school. It's a joy for him, not an obligation. That's not something you can "teach".
- Fantastic care given to my child after an accident in school.
- The after school clubs and lots of outside visitors e.g. Remembrance Day, athletes and road safety.
- The extremely swift response from the teacher when I asked for my child to receive some support for self-esteem related issues and the fantastic pastoral support he has received from the team. We are all benefiting from the school's excellent support systems. Thank you so much.
- My child's confidence continues to grow and he is content in himself.

We're already working on these suggestions!

### One thing I would like to see....

1. Ensure the book changes are timely. Not too quick that the child doesn't master the book, though!
2. Fewer non-uniform days. *[We agree- and apologies for the 3 on-the-trot in November/December]*
3. Communication about class events. *[If you don't receive the weekly newsletter or fortnightly year group newsletter via email, please contact the office]*
4. A period of time during the school year when families can take holidays *[this is determined by Hampshire CC, not St Mark's]*
5. More clubs during lunchtime – children would love this.

### How have we responded to previous suggestions?

