

Dear Parents and Carers,

Important dates and reminders for September

- The children start back on Monday 4th September at 8:30am.
- INSET Days and term dates can be found here: <https://www.stmarksprimary.net/term-dates/>
- Remember the breakfast club changes (inc 8:20am change) - <https://www.stmarksprimary.net/breakfast-club/>
- Wrap around care from SCL and HWASC - <https://www.stmarksprimary.net/scl/>
- FOSM AGM - 12th September 7:45pm at St Mark's. Adults only please!

Key Information Sessions

A must-attend for all parents and carers! Find out more about what your child will be doing this year, expectations around homework, and also meet the staff. In the Main Hall. (Note that Year R won't have a session because of all of the transition events). Dates updated!

Tuesday 19th September	5pm - Year 4	5:45pm - Year 5
Wednesday 20th September	5pm - Year 3	5.45pm - Year 1
Thursday 21st September	5pm - Year 2	5.45pm - Year 6

Forest School

We're excited to add Forest School provision to our curriculum from September. This is part of our increasing use of our outdoor areas, much of it made possible through money from FOSM. Forest School allows children to spend time in the woods within our school grounds, where they can explore, learn new skills, foster a love of the outdoors, improve their wellbeing, and even learn to light a campfire - all under the safe supervision of our team! Each class will have Forest School sessions for 1.5 hours a week during a half-term, as follows: Autumn 1: Year 6, Autumn 2: Year 4, Spring 1: Year 3, Spring 2: Year 5, Summer 1: Year 1, Summer 2: Year 2. Year R is to be confirmed, but will be blocked in the summer term. We'll provide more details to each year group as the year goes along. Your generosity and the hard work of FOSM has enabled us to purchase an outdoor classroom to help make Forest School that much more amazing - THANK YOU!

Staff Updates

As we approach the end of a school year and the start of a new one, I wanted to give you a few staffing updates:

We say goodbye to:

- Miss Pettitt, who has been at St Mark's for 13 years. She is going to teach in a very small Hampshire school - a very difficult decision! Miss Pettitt is a fantastic teacher, and we know her new school will be all the better for having her join their team. Her care and sense of fun will be missed.
- Mrs Grant, who has worked at St Mark's since 2011. She has made a huge impact across the school, especially within the Bridge, to help make it the success that it is today. So many children and families have been positively changed through her work, and it's been a pleasure to see. Her new role will be the inclusion leader at St Bede's, a new role at the school which she will be fantastic at.
- Miss Tamblyn, who has worked at St Mark's since 2019 but sadly is relocating. During this time she has worked within our Year 2 and Year 3 teams. She is such a calm and compassionate teacher, and has also devoted much time to leading RE and our EARA Ambassadors. We will miss you, Miss Tamblyn!

- Mrs Smith has been the much loved teacher in 4S. She has worked very hard for the children this year, and we are grateful for all that she has given, including her care and determination. We wish her all the best as she moves to pastures new.
- Miss Flahive has been on our Bridge team and Breakfast Club team, and will now finish both of those roles. Thank you, Miss Flahive, for your time at St Mark's and we wish you all the best in the future.

We welcome the following teaching staff: Mrs Heels (Bridge Lead), Miss Eames (Year 5), Mrs Davies (Year 3), Miss Carr (Year 4), Mrs Meredith (Year 1), and Mrs Callaghan (back from maternity leave into Year R!). We are pleased to have Mr Holland and Ms Bailey join us as student teachers within 4PR and 3W.

We also welcome Mrs Southwell, Mrs Mills and Mrs Garfield to our fantastic LSA team, and Miss Sullivan to our lovely office team!

The class teachers and names for September will be as follows:

Year R	Mrs Baird (Penguins)	Mrs Rushton (Parrots)	Mrs Callaghan & Mrs Hearn (Puffins)
Year 1	Mrs Brackenridge & Mrs Barr 1BB	Miss Maggs 1M	Mrs Meredith 1TM
Year 2	Mrs Carter & Mrs Lee 2CL	Miss Burgess 2B	Miss Guyatt 2G
Year 3	Mrs Silvester & Miss Goddard 3SG	Mrs Woods 3W, with Ms Bailey as a trainee teacher	Mrs Davies 3D
Year 4	Mrs Boyle & Mrs Spiers 4SB	Mrs Rosso & Mrs Parker 4PR, with Mr Holland as a trainee teacher	Miss Carr 4C
Year 5	Mrs Stone and Mrs Poole 5SP	Miss Dulfo-Stagg 5DS	Miss Eames - 5E
Year 6	Mrs Chapman 6C	Mr Bonner 6B	Miss Fowler 6F
Bridge	<i>Mrs Heels</i>		
SENCO Team	<i>Mrs Prevett</i>	<i>Mrs Cooper</i>	
Pastoral Team	<i>Mrs Elms</i>	<i>Mrs Delves</i>	

Our children are supported by our fantastic team of LSAs, who really make all the difference at St Mark's. There are too many to list here, but they are so important.

Thank you for all of the support you give to St Mark's!

Best wishes,
Charles Applegate & Nikki Ford