News Update – Monday 16th September

A message from Mr Applegate

It was great to see so many parents and carers attend our Y5 curriculum workshop on Thursday. A great buzz, and very positive feedback. We appreciate mornings aren’t accessible for everyone, but the additional evening sessions will cover similar material. All presentations/hand-outs will be on the website soon.

Thank you to Mr Mitchell, who has put in much time in improving our Year R outside area. It’s looking great! Mr Naylor has also been painting our KS1 bench area. We are really grateful. If you have an hour or so on a regular basis or a one-off to volunteer your time, please do contact the office. Thank you so much.

Finally, we had a county inspection on Friday. We’re pleased to report very positive feedback, with continuing improvement on last year.

Have a great week ☺ Mr Applegate

Curriculum Workshops - a new format!

Instead of running ‘curriculum evening’ sessions in September, we are holding exciting new curriculum workshops! Format is as follows:

**Drop-off – 9am** – Join us for tea/coffee – Main Hall
**9am – 9:30am** – Teacher-led session for parents: find out details about the year group and curriculum, with a focus on how maths is taught.
**9:30am – 10am** – Join in a learning activity with your child, in their classrooms.

What are the dates for the workshops?

- **Thursday 19th Sept** – Year 2
- **Friday 20th Sept** – Year 1
- **Tuesday 24th Sept** – Year 3
- **Thursday 26th Sept** – Year 6
- **Friday 27th Sept** – Year 4

If you are unable to make these sessions, we are holding two generic evening sessions with a focus on our new maths curriculum. Dates are:

- Years 1 and 2 – 18th Sept, 6:30pm
- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – 18th Sept, 7:20pm

Harvest Worship

Could you please bring in any donations you wish to make on Friday 20th September.
We’ll be donating to Foodbank who are in desperate need of:

- Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Evaporated Milk, Long Life Milk, Long Life Juice, Tinned Custard, Jelly, Cooking Sauces, Biscuits, Marmite, Deserts, Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Tooth Paste, Mens/Ladies Deodorant & Washing up Liquid/Tabs

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Windmill Hill - PGL

Year 6 Parents (for PGL 2019)
There will be a meeting on **Tuesday 24th September 6.15-7.00pm** to provide you with more information on the upcoming trip and to answer any questions you may have.

Year 5 Parents (for PGL 2020)
The year 6 team will be holding a “drop in” session on **Tuesday 1st October 3.30-6.45pm** to provide general information regarding Windmill Hill 2020
This will be held in the Year 6 classrooms

Star Learners

Well Done to:
Year 1 – Macey, Hayley, Abigail
Year 2 – Kody, Theo A, Florence
Year 3 – Sophie G, Matthew, James S
Year 4 – Jack B, Connie, Travis
Year 5 – Simone, Ollie R, Edward M
Year 6 – Ruby F, Shayna, Gabriel

Parking

We are already receiving complaints about driving and parking. This especially includes the community centre. We are in danger of losing the chance to park at the centre if things don’t improve. And worse, we wouldn’t want to see a child injured. Could we please ask all parents to be make sure they are parking safely and considerately. Thank you to those that do!

Head Teacher: Charles Applegate
Deputy Head Teachers: Nicola Ford & Rebekah Alsey

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM

SEPTEMBER
23rd Parents’ Eve Bookings Open
23rd Harvest Worship
24th Year 6 Windmill Hill meeting
6.15-7.00pm**
27th - McMillan Coffee Morning at Immanuel Church 9am-12pm**

OCTOBER
1st FOSM AGM All welcome 7pm
1st Year 5 Windmill Hill Drop in afternoon 3.30-6.45pm**
4th - Y3 trip to Stonehenge
7th - School Photographs
14th Parents’ Eve Bookings Close
16th & 17th - Flu Immun. Yrs R-6
17th - Parent’s Evening 4-6pm
18th - FOSM Disco
21st - Parent’s Evening 4-6:30pm
23rd - Parent’s Evening 5-7pm
25th - INSET day
28th - 1st Nov Half Term

NOVEMBER
4th – 6th Y6 PGL Residential
15th – FOSM Non-Uniform Day
20th – Year 6 SATS information evening 6.30-7.15pm**
30th – Sat – FOSM Christmas Fair

DECEMBER
19th – Christmas Lunch
20th - School finishes, 3:20pm

**new date added

SPRING AND SUMMER TERM

INSET DAYS
Friday 25th Oct 2019
Monday 6th Jan 2020
Friday 3rd Apr 2020
Monday 1st Jun 2020

February Parents’ Evenings
Feb 11th – 4-6pm
Feb 13th – 4-6:30pm
Feb 26th – 5-7pm

Year 6 Bikeability
Week of 2nd March

Year 3/4 Easter Performance
Mar 26th – 2pm
Mar 30th – 2pm
Mar 31st – 6:30pm

Year 6 SATS Week
W/B 11th May – No absences!

Sports Day – Fri 22nd May
Reserve(I) – Friday 5th June

Y6 Photos – 17th June

Y6 Production- 14th July 7pm
15th July 2pm and 7pm

17th July – Y6 Leavers Disco
22nd July Y6 Leavers Service

CHRISTMAS!

BOOKING TICKETS
Oct 7th - Ticket Bookings Open
Nov 5th Ticket Bookings Close for Year R
Nov 8th - Ticket Bookings Close for Years 1&2
Nov 12th - Ticket Bookings Close for Years 3-6
Nov 14th – Yr R, 1, 2 Tickets returned
Nov 20th – Yrs 3-6 Tickets returned

PERFORMANCES - DECEMBER

Year R Nativity
Tues 3rd – 10am
Weds 4th – 10am

Year 1&2 Performance
Mon 9th – 10am
Tues 10th – 10am
Weds 11th – 2pm

Years 3&4 Carol Service & Choir
Thurs 12th – 2pm
Mon 16th – 6:30pm
Tues 17th – 2pm

Years 5&6 Carol Service & Choir
Fri 13th – 2pm
Mon 16th – 2pm
Tues 17th – 6:30pm

TERM DATES

AUTUMN 2019
October Half Term – W/B 28th Oct
Last day of term – Dec 20th, 3:20pm

SPRING 2020
Term Starts – Tues 7th Jan
(INSET Mon 6th Jan)
Feb Half Term – W/B 17th Feb
Last day term - Thur 2nd Apr 3:20pm
(INSET Fri 3rd April)

SUMMER 2020
Term Starts – Tues 2nd June
(INSET Mon 1st June)
May Half Term – W/B 25th May
Last day of term – 22nd July, 3:20pm

KEY DATES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Brighton Hill School:
30th Sept, 1st Oct, 2nd Oct: Open Mornings 9-11am
7th Oct: Open Evening 6-8pm
9th, 10th & 11th Oct: Open Mornings 9-11am.
Please call to book a place 01256 350606

Aldworth School:
17th & 18th Sept: Open Evenings 5.30-8pm
25th Sept: Open Morning 8.45-11am

Bishop Challoner School: - 19th Sept: Open Evening 6-8pm

Perins School - 19th & 20th Sept: Open Mornings
Applying for a school place in Reception

If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 and you are looking for a Reception school place for September 2020, 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. Thurs 3rd Oct 10:30am
2. Tues 8th Oct 2pm (Full)
3. Weds 16th Oct 10:30am (Full)
4. Mon 11th Nov 7pm
5. Tues 12th Nov 2pm
6. Fri 22nd Nov 10:30am

Year 6 SATs Information Evening

An important meeting for all Year 6 parents and carers.

Come along on November 20th at 6:30-7:15pm to find out more about the Year 6 SATs, what they entail, and how you can help your child in the coming months.

After School Care Club – Until 6pm
Available now!

www.stmarksprimary.net/scl

Don’t forget our new After School Care Club with SCL is now up and running. Please visit our website or www.wearescl.co.uk to book your child’s place.

From Monday 16th September SCL will be holding some themed days:

Mondays will be Bagel Pizza Day
Your child will be able to make their own bagel pizza

Wednesdays will be Slime Day
The children will be making slime

Orchestra

The Orchestra will meet for its first rehearsal on Friday 20th September at 8am in the small hall. Children are asked to wait at reception to be collected by Miss Stonehouse – please do not come earlier as there may be no supervision.

Bring your instruments and schoolbags – you will go to your classrooms at 8.30.

A reminder: If your child has been learning an instrument in school for at least a year, we expect to see them on Friday. If you are unsure, please check with Mrs Baird or Miss Stonehouse. Welcome back to all Orchestral players from last year!

Beautively- painted by Alfie in 2SB (in July!)
Free to a good home!

Must be collected by Friday please. Speak to the office to find out more.

Pallets – good for fire wood!

2 desks as above. One has a drawer unit
The other one doesn’t. Great condition!

Technology is confusing, but we can help!

We all want to help our children stay safe when using technology. But it’s not always easy to know how. Mobiles, tablets, game consoles, laptops, watches and more make it confusing!

In order for us to know how we can help you best, we’re asking parents
to suggest areas or questions that they would like support with. Please visit www.stmarksprimary.net/confusing to complete our short survey. We’ll gather the responses, and put together a way to help out. Please submit your ideas/questions by October half-term. Thank you.

Responsibility!

This week, we are thinking about what characteristics we like to see in people who have responsibility. We’ll see how power can be used positively and negatively. In some classes we’ll even think about Brexit!

In the coming weeks, we are holding our elections for School Councillors, Christian Voice Ambassadors, Raising Hope Foundation Ambassadors and Eco-Committee. Your children will have had details last week. Visit www.stmarksprimary.net/elections

We’re aiming to get voting booths from the council to make it as real as possible for the children, although the uncertainty on the general election