

Dear Parents/Carers,

The damp and wet weather that we have been having can only signal the start of our cross country season! We had another successful year last year and this year we look forward to welcoming new members to the team.

Captains and Training

The new cross country captains for the 2017/18 season are George Unsworth and Elena Bartalotta who will be providing the teachers with valuable support in organising training and race-day teams. This year, practices will be held on a Thursday morning at 9.00am, **starting next Thursday (14th September)**, and are open to all children in KS2. If your child wishes to attend they must come to school on a Thursday in suitable running clothes and trainers. Please be prepared for a lot of muddy clothes! Your child will need to bring a towel to clean their legs after the session and their uniform to get changed into afterwards. They will need a carrier bag to put their dirty clothes into after training.

Salford Mets Races

To start the season, St Mark's participates in a smaller athletics meet organised by Salford Mets Athletics Club. Despite being marketed as an upper KS2 series of races, all children from Year 3 upwards are encouraged to attend in preparation for the main Salford Schools Competition later in the year. All races are held at Cleavley's Athletics Track and will begin at 10.00am sharp on the following dates:

Race 1 – Saturday 23rd September

Race 2 – Saturday 30th September

Race 3 – Saturday 7th October

Salford Schools Races

Being the main event in the cross country calendar, the Salford Schools competition comprises of 4 races in different locations.

More information will be sent out nearer the time of individual races, however it would be appreciated if you could fill in your diaries in preparation for the upcoming season.

Many thanks,

Mrs Mansfield and Mr Kay