

Thursday 24th May 2018

May 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

And so another half term passes in the blink of an eye. As we countdown to the upcoming break can I please ask for your attention to the following items of information below.

Well done Year 2 and 6

We begin by congratulating both our Year 6 and Year 2 children who have recently completed their SATs. Each and every child should feel very proud of all their hard work in the build up to and during the tests themselves.

Fundraising

Many thanks to parents/carers for their generosity in giving towards our Christian Aid Week appeal. We are delighted to report that we raised £500 with the money boxes and cake sale organised by the Ethos Group. Could we also thank all those who came to the book fair on Monday raising considerable funds for the school. We hope your children enjoy their purchases.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Please could we ask all parents/carers to ensure they have read the GDPR Privacy Notice sent home this week and then, if in agreement, sign the return slip on the covering information letter. Please note that we are also requesting that parents/carers sign and return the new photo consent form at the back of the pack. The covering information letter details all you need to know about GDPR and also provides you with the contact information for our Data Protection Officer.

Haircuts and School Uniform

With Summer well and truly upon us could we please remind parents/carers of our guidelines concerning children's haircuts. **As a school we request that no child has a line shaved in to their hair or has the sides shaved excessively short or high up the head.** We would also request that, in the interest of hygiene, long hair for girls and **boys** be tied back with a plain headband or bobble.

A reminder also of the permitted changes in uniform during the Summer term.

Girls

- White polo top with school logo (Nursery only); White blouse* with school tie
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo

- Navy skirt or pinafore dress; or grey trousers (winter) or a dress** of full blue/white checked gingham (summer)
- Navy tights or white socks; black shoes with low heels; or navy sandals (summer)

Boys

- White polo top with school logo (Nursery only); White shirt* with school tie
- Navy sweatshirt with school logo
- Grey shorts or long grey trousers
- Plain grey or black socks; black shoes

** In summer, Reception, Year 1 and 2 children have the option of wearing a white polo shirt with the school logo instead of a white blouse or shirt. **Please note this does not apply to Year 3-6 children.***

**** The summer dress must be a full dress and NOT a white top/gingham skirt combination or culottes**

Sports Days-A CHANGE OF DATE FOR KS2!

Please note that the KS2 Sports Day has changed and will now take place on Friday 15th June @1:30pm

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

EYFS (Nursery/Reception) will still take place on **Wednesday 20th June @ 2:30pm**

KS1 Sports will still take place on **Thursday 28th June @ 2:00pm**

Children cycling to/from school

Could we remind all cyclists that no one should be cycling when on the school grounds. A number of older children have taken to pushing their bike out of the KS2 playground and then cycling through the school car park and gates. Given the pedestrians in that area and also the sheer volume of cars in the vicinity we would ask all cyclists continue to push their bikes until it is safe to begin cycling away from any stationary or oncoming traffic. We would also ask all drivers to be vigilant of our children on bikes particularly at this time of year when more children than usual are cycling to/from school.

Children on the KS2 playground before school

Could we remind all parents/carers that *no child should be on the KS2 school playground before **8:45am*** and where possible supervised up until **8:55am**. We recognise that many parents/carers may have to drop siblings off at the KS1 or EYFS playground and fully understand that in order for a KS2 child to be in line at 8:55am it can often mean leaving them unsupervised. However we would ask that if this is the case, or if for any reason a child has to be left alone, parents/carers ensure their children are compliant

of the rules that have been explained to them on numerous occasions. Children should not be running around the playground or playing any games whatsoever. KS2 children should enter the playground and remain with their parent/carer, *where possible*, in close proximity. We will continue to monitor the situation closely so as to ensure the safety and well-being of the whole school family.

The School Gates

A reminder that the Reception playground gate, the church gate and KS2 playground gate will now only be open from **3:25pm**. This is to ensure that children who may be outside for PE or other subjects in the Summer term are not in direct contact with those adults collecting at the end of the day. Those parents/carers collecting from WASP will have access to the playground from **2:55-3:05pm** however could we please ask that once WASP children are collected parents/carers leave the KS2 playground ensuring the gate is fully closed behind. There should be no parents/carers on the playground before 3:25pm.

PTA

The PTA are already busy preparing for their Summer festival on Saturday July 7th here at school. There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 29th June in return for donations towards the festival. An email with further details concerning donations will follow. On the same day the PTA will also be serving coffee and bacon butties in the morning before school - the perfect breakfast for Year 6 parents bidding their child farewell as they head off to Hothersall Lodge

St Mark's CE Primary School Photography Competition

Don't forget entries are now open for our sixth annual RE Photography competition! Previous Christian themes have included Joy, Awe, Peace and Friendship. The competition has always been a popular event in school with many children showing amazing skill and creativity in the photographs that they have taken. Inspired by this, the Ethos group have chosen this year's theme as "**Equality**".

There will be four group finalists from the following age groups:

Nursery and Reception: 3-5 years olds

Key Stage One: 5-7 years olds

Lower Key Stage Two: 7-9 years olds

Upper Key Stage Two: 9-11 year olds

An overall winner will be chosen to have their photo printed as a canvas for the school entrance hall, and will also be the proud owner of a camera very kindly donated by our PTA.

Please send entries to Mrs. Barry by **Wednesday 20th June**. Entries can be handed in at the school office or emailed to Mrs. Barry at stmarks.ceprimaryschool@salford.gov.uk.

All entries will be on show at the PTA Summer Festival, and the winner will be announced in school shortly before that. **Please note that the child must take the photograph.**

Lifelong Learning Week 18/06/18-22/06/18

Following on from the success of our first lifelong learning week last year we are pleased to announce that we will be holding another w/c 18th June. The aim of such a week is to take a step away from the standard curriculum during the afternoon and, following discussions with the children, deliver skills they feel would be useful to them in later life. Alongside these skills we would welcome any parents/carers/family/friends to come in to their child's class and speak to the children about what their job/career involves. If this is something you would be interested in could we ask you speak to your child's class teacher after the half term break. Having spoken to the children we know how much they enjoyed last year and look forward to this year being just as successful.

Readathon

St Mark's will be holding a Readathon w/c 11th June. Many of the children will recall having taken part previously. More details to follow in an email after half term but we hope as many children will get involved as possible.

Dates for the diary

Please don't forget to continue checking the weekly newsletter Mrs. Keirl sends out via email especially as we enter such a busy final half term. Key dates and reminders will always be published within the newsletter. Be sure to also check out our school website (<http://www.stmarksce.co.uk/>) and twitter account (@stmarkmywords) too for all the latest information

DON'T FORGET TOMORROW IS A NON UNIFORM DAY TOWARDS SCHOOL FUND - £1 PER FAMILY

I hope each of you and your families have a wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you all back in school on **Tuesday 5th June.**

Mr. D Kay