



Newsletter 21

Friday 28th February 2020

March

Thursday 5 th	FOSM World Book Day Sale – after school on The Street – under the shelter
Thursday 12 th	FOSM Disco (5.30 6.45 pm Y3/4; 7.00 – 8.15 pm Y5/6) – Pls note children cannot go home alone
Friday 20 th	FOSM Mothers' day sale - £2
Friday 27 th	School photos (classes) - am Summer Fayre (FOSM & WPSA) Planning Meeting – 7.30 pm in the Training Room

April

Wednesday 1 st	Easter Service – led by Y5 at St Francis Church at 10.00 am
Thursday 2 nd	MUFTI Day/Easter Egg Tombola
Friday 3 rd	T4 Ends; Reports Home
Monday 20 th	T5 Starts – Children back to school

May

Friday 8 th	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th	Y6 SATs Tests Start – more details to follow including breakfast club Mon-Friday
Thursday 14 th	Y6 SATs Tests Finish
Friday 15 th	FOSM Family Bingo
Saturday 16 th	Mini-Marathon
Friday 22 nd	T5 Ends

June

Monday 1 st	T6 Starts – Children back to school
Thursday 11 th	Y5 Parents' Meeting 11+ 7.00 pm Hall
Friday 12 th	World Sports Day - am
Thursday 18 th	Y2 Parents' Evening 7.00 pm Hall
Friday 19 th	Father's Day Sale Sports Day Y3/4 – details/times to be confirmed
Friday 26 th	Sports Day Y5/6 - details/times to be confirmed

July

Wednesday 1 st	Bump-up Day - details/times to be confirmed
Saturday 4 th	Summer Fair
Wednesday 8 th	Parents' Evening - details/times to be confirmed
Thursday 9 th	Parents' Evening - details/times to be confirmed
Friday 10 th	TD#5 – No children in school
Wednesday 15 th	Y6 Show 7.00 pm Hall
Thursday 16 th	Y6 Show 7.00 pm Hall
Wednesday 22 nd	T6 Ends Y6 Leavers' Service at St Mark's Church 10.00 am – all Y6 parents invited

Friends of St Marks (FoSM) News

There are quite a few events next term, so please pop these dates on your calendars:

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day Book Sale – Please consider passing any unwanted books (in good condition) to us for the sale, a box will be put by the shop for donations. We shall be setting up in the street (probably where the tables/benches are under cover in the shelter) so come and grab a bargain after school.

Thursday 12th March – School Disco - Y3/4 5.30-6.45pm, Y5/6 7-8.15pm. £2 entry. Sweets/crisps/popcorn/ice pops will be available to buy from 20p as well as guess the number of buttons in the jar.

Friday 20th March – Mother's Day Sale – Children are given an opportunity to choose and wrap a present for their Mum (or other significant person) for £2.

Thursday 2nd April – Mufti Day & Easter Egg Tombola – Children are invited to dress in home clothes in exchange for an Easter egg or sweets donation. There will be a tombola after school in the Street and a chocolate hamper raffle. This will be a joint event with WPSA.

Friday 19th June – Fathers' Day Sale – Children given the opportunity to choose and wrap a present for their Dad (or significant person) for £2

Saturday 4th July – Summer Fayre (Joint event with WPSA) – on St Mark's field

Frozen Fridays – I know it feels like summer is a long way off right now, but we are planning on selling ice creams throughout Terms 5 and 6 on Fridays again as a joint venture with WPSA.

Coronavirus - I appreciate that some people may have some concerns regarding the developing situation with the Coronavirus. At present we are not anticipating closing the school but we are monitoring the situation carefully and considering what action we may need to take should the situation change. We will keep you up to date with any changes. At present the Government Guidance states that the current risk to the UK population is low to moderate. I have attached links to some guidance and information that you may find useful and also a poster that we will be displaying in school. Please take the time to look at this information. The best thing we can do at the moment as the advice suggests is to be as thorough as we can with hand hygiene. Also please ensure surfaces are cleaned with disinfectant spray before food is consumed. Hopefully this information will put your mind at rest but if you do have any concerns please come and talk to me or any other member of SLT.

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Safer Internet

For now, why not use some of the media coverage of Safer Internet Day #SID20 or one of the parent sections of the online safety websites below to read up on digital parenting skills and tips?

- Safer Internet Centre <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>
- Childnet <https://www.childnet.com/>
- Digital parenting - Vodafone <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>
- Internet Matters <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

New j2e login

Lots of children like to use j2e at home which is great! There is a new way of logging into j2e. We are no longer using "Sign in with Google" - this won't work. Instead we are using the: school, user and password boxes. The school name is: st-marks-wilts-sch-uk (all hyphens), user is the short username, eg bw16 and the password is their usual password. This new way of logging in will also mean that they can use the j2e tools through the free j2launch app available in the Aole App Store if you have an apple device.

<https://st-marks-wilts-sch-uk.j2bloggy.com/MrWs-Computing-Blog/>

Coronavirus

See separate information sheet

OfSTED

As you know inspectors from OfSTED returned to St Mark's this week, within the thirty-month timescale promised. The outcome of the inspection and any details are kept under strict embargo for some time to allow for the report to be written, have evidence checked and be quality assured by other inspectors. This means that I am unable to share anything in the short term and the restrictions lifted. Please accept my apologies for this – it is entirely normal and nothing to worry about.

During the visit the staff and children were magnificent. The care, commitment and love they have for their school was almost tangible. As headteacher, I was so proud of them all, not just during two days of intense scrutiny and pressure, but for their endeavours and attitudes over time. The governors and trustees have been exceptional in the support and goodwill they have provided. Their work is very often unseen, not always understood and often overlooked. The lead inspector was genuinely surprised and delighted by such a large contingent of passionate and committed volunteers who turned out to contribute to the process. Many thanks also to all the parents who completed the Parent View Survey on line. A summary of the results from 129 responses are shown below. These are new questions introduced and expanded this academic year.

1. My child is happy at this school – 89%
2. My child feels safe at this school – 92%
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved – 94%
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively – 91%
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year – 94%
6. When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly – 90%
7. My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed – 84%
8. The school has high expectations for my child – 91%
9. My child does well at this school – 92%
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing – 84%
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school – 95%
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities in this school – 98%
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development – 90%
14. I would recommend this school to another parent – 88%