



St Mark's C.E. Primary School

Queens Road
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 6DU

Tel: (01252)544155 ~ Fax: (01252)513712
Email: adminoffice@st-marks.hants.sch.uk
Website: www.stmarkscofe.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Clare Wright

29th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

So Christmas is rapidly approaching with December creeping up on us very quickly. It's crazy to think that myself, Mrs Jones and Mrs Williams have been working at St Mark's for a term already..... time really does fly when you're having fun!

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you our whole-school priorities for the rest of this academic year as well as a reminder of all the exciting things going on at St Mark's to celebrate this magical time of year.

School Improvement Plan: Every year, the Executive Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team and staff (working alongside the Governing Body) reflect on the successes and areas for development in all aspects of the school. The result of that self-evaluation is the SIP (School Improvement Plan). This is a vital document to drive forward school improvement and enables leaders to put on paper the priorities for the academic year.

Our focus areas for School Improvement for 2024-2025 form the basis of our work in school and staff training etc. and are:

1. To ensure children have a consistent learning experience across the school so that every learner is provided with the opportunity to make progress and achieve high success rate.
2. Every teacher has high aspirations for underserved learners (including the bottom 20%) and delivers a curriculum that enables them to make maximum progress.
3. Children take a positive and active part in all aspects of school life, including within the community.
4. Children to exemplify the school's Learning Values and be able to explain how these help them, and others, learn.
5. All members of the school community are provided with timely and appropriate support in order to help support their well-being and help them to flourish.
6. Leadership ensures that all aspects of teaching, learning and the curriculum are highly effective.
7. All leaders take accountability and are responsible for school wide improvements
8. Governors/SLT secure the future leadership of the School.

Further details of the work we intend to do to meet these focus areas can be found on the website under the 'Key Information' tab.

Christmas plans:

In the reception area by the front office is our school post-box. If children want to send Christmas cards to their friends, they are invited to post them in this special post-box and our Y6 Ambassadors team will deliver them around school. They must include the child's full name (including surname if possible!) and name of class. The last delivery date when the box will be sorted is Thursday 19th December.

Listed below are some events that we are doing to celebrate this magical time of the year

Date	Activity	Notes
Friday 6 th December	MUFTI Day – PTA event and Time to Shine - Junior Road Safety Officers presenting Be Bright Be Seen Event	Please bring a bottle for the bottle tombola or chocolate for the chocolate tombola. Children to wear brightly coloured home clothes.
Friday 6 th December	Choir singing at the Baptist Church (11.30am) and Conference Centre - Farnborough airport (1.45pm)	Please bring full school uniform to change into before these two events
Thursday 12 th December	KS1 performing Nativity at St Mark's Church. Whole school attending	The service will start at 2.15pm. All children are to be collected at Church on this day.
Friday 13 th December	KS1 performing Nativity at the Baptist Church (11.20am)	Any family members who were unable to come to the Nativity are warmly welcomed to join to watch.
Tuesday 17 th December	Christingle – during school day	The school will be sending home a request for an orange to be brought in on this day.
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas lunch	If your child does not regularly have a school dinner please let the office know if they would like a Christmas dinner on this day. Children to wear school uniform with a festive accessory; Christmas Jumper, Christmas hat or some tinsel.
Thursday 19 th December	Carols Around the Tree 5pm	We look forward to welcoming everyone to this popular event. Mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies available.
Friday 20 th December	Term ends 1.30pm	All Children to be collected at 1.30pm today



Here's to a fun few festive weeks!

Yours sincerely,

C Wright

Clare Wright
Executive Headteacher

