



St Mark's C.E. Junior School

Reaching in, Reaching up, Reaching out

NEWSLETTER 5 (NL5)

Thursday 17th November 2016

Important Dates for T2/3

November

Friday 18th MUFTI/Non-uniform day – In aid of Children in Need (£1 contribution)

December

Thursday 8th Y3 Christmas Performance 10.00 am – All Y3 parents are cordially invited to join us

Friday 9th Friends of St Mark's Christmas Draw 3.30 pm in the school hall – everyone invited

Tuesday 13th Christmas Dinner for children

Wednesday 14th Carol Service 7.00 pm at St Mark's Church – pls note this a change of venue

Friday 16th T2 Ends

EOTA (End of Term Assembly) – Certificates of Merit, Lion Awards etc

January

Tuesday 3rd School Closed – No children or staff in

Wednesday 4th T3 Starts

Thursday 6th Y6 Parents Information evening regarding SATs (National Curriculum tests) in May
What are they? How will they affect children? What are the reporting outcomes? Implications?
How does school support and challenge? How can parents help? And many more questions...

Breakfast Club

Please let Mrs Goodman know in writing or email your booking requirements for January and February or if you require an ongoing booking for the whole of this academic year. Please do not assume your booking will continue if you have not dealt directly with the office. Breakfast Club has become increasingly popular and we therefore need to put limits on numbers for some days. We regret that we cannot accept cash either on the door or at the office unless it is in a named envelope. This eliminates the problem of money not being allocated to the right child or getting lost. Thank you.

Tea and Chat

Don't forget Tea and Chat sessions are **every Friday from 9.00 – 10.00 am** in the Sycamore Room. Norma Hallett can be contacted via the shop, e-mail or by mobile on **07873 427658**.

Tea & Chat on Friday 25th November 9-10.00 am will have a special SEND theme. We will be joined by Helen Ortnor who is the Communication and Interaction Specialist for the SEND Service at Wiltshire Council. She will be hosting a Q&A session for parents so please join us if you have any worries or concerns on this topic. The team from Positive Behaviour Solutions will also be joining us.

Positive Behaviour Solutions would like to invite you to find out more about an exciting service being offered on site from January 2017 for children aged 2-7. Please join the team in the Sycamore room on **Tuesday 29th November** at 9.30 -11.30 am to hear more about the school readiness project: a chance for children to develop their communication, social interaction, following instructions and independence skills in a small group setting that they will attend with parents. Please contact earlysteps@behavioursolutions.net if you have any questions.

Y6 Sponsored Event (Charity Day 04-11-16)

Well done to everyone in Y6 for raising well over £600 as part of their charity event and many thanks to all the parents who were able to attend events and value all the hard work involved.

Lost property

Last chance to salvage any unclaimed lost property (now in the office) – anything left will be disposed of very soon.

Christmas boxes

For many years we have supported the Trussell Trust in sending hundreds of Christmas boxes to Bulgaria. It has been a popular charity event but this year we are taking a break. We understand the love, sweat, tears and cash that goes into these wonderful gifts. We will return to supporting this next year. In the meantime, if you have already begun assembling a box, I am sure Wyndham Park Infants would be happy to add any additions to theirs. Many thanks.

Children in Need

Good luck to all the children taking part as the choir as part of BBC Children in Need on Friday night!

There is a cake sale after school (on the barrow) on Friday 18th November to swell the coffers for Children in Need. Don't forget non-uniform on Friday - £1 voluntary contribution to a great charity.

Getting the best from everyone, by everyone giving their best

ASK

Please note that from January 2017 the after school klub (ASK) will be run by an external provider (Simplyoutofschool). Parents will need to register separately with them as they will be dealing with all aspects of the provisions i.e. booking, payments, communication etc

Reminder specifically for parents of Wyndham Park Infants children

If you have a child at Wyndham Park please help us at the ASK by letting the class teacher know if your child is attending on a night. This will help WP ensure they are in the correct place ready to be escorted across to the Sycamore Room. Too often children have been unaware they are attending or parents have told us and WP, who can help us assemble quickly and smoothly, are sometimes unaware – especially if it a late or ad hoc booking. Thank you in anticipation.

Parents Questionnaire

At the end of October we released a questionnaire to all parents. I was overwhelmed with the responses received – over double from the last survey. The ‘raw results’ are enclosed for your information and interest. We will repeat the survey in May to compare if there have been any significant changes and what, if any, impact can be seen around school.

	Question	2016-17 n=128	2014-15 n=67
1	My child is happy at this school	98	100
2	My child feels safe at this school	98	100
3	My child makes good progress at this school	98	97
4	My child is well looked after at this school	98	100
5	My child is well taught at this school	98	99
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	88	85
7	The school ensures the pupils are well behaved	98	94
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	96	85
9	The school is well led and managed	98	94
10	The school responds well to any concerns I raise	95	91
11	I receive valuable information...about my child's progress	93	94
12	I would recommend this school to another parent	97	99
13	It is easy to communicate with, or meet with staff, to discuss any issues	96	97
14	Communication is consistently good at this school	92	94
15	My child is treated fairly and with respect	98	96
16	School clearly explains how I can help my child to support their learning	89	94
17	Appropriate opportunities for parents to become involved/included	99	99
18	Governors are visible at this school	75	75
19	School celebrates/encourages what children do outside of school	83	84
20	The school website is a useful source of up-to-date information	82	97
21	I have noticed a positive change in children's attitude to homework	89	78
22	I understand what the school is trying to achieve i.e. vision	91	90
23	When I needed support, advice or clarification, it was helpful	96	100
24	School models what it expects from others e.g. courtesy, respect	99	100
25	This school is an inclusive and active part of the local community	95	97

I will write to parents soon to identify some of the areas we want to target and improve upon. Many thanks for your support and assistance in helping with this essential feedback.

Christmas Crafts

Decorations, gifts, hot chocolate, cakes and the Christmas story! Parents and children welcome on 26th November at 2.00 pm (until 4.30 pm) at St Mark's Church. Please rsvp to stmarkssalisbury@gmail.com or 07933 952171.

Campus Travel Plan

Our Somerset Road site of four schools is working to develop a single Campus Travel Plan, which aims to reduce car-borne journeys wherever practical, promote sustainable modes of transport and most importantly improve safety for all users. For us to be successful it is vital we have current, accurate and representative data about journeys to and from the campus. If you have more than one child, you can just give one response unless the information does not apply to both/all children. Please complete the survey by no later than Thursday 1st December 2016. Every response really matters. Thank you in anticipation.

<https://goo.gl/Rtme3S>