

We are a community
Loving God, Serving others and Flourishing together



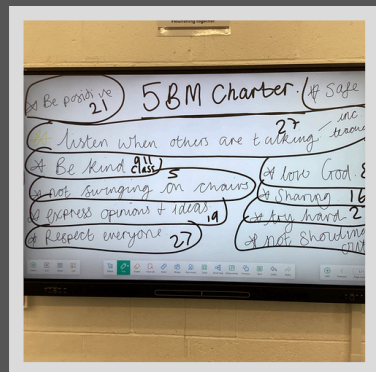
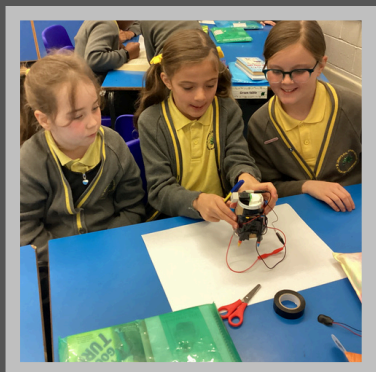
NEWSLETTER



RESPECT - ASPIRE - REJOICE



FOCUSED AMBITIOUS CAPABLE





Headteacher's Message

As we begin Spring 2, I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all of our families. I hope you had a restful half-term break and found time to enjoy some early signs of spring.

This half term is always a busy and exciting one. Classrooms are already buzzing with purposeful learning, and it has been wonderful to see the children returning with such positive attitudes and enthusiasm. Our staff have planned engaging topics and enriching activities to inspire curiosity and deepen understanding across the curriculum.

For our older pupils, preparations continue for upcoming assessments. We are incredibly proud of the resilience and determination they are showing. As always, thank you for the support you provide at home – it truly makes a difference.

Alongside our academic focus, wellbeing, kindness and respect continue to be central to school life. We will also be marking key events this half term, including World Book Day, where we look forward to celebrating a love of reading across the school.

Attendance remains a key priority. Every school day counts, and strong attendance has a significant impact on children's progress, confidence and friendships. Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives punctually.

As the days grow lighter and (hopefully) warmer, we are looking forward to making the most of outdoor learning opportunities. Please ensure children come to school with appropriate outerwear, as spring weather can still be unpredictable.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. Our partnership with parents and carers is invaluable, and it is a privilege to work together to provide the very best for our children.

Wishing you all a happy and successful Spring 2.

Mr Bright

FEBRUARY EDITION

St. Mark's Successfully Migrates to the Cloud This Week



This week marks an exciting milestone for our school as we successfully completed our migration to the cloud. Our on-site servers were at full capacity and well past their life expectancy and our on-site computers needed upgrading to Windows 11.

This transition represents a major step forward in strengthening our technology infrastructure and enhancing the digital learning experience for children and staff.

By moving to a cloud-based environment, we are improving system reliability, increasing data security, and enabling greater flexibility for learning and collaboration. Students and teachers will benefit from faster access to resources, improved file sharing, and more seamless use of online tools—whether in the classroom or working remotely.

The migration was carefully executed during half term to minimize disruption. Our IT team worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure a smooth transition. Currently, we are operating on a temporary satellite link while we wait for our new 1GB line to be installed.

This upgrade positions our school for continued innovation and growth, and we look forward to leveraging these new capabilities to support teaching, learning, and operational excellence.





E-Safety Corner

Word of the Year – Rage Bait

You may have already seen it, but if not the word of the year from Oxford University Press for 2025 is 'rage bait'. Its origins go back to 2002 and is defined as online content deliberately designed to elicit anger or outrage by being frustrating, provocative or offensive.



Rage bait is very closely tied to clickbait, the purpose being to entice people into clicking links, watching videos etc. in order to increase traffic. Both are very effective, proven tactics used by individuals and groups to drive engagement and feed algorithms, but rage bait differs as it is the deliberate intent to provoke. Much of this you can see on apps such as TikTok and YouTube and much of the content is now created using GenAI feeding into the whole AI slop phenomenon.

Interestingly the word of the year for 2024 was 'brain rot'. Does this suggest people are becoming tiresome of the online world? This could be an interesting discussion topic with children and young people: is the online world what they want it to be?

Playstation Family App

The Playstation Family App is a great way to help parents set up and manage their children's Gaming experience. Features include:

Manage playtime.

Activity report.

Visibility into what children are playing.

Approving playtime requests.

On this web page you will find detailed instructions to guide you through setting up a child account, get notified what game your child is playing in real time, approve or decline a request for extra playtime, apply content filters, privacy settings and more.

Webpage: [Playstation Family App](#)





Celebrating World Book Day – Coming Soon!





We are excited to announce that World Book Day is just around the corner!

On March 5, our school will join millions of readers around the globe in celebrating the joy of books, storytelling, and imagination as part of World Book Day.

World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to inspire a love of reading in our children and to highlight the importance of books in shaping creativity, knowledge, and empathy.

Throughout the day, children will participate in a variety of fun and engaging activities designed to bring stories to life.

What to expect:

-  Dress up as your favorite book character
-  Classroom reading sessions and book-themed activities
-  Creative writing and illustration challenges
-  A whole-school celebration of stories and authors

We encourage everyone get involved—whether by dressing up, sharing a favorite book, or discovering a new story. Reading opens doors to new worlds, and World Book Day is the perfect time to celebrate that adventure together.

We can't wait to see our school community come together to celebrate the magic of reading!



Woodland Explorers

We are delighted to share that our Year 5 pupils have begun their outdoor learning journey as Woodland Explorers!

This exciting programme gives students the opportunity to step beyond the classroom and immerse themselves in forest school-style hands-on learning in a natural environment. Through a range of carefully planned activities, pupils will develop teamwork, resilience, problem-solving skills, and confidence—all while connecting with the outdoors.

Sessions will include activities such as shelter building, map reading, environmental exploration, and collaborative challenges. Outdoor learning not only supports physical wellbeing but also enhances creativity, communication, and independence.

We are incredibly proud of how enthusiastically Year 5 has embraced this new experience so far. Their curiosity, cooperation, and positive attitudes have already shone through.

We look forward to seeing their skills and confidence continue to grow throughout the programme—and to sharing more of other year groups' woodland adventures in the terms ahead!



FEBRUARY EDITION

Spirituality and Community



Our Vision:

We believe that by **Loving God** and **Serving others**, we can all fulfil our potential in **Flourishing together**.



Worship Council and Mr Bright met Rev Nick at church on Friday 13 February and led a special service of remembrance for the life of Georgina Talbot.

We laid flowers at her memorial for the anniversary of her death on 19 February 1870.



Our Spring Term 2 worship theme is SERVING OTHERS

Mr Bright's Wednesday half **WOW** -er of Wonderful Work



100

Well done to Nitai O, 6CP for amazing R.E and History work



Well done to Worship Council to leading a moving service of remembrance for Georgina Talbot

Join us on Instagram

NEWS

info

updates



ST_MARKS_PRIMARY_BOURNEMOUTH



Year 3 Art Morning

On the Friday before half term, Year 3 had an art morning.

Throughout the term we had been thinking about sculptures and how they can change the environment that they are in. We had been thinking about where we could put sculptures around school and how they could change that environment.

The children had chosen an area and then designed a sculpture that would enhance that area of the school. During our art morning the children brought their designs to life using items from our recycling bins.

We had great fun and were very grateful to all the parents who came in to join us. The final sculptures were fantastic and something the children could be proud of





Term Dates 2026–2027

Autumn term: 1 September to 18 December 2026

Inset Days: 1, 2 & 28 September, 27 November 2026

Autumn half term holiday: 26 October to 30 October

Christmas holiday: 21 December to 3 January

Spring term: 4 January to 25 March 2027

Inset Days: 4 January, 26 February

Spring half term holiday: 15 February to 19 February

Easter holiday: 26 March to 11 April

Summer term: 12 April to 21 July 2027

Inset Days: 18 & 21 June

Summer half term holiday: 31 May to 4 June

Summer holiday: from 22 July



February
edition

S&PA newsletter: trustee edition

The S&PA is dangerously low on trustees and volunteers - please consider helping us! You don't have to do anything you don't have time for.

Without help, we may not be able to run school discos, Freeze Fridays, pre-loved uniform sales and a range of other things that we know are welcomed by children, parents and teachers alike.

We Need You

To find out more, please email stmarkssandpa@hotmail.co.uk. Alternatively, text Kayleigh on 07827 915859 to chat about what it could involve.

THANK YOU!



Raise FREE donations for

St Mark's Primary School - Bournemouth

every time you shop online

Search for us on: [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

8,000+ online retailers will give us a free donation
when you shop with them at no extra cost to you



Download the
easyfundraising App



Excellent 

3,945 reviews on  Trustpilot

TICKETS
£3.50



SPRING DISCO

BRING EAR DEFENDERS
IF REQUIRED

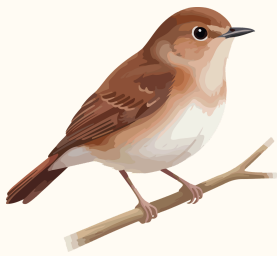


YR R,1,2
4 - 5PM



YR 4,5&6
5.15-6.15PM
YR 3 CAN CHOOSE DISCO

PLEASE BRING A WATER BOTTLE
SQUASH AVAILABLE DURING DISCO
SML BAG OF SWEETS AT END OF DISCO



School Council News

Earlier this month, our School Council proudly took part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch as part of the wider RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch campaign—and they didn't let the rain stop them!

Joining us for the occasion were local councillors, Councillor Herret and Councillor Brown, who braved the wet weather alongside our enthusiastic pupils. Equipped with clipboards, tally charts, and plenty of determination, the children carefully observed and recorded the different bird species visiting our school grounds.

Despite the drizzle, spirits remained high as students spotted a variety of common garden birds and discussed why monitoring wildlife is so important. Taking part in the Birdwatch helps scientists track bird populations across the UK and understand how to better protect them.

We are incredibly proud of our School Council for representing the school so positively and showing such commitment to environmental stewardship—even in challenging weather conditions! Their efforts are contributing to a nationwide project that makes a real difference for wildlife conservation.



hello March

February

Staff Training Day - Children not in school

27

Fri 2026

March

Class Photo

3

Tue 2026

March

S&PA Disco

4

Wed 2026

Reception - Year 3 @ 16:00 - 17:00 / Year 3 - Year 6 @ 17:15 - 18:15 / Year 3 can choose which disco they want to attend

March

World Book Day

5

Thu 2026

March

Year 5 - Ancient Technology Centre Trip

6

Fri 2026

March

INR Museum of East Dorset Trip

16

Mon 2026

March

ILT Museum of East Dorset Trip

17

Tue 2026

March

INR Class Worship

18

Wed 2026

March

Year 4 - Hooke Court Residential Trip

18

Wed 2026

March

Year 3 - Treehouse Theatre - A Play in a day

19

Thu 2026

March

Year 4 - Hooke Court Residential Trip

20

Fri 2026

March

Parents' Evening

23

Mon 2026

March

Parents' Evening

25

Wed 2026

March

Reception - Trip to Bournemouth Aviation Museum

26

Thu 2026

March

School breaks up for Easter holiday 13:15

27

Fri 2026

March

Easter holiday

30

Mon 2026



SUNDAY 12TH APRIL | 2PM KICK-OFF | VITALITY STADIUM

JOIN US FOR A HOSPITALITY EXPERIENCE IN OUR TOP FLOOR RESTAURANT

PRE-MATCH

- › Welcome drink
- › Two course set menu
- › Sky TV
- › Dedicated waiting service
- › Entertainment from matchday host
- › Fully licensed bar facilities
- › Matchday programme
- › 10% discount on pre-ordered bottles of wine, prosecco or champagne

HALF-TIME

- › Tea, coffee and mini cakes

POST-MATCH

- › Use of the restaurant for one hour

PRICES

£59 inc VAT for an adult | £30 inc VAT for ages 12 & under

(Please note bookings will be subject to a transaction fee on confirmation)



HOSPITALITY
& Events

MILLIONS OF BRICKS

CHARITY TOMBOLA

LEGO DISPLAYS

RETIRED SETS

ACTIVITIES

28TH MAR

**BOURNEMOUTH
BRICK
FESTIVAL**



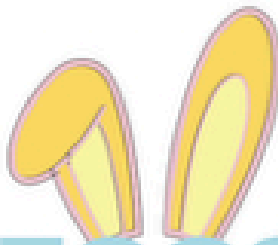
**BOURNEMOUTH
BRICKFESTIVAL.COM**



**BOURNEMOUTH
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE**



STARS
HOLIDAY CLUB



**EASTER
EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

Tuesday 30th March - Friday 10th April

FREE HAF SPACES AVAILABLE
Limited availability!

PAID SPACES JUST
£20 PER DAY
08:00 - 16:00 DAILY

Sibling, KPS,
Bayside, Lytchett
and Stars Members
Discount available!

Multi-Activity Holiday Club for children aged 4-13 with activities such as - Football, Dance, Team Games, Basketball, Inflatable fun, Dodgeball, Arts n' Crafts, Tennis, and many many more!

Venues:

- Kingsleigh Primary School, BH10 5HT
- Bayside Academy, BH16 5AH
- Lytchett Matravers Primary School, BH16 6DY
- Swanage Town Football Club, BH19 1NN

Book Via
Class Manager
or Contact:

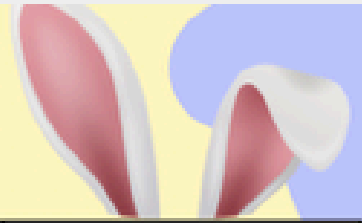


kirsty@starscorporateltd.co.uk



STARS

HOLIDAY CLUB



Day	9:30 - 10:45	11:00 - 12:30	1:00 - 3:00
Monday 30 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Skills/Mini Matches Arts & Crafts/Junk Modelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Challenges Multi-Skills Circuit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflatable Fun Dodgeball Tournament
Tuesday 31 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Games/Challenges Playground Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflatable Fun Football Fun Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Didi-Cars Rounders
Wednesday 1 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dodgeball Arts & Crafts /Junk Modelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Matches Relay Races 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflatable Fun Music/Dance Fun & Team Games
Thursday 2 nd April	EASTER FUN DAY WITH AN EASTER EGG HUNT!		

Day	9:30 - 10:45	11:00 - 12:30	1:00 - 3:00
Tuesday 7 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Skills Team Races/Challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handball Playground Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Challenges Arts & Crafts/ Junk Modelling
Wednesday 8 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penalty Shoot out/Lightning Relay Races 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Matches Tennis Challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Didi-Cars Dodgeball Tournament
Thursday 9 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-Skills Circuit Arts & Crafts/Junk Modelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Fun Games Volleyball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflatable Fun Rounders
Friday 10 th April	SUPERHERO DAY - FUN TEAM CHALLENGE GAMES & DRESS UP DAY!		