



NEWSLETTER



RESPECT - ASPIRE - REJOICE



"Encourage one another and build each other up" 1 Thessalonians 5:11



WELCOME BACK!

I am delighted to welcome you all to the start of a new academic year. A new year brings with it fresh opportunities, renewed enthusiasm, and the chance to build upon past successes.

To our new children and families joining us for the first time – a very warm welcome. We are excited to have you as part of our school community and look forward to supporting you as you settle in.

Together, we will continue to nurture a community **Loving God, Serving others & Flourishing together**, ensuring every child feels valued and empowered to achieve their potential.

S&PA

I am really grateful to the S&PA for their support in raising vital funds for the school and helping us build a strong community of parents, teachers and friends. You can find their contact details about how you can get involved at the end of this letter.

Reading

We expect our children to be reading at least 4 times per week at home. We need all our parents to support us with this vital job. Children should be fluent readers by the end of their time in Year 2 in order to help them with the demands of Year 3 and above.

I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their ongoing commitment and passion. I also extend my gratitude to our parents and carers, whose support is vital in helping our young people thrive.

Let us approach this year with confidence, curiosity, and positivity. I look forward to seeing the growth, achievements, and successes – big and small – that this year will bring.

With best wishes for the year ahead,

Mr Bright

Secondary School Applications

Please find below the link for applying to Secondary School. You can apply now; all applications must be in by 31 October 2025

Apply [here](#)



Reception 2026 Tour Dates:

Come and see us and find out more about life at St Mark's for your child turning 5 after September 2026.

Tuesday 14 October 2025 09:30

Friday 7 November 2025 09:30

Tuesday 18 November 2025 09:30

Tuesday 2 December 2025 09:30

Friday 9 January 2026 09:30

Please call to book on 01202 512241

Apply online by 15 January 2026 [here](#) from 1 Nov 2025



School Nursing Service

We are pleased that the school nursing team will be visiting us between **9.00-10.30 am on Wednesday 15 October**. The team have a wealth of knowledge and can signpost you for further support for a range of issues including offering advice about concerns you might have regarding your child's sleep, diet or toileting. There is no need to book; just arrive at the school office between these times and you will be able to see the nurse.

Playground Road Safety and Drop Off Reminder 

For everyone's safety, children must not cycle, scoot, or skate in the playground or on the road outside school.

There are lots of hazards at busy times, including:

Small children walking around

Dogs (large and small)

Children not always looking where they're going

Cars driving in and out at the start and end of the school day

👉 If children are cycling to or from school, they must always wear a helmet.

We also need to address an important safety concern regarding morning drop-off. We have observed children being dropped off too early and left unattended before staff are on duty. During this time, students have been seen running up and down the lane and even running out in front of cars.

This is not acceptable and poses a serious safety risk. For the wellbeing of all our students, please ensure that your child is not dropped off before supervision begins. Children must remain under parent/carer supervision until staff are present at **08:25**

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children safe.

**SEPTEMBER
EDITION**

Notices and Reminders



**Statutory Inspection of
Anglican & Methodist Schools**

Today we are undergoing our SIAMS church school inspection. This is a routine part of the Church of England's monitoring of provision in church schools.

We have yet to receive feedback but I would like to extend huge thanks to all those pupils, parents, staff, governors and volunteers who have engaged with supporting the inspection. We will share the outcomes as soon as we can. They have seen lots in which to rejoice!

September Inset Dates 2025–26

Many of you were able to take advantage of our September Inset training days this year and have asked if we can share next year's dates.

We can confirm the following Inset dates for September 2026:

Tuesday 1 September 2026

Wednesday 2 September 2026

Thursday 3 September 2026

More for the rest of the year to be confirmed.

Term will start on

Friday 4 September 2026 for Years 1–6

SEPTEMBER EDITION

Notices and Reminders

BUT FIRST,

coffee



**NATIONAL
COFFEE DAY
SEPT. 29**

On Monday 29 September a coffee van will be visiting us during morning school drop off. A portion of the proceeds made will be donated to our school, so why not treat yourself to something tasty and warm to get you through Monday. Thanks goes to our S&PA for organising.



Back to school uniform checklist



COMPULSORY BRANDED ITEMS

Yellow polo shirt with
St. Mark's logo

Grey v-neck jumper
with St. Mark's logo
or

Grey cardigan with
St. Mark's logo

Green P.E. polo shirt
with St. Mark's logo

Branded blazer
(optional)

COMPULSORY STANDARD ITEMS

Black smart trousers
or black smart shorts or
Black knee length skirt or
pinafore dress or
Yellow/white checked
summer dress

Black socks (ankle or long) or
tights (white only with summer
dress)

Black smart formal school shoes

Plain black P.E. loose-fit shorts
or skort

Plain black P.E. tracksuit
(preferably with logo)

P.E. trainers

No branded sports wear

**No cycling shorts or
leggings/Nike Pro**

**No newly pierced ears in
term time**

No trainer socks

Thank you for your
commitment to keeping our
standards high and our
children smart and
focused

**SEPTEMBER
EDITION**

Spirituality and Community



Our Vision:

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



Our Autumn 1 value focus is to

aspire

We have been exploring this theme in worship, thinking about our dreams and goals.

We have linked this thinking to our local history and the aspirational vision of the Talbot Sisters.



We were treated to some inspirational words about our theme by ex-pupil and former AFCB ladies first team striker **Lucy Cooper**.

She told us about her move to a new club and her new university team Loughborough Lightning.

She challenged us to **aspire to be more**.

A photograph of a male teacher in a light blue shirt leaning over a desk to assist two young students. One student, a boy with curly hair in a white shirt, is looking at a computer monitor. The other student, a girl in a red sweater, is sitting at the desk with her hand on a mouse. The background shows a classroom setting with colorful decorations.

**SCHOOL DAYS ARE
PACKED WITH
MOMENTS OF...**

**CURIOSITY, WONDER
AND CONNECTION.**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

**SEARCH 'ATTENDANCE'
ON THE EDUCATION HUB**



HM Government

NHS

**IF YOUR CHILD IS
FEELING UNDER
THE WEATHER,**

**IT CAN BE HARD
TO KNOW IF YOU
SHOULD SEND
THEM TO SCHOOL
OR NOT.**



**UNLESS THEY HAVE A
TEMPERATURE OF
38 DEGREES OR ABOVE,
THEY'RE USUALLY
GOOD TO GO.**



**MOMENTS
MATTER,**

**ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

**SEARCH NHS SCHOOL
ILLNESS GUIDANCE.**



HM Government

NHS

GenAI, The Harms Landscape

Children and young people are often the first to adopt new technologies, often out of curiosity or because their friends are using it.

As generative AI is embedded more and more into all of our lives (whether we want it or not), there seems to be a huge surge of information about 'this new solution that can save you hundreds of hours of work a week' and other related products, but very little information about the real concerns that are associated with GenAI, including concerns to children.

This is particularly important when you consider that 1 in 10 children report that they know of cases where their friends/classmates have created synthetic intimate images (deep fakes) of other children using GenAI and around 1 in 8 know someone who has been targeted.

This is a whole new landscape of concern: the days are gone when it would take someone hours in a program like Photoshop to create an obvious-looking fake; these tools are incredibly easy to use and often free.

Mark Bentley from London Grid for Learning has put together a superb 11-minute video which introduces the AI harms landscape. You can watch the video on YouTube [HERE](#).

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

★ **Lucy G, Lily B, Jess B, Sophie B, Elowyn S, Rafferty S & Natalie W** for reading our **Worship Council** prayers at the **thanksgiving service on Sunday 21 Sept.**

100



Join us on Instagram



NEWS



updates



October

October

EYFS Maths and English Workshop

1

Wed 2025

14:30 to 14:50

Please enter via KS2 doors

October

S&PA Annual General Meeting

7

Tue 2025

Online zoom meeting at 7pm. Please contact the S&PA to join stmarkssandpa@hotmail.co.uk

October

Primary Leadership

8

Wed 2025

Bourne Academy

October

Harvest week - Donations accepted.

13

Mon 2025

October

School Nurse Drop in session

15

Wed 2025

09:00 to 10:30

October

No Minibook club

16

Thu 2025

October

Year 6 - Educational visit to The Tank Museum

22

Wed 2025

October

Year 4 - Stonehenge Trip

23

Thu 2025

October

School breaks up for half term holiday - normal finish time

24

Fri 2025



WHAT DO WE DO?

Fundraising

Raise funds for projects and activities not covered by the school budget.

Enhance Student experiences

Plan fun activities like Discos, icecream and drinks sales and fairs.

Provide resources

Fund educational materials and improve facilities for the children.

Build Community

Create togetherness and encourage parent and community involvement.



We have so many ideas and we would love for you to join us! We don't need all your time but if you could spare a few hours when you can we can build an amazing team!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUES OCTOBER 7TH '25

Online Zoom meeting 7pm

- ✓ Meet other parents
- ✓ Vote in new Trustees
- ✓ Discuss financial information

CONTACT US TO JOIN

Stmarkssandpa@hotmail.co.uk



KEEP IN THE LOOP



St Marks SPA



stmarkssandpa@hotmail.co.uk



@stmarks_spa



<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stmarkssandpa>

junior parkrun

We're proud to be a

parkrun

primary!



home | Slades junior parkrun | Slades junior parkrun

Slades junior parkrun is one of many worldwide free, fun, and friendly 5k community events that takes place every week

© parkrun.org.uk

Local Events

A Halloween-themed poster for the STARS Holiday Club. The background is black with various colorful icons of pumpkins, skulls, spiders, and candy. The text is centered and includes the club name, dates, and a description of the activities.

STARS
HOLIDAY CLUB

October Half Term Holiday Club

Mon 27th Oct - Fri 31st Oct

Join us for an action-packed October Half Term at Kingsleigh and Bayside!

We've got a week full of exciting multisports activities, plus some spooky Halloween fun thrown in! From thrilling games to festive surprises, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss out on the ultimate half-term adventure – book your spot now and make this holiday unforgettable!

Kingsleigh Primary School
Hadow Road. BH10 5HT

Bayside Academy
Turlin Road. BH16 5AH



BEAT

STREET DANCE

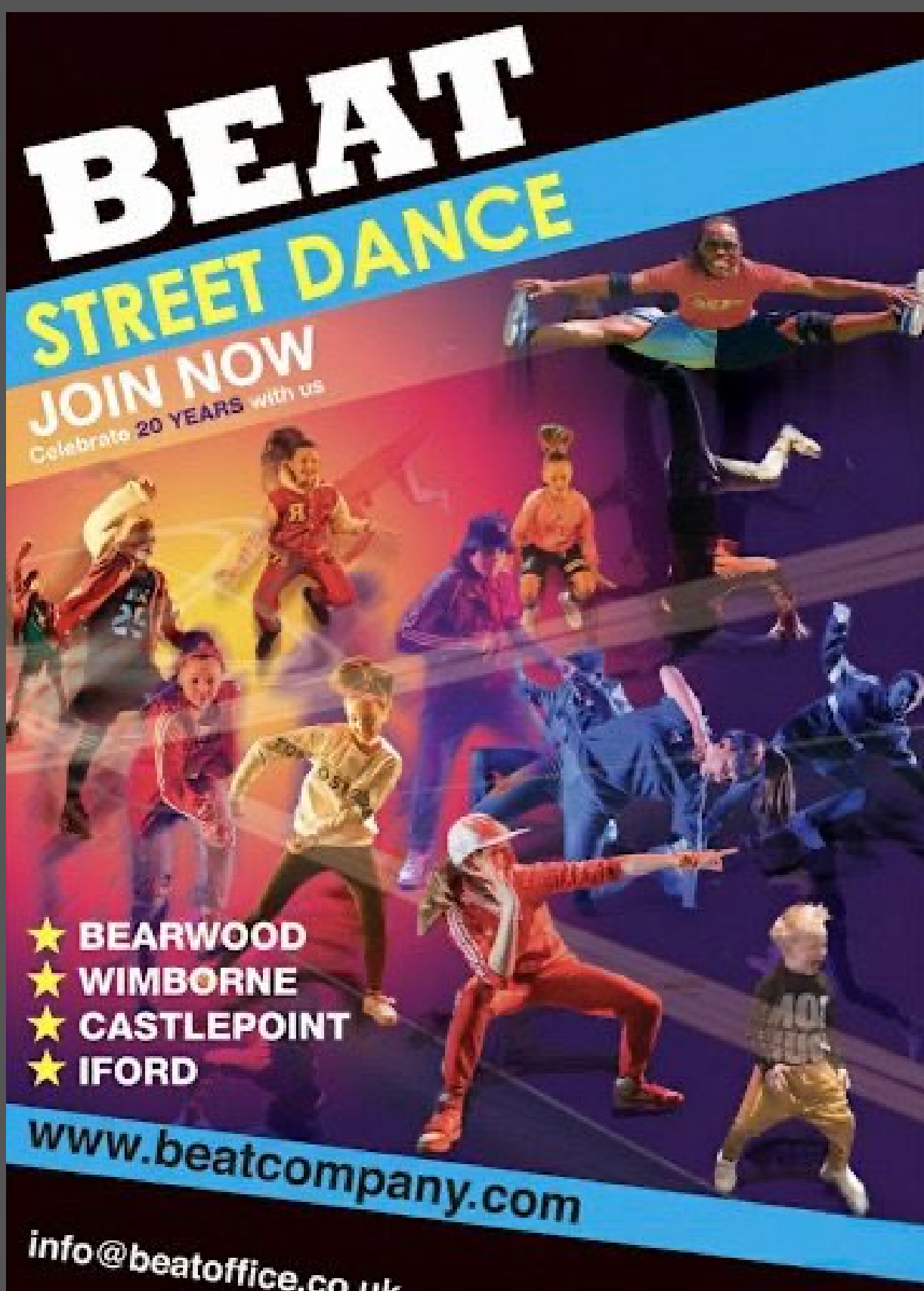
JOIN NOW

Celebrate 20 YEARS with us

- ★ BEARWOOD
- ★ WIMBORNE
- ★ CASTLEPOINT
- ★ IFORD

www.beatcompany.com

info@beatoffice.co.uk





The award-winning Swish has new classes in:
**Bearwood, Ensbury Park,
 Moordown & Ferndown**

Our Early Stage classes run during the week and/or at weekends for tiny stars to budding performers and beyond!

Whether it's a tiny hand clap in a song or the first confident twirl on stage, these sessions spark joy, imagination and confidence through the magic of performing arts.

We believe every child - no matter how small - has a unique spark waiting to be discovered. With every class, we help them take bold little steps towards big dreams, building life skills, friendships and memories that last well beyond the final bow.

Because when you join in the journey... that's when the stars really start to shine!



Caryl Horsley
 Principal
 Swish Bmth North

**Book your
 2 WEEK TRIAL**

scan the code to see full class information or simply call us:
 0330 122 5 122



What kind of star are you?

★ **STAGETOTS™**

Age 18m - 3yrs
 45 min class

★ **LITTLE STARS**

Age 3-4 yrs
 60 min class

★ **RISING STARS**

Age 4-5 yrs
 90 min class

★ **SHINING STARS**

Age 5-6 yrs
 2 hrs class

AS SEEN ON
itv5



☎ 0330 122 5 122

🌐 swish.school