



St Mark's News

18th July 2025
Issue 18

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Dear all,

As we end a tremendous year at St Mark's—with a fantastic Ofsted, brilliant SATs results, and unforgettable shows like Matilda—we want to thank every family for your support and partnership. You've helped make this year truly special.

Wishing you all a safe, restful, and happy summer holiday. Here's to another exciting year ahead together!

Ms Braithwaite and Mr McEleney

Like wild flowers, we return stronger – together!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today, your children discovered who their teacher will be for the next academic year, a moment filled with excitement, anticipation, and the promise of new beginnings.

This year, our school vision, "Thy Word is a Lamp to my Feet and a Light to my Path," is brought to life through our strand: "Together we will prepare you for life and learning." Our focus is on resilience, celebrating how, by supporting each other and never giving up, we can overcome any challenge and achieve wonderful things.

With each new year, we experience both joyous hellos and heartfelt goodbyes. This summer, we bid farewell to some exceptional colleagues who have left a lasting mark on our St Mark's family:

Ms Rizzolo and Ms Kamara began their journey with us three years ago. In that time, they have inspired children and colleagues alike with their passion, kindness, and dedication. We are grateful for the laughter and learning they brought to our classrooms, and while we will miss them dearly, we are excited for all they will achieve as they embark on their adventure in Dubai.

Ms Cole, our much-loved 2-year-old lead, is returning home to Leicester. Her warmth and commitment to our youngest children have made a real difference, and her caring spirit will be fondly remembered by all of us.

Ms Casey (Lisa) has been part of St Mark's for many years, nurturing generations of children with patience, wisdom, and love. Her presence has been a constant source of comfort and joy. Though we are sad to see her go, we know she will always remain a cherished member of our community and hope she will visit often.

To those leaving us: thank you for everything. You will always be part of the St Mark's story.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome new members to our team: Mr O'Connor (Year 3 Teacher), Ms Louis (Year 5 Teacher) and Ms Da'Silva (Reception Class). We look forward to the new energy, ideas, and inspiration they will bring.

This year, in keeping with our focus on resilience, we are naming each class after a native UK wildflower; symbols of strength and renewal, blooming year after year, no matter the challenges. These names will remind us all that, just like wildflowers, we can grow and thrive together, whatever comes our way.

Class	Tagline	Teacher	Support Staff
Poppy Class 2-year-olds	'Growing through adversity'	Ms Short	Ms Ogden
Bluebell Class Nursery	'Grace in numbers, beauty in persistence'	Ms Evans	Ms Dos Santos
Snowdrop Class Reception	'Brave beginnings, blooming early'	Ms Byrne	Ms West Ms Da'Silva
Daisy Class Year 1	'Small but unstoppable'	Ms Godden	Ms K Johnston Ms J Johnston Ms Anderson Mrs Foster Mr Micheal Ms Ahmed
Bramble Class Year 2	'Rooted in strength, growing through challenge'	Mr Gurry	
Primrose Class Year 3	'Gentle but fearless'	Mr O'Connor	
Heather Class Year 4	'Bloom boldly, wherever you grow'	Ms Cridland	Ms Riches Mr Phillips
Cornflower Class Year 5	'Bright and bold in any field'	Ms Louis	
Thistle Class Year 6	'Bold, resilient and ready to rise'	Mr Peacock	

A Fond Farewell to our Year 6 children and (some families)

As we wrap up this academic year, it's time for our final edition of The Lamp Post and a very special message for our incredible Year 6 families.

This Year 6 cohort holds a special place in our hearts. Many of these children began their journey at St Mark's as bright-eyed two-year-olds, and watching them grow into the confident, talented young people they are today has been a true privilege.

This year, they wowed us all with their unforgettable performance of Matilda. Their energy, talent, and dedication shone through every song and scene, leaving the whole school community brimming with pride. Their hard work and creativity were matched only by their teamwork and resilience qualities that will serve them well in all the adventures ahead.

We are also thrilled to share the fantastic Year 6 SATs results for 2024. Congratulations to our brilliant Year 6 children, Mr Peacock, and to the entire Year 6 team. Your commitment, perseverance, and support for each other have truly paid off; you've set a shining example for the whole school.

To our Year 6 leavers: as you move on to new schools and new challenges, carry the memories and lessons of St Mark's with you. We know you will continue to shine, just as you have here.

A heartfelt thank you to every family, teacher, and staff member who has supported our Year 6 children along the way. Your encouragement and involvement have been invaluable.

Well done Year 6, we couldn't be prouder of you!

Wishing you every success and happiness in your next chapter.

Year 6 SATS Results

What a legacy, Year 6! Very, Very Well Done! We are more than proud that all your hard work and effort has paid off

Maths Expected Level	80%	GDS	40%
Reading Expected Level	86%	GDS	22%
Writing Expected Level	80%	GDS	22%
Combined Expected	75%	GDS	21%

Summer Fair

Thank you to all who helped make the summer fair a success we really enjoyed it. We thought the obstacle course was very tricky, but the St. Mark's children smashed it! 'The obstacle course was my favourite, because the slide at the end of it was super fun!' Micah Yr. 5

I can also confirm that Ms Braithwaite and Mr McEleney really enjoyed the bouncy castle more than most!



Sports Day – Reminder of Arrangements for the day:

Sports Day will take place on 21st July at Wray Crescent. KS1 events will be in the morning from 9:00 to 11:30, and KS2 events in the afternoon. Please see PING for more information

Before next Wednesday, please remember to:

- Collect bikes and scooters
- Collect school medication from office
- Collect coats and uniform
- Bring in an empty bag for books
- Return all school property to your class

Please be reminded that school returns on Wednesday the 3rd of September! See you then!

From the St Mark's Team!