



St Mark's Newsletter

So in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you'
Matthew 7:12

Head teacher's Awards

This is an award that is presented during the Friday Whole School Assembly for children that have given that 'little bit extra' during the week. This can be in any area, school work, attitude etc

12/09/2025

Headteacher's Award

Jessica Annabelle

Writers of the Week

Frankie Alice WL

Mathematicians of the Week

Kurtis Delilah

Readers of the Week

Mark Rose WL

Team of the Week **RED**

19/09/2025

Headteacher's Award

Rose JH Kimi

Writers of the Week

Caleb Teddy

Mathematicians of the Week

George C Harvey

Readers of the Week

Harley Miranda

Team of the Week **RED**

03/10/2025

Headteacher's Award

Georgiana Precious

Writers of the Week

Chinny Maria

Mathematicians of the Week

Kiyan Florence

Readers of the Week

oscar Evie

Team of the Week **RED**

10/10/2025

Headteacher's Award

Chinny Lily

Writers of the Week

Joseph Evie

Mathematicians of the Week

Carter Precious

Readers of the Week

Mason Neriya

Team of the Week **RED**

November 2025

Issue No 2

PFTA

Online Safety

Newsletter

Parent Governor Election

Children in Need

Primary School

Admissions

Attendance

Church Service

School Photos

Assembly Themes

Pupil School Council

Members

Wraparound childcare

Start of the Day

Diary dates

Welcome to the latest newsletter with a quick update since our last one.

If you wish to speak with a member of staff, please call the office to make an appointment.
Thanks

17/10/2025

Headteacher's Award

Oscar Miranda

Writers of the Week

Georgiana Okwaning

Mathematicians of the Week

Frankie Daniel

Readers of the Week

Jessica Lily

Team of the Week **YELLOW**

PFTA

The PFTA Annual General Meeting took place on 16 October 2025. At the meeting the following officers were appointed

- Chairperson - Joanne Martlew
- Treasurer - Jenny Peacock
- Secretary - Alison Potter

However, there is now a vacant position for Secretary following the resignation of the previous post holder. If you would like to take on the role and responsibility of the PFTA Secretary please complete a nomination form available from the school office and return to school today, 5 November 2025. If more than one person is nominated for this position then at the next PFTA meeting those present will be able to vote and the person with the majority votes of those present will be appointed.

If you would like to know more about the role and responsibility of the PFTA Secretary please contact the school office, I will be happy to discuss the position.

At the AGM the PFTA arranged several events and raised the following amounts

- Non-uniform day raised £39.00
- Pumpkin Party raised £40.36
- Sale of plants/herbs/vegetables raised £204.70.

From September 2025, the PFTA have raised £284.06. The money will be used for resources and towards the cost of educational visits for all the children. A huge thank you to all parents and friends who organised and supported the events.

Next PFTA meeting is Wednesday 5 November 2025 at 3pm. All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Online Safety Newsletter

All families have been given a paper copy of the latest Online Safety Newsletter (November 2025) as this edition has some useful information on 'School WhatsApp' groups and the age rating for some of the more popular apps that young people are currently accessing. All monthly Online Safety Newsletters are on the school website.

Parent Governor Election

There is now a vacancy for one parent governor to serve a 4 year term of office on St Mark's Governing Body. Nomination forms will shortly be sent home with your child. If you wish to put yourself forward for election please return the completed nomination form to school by 12 noon on Tuesday 18 November 2025.

If you require additional information about becoming a parent governor please let me know. Thank you

Children in Need

This year Children in Need will be taking place on Friday 14 November 2025. Children, if they wish to do so, can come to school wearing pyjamas or a Pudsey item in exchange for £1 donation on **Thursday 13 November 2025**. During the morning breaktime, all children will be given a snack and a drink at the cost of £1 per child.

Primary School Admission

If your child has a 4th birthday between September 2025 and 31 August 2026 you must apply for a school or academy place by 15 January 2026. The school's website has a link from Lancashire County Council under Key Information, Admissions for further information.

Attendance

Please can I remind you that the minimum level of attendance for this school is 96%. Our target is to achieve better than this because we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling and we believe our pupils can be amongst the best in the area.

Our current attendance is 97.6%

Class 1	98.4%
Class 2	97.3%

Well done to Class 1!

Church Service

Our next Church service is on Friday 28 November 2025 at 2.30pm. All are warmly welcome to attend.

School Photographs

For free delivery to school, online orders must be made by Thursday 6 November 2025.

Assembly Themes

Each week Collective Worship focuses on a theme. The themes for the remainder of the Autumn Term 2025 are

Week beginning	Theme
3 November	Christian Values
10 November	Remembering
17 November	Doing Jobs Well
24 November	Gifts
1 December	Advent
8 December	Christmas Stories
15 December	Winter

Pupil School Council Members

Congratulations to George F, Neriya, Ray, Harrison, Alice WL and Annabelle who were voted by their peers as school council members. They meet on a regular basis with Mrs Pye (Teaching Assistant) and a nominated Governor to share ideas, views and opinions on school life, policies and practices. Next meeting is 14 November 2025 at 12 noon.

Wraparound Childcare

Can I please remind parents that, although prior booking is not required for breakfast club, a booking request for after school care, Monday to Thursday, must be made by lunchtime (12 noon) on the day that wraparound care is required. This will ensure that staff have prior knowledge of the number of children requiring wraparound care and enable the school to effectively manage and organise staff.

Can parents please ensure that if using the after school care pupils are collected by 4.30pm or by 5.30pm. Thank you

Fees, if possible, are paid in advance or at the end of the week. Unfortunately, we have some parents who we have to continually make contact with regarding outstanding balances. Wraparound childcare is not funded by the school budget and needs to be self-funded. This is not possible if fees are not paid. There are Government support packages, Universal Childcare or Tax-Free Childcare for those parents who are eligible to help with the cost of childcare.

Good News from Tesco's

We are delighted to inform you that we have been successfully selected for the customer vote in Tesco stores. Thanks to Mr Dean (father of Y5 pupil and governor) for completing and submitting the application to Tesco Stronger Starts. Voting will commence in store from the first week in October 2025 until mid-January 2026.

St Mark's project relates to auditing and resourcing additional books for the school library. The project with the highest number of votes will receive up to £1500 and the third placed project £500.

To vote you will need to make a purchase of any value within the stores listed below and you will receive one token per transaction. You then post the token in the project box.

Churchtown Express	PR9 8PD
Birkdale Express	PR8 4NX
Southport Extra	PR8 5JH
Chapel Street Express	PR8 1BZ
Hesketh Esso Express	PR9 0LP
Southport Eastbank Street Express	PR8 1ES
Ainsdale Station Road Express	PR8 3HW

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here www.tesco.co.uk/store-locator/uk

Please encourage your family, friends and colleagues to vote for St Mark's School.

If you would like to have any other information included in the school newsletter, please do not hesitate to let us know

Marilyn Freeman

Start of the School Day

Some pupils are consistently arriving after the start of the school day which is 8.50am. Children are able to arrive at school from 8.30am (at no charge) or from 8.00am at a cost of £3.50 per child each morning. The gate will be locked at 9.00am to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff on the school premises.

Diary Dates

November	
5	PFTA Meeting 3pm
10	School nurse follow-up Y6
13	Non-uniform Day - Children in Need
14	Pupil School Council 12 noon
18	Return Parent Governor nomination forms
26	House Teams Meeting
28	Church Service - 2.30pm
December	
3	Full Governors Meeting 6.15pm
9	Christmas Performance in church (TBC)
11	Class 2 to sing at Pensioners Lunch 1.05pm
12	Final swimming of Autumn Term
15-18	Countdown to Christmas Week (details to follow)
15-17	No extra-curricular activities. After school care available until 4.30pm only
17	Christmas Buffet Lunch
18	End of Term Church Service 9am
18	Finish for Christmas at 2pm
18	No after school care
19	INSET DAY