

St Mark's School Literacy Week 9th -13th February

St Mark's school was buzzing with bookish behaviour last week as the students enjoyed four days of literacy-focused activities culminating in a dress-up Thursday of sartorial wackiness and extravagance.

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fascinating talk from local author Marie-Louise Jensen, who shared her latest work 'Runaway': a tale of murder, intrigue, a lost heir, love and above all of horses set in the West Country in 1725 Georgian England. Marie-Louise arrived dressed as a stable boy only to find the staff and students of St Mark's in a similar state of disguise as the focus of the day was dressing up as a fictional character. Notable outfits included a maths teacher dressed as an Oompa Loompa and the Headteacher, Barnaby Ash, presenting the assembly as James Bond. A fantastic week was had by all.



Football and Rugby News

With the football season upon us we have been very fortunate to have received some excellent coaching from Bath City Foundation. We have had over 30% of all boys attending these sessions every Wednesday for free football coaching from some top coaches. We are looking forward to the coming season and the many games we have lined up to play.

We have also had the Bath Rugby Foundation in on a Thursday morning to work with a selected groups of students to deliver a fun and vibrant, community led programme. This will continue for the foreseeable future as the group are particularly enjoying themselves and the challenges they are being set each week.

With the Six Nations in full swing we held our a Tag Rugby Festival for St Saviours Junior School Year 5s. It was the same day as the Six Nations kicked off in Cardiff and all the participants were in great spirits despite the cold weather. It was a pleasure to see so many Year 5s playing rugby and enjoying the facilities here at St Mark's. It was led by a selection of our Year 9 students who refereed and ran the tournament extremely well.



On Wednesday 11th February we had a professional Futsal coach from Bristol Rovers Football Club at St Mark's running a Futsal taster session. The Year 11 boys enjoyed this slightly different style of football and the professional coaching they received.

Mr Leonard
Head of PE and Key Stages

PE Changing Rooms Building Work



Work on updating the Boys and Girls PE changing rooms will commence during the week beginning 2nd March 2015 and is scheduled to take 9 weeks. The Contractor is aware of the March and May examination restrictions.

The boys changing rooms will temporarily be housed in M1. The girls changing rooms will temporarily be housed in EN3.

Mrs Skailes
School Business Manager



Year 8 Up Cycling Project

Miss Zoe Balfre would very much like some second hand denim clothes or bags etc for a Year 8 Up Cycling Project in Design and Technology. Items are needed as soon as possible! If you have any please bring them to St Mark's Reception clearly marked for the Design Technology department.



Mrs Balfre
Head of Design and Technology

Pancakes Have Been Eaten or Tossed and Lent Has Begun!

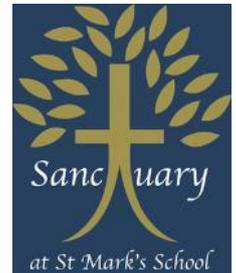


As a school we are being encouraged to be generous!
DO LENT GENEROUSLY
40 days of giving back, doing good and living generously.

The '40 acts' website gave us the idea and we are doing this our way! Being generous with our time, thinking, planning and money! Maybe making a coffee for a neighbour while out in the garden, changing your bed without being asked; maybe not life changing at one level but in little ways.

We will be hearing from 'Send a Cow', a fairly local charity, who will hopefully raise our awareness of their projects and we will be collecting money to help 'Send a Cow' donate to the specific people they help and work with.

So rather than just giving up something, which some of us are doing, we are going to be make a difference to our community so that we can show our generosity this Lent!



Pop along to the '40 acts' website and take a look at the short film - <http://www.40acts.org.uk/>
Thank you.

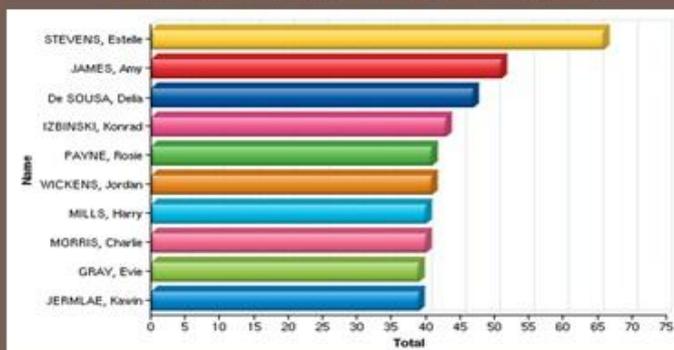
Mr Parr
Chaplain

Students of the month :
Y7 Delia De Souza
Y8 Estelle Stevens
Y9 Charlie Morris
Y10 Lucas Reynolds
Y11 Amy James

VIVO teacher of the month :
Ms Caines

Christian Value
Award :
Chloe Grant

TOP 10 STUDENTS OF ST MARK'S



Football – 25th February : Man of the Match
KS3 – Kris Koda
KS4 – Manoel Akure & James Payne

Celebration Assembly : 27th February

Autism Courses and Support at Fosse Way



Jo Clay from Fosse Way School runs ASD courses. Please see link below for full details and schedule. Booking is essential.

<http://www.fossewayschool.co.uk/professional/professional-development/>

Fosse Way also run support groups for parents and carers whose children have ASD and a separate group for mainstream secondary school pupils with ASD. Full details of this service are at:

<http://www.fossewayschool.co.uk/professional/asd-support/asd-support-groups/>

Mrs Crockett
SENCO

Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (PPE)

In January, Ms Edgell our Exams Officer wrote to you regarding our next set of exams for Year 11 students. This is a reminder that the exams commence on Thursday 12th March and conclude on Friday 20th March. The PPE series is another opportunity for students to hone their revision and exam skills. Please could you discuss these exams with your child and encourage him/herto revise. All Year 11 students should still have a GCSE Revision Guide, issued to them prior to the November Mock Exams and should also have an Exam Timetable which was posted home with Ms Edgell's letter in January.

Mr Ryan
Deputy Headteacher

SMSA-PTA Quiz Night on 6th March

Please come and support St Mark's SMSA-PTA at the Quiz Night on 6th March from 7:30pm in the Hall. The cost of a ticket is £10 which includes a Lovett's pie and a drink of your choice.

Choice of pie filling:

- 1) Lamb, rosemary and garlic
- 2) Chicken and leek
- 3) Spiced sweet potato, spinach and goat's cheese
- 4) A gluten free option – please let us know in advance

Tickets are available from school or from the online system.

To access the online payment log in to www.schoolmoney.co.uk and enter your details and password. If you do not have your password please contact Mrs Hunter on 01225 326604. We would love to see you there. It should be a good evening!

Mrs Hunter
Finance Officer

After School & Lunchtime Clubs Term 4

	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL 15:30 – 16:30
MONDAY	Computer Club (IT2) Performing Arts Club (DS) Football (Lower School)	Homework Club (IT2)
TUESDAY	Computer Club (IT2) Pet Club (SC2) 12:50 – 13:10 Hockey (Y7) Chess Club (HU3)	Trampolining (Hall) Rock School (MU1) Homework Club (IT2) Street Dance (Gym) Geography & History Coffee Club (HU2) Film Club (EN2)
WEDNESDAY	Computer Club (IT2) Learning2Lead (TK3) Science Film Club (SC1) 12:50 – 13:10	Homework Club (IT2) Art Club (AR2) ECDL Catch up (IT1)
THURSDAY	Computer Club (IT2) Learning2Lead (TK3) Football (Upper School) French & German Help (LA2)	Karate Club (Gym) Geography & History Coffee Club (HU2)
FRIDAY	Computer Club (IT2)	Performing Arts Club (DS) GCSE RE Revision (HU3)

What is Build Hope?

A life-changing overseas experience that will transform a student's life and bring hope to a family in Mexico.

We are finalising our team going on this exciting trip. We are working out how we raise the finance and how we enthuse you all to get involved!



Build Hope

There are plans coming together for a Car Wash event, an Auction of Promises and a Mexican Food evening to name a few...look out for posters and invites!

Each of us has to raise nearly £1,600.00 There are seven students going and staff to accompany them. We will all need to raise this money so please look out for the events, and take part! If you know of a funding stream we may not have heard of please do get in touch.

Mr Parr
Chaplain

Year 9 History Trip to the M –Shed...

At the end of last term Miss Bryant's Year 9 history class accompanied by Mrs Hills, spent a very informative and enjoyable day at the M-Shed Museum at Bristol's historic harbour side. As the rest of the school attended assembly in full 'fancy dress' in aid of literacy week, 9B set off on the school minibus for Bristol.

The day was spent in a series of interactive workshops that allowed students to investigate new aspects of World War One and the huge impact this Great War had on the local area. The morning was spent discussing conscientious objectors. 9B did an amazing job of voicing their very informed opinions, showing a surprisingly firm stance against those who objected to joining the war effort. This was followed by an art workshop which examined some pre and post war art, allowing students the chance to create their own post war chalk work.



Lunch was spent in the city centre where students enjoyed a walk along the river and a delicious hot chocolate treat! Back at the M-Shed for the afternoon session we were able to spend some time exploring the new interactive World War One exhibit with a guided tour from local author Jacqueline Wadsworth. A huge thanks to the M-Shed, Bristol, for inviting us to take part in this brilliant day of activities and many thanks to the students of 9B for taking part in all activities with confidence and their exemplary behaviour throughout!



Miss Bryant
Teacher of History

ST MARK'S SCHOOL PTA QUIZ NIGHT



FRIDAY 6th MARCH

7:00PM FOR 7:30PM START

Tickets £10, which includes a locally produced Lovett's Pie and a complimentary drink. Gluten free and vegetarian available.

If you haven't got a team, we'll find one for you!

**Tickets available from St Mark's School, Fairfield Stores
Larkhall Butchers & Tony's Greengrocers
Cheques made payable to St Mark's School Association or SMSA**