



Giraffes Newsletter

Autumn Term 1



We have had a fantastic start to the year, the children have settled brilliantly, and it has been a joy getting to know them all. They are already shining brightly with our HERO values, by demonstrating kindness in the classroom and showing a fantastic energy in learning time. I'm certainly looking forward to the year ahead! Miss Lewis

Uniform

All of our uniform can be purchased online from Sussex Uniforms.
<https://www.monkhouse.com/school/st-mark-s-c-e-school-urn-114545>

Our uniform is:

- Navy Sweatshirt or cardigan
- A white polo shirt
- Black or grey trousers, shorts or skirt
- Black school shoes

Your child should also bring a named book bag and a named water bottle.

Our PE day is on a Thursday

You need to come to school in your PE kits on this day. You can wear black shorts or tracksuit bottoms, white t-shirt, trainers and school jumper. **Please do not wear logos or coloured tops.**

Thank you.

Reading Rock Stars!

Our book changing day is on a Thursday – please ensure books are return in book bags

Please aim to read for at least 10 minutes a day with your child. Encouraging them to read aloud builds confidence and speed. Each time your child reads, record it in their Reading Logs. If your child reads 5 times in a row, they are entered into our Reading Rock Stars Prize Draw!

Homework

Look out for children's purple mash logins coming soon.

Children can complete spelling, maths and reading homework online. This will be set every **Thursday**.

E- Safety

Last month, EE recommended that children under 11 should use non-smart devices with limited capabilities, such as feature phones, ensuring they can make texts and calls but restrict access to social media or inappropriate content. Read their guidelines here: <https://newsroom.ee.co.uk/ee-launches-age-guidance-for-smartphone-usage-in-drive-to-improve-childrens-digital-wellbeing>

Our learning this half term

R.E

In R.E, we are studying the faith of Christianity.

We are learning about the creation story and how Christians show their gratitude to God the creator.

English

'Croc and Bird' is a beautiful story about two very different characters who discover the importance of **friendship, acceptance and celebrating our differences**. Through this heart-warming tale, children will explore what makes us unique, how we can accept others and how friendships can grow despite our differences.

We will then move on to another equally beautiful story, 'Leaf' by Sandra Dieckmann, which will inspire and provide a rich context for our writing.

Maths

We will begin by exploring place value within twenty. And move onto subtraction and addition within twenty.

History

Children will explore how life has changed over time, making comparisons between the past and present and identifying things that have stayed the same or changed.

Science

Children will explore our amazing bodies and senses, discovering how we have changed as we grow and how our senses help us understand the world around us. We will finish the term by exploring the beautiful changes of autumn and investigating how the weather changes with the seasons.

Music

Linking nicely with our leading subject history this term, we shall be exploring changing music tastes – in the last fifty years.

PSHE

In PSHE, we are learning about the characteristics of a growth mindset.

We will be looking closely at how we learn and how our brain develops.

This will help us to develop a positive attitude towards learning.

Art & DT

We shall be delving in with seasonal collages. Whilst also creating some exciting weather measuring equipment in science.

If you have any questions please email: info@stmarks.brighton-hove.sch.uk

We try to check this every 48 hours.