



April 2025

The Mark Way School

Important Dates

❖Easter Holidays

Mon 7th April 2025 -
Return Tues 22nd April 2025

❖Bank Holiday

Mon 5th May 2025

❖Summer Half Term Holiday

Mon 26th May-Fri 30th May
2025

❖Inset Day

Fri 27th June 2025

❖Last Day of Academic Year

Tuesday 22nd July 2025



A reminder a breakfast of toast & a drink is available every morning from 8.40am in the hall if your child hasn't had an opportunity to eat at home, which is free of charge.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another very productive and busy term for us all at The Mark Way School and I am sure all are ready for a well-earned rest.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support with attendance in school, our figures are truly excellent and this means that the young people are able to learn and make progress. Your support with this is really appreciated.

We have some more building developments to take place during the summer which will include a re-design of our changing rooms, the roof above reception being replaced that should make the building much cooler and the addition of a shower/hygiene room to support young people who may need it. As well as this, the money raised by John Hanson will be put towards the redesigning of one of our outdoor spaces that we very much look forward to being able to utilise. We will keep you updated on these improvements as they take place.

I am sure you will join me in wishing our Year 11s the best of luck for their exams after the Easter break, we are all behind them and know they will be trying their very best.

I hope you all have a restful break over the Easter holidays and we look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Regards,
Sonia Longstaff-Bishop
Headteacher

Point Rewards and Activities

It has been a very busy last week of term, as always with trips to the Harry Potter Studios, The Mayflower theatre production of Hamilton and of course, the end of term reward trips & activities. We hope the students enjoyed the activities they took part in, they will need to start collecting their points ready for the Summer rewards!!!

Curriculum

Please remember to check the school website for all curriculum planning. You can find out what your young person will be covering each term at the following location:

[Our Curriculum | The Mark Way School, Batchelors Barn Road Andover, Hampshire, SP10 1HR](#)

Climate and Sustainability

Another idea we have been looking at which we will take into effect after the Easter holidays is the use of disposable cups in school. An awful lot of our waste is the plastic cups that are used by the water fountain. Could we please ask that your child brings in a refillable water bottle everyday to fill, plastic cups will no longer be available. Water bottles can be purchased through the school at the cost of £1 each.





School Attendance

Our target for our whole school attendance is 96%, currently we are 94.1%, please encourage your young person to be in school every day and to be ready to start the day at 8.40am.

Please ensure you call the school first thing in the morning to report your child's absence.



Internet safety - AI

- Remind your child that not everything they see online is real so that they learn to question it. Much of what we see online may have been edited, especially something like a 'perfect' appearance
- Monitor what your child is using AI for to make sure they are using it appropriately and safely
- Discuss (in an age-appropriate way) the misuse of AI to create harmful content so that your child knows it is not ok to create content intended to harm someone
- Remind your child to check the sources so that they know it is coming from a reliable source and the information can be trusted
- Signpost your child to safe sources of support so that your child accesses safe and reliable information
- Know how to report a concern about AI generated content to the law enforcement agency CEOP
- Make sure your child knows they can talk to you if they see something that worries them. If you are worried about what your child is doing online or need further advice, please seek help.

Contact with school

If you are concerned about your young person or have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to their tutor in the first instance.

Support

If you are struggling financially please reach out to Mrs Ward as she may be able to signpost you to organisations that can support you.

If you are struggling with your young person at home please do not struggle in silence, Mrs Ward is able to provide support in various ways that might be useful. Please do contact her via the school office or by email.



Housekeeping reminders:

Our usual request to please ask you to clearly mark/label ALL your child's school uniform and P.E kit. This helps us to easily return it to the owner, should it be left around the school. This will also save you having to keep replacing uniform should it go missing! The Lost property box is in the school reception which will have all lost unmarked clothing, everything with names in get returned to the owner.



Important

Please remember to notify the school as soon as you have any **new telephone numbers, addresses and email addresses** to ensure we are always able to contact you in the case of an emergency and to send out information.

Remember to log into your young person's 'School Grid' account to order lunches for when we return to school in two weeks.

If you need to order new uniform for your young person, please use the following link, which can also be found on our website: [Happy Fish Custom Clothing](#)