Unique and Valued by God

The St Mark's Fortnightly Newsletter

6th February 2026

'A school where children develop the passion to learn, the skills and knowledge to succeed and the confidence to take Christian values into our diverse society.'

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, children and Governors,

It has been a fantastic term in which the children have worked extremely hard and produced some excellent work. We look forward to you coming into school to see the amazing display work that the children have completed, when we hold our next parents' evening meetings w/c 9th March 2026.

There are lots of activities organised for next week—the final week of term; these include Parent and Staff football next Thursday 12th February and Yr 2 Superhero afternoon, Ancient Greece Day and Ancient China Day all taking place next Thursday 13th February.

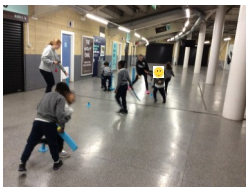
We are pleased that the school continues to attract new children from the local area. A number of new children will be joining the school during the coming weeks and we already have lots of applications for our Nursery and Reception classes in September 2026.

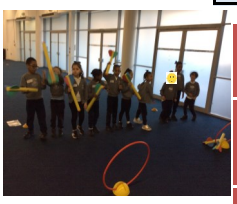
Diary Dates at St Mark's

w/c 9h February 2026	Internet Safety Week
Tuesday 10th February 2026	Individual School Photographs
Thursday 12th February	Staff and Parent Football
Friday 13th February 2026	Year 4 Palm class Ancient Greece Day
Friday 13th February 2026	Year 3 Olive Class Ancient China Day
Friday 13th February 2026	Year 2 Oak Class Superhero afternoon
Friday 13th February 2026	Stars of the Term Assembly
Friday 13th February 2026	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 23rd February	Term 4 Begins
w/c Monday 23rd February	Fab Science Day Workshops across the school
Wednesday 25th February	Year 5 Bus Day – Save travel
Thursday 26th February	Gang Awareness Workshop for Parents 9-10am

YEAR 1 CRICKET SKILLS

Children from Juniper class did very well in last week's Cricket Skills Tournament at the Kia Oval. Well done!





VALUE OF THE WEEK

Digital Flourishing – Avoiding temptationand distractions, using time wisely

BIBLE VERSE

'Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.'

Matthew 6:13

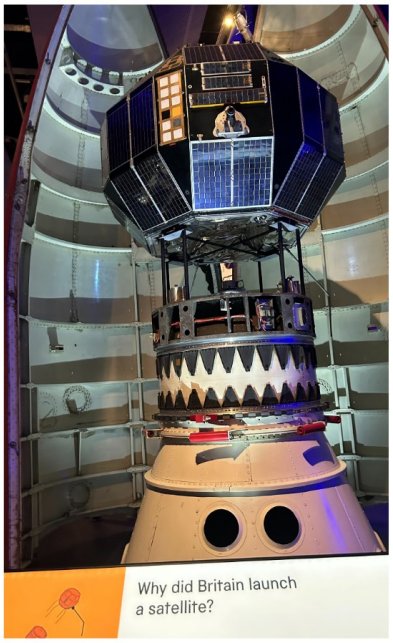
ATTENDANCE %	
Whole school	93.5
Cedar—Nursery	90.78
Ebony—Reception	90.67
Juniper—Year 1	94.78
Oak—Year 2	94.74
Olive—Year 3	95.86
Palm– Year 4	92.07
Sycamore—Year 5	94.35
Willow—Year 6	95.48

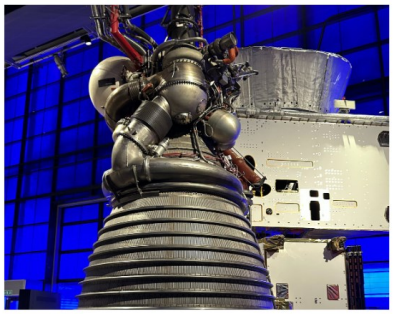
Outstanding learning at St Mark's

JUNIPER CLASS

Year 1 had a wonderful trip to the Science Museum. We visited the Space Exhibition and saw rockets, planets and amazing pictures of space. We also watched an IMAX movie called *A Beautiful World*. It was extra exciting because it was in **3D**, and it felt like we were really there! Everyone had a lovely time learning new things and being curious about our world.

JUNIPER CLASS SCIENCE MUSEUM





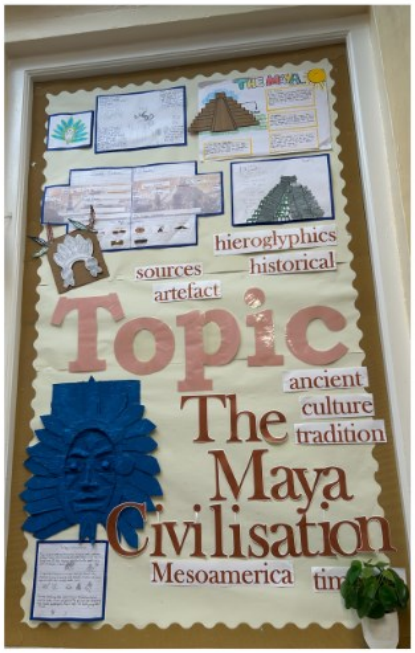
PALM CLASS

Year 4 took a trip the British museum to take part in a group presentation about Greek vases. The ancient Greeks used their vases to tell stories about different tales in Greek mythology. We learnt how to distinguish between different heroes and Gods using their features and clothing. Next week we will be using clay to make our own vases.

Outstanding learning at St Mark's

SYCAMORE CLASS

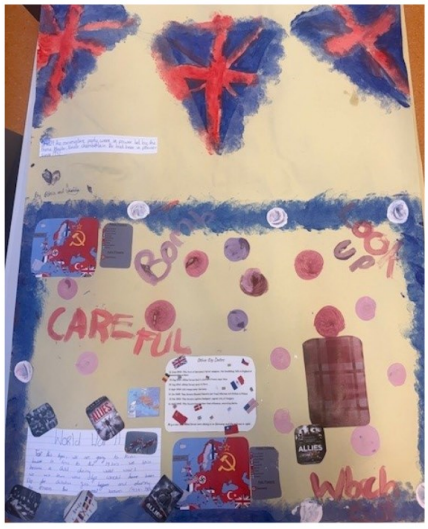
Year 5 celebrated their learning about the Maya Civilisation by cooking our own maize tortillas! We loved paying a tribute to the Maya people by recreating a traditional recipe (and it made for a very delicious midday snack!). They also created maya carvings from clay.

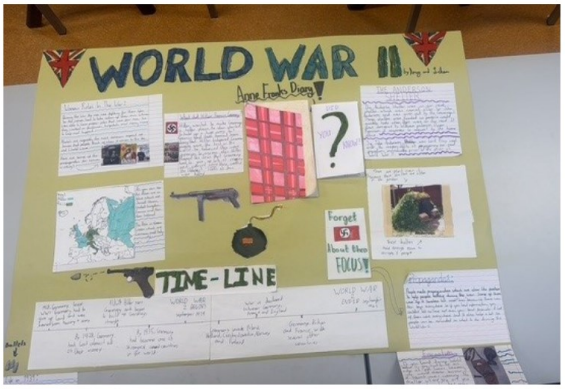


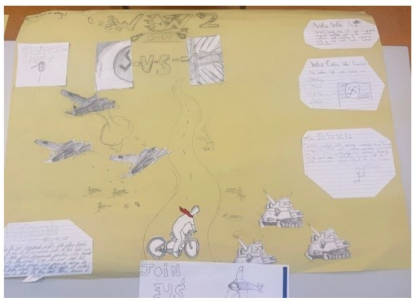
Outstanding learning at St Mark's

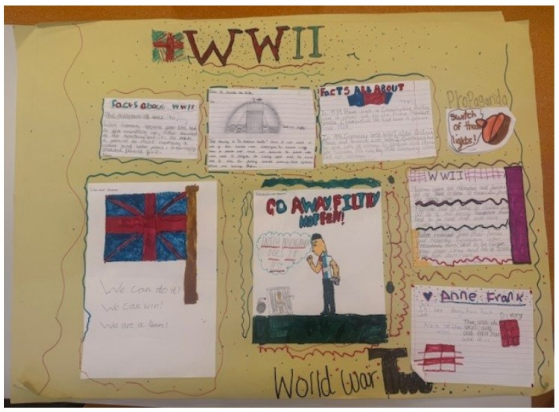
WILLOW CLASS

Year 6 have worked collaboratively to make posters showing all they have learnt from WW2. They were given a checklist of the information they needed to cover that we have learnt over the last 5 weeks and worked in groups to show off their creativity and all the facts.







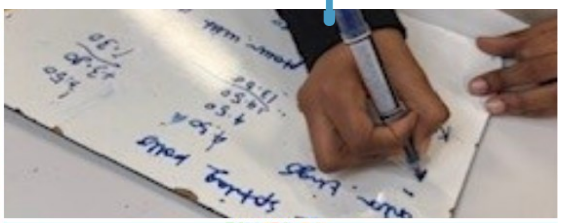


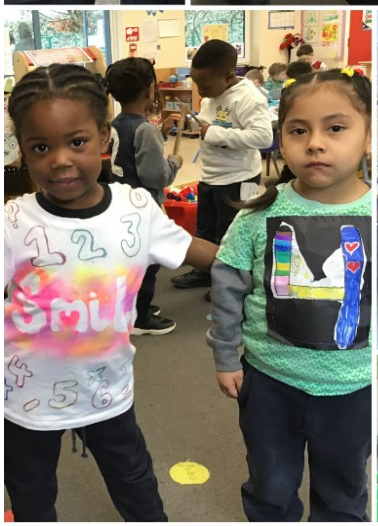
STEEL PANS

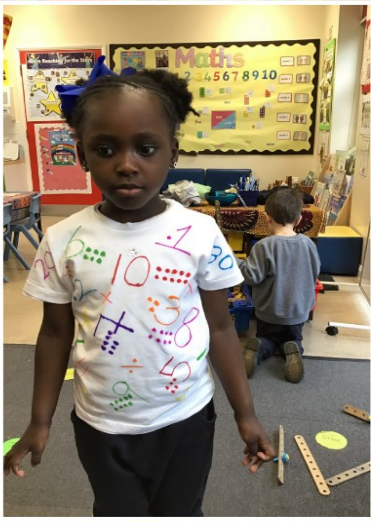
The children are continuing to learn and enjoy playing the steel pans. They are practising regularly and building their confidence with the instrument. We're pleased with their progress so far

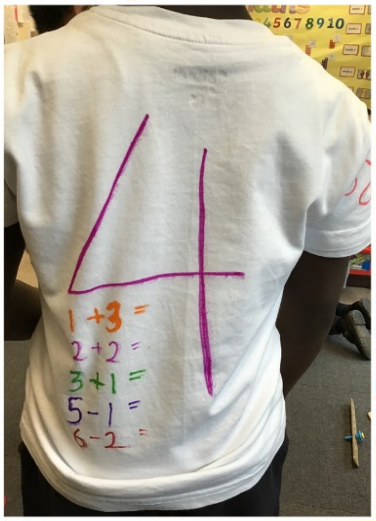
We had a brilliant Number Day across the school, with children taking part in a range of fun, practical maths activities, including making numbers and shapes with playdough, using Chinese menus to calculate totals, learning dominoes, designing LEGO patterns and planning exotic holidays on a budget.

Number Day 2026









NOTICES & EVENTS at St Mark's

Volunteer Readers Wanted!

Could you help?

We are seeking friendly volunteers to read with our children for as little as one hour a week.

By sharing stories, you'll help build confidence, language, and literacy skills.

Full training and support will be given.

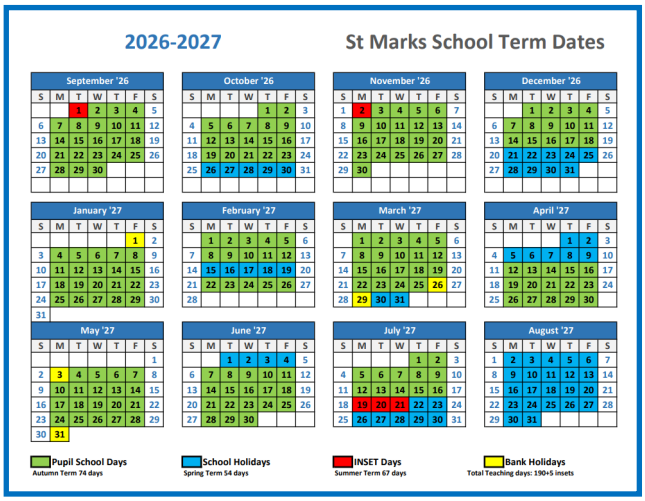
If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you, please contact the school office.

vancols Getphotos 2026

School Photographs

Tuesday 10th February

- Children to come to school in full inform
- If PE is on Tuesday, please bring PE kit in a bag



NEW 2026-2027

SCHOOL TERM DATES

[Please click link for pdf document]

SCHOOL DIARY DATES—SPRING TERM 2026

w/c 10th February 2026	Internet Safety Week	
Tuesday 10th February 2026	Individual School Photographs	Full School Uniform to be worn bring PE kits in bags today
Wednesday 11th February 2026	Year 4 Ancient Greece Day	Children to dress up as Ancient Greeks
Thursday 12th February 2026	Staff and Parent Football	9.00-10.00am
Friday 13th February 2026	Year 3 Olive Class Ancient China Day	
Friday 13th February 2026	Stars of the Term Assembly	9.05am for invited parents only
Friday 13th February 2026	Last Day of Term 3	
Monday 23rd February 2026	Term 4 Begins	
w/c Monday 23rd February 2026	Fab Science Day Workshops across the school	
Wednesday 25th February 2026	Year 5 Bus Day – Save travel	10.00-11pm
Thursday 26th February 2026	Gang Awareness Workshop for Parents	9.00-10.15am
Thursday 26th February 2026	Maths Master Class 6 Year 5 children visiting King's Maths School	1.30-3.00pm
Monday 2nd March 2026	Secondary School offer day	
Monday 2nd March 2026	Ebony class going to Garden Museum	9:45 am to 1:30 pm
Wednesday 4th March 2026	EYFS Stay and Play session 9.00-9.45am	
Wednesday 4th March 2026	Year 5 Sycamore involved in Into-University	
Thursday 5th March 2026	World Book Day	Children to dress up as their favourite book character
Thursday 5rd March 2026	Maths Master Class 6 Year 5 children visiting King's Maths School	1.30-3.00pm
Thursday 5rd March 2026	Year 3 and 4 Music Concert	2.50pm in the school Hall
Thursday 5rd March 2026	Parent Sip and Paint—Parent Wellbeing IV	Mulberry room 9-10.15am
Wednesday 11th March 2026	Parents Evening 3.00-5.30pm	
Thursday 12th March 2026	Parents Evening 3.30-5.30pm	
Friday 13th March 2026	Mother's Day Breakfast	8.15-8.55am
Wednesday 18th March 2026	Staff and parents' football	9-10am meet at the school gate
Thursday 19th March 2026	Maths Master Class 6 Year 5 children visiting King's Maths School	
Thursday 19th March 2026	Year 3 and 4 Music concert for parents And Year 5 and 6 Steel Pans	Starting at 2.40pm
Friday 20st March 2026	Year 5 and 6 Netball Competition	9.30-2.30pm
Friday 20st March 2026	Red Nose Day	Fundraising event. Children can wear red to school
Monday 23rd March 2026	Last Swimming session for Year 4 Sycamore Class	
Monday 23rd March 2026	RE Week – Reflecting on the significance of Easter	Whole school focusing on Easter
Tuesday 24th March 2026	KS 1 singing in the Lambeth Music Festival	Children leaving at 9.00am 1.30pm at the Southbank Centre
Thursday 26th March 2026	Easter Service at St Mark's Church led by YEAR 4	9.30 am – start Everyone is welcome
Thursday 26th March 2026	Final day of after school clubs	
Friday 27th March 2026	Easter Egg challenge after school Fundraiser	3.30-4.15pm
Friday 27th March 2026	Stars of the Term Celebration Assembly	9.05am
Friday 27th March 2026	Last day of term 4	School finishes 3.25 pm

St Mark's
Church of England
Primary School

NOW OPEN:

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2026

Starting school in September 2026?
Full time Nursery places available
School tours run every Friday at 9:30am

CENTRAL LOCATION

St Mark's C of E Primary School is located on the Oval/Kennington borders (just behind the Oval cricket ground).

INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATION

We are a friendly, family-based school that provides our pupils with a rigorous, yet inspirational, all-round education

CHRISTIAN ETHOS

Our size, alongside our strong Christian ethos, also enables us to place an equal emphasis on nurturing each individual child's growth, development and character.

Come and join the St Mark's family!

Book a tour at:

020 7735 1467 www.stmarkscofeprimarylambeth.co.uk Harleyford Road SE11 5SL

Low Cost/No Cost Family Fun in London

Please look at the organisations' websites to double check times and arrangements

Simmer Down – FREE – no tickets required

Southbank Centre – The Clore Ballroom Level 2, Royal Festival Hall

Friday 6th February 2026, 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Simmer Down is a home for reggae and revival, happening once a month in different spaces around the Southbank Centre. This free monthly series is part of our commitment to uniting communities by sparking joy and connection through live music. Come along to meet friends old and new, shake a leg and immerse yourself in the infectious energy of reggae music. *Simmer Down* is presented in partnership with Tomorrow's Warriors, a leading talent development agency, creative producer, music educator and consultancy specialising in jazz. The sessions bring together musicians and local people in the heart of London for an enchanting afternoon of joy, movement and soulful beats. So, mark your calendar, bring your dancing shoes and let's get together to simmer down and feel the irie spirit of unity.

Presented in association with Tomorrow's Warriors

https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/simmer-down/

Early Weaves – FREE – no tickets required

Southbank Centre – The Clore Ballroom Level 2, Royal Festival Hall

Wednesday 11th February 2026, 11:00am & 2:00pm

Enjoy a wonderful, non-verbal introduction to dance theatre for early years in a heart-warming tale of friendship, curiosity and play. Two friends embark on a journey of connection and companionship using fabulously flexible willow, a fully compostable, carbon-sink material.

Watch Willow and Weave as they use the willow to inspire each other and dive deep into their imaginations. They explore sound and movement, creating magic and laughter, and invite the audience in to play. The performance is followed by a 15-minutes stay-and-play where the audience can get involved and join in the fun. Both performances are 'A Relaxed Performance and Speech-free'

https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/early-weaves/

Toasty Tots – FREE – no tickets required

Southbank Centre – The Clore Ballroom Level 2, Royal Festival Hall

Friday 13th February 2026 – 1pm – 3pm

Bring your crew for DJ sets, games singalongs and feel-good tunes for all ages – Proper family fun all in one joyful, welcoming space. Under 12s must be accompanied by an adult on site. Rooted in community, culture and sound, creating a space that's inclusive, non-judgemental, and full of vibes. A Relaxed Performance.

https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/toasty-tots/

Giant Chalkboard – FREE – no tickets required

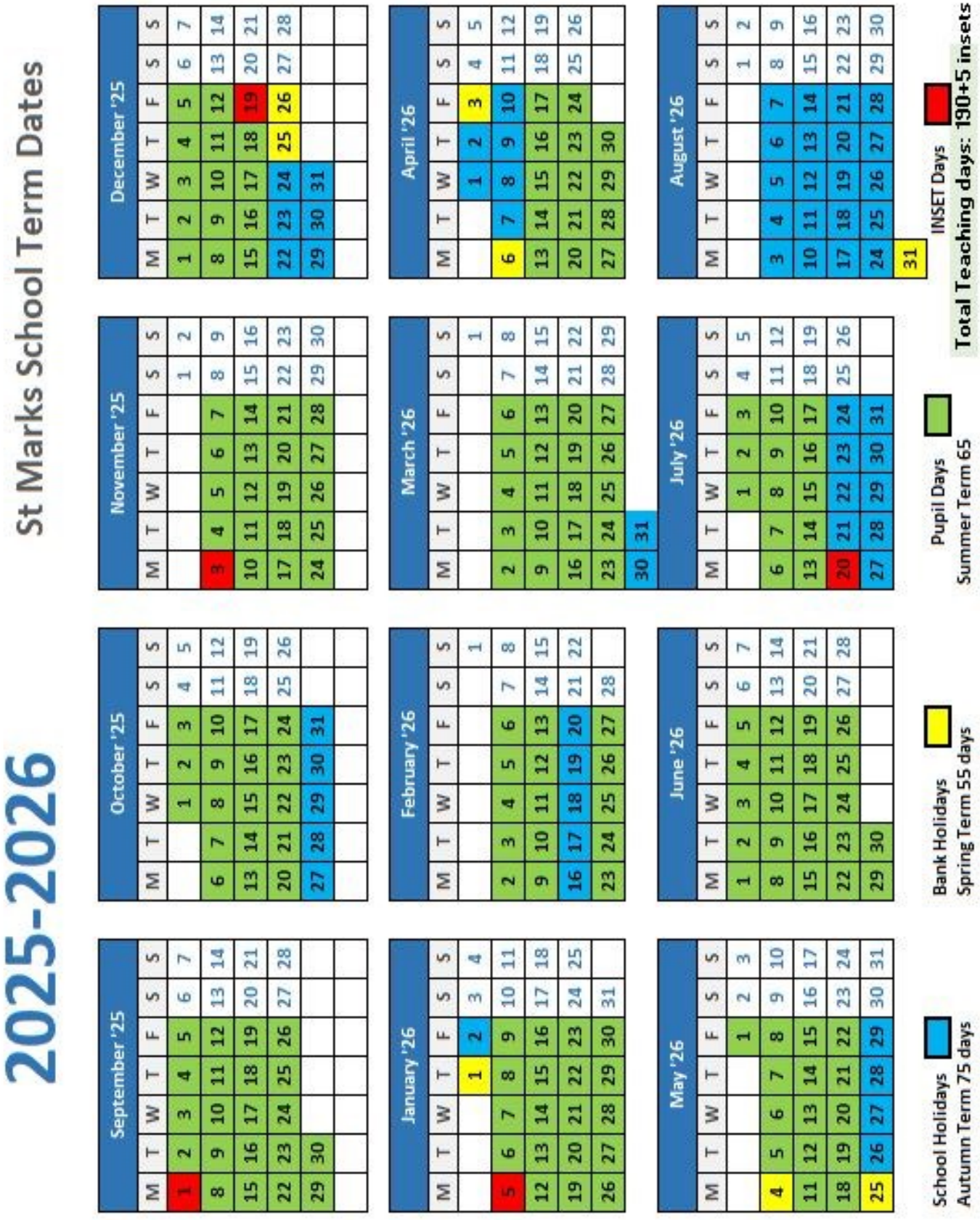
Southbank Centre – Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer, Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX

Friday 13th February – Saturday 21st February 2026 – 10:30am – 4pm

Pick up a piece of chalk and get creative, kids are invited to scribble, doodle, draw and create to their heart's content. For all ages. Under-12s must be accompanied by an adult on site.

https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/giant-chalkboard/

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR FULL DOCUMENT AND MANY MORE ACTIVITIES

Term Dates for 2025-26

Please find the term dates for the academic year. Please avoid taking holidays during term time as it can impact on children's progress.