

Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 3rd December 2021



A Message from Ms Comfort

Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Christmas Performances

The children and staff have continued to prepare Nativity and Carol Concerts this week and we are looking forward to welcoming you to join us for these important events next week and the following week as it is still our intention to go ahead with live audiences.

I ask that our visiting audiences adhere to the Covid control measures we will have in place. As you know we are limiting audience sizes – tickets will be coming home early next week for our Reception Class and Key Stage 1 Nativity and we have asked for a maximum of two adults per Key Stage 2 family to attend Church on 16th December.

Please only attend school for the nativity if you have a ticket and please remember to bring your ticket on the day.

I ask that all attendees to school and the Church wear face coverings (unless exempt) and sanitise hands on arrival. Crucially, please maintain a distance from staff and the children. The school hall and the Church will be well ventilated so please wrap up warm! Key Stage 2 children will keep their coats on for the Carol Concert if it is cold in the Church. Key Stage 1 children would be advised to have layers under their costumes please – I would suggest no bare legs, arms or feet.

At the end of the nativity please leave the hall promptly as requested and wait outside for your child to be dismissed as usual. At the Church please leave the Church when requested so we can walk the children back to school for dismissal as usual.

I wonder how some of the children will be feeling about performing in front of an audience?. Some of our children will not have done this before and for the others it has been a long time. Please bear with them if stage fright takes over – it is quite overwhelming for the little ones standing in from of so many grown-ups!

Thank you for your attention to this information and for your support with these important matters; I look forward to seeing you next week and the following.

Christmas Disco

Thank you for your support with our school disco – I know how much the children (and quite a few staff!) are looking forward to this event.

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

We had nearly 100 responses to our recent letter about SRE which is great, thank you very much. The vast majority of families are in support of the curriculum we have outlined and, understandably, a few questions were raised. We will make further contact when all of the responses have been collated and reviewed.

Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Collective Worship at St Mary's

We enjoyed the lighting of our first Advent candle this week. We learnt about the writings of Isaiah an 8th century prophet who worked in the south of Israel. Whilst Isaiah warned people that they were not living in the way which God wanted he also looked to the distant future when there would be a new heaven and a new earth. It is this message of hope that Christians turn to during the season of Advent.

We thought about all of the things which we are looking forward to – perhaps you're child could share these thoughts with you or you could explore together which things your family are looking forward to.

Learners of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class 6 - Nikolas - Is the learner of the week as he has been working hard in all areas of his learning. He has shown great perseverance.

Class 5 - Lilah - Has been an excellent example of our School values this week. She has demonstrated great respect and friendship.

Class 4 - Keatyn - In every lesson this week Keatyn has tried her best. She has accepted challenges and made a real effort.

Class 3 - Millie - Is always a kind and helpful member of Puffins Class and is always ready to help both the children and adults in the class.

Class 2 - Xenia - You have wowed us this week with your great learning and attitude to your sessions at school. Well done, we are so proud of you.

Class 1 - Caitlin - She tries hard in all areas of her learning and is a kind friend to others. This week she has wowed us in Number Time, where she has used the double sided counters to explore different ways of making 5.

Class R - The Learner of the Week has been a great role model in Class, tidying up, helping the Teachers and working very hard. We are proud of her.

Thought for the Week

THE PEOPLE
WHO WALKED
IN DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN
A GREAT LIGHT.

ISAIAH 9:2

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

Joint 6th - Classes 1 & 3 -
55 points

5th - Class 2 - 60 points

4th - Class R - 62 points

3rd - Class 6 - 80 points

2nd - Class 5 - 85 points

1st - Class 4 - 92 points



WORD WIZARD

Most Quizzes read
this week – Winner
Class 4

WORD OWL

Most Quizzes read
this week – Winner
Class 6

HOUSE POINTS

1st – **Temple** - 107 points

2nd - **Ramsay** - 106 points

3rd – **Fisher** – 87 points

4th – **Lang** - 77 points

If you are coming to the KS1 Nativity ...

In previous years we have always had a retiring collection for a chosen Dover Charity. This year we have picked United Families, who supply Christmas Dinner boxes for families in Dover and Deal. So instead of donating money, please donate any of the listed items (below) as you leave the performance and we will pass them on:

Gravy granules, tinned vegetables, packets of stuffing, apple sauce, mint sauce, cranberry sauce, Yorkshire batter mix, tinned fruit, tinned custard, mince pies, apple pies, crackers and salt and pepper.

Please send any donations to school by Wednesday 15th December.

Thank you in advance.



ALL MEALS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

Lunch Menu - **Week 1**

Week beginning Mon 6th December

£2.33 per day

Follow the link below to view the menu:

<https://www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=979&type=pdf>

To pay for your meals online, please go to:

www.principals-catering.com

Attendance



Class R – 89%

Class 1 – 86%

Class 2 – 83%

Class 3 – 90%

Class 4 – 91%

Class 5 – 85%

Class 6 – 92%

Whole school – 88%

The week ahead...

Monday, 6th December

Deadline for Nativity responses

Tuesday, 7th December

Class 5 Swimming

Wednesday, 8th December

Class 5 Swimming

2pm KS1 Nativity – Bookings only

Thursday, 9th December

2pm KS1 Nativity – Bookings only

Friday, 10th December

Deadline for the nominations for Parent/Governor vacancy

Reception Class 2022

Applications for our Reception Class 2022 are now open. We are very pleased to offer tours of the school for prospective new families – please telephone the school office to make an appointment. Do spread the word to people you know who may be interested in a place in our next

Follow these links to our website and social media

<https://www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-C-of-E-Primary-School-820857021275490/>
<https://twitter.com/stmarysdover>

Rapid Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing

Household members of primary age children are eligible to access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Tests are fast, easy and free. You can order home test kits online. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#) or you can collect from a home test kit collection point. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#). Please note that these tests are for **adults within the family, not the children.**

Coronavirus Symptoms

Children or staff with any of the three symptoms of Covid:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell

are to **stay at home** and isolate. They should get a Covid test.

The rest of the household do not need to isolate **IF** they are under the age of 18 years 6 months or have been double vaccinated – please note this important change. It is recommended that contacts of a confirmed case do undertake a PCR test.

If your child tests positive for Covid you must immediately inform the school – by telephone on 01304 206887 during the school day. If you get a positive result at the weekend, during the evening or in a school holiday please email office@stmarysprimary.net

To get a test go online to:

nhs.uk/coronavirus

OR

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

OR

Telephone 111