

Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School

FOUNDED 1789



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 7th January 2022

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A Message from Ms Comfort

Welcome

The children have all settled back into school well and are enjoying being back with their classmates. Thank you for supporting them with their school uniform – they look very smart. It is that time of year when the children benefit from having hats, scarves and gloves. Please be reminded that some PE lessons will continue to be held outside so children should have warm clothing, eg joggers, to wear outside.

Additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

In acknowledgement of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which falls in the school half term holiday in June, the DfE have laid regulations to reduce the minimum number of sessions that schools are required to meet in the academic year 2021/2022.

Subsequently, following a consultation, the Cabinet Member for Education in Kent has taken the decision to end the Summer term 2022 a day early so that term finishes on Thursday 21st July 2022 instead of Friday 22nd July 2022.

Please note this updated information with regards to the end of the school year. School will finish for all pupils on **Thursday 21st July 2022**.

Reception Class 2022

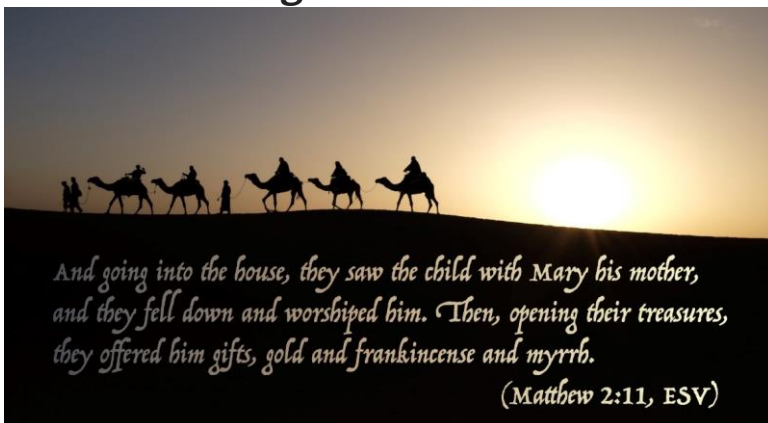
We continue to welcome prospective new families who have children due to start school in September 2022. Please do spread the word to friends and families and invite parent/carers to contact the school office to make an appointment to view the school.

Applications for places in the new class need to be made to the local authority <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places#tab-2> by 17th January. We are happy to help with applications – please contact Miss Yarnley, our Family Liaison Officer, for assistance.

New Beginnings

As the new calendar year begins it is a good time for us all to reflect on what has happened in the last twelve months and to look ahead to our aspirations for the new year. As we enter the third year of Covid-19 it is ever more important to focus on those elements of life which give us joy. Living and/or working with children gives us all so much pleasure. It is a privilege to be able to see them grow and develop; childhood passes so quickly and every moment is precious. We will continue to do all that we can to provide the children with worthy and memorable experiences at school as I am sure you will at home.

Thought for the Week



Collective Worship at St Mary's

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In our Collective Worship this week we thought about Epiphany. Epiphany means 'showing' or 'revelation'. It is the time when Christians hear the stories about all the different clues in the Bible which reveal what is special about Jesus. We thought about the Wise Men and how they travelled day and night to visit Jesus and the gifts they presented him with.

★ Welcome back! ★

Learners of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class 6 - Kai - For his great attitude towards his learning! He has impressed us with his work ethic this week completing some truly wonderful work. He has offered his thoughts and ideas which are valued by his peers.

Class 5 - Samir - Has shown great enthusiasm this week particularly during literacy work. He has been very animated when performing the actions of the story and retold it loud and clear with the class.

Class 4 - Mileigh - Has persevered with her learning in Maths and answered tricky questions using her nine times table. She has enjoyed telling the story of Metale in the literacy lessons and has created a fantastic story map.

Class 3 - Jesus - Has demonstrated fantastic enthusiasm for all learning opportunities this week. He is a great role model to his peers. His positive attitude to his learning has really shone through.

Class 2 - Gracie - She has been an absolute star. She approaches every activity with wonderful enthusiasm. She always tries her best and is brilliantly behaved - a superstar! She has retained lots of information about the story we have read and our new topic.

Class 1 - This child has settled into class and made new friends. She tries hard with her learning and makes a good go at everything. She enjoys painting and drawing. Well done.

Class R - Lavin - Always comes to school with a big smile and always tries her hardest.

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

Joint 6th – Classes 1 & 2

5th – Class 3

4th – Class 5

3rd – Class 4

2nd – Class 6

1st – Class R



HOUSE POINTS

1st – **Lang** – 48 points

2nd – **Fisher** – 42 points

3rd – **Ramsay** – 36 points

4th – **Temple** – 32 points

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Don't forget

Tuesday 11th January is the Deadline for returning your reply slips for the After School Clubs for Multi Skills for Classes 3 & 4 and Football for Classes 5 & 6

ALSO

The lunchtime Choir Club for Classes 2, 5 & 6.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is on in St Marys Parish Centre, Sunday 9th January at 3pm. We celebrate Epiphany, thinking about the wise men and journeys.

Do come and join us for some fun stories, songs and craft.

WORD OWL

Mazen and Clare for Class 6

WORD WIZARD

Maria for Class 3

Awarded as they all got 100% in their quizzes this week



Class R – 83%

Class 1 - 83%

Class 2 - 91%

Class 3 - 90%

Class 4 - 95%

Class 5 - 87%

Class 6 - 93%

Whole school – 90%

ALL MEALS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

Lunch Menu - Week 1

Week beginning Mon 10th January

£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

Coronavirus Symptoms

Updated Guidance

From 11 January in England, people without symptoms who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and get a PCR test (see below). They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.

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

- a new continuous cough;
- a fever;
- a change in taste or smell

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

To get a test go online to:

[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) OR
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> OR
Telephone 111

Changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Keeping School Informed

If your child tests positive for Covid you must inform the school – by telephone on 01304 206887 during the school day. If your child tests positive 'out of hours' we do not need to know until the morning of the first day of absence – as with all sickness absence.

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>

As always, please don't hesitate to make contact via email or telephone with any queries, comments or concerns you may have.

Helen Comfort - Executive Headteacher
office@stmarysprimary.net 01304 206887