

Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 2nd December 2022



Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Ms Comfort

Sleeping Beauty at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

Children and staff from Key Stage 2 had a super time at the pantomime on Thursday. There was plenty of audience participation, singing and cheesy jokes! Snacks during the interval kept everyone going until a late lunch back at school. The behaviour and conduct of all of our fantastic pupils (and staff!) was exemplary throughout and they are to be congratulated and thanked for being such super 'St Mary's CEP' ambassadors.

St Mary's Little Lambs

Some of our Year 6 children, along with Miss Hayley Lamb and Mrs Sylvia Smith, visited the Parish Centre today and joined the parents and children who attend Little Lambs Toddler Group. Some of our Year 6 children participated in Christmas craft activities and were very good at supporting the younger children of the group to make some lovely decorations. Others supported and encouraged the younger children to explore and play with the various toys on offer. It was a privilege to watch the Year 6 children display our school values and have the opportunity to 'shine their light before others'.

Key Stage 2 Disco

We have had a fantastic response to the sale of tickets for our Christmas disco with nearly all of the children in Key Stage 2 due to attend today. We are all looking forward to this annual event. The disco finishes at **4.30pm** and children are to be collected from the school hall via our Laureston Place entrance. Please be reminded to let us know during the school day if someone other than the child's parent will be collecting them; we will not be able to release children to anyone we are not expecting.

Christmas Preparations

It has been a busy week for children and staff in Reception Class and Classes 1 and 2 who have been rehearsing their nativity play 'A Miracle in Town' to perform to the school and their families next week. We look forward to welcoming families into school on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December at 2:15pm. The Laureston Place gate will be open at 2:00pm. Every family in Reception Class and Classes 1 and 2 have been allocated two tickets for each performance of the Nativity. If you cannot use some of these tickets, please return them to the school office so we can give these seats to others who have requested additional seats.

Meanwhile our Key Stage 2 classes are finetuning their singing ready for our carol concert at St Mary's Church the following week.

Reception and Classes 1 and 2 Film Trip

We are planning a trip to the cinema for our Reception and Key Stage 1 classes on 12th December, and are hoping to watch 'Matilda the Musical'. This is a fun morning out and a lovely treat for the children. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £3.00 per child to cover the cost of the entry to the cinema. Although this is a voluntary contribution, if insufficient funds are received, the visit may have to be cancelled. Please complete the online electronic form sent by Parentmail no later than **Wednesday, 7th December 2022**.

Home Reading Information Afternoon Classes R, 1 and 2 (12th December, 2:00pm)

Reminder to sign up for our information afternoon if you have not already - we are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this. Mrs Wallis will be sharing important information about reading expectations; there will also be refreshments included. Please complete the online electronic form sent by Parentmail, or contact the office if you would like a paper copy.

Cold Weather is on the way - brrrr!

According to the weather forecast it is due to become very cold next week - time to dig out those hats, scarves, gloves and extra layers!

Have a good weekend everyone.

Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Learner of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Star of the Week:

Class R - Turtles Learner of the Week is **Raven-Michelle** as she has shown a lot of patience and perseverance in her artwork. She produced an amazing Christmas tree! Well done Raven-Michelle.

Class 1 - Our Learner of the Week in Starfish class is **Caitlin**. She has tried really hard in phonics this week. Well done Caitlin - we are really proud of you!

Class 2 - **Laura** is our Learner of the Week in Otters class and she has tried her best with all her learning and has demonstrated some fantastic skills with subtraction in our maths lessons. Keep up the great work Laura!

Class 3 - Puffins Learner of the Week is **Vojtech**. He is a kind and helpful member of our class and has been trying really hard at everything. Vojtech participates in class discussion and has proudly answered mathematical questions with correct use of place value! Well done Vojtech. We are very proud of you!

Class 4 - **Mertcan** is Penguins' Learner of the Week for the wonderful effort and attitude he has in class. He has been focussed and keen to succeed. He has impressed us with his imagination in writing. Well done Mertcan! We are very proud of you.

Class 5 - **Anita** is our Learner of the Week in Orcas class as she shown a good understanding of equivalent fractions in maths, and has eagerly answered questions in English. It has been a pleasure to watch Anita grow. Well done Anita, we are very proud of you!

Class 6 - **Marko** is our Learner of the Week in Seahorses as he understands our school value of Respect on the playground. Miss Loges is especially proud of his efforts and knows that he will continue to be the very best that he can be. Well done Marko!



Thought for the Week



Christingle & Crib Service

St Mary's Church, Dover
Cannon Street, Dover

Christmas Eve at 4:00pm

A traditional Christmas service for the whole family as we explore the nativity story and the first Christmas, with Christingles!

Feel free to come dressed as your favourite nativity character, a shepherd, a king, and angel, or maybe a donkey... the kids can dress up too!

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

- 1st - Class 5 - 88 points
- 2nd - Class 1 - 82 points
- 3rd - Class 4 - 80 points



HOUSE POINTS

- 1st - **LANG** - 99 points
- 2nd - **RAMSEY** - 94 points
- 3rd - **FISHER** - 82 points
- 4th - **TEMPLE** - 78 points

Go with the FLO...



South Kent Mind are holding the following Parent & Carers Wellbeing Information event.

What: Being There for Your Child

A mental health & wellbeing information drop-in for parents & carers

When: Wednesday 14th December 2:00 – 4:00pm

Where: The Atrium, Charlton Centre, 52-72 High Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1TT

For more information visit

<https://www.southkentmind.org.uk/2022/12/parentsandcarers/>

If you are a parent or carer for young people aged 7 – 18 who is:

- concerned about your child's wellbeing
- interested in learning more about how to further support their growing independence and resilience
- or looking for ways to better support your own mental health and wellbeing against the backdrop of busy family life

South Kent Mind would love to welcome you to their community Parent & Carers Wellbeing Information event. Drop by between 2:00pm – 4:00pm to chat with one of their Wellbeing Coordinators and find out how South Kent Mind's advice and community can better support you and your family.



Kooth offers emotional and mental health support for children and young people aged **between 11 and 24**. On Kooth, qualified counsellors are online seven days a week

to provide young people using the service with online counselling, through chat-based messaging via drop-in or booked sessions.

For more information please go to:

<https://www.kooth.com/>

A graphic titled 'Chat opening hours (Christmas and New Year period)' from Kooth. It lists the chat opening hours for several dates in December and January. The background is a light teal color with a darker teal wavy shape at the bottom. The Kooth logo is at the top. The text 'kooth.com' is at the bottom.

Saturday 24th December	Sunday 25th December	Monday 26th December	Tuesday 27th December
Christmas Eve 4pm-8pm	Christmas Day 4pm-8pm	Boxing Day 4pm-8pm	Bank Holiday 4pm-8pm
Saturday 31st December	Sunday 1st January	Monday 2nd January	
New Years Eve 4pm-8pm	New Years Day 4pm-8pm	Bank Holiday 4pm-8pm	

Miss Hayley Lamb – Family Liaison Office

Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School

During Collective Worship this week, the children discussed aspirations and plans, as well as Advent.

Advent is a time of waiting for Christians - this can be related to the concept of Incarnation - waiting for God to come to the world as a human being, waiting for Jesus, the Light of the World to be sent to bring God's light.

As we prepare for Christmas, we can use the lights of Christmas to remember Jesus, the Light of the World.

We will continue to be learning about Advent and lighting our candles on our Advent Wreath (Hope; Faith; Joy; Love).

The children continued to demonstrate fabulous singing in our Collective Worship. Moreover, there were a plethora of celebrations given to children who had demonstrated wonderful learning throughout this week - a real spiritual moment!

Term 2 – 2022

Monday 5th December:

Tuesday 6th December:

Swimming – Class 5

Wednesday 7th December:

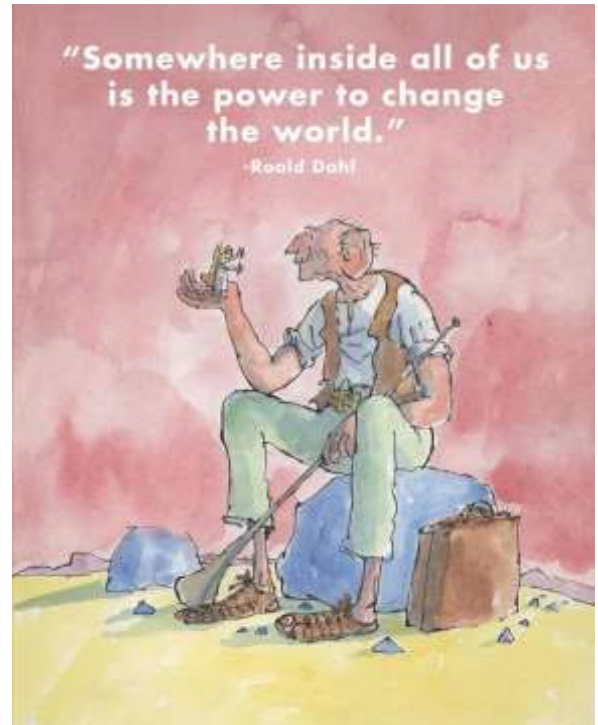
Swimming Class 5

Key Stage 1 Nativity – 2:15pm

Thursday 8th December:

Key Stage 1 Nativity – 2:15pm

Friday 9th December:



Coronavirus Symptoms

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the next steps for living with COVID-19 in England from Friday, 1 April.

Updated guidance

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. Children and young people with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days, which is when they are most infectious.

Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature. Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious.

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



Reception Class 2023

Applications for our Reception Class 2023 opened on 4th November 2022. You can apply online at:

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places

Further information about the application process can be found below.

We are very pleased to offer tours of the school for prospective new families – please telephone the school office to make an appointment. Mr Lamprell has already shown a number of prospective families around and has received very positive feedback from them.

Please note that the deadline for applications is **16th January 2023**. Do spread the word to people you know who may be interested in a place in our next new class.

Admission to Primary school in Kent 2023

Apply online at
kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Opens Friday 4 November 2022 and closes at
midnight on **Monday 16 January 2023**

For children born between
1 September 2018
and **31 August 2019**,
Transferring to Primary school
in **September 2023**

What to do

Choose a school

It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name them on the application form.

Read the guide to Primary admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

You can name up to three Primary schools, inside or outside of Kent, but you must name them all on the same application.

Apply for a school place

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens **Friday 4 November 2022** and closes at midnight on **Monday 16 January 2023**.

You will first need to set up an online account. The applicant is you, the parent/carer; you will then need to add your child's details before starting an application. You will receive a confirmation email that your application has been correctly submitted.

You can log back in at any time to view the information submitted.

Receiving your offer

On offer day (**Monday 17 April 2023**) an email will be sent after **4pm** informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by **Monday 1 May 2023**. A link to a guide with information you will need to provide the school with will be in your offer email.

If it has not been possible to offer your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to appeal. You can also add their name to the school's waiting list.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you have queries relating to this, please email the team on one of the email addresses below.

Key dates

Friday 4 November 2022	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Monday 16 January 2023	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Monday 17 April 2023	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Monday 1 May 2023	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Friday 12 May 2023	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk or kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Full information booklet can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.



