

# St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023



## Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



## A Message from Ms Comfort

### Dover's Winter Light Up Festival

The children in classes 5 and 6 had a fantastic day on Thursday, making lanterns for Dover's Winter Light Up Festival. Four visiting artists arrived with bundles of willow, PVA glue and special tissue paper to construct 3D 'star' lanterns. The children persevered to make their structures and impressed our guests by working together to achieve a goal. The lanterns are now drying, ready for the Festival on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Please see below for details of the event if you would like to attend with your child:



**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023**

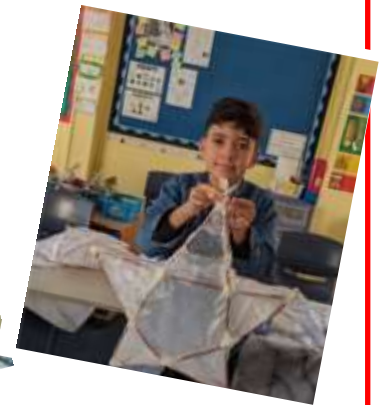
**Start Location: Pencester Gardens CT16 1BT**

**4:00pm - 4.20pm** – Year 5 and 6 children to arrive at Pencester Gardens to collect their lantern.

**4:45pm** - Procession lines up and the lanterns are lit.

**5:00pm** - Procession leaves Pencester. Route will be Pencester Rd, Biggin St, Priory St, York St roundabout, Worthington St, Cannon St to Market Square.

*Please note that all children will be in the care and remain the responsibility of their parents during this event.*



### Breakfast Bagels

The school is working in partnership with the National School Breakfast Programme to provide the opportunity for all children to have a free breakfast bagel each morning upon their arrival. Bagels will be served warm and will be available each morning to all children within each year group. The programme will commence this Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Children in Key Stage 2 will be served a half bagel per morning, and children in Key Stage 1 will be served a quarter bagel. This programme will run in addition to our Breakfast Club provision.

### Class 6 Victorian Day

The children of class 6 were transported back to stricter Victorian times this week for their Victorian school day experience! The class took part in a range of activities which saw them practise their handwriting skills when using an ink pen and quill, using chalk and a blackboard to practise their arithmetic skills and a Victorian drill lesson outside. Lots of fun was had by all!



### Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

It was good to see so many of you in school this week for our teacher consultation meetings – I hope that you found the time with your child's class teacher useful.

### Christmas is Coming!

I hope you all saw the Christmas letter which came out recently – we look forward to seeing you all at our various events which celebrate the festive period.

### Reception Class 2024

Do you have a child born between **1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020**? If so they will be eligible to start school in September 2024. We invite families to book an appointment to come and have a look around our school at a time to suit. Please contact the office: 01304 206887 / [office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net)

Wishing you all a good weekend.

**Ms Helen Comfort - Executive Headteacher**

## Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

The children participated excellently in Collective Worship this week. The children focused on the importance of listening and how it helps us through life. There are many parables in the Bible that shares ways in which listening helps to positive decision-making.

I wonder if you have listened to any useful advice? How has this supported you?

With Advent approaching, the pupils explored the meaning of Advent. Advent begins a four week period of preparation for the nativity of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Christians believe that the Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today.

As always, the week was concluded with a range of awards shared in Celebration Collective Worship - well done to everyone!

### Learner of the Week

**Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:**

**Class R** – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Louie**! Louie has tried really hard to demonstrate good listening skills on the carpet and has contributed lots of ideas during discussion time. Well done Louie – we are all really proud of you!



**Class 1** – Starfish Class Learner of the Week is **Thandeka** as she has settled into life at St Mary's really well. Thandeka is making excellent progress in her phonics and reading, and has carefully written all the instructions for making a delicious honey sandwich. Keep up the hard work Thandeka!

**Class 2** – **Zala** is our Learner of the Week in Otters Class as she comes into school every day with a smile on her face. Zala has a positive attitude to her learning and always tries her best. She is a kind and helpful member of Otters Class and a fantastic friend to her peers. Well done Zala!

**Class 3** – **Tino** is our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class as he is an enthusiastic learner and has been attentive in all lessons. Tino has made lovely progress in his writing, thinking about his sentences and writing them with more independence. Well done Tino – a fantastic week!

**Class 4** – Our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class is **Nevaeh** as her effort and determination has shone! She listens intently and always works to the best of her ability. Nevaeh has also impressed us with her amazing understanding of multiplying by 7 and 9 in maths. Well done Nevaeh – we are very proud of you!

**Class 5** – Orcas Class Learner of the Week is **Mia**! Mia is an extremely diligent and reliable member of our class and shows real commitment to all she undertakes. She always has a positive attitude and showed true perseverance when making her star lantern for Dover's Winter Light Up Parade. We are so proud of you – keep being an Awesome Orca Mia!

**Class 6** – **Marharyta** is Seahorses Class Learner of the Week as she has amazed us all with her brilliant maths skills! She is able to solve a range of problems and even help others with their learning. Well done Marharyta – keep up the great work!

Go with the Flo...

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Mrs Debbie Morris – Family Liaison Officer

### GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1<sup>st</sup> – **Class R** – 145 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – **Class 2** – 125 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – **Class 5** – 115 points



The winning House for  
best attendance this week  
is.....  
**LANG !!**



### HOUSE POINTS

1<sup>st</sup> – **TEMPLE** – 206 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – **LANG** – 170 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – **FISHER** – 132 points

4<sup>th</sup> – **RAMSEY** – 130 points

### Term 2 2023

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November:  
**Swimming – Class 5**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November:  
**Multi-Skills Club**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November:  
**Swimming – Class 5**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November:  
**Football Club**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December:  
**KS2 Christmas Disco**

### SEND Spotlight

We are pleased to share with you that as a school we are working with NHS Speech and Language Therapists, bringing specialist support to our pupils.



Speech, Language and Communication development are important life skills. They are linked to learning, attainment, behaviour, social and emotional development as well as mental wellbeing. We are committed to supporting the speech, language and communication development of all our pupils. We are working in partnership with our NHS link speech & language therapist Lucy Adams and Dee Murphy as well as specialist teachers to continue to improve our practice and provision and help to ensure that all our children reach their potential. Your child may therefore come into contact with our link therapists within their classroom or around school. If you have any concerns about your child's speech, language or communication skills, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. We will then work together with you to agree on any next steps. You will be kept informed about any plans to support your child.

Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCo



