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

## Learning for life with God as our guide

## Friday, 8th December 2023

## Our Christian Values

## Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance

## A Message from Ms Comfort

**Celebrating Christmas Together**

It has been a pleasure to have the families of our youngest children into school this week. The Reception Class team hosted a 'stay and play' on Wednesday. Children and families made Christmas wreaths and baubles, and also decorated Christmas trees. The event was rounded off by the children singing Twinkle, Twinkle Christmas Lights and Father Christmas in his Sleigh.

On Thursday afternoon the hall was packed with the families of our Class 1 and 2 children who had come to enjoy the children's performance of 'The Twinkly Nativity'. The children did an amazing job – all lines were delivered with confidence, the singing was delightful and the children all looked the part in their various costumes – this was a delightful re-telling of the birth of Jesus.

I thank all of the children and the staff for their efforts with these events. We are looking forward to the Key Stage 2 Carol Concert on Monday of next week.

**Christingle Service**

Earlier this week the children all made Christingles at school in preparation for our Christingle Service which was held today at school. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning. The orange represents the world, the red tape represents the love and blood of Christ, the dried fruit represent all of God's creations and the lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

**Parking**

A resident in Ashen Tree Lane has raised a concern this week about parents parking inconsiderately on the pavement, which is making it difficult for pedestrians to walk safely on the pathway, and for vehicles to drive down the lane. Please could we ask all parents to be considerate when they are parking to collect children at the end of the day.

**Last Week of Term**

There is still lots happening in the last week of term.

On **Monday**, it's our **Reception Class / Key Stage 1 Cinema Trip** in the morning and **Key Stage 2 Carol Concert** in the afternoon – see separate Christmas letter for details.

**Tuesday is the KS2 Pantomime trip. Again, please see separate letter for details.**

**Christmas Lunch** is on **Wednesday** for those who have pre-ordered. **Christmas jumpers** can be worn on this day too.

**Party Day** is on **Thursday** – school uniform to be worn as usual and children to bring a plate or box of party tea to enjoy. Classes will spend time in the hall playing traditional party games.

School finishes on **Friday 15th December** for the term and we look forward to welcoming all children back to school on **Wednesday 3rd January 2024.**

**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 spread the word to anyone you know with a child of the right age.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

**Ms Helen Comfort - Executive Headteacher**

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

We opened Collective Worship this week by lighting our first Advent candle - The Prophecy Candle. This candle symbolises 'hope' reminding us that Jesus is 'coming'. How are you preparing for Christmas Day? The children are looking forward to the final week where we will light our final three candles on our Advent wreath before we break up for the Christmas Holidays.

Collective Worship was finished off in style today as we had an amazing Christingle Service. Every class had an opportunity to hold their own Christingle and sing a joyful song - a real spiritual moment for the school!

Christingle is a joyful celebration that is delivered during Advent that brings communities together to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope. Parts of the Christingle have important meanings (as mentioned previously in this newsletter). It was lovely to see so many joyful faces.

I wonder if you celebrate Christingle or have a similar event?

**GOLDEN MANNER POINTS**

1st - Class 3 - 75 points
2nd - Class 1 - 70 points
3rd - Class 2 - 65 points

**HOUSE POINTS**

1st - LANG - 167 points
2nd - FISHER - 117 points
Joint 3rd - TEMPLE & RAMSEY 109 points

**The winning House for best attendance this week is……**

**TEMPLE !!**

**Christmas Cards**

Our Christmas post box is in the hall ready to accept Christmas cards for all your friends at school.

**Go with the Flo…**

DOVER BIG LOCAL CIC

Tuesday & Thursday

## Digital Support

Free Drop in sessions - suitable for all

**Help with:**

how to use a computer, setting up email accounts, typing, uploading photos, organising files, using the internet, accessing services online

## 10am - 2pm

Unit 18 Charlton Centre
High Street, Dover
CT16 1TT
01304 449385

COMMUNITY FUND

DOVER BIG LOCAL CIC

Tuesday

## Job Club

**Tuesday 10am - 3pm**

Free Drop in sessions - suitable for all

**Help with:**

Job searches, CV creation, Interview coaching, back to work preparation, access to one support, outside agency support to help with your wider wellbeing

Unit 18 Charlton Centre
High Street, Dover
CT16 1TT
01304 449385

COMMUNITY FUND

**Mrs Debbie Morris – Family Liaison Officer**

## Term 2 2023

**Monday 11th December:**
**Reception Class & KS1 Cinema Trip**

**Tuesday 12th December:**
**KS2 Pantomime Trip**

**Wednesday 13th December:**
**Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day**
**Choir Singing at Laureston House**

**Thursday 14th December:**
**Christmas Party Day**

**Friday 15th December:**
**LAST DAY OF TERM 2**

**The children return to school on Wednesday, 3rd January 2024**

**SEND Spotlight**

St Mary's CEP, Dover

FAMILY

COFFEE MORNING

Does your child have additional needs or are you worried about your child's development?

Do you want to meet other families in our community?

Would you like to find out more about the Local Offer and community groups such as Include Us 2?

Thursday, 18th January 2024

All welcome to join us in our School Hall

9:00am -10:00am

**Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCo**

## Learner of the Week

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

**Class R –** Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Archie** as he always tries his best and his confidence is really beginning to grow! Archie has wowed us this week in all areas of his learning, and he produced some amazing writing in literacy. Well done Archie!

**Class 1 –** Our Learners of the Week in Starfish Class is **EVERYONE**! What an amazing effort they all put into rehearsing and performing our Twinkly Nativity! Their singing was beautiful and they all remembered where they needed to be on stage. We are so proud of you all for a super performance to your parents and carers from home. Well done everyone!

**Class 2** – **EVERYONE** in Otters Class are Learners of the Week this week for their brilliant performance in our Twinkly Nativity! They all worked so hard to remember their lines, the words to the songs and where they needed to be on stage. They performed confidently to both the school and the parents and made us so proud! Well done Otters – you are all amazing!

**Class 3** – Our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class is **Lenka** as she is a trustworthy, attentive and thoughtful member of our class, and always tries her best. Lenka has shared wonderful and original ideas in class this week, and has gained more confidence in maths. Well done Lenka – we are all so proud of you!

**Class 4** – Penguins Class Learner of the Week is **Ethan** for the wonderful effort and attitude he has in class. He has impressed us with his imagination in writing and has shone in maths. Ethan worked hard to create an oracle bone out of clay following the instructions and attempting to use Chinese writing. Well done Ethan!

**Class 5** – Orcas Class Learner of the Week is **Carter-Jay** as he is making a real effort to join in with his class mates to complete tasks as a member of a group. C-J listened intently in English and made a good effort when producing his story map. C-J can be relied on to be kind and thoughtful towards younger children during lunch club. Well done C-J – you are an Awesome Orca!

**Class 6** – **Pasha-Mai** is Seahorses Class Learner of the Week as she has been extremely helpful around the classroom and has been lending a helping hand to anyone that has needed it! She has been trying really hard with all of her learning – especially her English. Pasha has made a great start to Year 6 and all the adults in class are very proud. Well done Pasha-Mai!

## Every minute counts!

Arriving late to school causes disruption to the school office staff; the whole school as Collective Worship has started; to your child who has missed out on registration, saying hello to their friends and hearing about what is on the schedule for the day.

**Children in Classes R, 1 and 2 need to arrive at the Laureston Place gate between 8:40am and 8:55am.**

**Children in Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6 need to arrive at the Maison Dieu gate between 8:40am and 8:55am.**

Please ensure that your child arrives on time every day. If your child arrives after 8.55am they will be marked with a late mark. If you are struggling to get your child to school please speak to Mrs D Morris, the Family Liaison Officer, who will be able to help and support you with this.

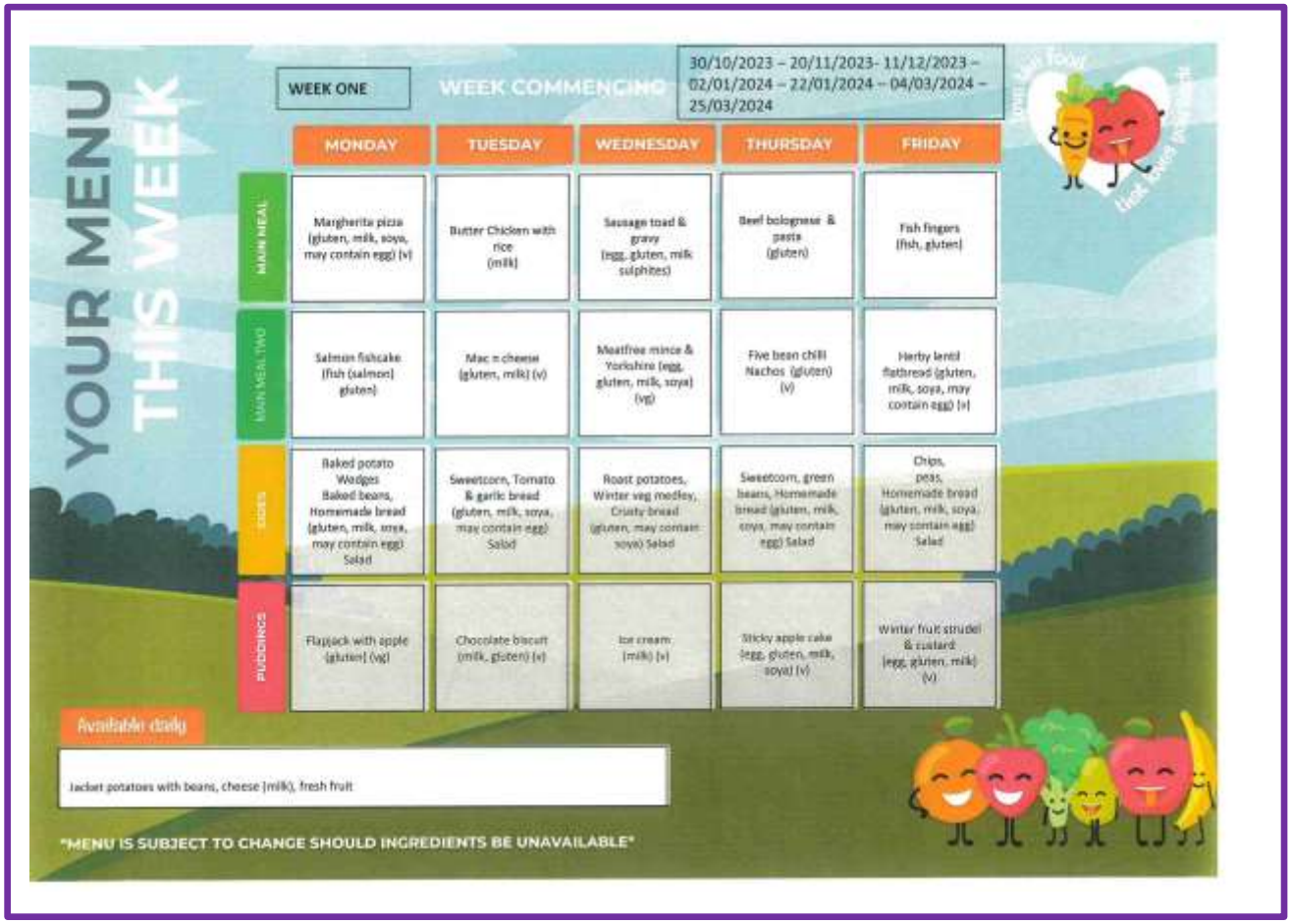
## Thought for the Week

## Lunch Menu – Week 1

## Week beginning Monday 11th December 2023

**Please follow the link below to register and pay for your child's meals:**
https://chandcoparents.myschoolmealorders.com/login

**£2.67 per day – All meals must be paid in advance**



YOUR MENU THIS WEEK

WEEK ONE

WEEK COMMENCING 30/10/2023 – 20/11/2023- 11/12/2023 – 02/01/2024 – 22/01/2024 – 04/03/2024 – 25/03/2024

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MAIN MEAL | Margherita pizza (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) (v) | Butter Chicken with rice (milk) | Sausage toad & gravy (egg, gluten, milk sulphites) | Beef bolognese & pasta (gluten) | Fish fingers (fish, gluten) |
| MAIN MEAL TWO | Salmon fishcake (fish (salmon) gluten) | Mac n cheese (gluten, milk) (v) | Meatfree mince & Yorkshire (egg, gluten, milk, soya) (vg) | Five bean chilli Nachos (gluten) (v) | Herby lentil flatbread (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) (v) |
| SIDES | Baked potato Wedges Baked beans, Homemade bread (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) Salad | Sweetcorn, Tomato & garlic bread (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) Salad | Roast potatoes, Winter veg medley, Crusty bread (gluten, may contain soya) Salad | Sweetcorn, green beans, Homemade bread (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) Salad | Chips, peas, Homemade bread (gluten, milk, soya, may contain egg) Salad |
| PUDDINGS | Flapjack with apple (gluten) (vg) | Chocolate biscuit (milk, gluten) (v) | Ice cream (milk) (v) | Sticky apple cake (egg, gluten, milk, soya) (v) | Winter fruit strudel & custard (egg, gluten, milk) (v) |

Available daily

Jacket potatoes with beans, cheese (milk), fresh fruit

*MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE SHOULD INGREDIENTS BE UNAVAILABLE*

## Christingle 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!

**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**
**Matthew Lamprell – Head of School**
**office@stmarysprimary.net - 01304 206887**