

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



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024



## Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



## A Message from Mrs Comfort

Another busy week in school including meeting two new members of our team – has your child told you about the antics of not just one, but two, Christmas elves who seem to have taken up residence in our school hall! The children and staff all wonder each morning what mischief the elves will have caused!

### Celebrating Christmas Together

We have enjoyed welcoming 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 'Simply the Nativity'. The children did a super job – lines were delivered with confidence; the singing was lovely 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 Tuesday 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. This is always a super and memorable event in our calendar.



### Reception Class 2025

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021? If so they will be eligible to start school in September 2025. We invite families to book an appointment to come and have a look around our school at a time to suit. We have been overwhelmed with the number of New Intake Tours that Mr Lamprell has carried out already and are really pleased to meet with these families. Please remember to contact the office on 01304 206887 / office@stmarysprimary.net if you or anyone you know has a child due to start school.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Mrs Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

### GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1<sup>st</sup> - Class 2 - 67 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Class 3 - 60 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Class 4 - 47 points

The winning House for best attendance this week is...

**TEMPLE !!**



### HOUSE POINTS

1<sup>st</sup> - RAMSEY - 166 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> - FISHER - 165 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> - TEMPLE - 128 points  
4<sup>th</sup> - LANG - 109 points

### Learner of the Week

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

**Class R** – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Josiah**. Josiah has tried really hard to demonstrate good listening skills on the carpet. He has also followed instructions and enjoyed completing different activities. Well done Josiah!

**Class 1** – **All of Starfish Class** are our Learners of the Week for their performances in 'Simply the Nativity'! The children sang their hearts out and did indeed 'raise the roof' for a Christmas extravaganza! Well done for remembering lines and when to come on and go off the stage – it can be very tricky. We are so very proud of all of you – well done!

**Class 2** – We are thrilled to announce that **All of Otters Class** are our Learners of the Week for their amazing nativity performance! They truly shone and were a delightful showcase of confidence, enthusiasm and hard work! Keep believing in yourselves Otters Class – we are so proud of all of you!

**Class 3** – Our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class is **Adrian** as he has shown a positive attitude to change in the classroom and worked really hard in English. Adrian has produced some great ideas to share with the class and his drawings of a bird showed great detail. Well done Adrian – keep up the great work!

**Class 4** – **Brian W** is our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class for the wonderful effort and attitude he has in class. Brian is always focussed and enjoys succeeding in his learning. He has impressed us with his imagination in writing, and shone in maths this week. Well done Brian!

**Class 5** – Orcas Class Learner of the Week is **Leo**! Leo has persevered with every aspect of his work this week and has enjoyed spending more time with his peers. Leo has impressed us when learning about long division in maths, and we are all so proud of him. Well done Leo!

**Class 6** – **Phoebe** is our Learner of the Week in Seahorses Class as she has shown our Christian value of Friendship in abundance! From helping others to make Christingles, to collaborative maths with her peers, Phoebe has been an absolute superstar! Her light has definitely shone brightly this week! Well done Phoebe!



## Thought for the Week



## Christmas Eve Service at 4:00pm

St Mary's Church, Dover  
Cannon Street, Dover

### Christingle service and building the crib

A traditional Christmas service for the whole family. Join us for some festive fun as we celebrate Jesus being born and his light shining into the world.



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

The children continued the theme of Christmas throughout this week's Collective Worships as we discussed the meaning of Christmas to Christians and to us - the children provided some really thoughtful points.

In addition, the meaning and celebration of Christingle was carried out this week. Christingles are used by some Christians in church, during the time of Advent, to celebrate the birth of Jesus - the Light of the World. The word Christingle means 'Christ's light'. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Christingle Service today as they held their 'Christingle' and sung a range of songs. Children discussed what each part of the Christingle represented.

I wonder if you celebrate Christingle and what the symbolic aspects mean to you?

Finally, Key Stage 2 children continued to practise for their Christmas Carol Concert next week - we certainly look forward to sharing this with families.



St Mary's CEP, Dover

**FAMILY**

## COFFEE MORNING

Are you worried about your child's  
toileting skills or development?

Do you want to ask the Kent Community  
Health team for advice?

*We will be discussing our experiences of  
developing independent toileting skills  
and night time wetting. Advice and sign-  
posting will be available from the NHS and  
our SENCO, Mrs Burkett.*

All Welcome

Thursday, 19th December - 9:00am-10:00am

FOUNDED 1789



## Elf Adventures



**When:** Saturday 21 December 10:30am-12:30pm

**Where:** Dover Library

**What:** Have fun with our Elf on their exciting  
adventures!

Follow our christmas trail; get crafty at our craft station  
guess the name of our elf and find out your own! And  
don't forget to 'elf yourself' at our elf selfie station!  
(subject to parental permission)

Suitable for children aged 4-11 years. All children must be accompanied by a  
responsible adult at all times.



Admission to

# Primary school in Kent 2025

Apply online at

[kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Opens Tuesday 5 November 2024 and closes at  
midnight on Wednesday 15 January 2025

For children born between  
1 September 2020  
and 31 August 2021,  
Transferring to Primary school  
in September 2025

## 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](https://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, but, consistent process which opens Tuesday 5 November 2024 and closes at midnight on Wednesday 15 January 2025.

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 (Wednesday 16 April 2025) 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 Wednesday 30 April 2025.

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. RCC 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

<b>Tuesday 5 November 2024</b>	Online application process opens. Go to <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions">www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions</a> to register and apply.
<b>Wednesday 15 January 2025</b>	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to <a href="mailto:kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk">kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk</a>
<b>Wednesday 16 April 2025</b>	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
<b>Wednesday 30 April 2025</b>	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.
<b>Tuesday 20 May 2025</b>	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolsappeals">www.kent.gov.uk/schoolsappeals</a> . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.



Term 2 2024

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December:

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:

KS2 Carol Concert  
Class 3 Library Visit

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:

Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch – please see menu below

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December:

Christmas Party Day  
SEND Coffee Morning – gam

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December:

Last Day of Term 2

**Term 3 begins on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025**



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 – Headteacher**  
[office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net) - 01304 206887

Lunch Menu  
**CHRISTMAS WEEK MENU**

If you pay for your child's cooked lunch, the cost will be **£2.50 a day**. **This payment will be made directly to the school and must be paid for in advance.** Please note payment details below: -

Name of Account - KCC RE DOVER ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Sort Code - 60-60-08  
Account Number - 83294082  
Reference – [Child's Name] Lunch



JACKET POTATOES **WILL NOT** BE AVAILABLE ON  
WEDNESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER



**CHRISTMAS WEEK MENU 2024**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

pizza (v)\*  
curried vegetable pasty  
jacket wedges  
baked beans & sweetcorn  
cook's choice of Christmas dessert  
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**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

mac n cheese (v)\* served with garlic bread & salad  
pasta provencale (vg) served with garlic bread & salad  
cook's choice of Christmas dessert  
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**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

roast turkey, pig in blanket, stuffing ball & gravy  
with roast potatoes, brussel sprouts,  
peas & carrot medley  
veggie meatloaf, Quorn sausage, stuffing ball & gravy (v)\*  
with roast potatoes, brussel sprouts  
peas & carrots medley  
Christmas ice cream tub  
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**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

burger, herby diced potatoes with baked beans & cucumber  
Quorn sausage, pasta with baked beans & cucumber  
(vg)  
cook's choice of Christmas dessert  
~ ~ ~

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

fish fingers, chips & peas  
veggie nuggets & chips with peas & sweetcorn (Vg)  
cook's choice of Christmas dessert  
~ ~ ~

*Allergy/Vegan options available on request*

*Please note that a jacket potato option will not be available on Christmas Dinner day.*