

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 20th December 2024



Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Mrs Comfort

It's Christmas!

There has been no let-up in our school Christmas celebrations which have continued this week.

On Tuesday, Key Stage 2 families joined us at St Mary's Church for our annual Key Stage 2 Carol Service. The children presented songs and readings all in the re-telling of the Christmas story. The staff and children had worked hard to prepare this and their work paid off as the singing was delightful and the readings and prayers were delivered clearly and with confidence and we all appreciated Miss Whiscombe's playing of the piano; well done to all involved. We were happy to have so many family members join us for this festive event.



Wednesday was our Christmas Dinner Day. Our school cooks did a grand job catering a Christmas Lunch for us all – huge thanks to them for making this such a successful event. Our Christmas jumpers brightened up the hall and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Party Day on Thursday allowed the children and staff to come together to pit their skills and wits against each other in a variety of games and activities! Thank you to you all for contributing party food for your child to enjoy.

We ended our school celebrations with our weekly celebration Collective Worship this morning, a really lovely time together which rounded off our school Christmas festivities perfectly.

Thank You

As this calendar year draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and children for their work during 2024. In addition, I would like to thank the families for their ongoing support.

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

The deadline to apply for a primary school place is Wednesday, 15th January 2025.

Return to School

The new term starts for children on **Monday, 6th January 2025** – I look forward to seeing you all then and to welcoming in the new year.

On behalf of all of the staff I would like to offer the very best Christmas wishes to you all.

Mrs Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher



Learner of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class R – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Nancy**! Nancy comes into school every day with a big smile on her face ready to learn. She always tries her best and has wowed us in class this week with her super phonics! Well done Nancy!

Class 1 – Our first Learner of the Week in Starfish Class is **Lucy** as she made AMAZING progress in her phonics learning and reading. Lucy has clearly listened really carefully when learning all our new sounds, and it was a joy to sit with her and watch her blend a wide variety of words. Keep up the fantastic work Lucy!

Our second Learner of the Week in Starfish Class is **Nathan**. Nathan has been trying really hard in his writing, and has come on leaps and bounds with his phonics. It has been a pleasure to have Nathan in Starfish Class and we are all so proud of him. Well done Nathan!

Class 2 – The week we are thrilled to celebrate **Arnav** as our Learner of the Week in Otters Class! Arnav has shown incredible effort and perseverance, working hard to achieve a good score on his maths test. Arnav demonstrates outstanding qualities as a listener and as a good friend to all. Keep making us proud Arnav!

Class 3 – **Wade** is our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class as he has had a great few weeks and been a great helper. Wade has excelled in maths, and his reading has come on leaps and bounds. What a fantastic week Wade – we are all so proud of you!

Class 4 – Penguins Class Learner of the Week is **Banin** for the brilliant effort she has made in class since she joined St Mary's! Banin sung beautifully at the Carol concert and was an excellent role model, displaying all of our Christian values. She has worked hard in maths, and impressed us with her effort to perform a rhyming poem in English. Well done Banin!

Class 5 – **ALL OF ORCAS CLASS** are our Learners of the Week for working hard all term and being amazing! We are all so very proud of you and hope you all have a fantastic Christmas!

Class 6 – **Millie** is our Learner of the Week in Seahorses Class and she consistently puts in maximum effort to all of her work. Millie has written a very descriptive piece of writing this week, and is a good friend to others. She is always helpful to adults and children. Well done Millie – a brilliant week!

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

As Term 2 came to a close, the children were full of joy and Christmas spirit. The week was full of festive cheer - our KS2 children performed beautifully at Church earlier in the week. Their confidence and enthusiasm were admirable and I am sure you will agree that they all did a marvellous job!

As always, Celebration Collective Worship was special as we rounded the term off celebrating a range of awards; from Shining Light Awards to Learners of the Week the children have demonstrated our school's Christian values. Our fourth Advent candle was also lit to celebrate the final proceeding Sunday before Christmas Day.

In addition, Revd. Melissa explained Christmas joy and emotions where parts of the Christmas Story were discussed. At some moments, Mary is full of joy and excitement. At other moments, she must have been really worried and anxious. Christians believe that Mary shows us that it is completely human to feel lots of different emotions. I wonder what emotions you experience at Christmas time?

Admission to
Primary school
in Kent 2025

Apply online at
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	Apply for a school place	Receiving your offer
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.	A single, fast, convenient 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 application to you, the parent/carer, will also 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.	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. 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 or one of the email addresses below.

Key dates

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

Need help?
Email primaryadmissions@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.



Christmas Opening Hours



Monday 23rd	Closed
Christmas Eve	10am - 2pm
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed
Friday 27th	Closed
Monday 30th	Closed
New years Eve	10am-2pm
New Years Day	Closed

from the 2nd of January our normal services will resume.



GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1st - Class 4 - 122 points

Joint 2nd - Class R & Class 5 - 120 points

HOUSE POINTS

1st - RAMSEY - 163 points

2nd - TEMPLE - 152 points

3rd - FISHER - 98 points

4th - LANG - 92 points

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

Term 3 2024

Monday 6th January:
FIRST DAY OF TERM 3
Children return to school

Tuesday 7th January:

Wednesday 8th January:
'Keeping Up with the Children – Maths'
Parent Course – 9.30am

Thursday 9th January:

Friday 10th January:
KS2 Choir Club

Lunch Menu – Week 1
Week Beginning Monday, 6th January 2025

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

		Menu - November 2024 - March 2025		
		Week One 04/11,25/11,06/01,27/01,24/02,17/03	Week Two 11/11,02/12,13/01,03/02,03/03,24/03	Week Three 18/11,09/11,20/01,10/02,10/01,31/03
Monday	Option 1	Home-made Pizza	Mac n Cheese	Pea & Basil Pesto Pasta
	Option 2	Tomato Pasta	Pasta Provencale	Tomato Pasta
	served with	Pasta Peas & Sweetcorn	Garlic Dough Balls Peas & Sweetcorn	Garlic Flatbread Peas & Sweetcorn
	Option 3	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
Dessert	Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	
Tuesday	Option 1	Beef Burger	Breaded Chicken Steak	Mild Chicken Curry
	Option 2	Quorn Sausage	Veggie Nuggets	Veggie Bolognaise with Pasta
	served with	Herby Diced Potatoes Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Jacket Wedges Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Rice Carrots & Green Beans
	Option 3	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
Dessert	Marble Sponge & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Fruit Crumble & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Chocolate Cake & Chocolate Sauce Fresh Fruit/Jelly	
Wednesday	Option 1	Chicken Pie & Gravy	Sausages with Yorkshire Pud & Gravy	Roast Pork with Gravy
	Option 2	Veggie Pie	Quorn Sausage & Gravy	Winter Vegetable Bake
	served with	Roast Potatoes Local Seasonal Vegetables & Cooks Choice	Roast Potatoes Local Seasonal Vegetables & Cooks Choice	Roast Potatoes Local Seasonal Vegetables & Cooks Choice
	Option 3	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
Dessert	Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly	
Thursday	Option 1	Pork Meatballs	Lasagne	Sausage Roll Slice & Gravy
	Option 2	Meatless Meatballs	Veggie Burritos	Quorn Sausage Roll
	served with	Pasta Carrots & Green Beans	Garlic Bread Peas & Cauliflower	Mash Peas & Carrots
	Option 3	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
Dessert	Raspberry Buns Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Krispie Cake Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Lemon Drizzle Cake Fresh Fruit/Jelly	
Friday	Option 1	Fish Fingers	Fish Fingers	Fish Fingers
	Option 2	*Cheese Puff	Corried Veggie Pasty	*Pizza Whirl
	served with	Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn
	Option 3	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	*Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
Dessert	Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	

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.

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