

**ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
(Aided) PRIMARY SCHOOL, DOVER**

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER:  
**Mrs Helen Comfort**  
(B.A.Ed.Hons, NPQH)

HEADTEACHER:  
**Mr Matthew Lamprell**  
(B.Sc. Hons, PGCE, NPQH)



Laureston Place  
Dover, Kent, CT16 1QX  
Telephone: (01304) 206887  
Fax: (01304) 205152  
email:office@stmarysprimary.net  
www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk

**'Learning for life with God as our guide'**

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

**Welcome Back!**

Hello and welcome to a new school year. I hope you have all had a good summer. We are looking forward to getting to know all our new families over the coming weeks as well as catching up with all our returning families. I would like to thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for the cards, gifts and best wishes received at the end of last term – they were all very much appreciated.

Thank you also for supporting us with our school uniform; the children all look very smart and ready for learning!

**Breakfast Club**

A reminder that our Breakfast club has now started for the year. If you have not already done so and you would like to access this service, you will need to register your child. The Breakfast Club will then be available for you to use either on a regular or ad-hoc basis. Please see our website or email/telephone the school office to request a form.

**After School Childcare Service**

We are hoping to start our After School Childcare service before the end of the Autumn Term. We will send out details about this exciting new venture shortly.

**'Meet the teacher' for Classes 1 - 6**

Parent/carers are invited into school on Wednesday, 10th September at 3.15pm to visit the classroom to meet the teacher, say hello and have a look at their child's work. There will be a presentation on the classroom screen showing relevant information – days for PE etc. – as well as a copy for you to take away. If you have more than one child at school you will be able to visit each class.

**Sport**

Children in classes 1-6 will need to bring a PE kit to school in a draw-string bag which they will keep on their peg. Please support us, and your child, by ensuring they have a full PE kit in school every day. As a minimum, all children need a pair of blue shorts, a house colour T-shirt, a pair of plimsolls for indoor PE and a pair of trainers to work outside for children in Classes 3 to 6. These items should be at school every day of the week and kept in a suitable draw string bag - NO carrier bags please.

We suggest that tracksuit bottoms/joggers and a warm top are brought in for outdoor games during the colder months.

Reception Class will have PE every Thursday and should arrive at school on that day dressed in their PE Kit.

I thank you in advance for your support with this important matter and look forward to seeing 100% sport participation at St Mary's!



Canterbury Diocesan  
Board of Education

### Water Bottles

Please send in a water bottle every day with fresh water. Children may bring an additional flavoured drink to have at lunchtime.

### READING BOOKS AND HOMEWORK

All children will bring home a reading book and Reading Record book by Friday, 5th September. Homework will be set during the week beginning 8th September for classes 1-6. Further information regarding homework and home reading expectations will be shared at the forthcoming 'Meet the teacher' session.

Reception class parent/carers – please ensure you have bought your child a Reading Book Bag which can be purchased from [www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk). Remember to use our voucher code **STMDFC** for free delivery. These bags are essential in keeping our stock of reading books in good order.

We recognise that as they move into upper Key Stage 2, children will start to not use a reading book bag and ask, therefore, that parent/carers assist their children in looking after the books.

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We hold a daily act of Collective Worship which all children attend.

On Fridays we have a 'Celebration Collective Worship'. Sometimes a class will perform at this and parent/carers of these children are invited to attend. These dates are shown below and reminders are sent nearer the time.

Class R – Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Class 1 – Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
Class 2 – Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
Class 3 – Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026  
Class 4 – Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Class 5 – Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
Class 6 – Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

In addition, we celebrate birthdays every Friday – children who have a birthday from the Monday of the week to the Sunday are acknowledged. So, for example, on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September, children who have birthdays which fall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September will be given a candle to bring home and will be sung to by the school.

### SAFETY REMINDERS:

#### Cars

Please be advised that the zig-zag areas outside the school gates are **not to be parked on between 8:30am-9:30am and 2:30pm-4pm**. These measures are in place to protect all members of our school community and your co-operation is anticipated and appreciated. If you are travelling to school by car, please note that the St James Retail Park allows 60 minutes free parking (this is any time during the day, but you will need to get a ticket from the machine) and there is no charge before 9am.

#### Mobile 'Phones

Please be reminded that children are not, under any circumstances, to have mobile 'phones with them during the school day or on school trips. They are not to bring these to school, we will not collect them in and look after them. If your child has a mobile 'phone it must remain at home.

Thank you for your support with this matter.



## **Play Equipment**

Our play equipment in the playground is designed for children between 4 and 11 years old, pre-school children are not to use the play equipment at any time. The children are supervised during the break and lunch times by staff when using it. The equipment is **NOT** to be used by any children before or after school hours.

## **TERM DATES**

As you will know from previous correspondence, holiday during term time will not be authorised and Penalty Notices (a fine) can be issued to parents who take children on holiday during term time. To assist you in booking holiday outside of term time, term dates for 2025/2026 are noted below for ease of reference. Information regarding our staff training days is also indicated below. Please note that children are not required to attend school on staff training days.

### **Term Dates 2025/2026**

TERM 1 2025	1 September 2025 - 17 October 2025
TERM 2 2025	27 October 2025 - 19 December 2025
TERM 3 2026	5 January 2026 - 13 February 2026
TERM 4 2026	23 February 2026 – 2 April 2026
TERM 5 2026	20 April 2026 - 22 May 2026
TERM 6 2026	1 June 2026 - 21 July 2026

### **Staff Training Days (children not required to attend school)**

1st September 2025  
27<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
22nd May 2026  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
21st July 2026

The school year will finish for all children on **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026.**

### **Dates for 2025/2026 Academic Year**

I thought it would be helpful to give you advance notice of some of the events, meetings and festivals that will be taking place during this academic year. Please note however, that although events are planned, they may be subject to change or cancellation.

#### **Term 1**

01.09.25	Staff INSET Day – children do not attend school
02.09.25	Children in Years 1 to 6 return to school for Term 1
02.09.25 & 03.09.25	New Year R children start school at 8:40am and finish at 12 midday
04.09.25 & 05.09.25	New Year R children start school at 8:40am and finish at 1pm
08.09.25	New Year R children start full days at school
10.09.25	Open Afternoon at 3:15pm – Years 1 to 6
11.09.25	Kent Test Day for Year 6 children who have opted to take test
15.09.25	Swimming for Year 6 starts
30.09.25	Harvest Festival at 9.30am – Classes 1 – 6
03.10.25	Be smart odd socks day
10.10.25	Class 2 Family Collective Worship
16.10.25	SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am
17.10.25	Last day of Term 1

## Term 2

27.10.25	Staff INSET Day – children do not attend school
28.10.25	Children return to school for Term 2
03.11.25	Swimming for Year 5 starts
05.11.25	Individual Pupil School Photographs
07.11.25	Class 4 Family Collective Worship
07.11.25	Primary School Applications Open for Reception Class September 2025
w/b 10.11.25	Mental Health and Wellbeing Week
14.11.25	Children in Need Day
17.11.25	Parent/Teacher Consultations (Classes R to 6) between 3:30 and 6pm (by appointment)
18.11.25	Parent/Teacher Consultations (Classes R, 3 & 6) between 1:15 and 3:15pm (by appointment)
20.11.25	Parent/Teacher Consultations (Classes 1, 2, 4 & 5) between 1:15 and 3:15pm (by appointment)
02.12.25	Class R and KS1 Cinema trip
04.12.25	KS2 Christmas Disco 3:30 – 5pm
09.12.25	KS2 Pantomime trip
10.12.25	Reception Class Christmas event 2pm
11.12.25	SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am
11.12.25	KS1 Infant Nativity 2:15pm
16.12.25	KS2 Carol Concert - 1:30pm
17.12.25	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
18.12.25	Christmas Party Day
19.12.25	Last Day of Term 2

## Term 3

05.01.26	Children return to school for Term 3
15.01.26	Primary School Applications Close for Reception Class September 2025
16.01.26	Class 6 Family Collective Worship
23.01.26	Class 3 Family Collective Worship
06.02.26	NSPCC Number Day
11.02.26	Open Afternoon at 3:15pm
12.02.26	SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am
13.02.26	Last Day of Term 3

## Term 4

23.02.26	Children return to school for Term 4
05.03.26	World Book Day
05.03.26	Book Fair Opens
13.03.26	Class 1 Family Collective Worship
16.03.26	Parent/Carer Consultations (Classes R to 6) between 3:30pm and 6.00pm (by Appointment)
17.03.26	Parent/Teacher Consultations (Classes R, 3 & 6) between 1:15 and 3:15pm (by appointment)
19.03.26	Parent/Teacher Consultations (Classes 1, 2, 4 & 5) between 1:15 and 3:15pm (by appointment)
31.03.26	Easter Service, morning
01.04.26	SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am
01.04.26	Easter Egg Hunt 3:15pm

02.04.26 Last Day of Term 4

**Term 5**

20.04.26 Children return to school for Term 5

30.04.26 Class Photographs

04.05.26 BANK HOLIDAY– School Closed

08.05.26 Class R Family Collective Worship

w/b 11.05.26 KS2 SATs week for Class 6

20.05.26 SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am

20.05.26 Open Afternoon at 3:15pm

21.05.26 Last day of Term 5 for the children

22.05.26 Staff INSET Day – children do not attend school

**Term 6**

01.06.26 Children return to school for Term 6

w/b 15.06.26 Parent/Carer Consultations (Class 5) about Process for Entry to Secondary Education (PESE)

17.06.26 Sports Day for Classes R, 1 and 2, afternoon

18.06.26 Sports Day for Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6, afternoon

19.06.26 Class 5 Family Collective Worship

w/b 22.06.26 Class 6 Bikeability

24.06.26 Reserve Sports Day for Classes R, 1 & 2, afternoon

25.06.26 Reserve Sports Day for Classes 3, 4, 5 & 6, afternoon

w/b 29.06.26 Class 6 Activity Week

10.07.26 Whole School Grand Day Out

14.07.26 Class 6 Play at 6pm

15.07.26 SEND Coffee Morning 9am to 10am

16.07.26 Leavers' Service 10am

16.07.26 Class 6 Prom 4:30pm to 6pm

17.07.26 Last day of Term 6 for the children


20.07.26 Staff INSET Day – children do not attend school

21.07.26 Staff INSET Day – children do not attend school

We will, of course, notify you of any additions or changes as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to another successful year. Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to any of the staff – we are always very happy to clarify any aspect of our work and to help you with matters related to your child.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs H Comfort**  
**Executive Headteacher**