

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide



Friday, 5th September 2025

Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Mrs Comfort

Welcome

Happy new school year to you all!

All staff were busy on Monday as they received their statutory safeguarding update training. We were delighted to welcome all children back to school on Tuesday – thank you to you all for your efforts with school uniform and in getting your children to school on time. School coats and new shoes have certainly been put to good use in the rain this week.

Our new Reception Class children have made a super start, happily coming into school and playing so well together during the day. There is a lot for them and their families to get used to and they have all taken it in their stride.

Class 6

The children in Class 6 have risen very well to the status of being 'top of the school' this week. Some of them will sit the Kent Test next Thursday. This is the test (sometimes referred to as the 11+) which children take right at the very start of Year 6 if their families wish them to, if they pass they are able to be considered for a place at one of the grammar schools. We talk parent/carers through this process in the summer of Year 5.

Meet the Class Teacher Open Afternoon – Wednesday, 10th September 3.15pm - Classes 1-6

We are looking forward to families of children in Classes 1-6 coming into school at pick-up time for our first open afternoon of the year. The families in Reception Class visited and received information last term.

Please collect your child(ren) as usual at home time and then if your child is in Class 1 or 2 come back into school via the main entrance at Laureston Place. Those of you who collect children from the bottom playground can come up the steps to the lower door on the Key Stage 2 corridor and will be let in there.

Staff will be in their classrooms, there will be a presentation with information for the year ahead on the board as well as a copy for you to pick up.

Forthcoming Events

You will have received our welcome letter earlier this week with key dates and information – do please read this. Families of children in Key Stage 2 have also received a letter about our annual Marlowe Theatre Pantomime trip with a deadline of return by **Friday, 19th September.**

It has been really good to see and hear children and staff getting to know each other this week and to be settling into the routines of school life.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Mrs Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Spotlight on SEN...

We are pleased to invite you to our first 'Kent Adult Education' course of this academic year.

The **Supporting ADHD in the Home course** is designed to give parents and carers an understanding of ADHD behaviours and others practical advice on how to support children in the home.

Please respond to our recent ParentMail form if you would like to attend, or contact the school office for further information – 01304 206887 / office@stmarysprimary.net

Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCO

Learner of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class R – EVERYONE in Turtles Class are our Learners of the Week as they have had a great first week at school! They have settled in well and enjoyed making new friends. Well done everyone – what a great start!

Class 1 – All of Starfish Class are our Learners of the Week! They have all worked hard to settle in to their new routines and have been completing tasks brilliantly at their desks! They have been safe and sensible in the cloakroom and are fantastic at hanging their coats up! We are really excited to share this next year with you! Well done Starfish!

Class 2 – Alex is our Learner of the Week in Otters Class as he is a calm, kind and thoughtful member of our class. He has been following the school rules carefully, settling into routines well and giving his best effort in everything. Well done Alex – keep up the great work!

Class 3 – Puffins Class Learner of the Week is **Tobias** as he has impressed us with his work comparing numbers in maths, and his knowledge of our class text in English! Tobias concentrates and listens really well and is always ready to learn! What a fantastic start to Year 3 Tobias!

Class 4 – Our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class is **Adrian** as he has had an amazing start to Year 4! Adrian has been so engaged with everything we have done this week – from making volcano art to place value in maths. He has shown great listening skills and has followed instructions carefully. Well done Adrian – we are so proud of you!

Class 5 – Bryan is our Learner of the Week in Orcas Class as he has displayed a 'can do' attitude, and we have been so impressed with his keenness to answer questions. Bryan shows great resilience in all his learning and he is an absolute superstar! What a fantastic start Bryan!

Class 6 – Seahorses Class Learner of the Week is **Ruben** for the brilliant effort and attitude he has demonstrated in all of his learning. He has shared wonderful ideas when discussing our class text and has completed all of his maths with great enthusiasm. An amazing start to the year – we are very proud of you Ruben!

OFF TO A
Great Start

Thought for the Week

A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen.

- DENISE WITMER

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1st – Class 4 – 40 points

2nd – Class 3 – 35 points

Joint 3rd – Classes 5 & 6 – 30 points

DOVER FOODBANK MOST needed ITEMS HARVEST 2025



Go with the Flo...

It was lovely to welcome the children back this week and to welcome our new Year R children. As we start a new academic year I just wanted to remind you that we at St Mary's CEP expect every child to attend school 100% of the time.

Research has shown that children with low attendance do not progress and achieve as well as those with 96% and above attendance. It is, therefore, really important for your child to be in school every day. However, if your child isn't able to attend school, please do contact the school office before 9:00am on every day that your child is unable to attend school. If you do not contact the school when your child is absent this becomes a safeguarding concern which could result in the school making a home visit to check that you and your child are safe.

And finally, it is also really important that your child arrives at school on time. Children who arrive late are automatically at a disadvantage to their classmates as they may have missed teacher input about the days learning. Also, some children may find it difficult to enter a classroom or Collective Worship when everyone else is settled. So please ensure that your child arrives in school at 8.40 every day.

If you are struggling to get your child to school please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be only too happy to help.

Mrs Debbie Morris - Family Liaison Officer



Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

A wonderful first week back for the children as many could share positive learning experiences in their new class, as well as hopes and aspirations for the academic year. Pupils were able to name our school's Christian values and give excellent examples of how they can demonstrate them. We also discussed our three school rules and why these are important in enabling us to feel safe and thrive/flourish in a calm, warming environment!

The meaning and importance of Collective Worship were also spoken about; the children enjoy this time as it is an opportunity for reflection and provides a sense of togetherness.

I wonder why school values and rules are important for everyone? I wonder if our school values and rules align closely with you?

Finally, the week ended with many Learners of the Week certificates shared and celebrated - well done all!

Term 1 2025

Monday 8th September:

- Reception Class start full time

Tuesday 9th September:

Wednesday 10th September:

- Year 1 to 6 – Meet the Teacher – 3:15pm

Thursday 11th September:

- Kent Test – Year 6

Friday 18th July:

- Forest School
 - Class 1 – morning
 - Class 4 - Afternoon



St Mary's Church of England (VA) Primary School, Dover

Would you like to join our team of school governors?

The role of a school governor is to work as part of a team alongside the Headteacher to help set and support the objectives and values of the school, agreeing policies, targets and the budget. They monitor how the school is progressing towards its aims and provide support and challenge to the Headteacher so together we can support our pupils to become confident, independent and well-rounded individuals with a deep and lifelong capacity for learning.

A Foundation Governor also has a special role in supporting our Christian ethos and values within our multi-cultural school.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor at St Mary's CEP, you will receive all the support and training you need to fully engage with the role. We hope you would also gain a sense of achievement as you become part of a team that works together so that everyone has the opportunity to flourish. Please note that this is a voluntary role.

For more details please contact the school office (01304 206887) and ask to be put in contact with our Chair of Governors, Rev Melissa Carter.



Lunch Menu – Week Two

Week Beginning Monday, 8th September 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

		MIDDLE SCHOOL COOKED LUNCH		
		Week One	Week Two	Week Three
		21/04, 12/05, 09/06, 30/06, 14/07, 01/08, 22/08, 13/10	28/04, 19/05, 16/06, 07/07, 04/08, 29/08	05/05, 02/06, 23/06, 14/07, 15/08, 06/10
Monday	Option 1	Cheese Slice	Cheesy Pasta	Cheese & Tomato Pizza
	Option 2	Pasta Provencale	Tomato Pasta	Curried Vegetable Pasty
	served with	Pasta Baked Beans & Peas	Garlic Bread Mixed Salad & Sweetcorn	Pasta Coleslaw & Sweetcorn Salad
Option 3	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	
Dessert	Ice Cream Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Ice Cream Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Ice Cream Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	
Tuesday	Option 1	Chicken Fajitas	Beef Tacos	Baked Sausages
	Option 2	*Mexican Bean Wraps	*Veggie Tacos	Quorn Sausage
	served with	Rice Carrot Batons & Shredded Lettuce	Rice Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables	Mashed Potatoes Baked Beans & Peas
Option 3	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	
Dessert	Krispie Cake Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Cheesy Chocolate Cake Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Iced Carrot Cake Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	
Wednesday	Option 1	Roast Chicken with Yorkshire Pudding	Sausage Roll Slice	Roast Chicken & Stuffing
	Option 2	Carrot & Lentil Bake	Quorn Sausage Roll	Veggie Meatloaf
	served with	Roast Potatoes Green Beans & Mixed Vegetables	Roast Potatoes Diced Carrots & Broccoli	Roast Potatoes Cauliflower & Diced Carrots
Option 3	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	
Dessert	Orange Flapjack Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Oat Cookie Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Goey Chocolate Biscuit Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	
Thursday	Option 1	Meaty Pizza	Pork Meatballs	Gammon Ham
	Option 2	Vegetable Frittata	Meatless Meatballs	Crunchy Vegetable Crumble
	served with	Saute Potatoes Mixed Salad & Coleslaw	Pasta Mixed Vegetables & Green Beans	Potato Puffs Cucumber Sticks & Grated Carrot Salad
Option 3	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	
Dessert	Iced Lemon Cake Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Ginger Cookie Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Marble Sponge Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	
Friday	Option 1	Fish Fingers	Fish Fingers	Fish Fingers
	Option 2	Veggie Nuggets	Veggie Nuggets	Veggie Nuggets
	served with	Chips or Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Chips or Pasta Baked Beans & Peas	Chips or Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn
Option 3	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans	
Dessert	Cooks Choice Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Cooks Choice Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	Cooks Choice Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	

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/>

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 - 01304 206887