

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 31st October 2025



Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Mrs Comfort

Welcome to Term 2, it is good to have everyone back in school.

Staff Training

Staff training for teachers on Monday was about the importance of speaking and listening and how we can help the children to use conversation skills to develop their learning. We recognise the important role which parents play in children acquiring early speaking and listening skills; talk with children is so important and we are happy to play our role in the development of these skills.

We need you!

Hopefully you will have seen the letter which came out this week about parent/carer consultation meetings which are being held during the week beginning 17th November. Please do sign up to see your child's teacher. There is nothing to worry about these meetings and certainly no pressure – just an opportunity to have a chat about your child, how they are getting on with their learning and their classmates and to have a look at some of their school work. I hope that the way we are organising the times of these meetings fits in with you and look forward to seeing all of you at school at some point during that week.

Class 5 Swimming

Class 6 completed their swimming lessons last term and I am thrilled to say all of the children made fantastic progress and the vast majority of them are now able to confidently swim at least 25 metres and perform a safe self-rescue – congratulations to all involved in these achievements.

Class 5 start their school swimming lessons next week with two sessions each week for the next few weeks. Learning to swim is a crucial life skill and is a requirement of our national curriculum, we expect all children to take part in these lessons. I look forward to all of our children becoming confident swimmers!

Wrap-around Care

We were delighted to host the first of our wrap-around sessions on Tuesday. Childcare is now in place every day until 5.45pm at school and we encourage our families to use this service.

Full details can be found by following this link or by asking at the school office.

<https://jackinabox.magicbooking.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login>

Anti-Bullying Week

The week commencing Monday 10th November, is Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Power for Good'.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance says: *'Every year, bullying impacts the lives of countless young people and silence helps it grow. That's why, this Anti-Bullying Week, we're empowering young people to use their Power for Good to safely speak up and raise awareness when they see bullying, face to face or online.'*

Lasting change needs all of us. From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones — we all have a part to play. Together, we can use our Power for Good to end bullying — for good'.

In school, your child will be participating in a range of activities; they will participate in discussions about bullying - what it is, what to do if they are being bullied or witnessing bullying and who they can reach out too. There will also be opportunities for them to reflect on their own actions and understand the impact that some actions can have.



Children in Need – Friday, 14th November 2025

To raise money for Children in Need this year we will be hosting a 'SPOTacular' dress up day on Friday 14th November. The children can choose to wear yellow or Pudsey items of clothing or, in support of our anti-bullying week work 'Power for Good', they may wear super hero costumes. If you are able to, we would appreciate a 50p donation for Children in Need.



If your child does not decide to dress up, they are to wear school uniform as normal. We will be carrying out lots of fun activities during the day, including learning about why Children in Need is such an amazing charity! We look forward to having a SPOTacular day!

Reception Class 2026

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022? If so they will be eligible to start school in September 2026.

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

Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

The children returned to school enthused and full of discussion in Collective Worship. The week started off with Mr Lamprell reminding the children of our school's Christian values and three school rules; many examples of how we can demonstrate these were shared by the pupils.

By discussing goals and targets for the term, the children were able to clearly explain how they are going to improve their handwriting and presentation skills - we look forward to seeing the progress.

On Wednesday, Rev Claire shared the importance of wisdom; she explained the parable of Soloman asking God for wisdom in his dream - I wonder how you would describe someone who is wise? How do they inspire you?

An inspired multiplication-themed Worship on Thursday was delivered by Mrs Fagg as she re-launched Timestables Rockstars (TTRS) - it was good to hear that many children are accessing this platform at home. Please do speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions regarding this; it is imperative that your child is practising their timestable fluency.

Finally, congratulations to our winners in Celebration Worship as many awards were shared, including our new 'Presentation Trophy' for each class - each child will have the chance to win this trophy and display it on their desk for the week if their child's class teacher recognises excellent effort and progress in presentation in work books!

Spotlight on SEND...

We are pleased to invite you to our Kent Adult Education course, 'Supporting Your Family Through Our Screen Obsessed World' - navigating the digital age with your child.



Join us to find out how to:

- Manage screen time
- Understand the impact of technology on your child's development
- Explore healthy habits

The course is open to all parents/carers and will be hosted at St Mary's CEP on **Wednesday, 19th November between 9:15am and 11:15am.**

Please confirm your attendance on the ParentMail app no later than **Tuesday, 4th November 2025.**

Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCO

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1st - Class 3 - 92 points

2nd - Class 6 - 88 points

3rd - Class 4 - 85 points

HOUSE POINTS

1st - RAMSEY - 177 points

2nd - TEMPLE - 154 points

3rd - LANG - 152 points

4th - FISHER - 141 points

Learner of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class R – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Ellis!** In Literacy, Ellis has enjoyed retelling 'The Gingerbread Man' using our Talk for Writing actions. He has also wowed us in phonics with his super reading and writing, and even though he finds it tricky, he continues to persevere. Well done Ellis!

Class 1 – Alex is our Learner of the Week in Starfish Class as he has been working really hard to improve his letter formation! He has really impressed us all with the effort he is putting into his writing, and has been concentrating hard in the classroom. What an amazing week you have had Alex – we are all very proud of you!

Class 2 – Our Learner of the Week in Otters Class is **Jairah!** Jairah is kind, helpful and always ready to lend a hand. She treats others with care and respect, and always follows our school rules. Jairah perseveres when things are challenging, helping to create peace in the classroom and being a true friend to everyone.

Class 3 – Puffins Class Learner of the Week is **Daniela** as she has had a fantastic first week back after half term! Daniela has tried her best with all her learning and produced some brilliant work. She especially enjoyed our English lesson and came up with some interesting and funny ideas to up level our model text 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. Keep up the great work Daniela!

Class 4 – Eavie-Mae is our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class as she has worked really hard in all subjects, and has been a superb role model for the rest of the class. It has been lovely to hear Eavie-Mae's super ideas in our class discussions, and she always shows our Christian values of friendship, perseverance and peace. Well done Eavie-Mae!

Class 5 – Our Learner of the Week in Orcas Class is **Blessed** as she shows all of our school values every day! Blessed's effort in her learning, both in school and out, is commendable. She is a kind and thoughtful friend and a helpful member of our class. We are so proud of you Blessed – keep up the amazing work!

Class 6 – Seahorses Class Learner of the Week is **Eliza** for the brilliant effort she has made towards all of her work. Eliza is always focused and contributes to whole class learning; she is keen to share what she knows, and her confidence to do this has improved immensely. She has created a wonderful story map of our newspaper report this week and we are all so very proud of her. Well done Eliza!

On behalf of the Royal British Legion, we will be selling 'Poppy Appeal' gifts to show our respect and appreciation to all those brave individuals who fought in our World Wars.



Paper poppies and gifts will be sold between Monday, 3rd and Thursday, 13th November.

Go with the Flo...

Time for Coats!

As the weather begins to turn colder, we kindly ask all parents to ensure their children come to school dressed appropriately for the season. Please send your child

with a warm coat each day, as we continue to enjoy outdoor play and learning whenever possible.

Layering up helps keep everyone comfortable and healthy during these brisk autumn days. Hats, gloves, and scarves are also welcome! But please ensure that you clearly mark each item with your child's name.

We do have a few donated coats in school so if you would like one please let me or the office staff know.

Thank you for helping us keep our pupils warm and ready to learn.



Mrs Debbie Morris – Family Liaison Officer

Term 2 2025

Monday 3rd November:

- Class 5 Swimming
- Poppies on Sale

Tuesday 4th November:

- Football Club

Wednesday 5th November:

- Individual Pupil Photos
- Class 5 Swimming
- Drama Club
- Multi-Skills Club
- Art Club

Thursday 6th November:

- Class 4 Local Visit
- Class 4 – Ukulele
- Cricket Club
- Computing Club

Friday 7th November:

- Primary School Applications Open
- Class 4 Family Collection Worship
- Forest School
 - Class 1 – morning
 - Class 4 – Afternoon



Dover Castle Geopark Festival

Date: Saturday, 8th November 2025

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm - Last entry 3:00pm

Venue: Dover Castle, Castle Hill, Dover, Kent, CT16 1HU

Dover Castle are hosting a landmark day festival - and you're invited! Step into a landscape shaped over 400 million years and discover the hidden links between Kent and northern France.

Get hands-on with real fossils, create geology-inspired art, and join interactive workshops, talks, walks, and performances that bring the stories of the Geopark to life.

Event highlights include:

- Exciting exhibitions and hands-on activities for all ages from partners including English Heritage, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership, Maison Dieu, Future Foundry, Dover Museum & more
- Geopark Ambassador-led activities exploring the Castle and surrounding areas
- Fun for all the family across the Castle grounds
- [Talk and book signing with Dr Anjana Khatwa, author of Whispers of the Rock.](#)
- [Accessible Dover Castle Walk and Wheel | Cross-Channel Geopark](#)

[Visit the website for more details about the festival programme](#)

Admission

Enjoy **free entry** to Dover Castle if you're a local resident or an English Heritage member:

Residents living in postcodes CT15, CT16, and CT17 can visit free of charge as part of the Cross-Channel Geopark Festival celebrations. Please bring proof of address showing your postcode to gain free admission on the day.

All festival activities are free to enjoy. Some sessions have limited capacity and will run on a first-come, first-served basis, or may require advance booking.

Parking is limited, and holding a ticket does not guarantee a parking space, so please plan your journey accordingly. Dogs on leads are welcome in the outdoor areas of the site. For more details about on-site facilities, visit English Heritage's Dover Castle facilities page.



Cross-Channel Geopark Festival 2025

Step into a landscape shaped over 400 million years and discover the hidden links between Kent and northern France.

Events are in no particular order. New experiences are added regularly!



Talk	Talk and Book Signing – The Whispers of Rock by Dr. Anjana Khatwa on the secrets of rocks and their role in history. Includes Castle entry.	Walk	Nature Autumn Harvest – Family-friendly foraging walk and cook-up using free wild foods like acorns, seeds, nuts, and seaweed with The Wild Kitchen.
Workshop	Bees and Refugees – Come and learn about bees and sustainable beekeeping, taste different honeys and make beeswax candles.	Workshop	Dover Arts Development – Come and discover work and research from artists within DAD responding to the local landscape and geology through sound and text.
Workshop	Solar Gazing – Observe the sun and explore its connection to climate and geology at Dover Castle.	Exhibition	Julliebertie's Grave 2025 – A Year of Celebration – Explore the history, myths, and magic of Julliebertie's Grave, a 5,000-year-old long barrow in the Stour Valley through a showcase of work from artist and GeoAmbassador Bryan Hawkins.
Workshop	Grotesque Gargoyles – Create your own gargoyle with the team from the Maison Dieu.	Stall	Channel Crossings Exhibition – Explore the English Channel's maritime history, from migration and trade to cultural exchange, in this exhibition created by Dover Museum.
Workshop	Stone Carving – Come and try your hand at traditional stone carving into French limestone using hand tools, ages 14+.	Talk	Making a Meadow – Come and see some of the work of artist and GeoAmbassador Jessica Potter, using a mix of scientific and poetics methods to re-imagine the meadow through drawing, text and photography.
Stall	Dinosaur Detectives – Discover Britain's lost dinosaurs with GeoAmbassador Steve Friedrich.	Exhibition	Shivanova's Nepalese Heritage project – Discover this pop-up exhibition lent celebrating Nepalese culture and heritage with a performance and workshop.
Workshop	Ode to Wildlife – Come and join the Future Foundry artist team to create metalwork charms ahead of the Dover Winter Lantern Festival.	Performance	Kent Wildlife Trust, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership and English Heritage – Showcasing the work they have been doing to reintroduce the Chough and their Reaching Greater Heights project to restore chalk grasslands.
Stall	Meet the Cross-Channel Geopark – Come and meet the cross-channel team from the Kent Downs National Landscape and Parc Naturel Régional des Caps et Marais d'Opale to find out how geoparks balance conservation, education, tourism, and community engagement.	Stall	Bower Street Morris – Come along and watch this high-leaping dance troupe and have a go at joining in!
Walk (or Wheel)	Wild With Wheels – Accessible walk at Dover Castle with activities, history, and Channel views. Includes Castle entry.	Admission	Residents in CT15, CT16, CT17, and English Heritage members, can enjoy free entry to Dover Castle. Standard tickets apply for other visitors, with 15% off when booked online. All festival activities are free, though some sessions may need advance booking.
Walk	Dover Guided Walk – 8-mile route from Dover Station to Dover Castle with Boots On Adventures. Includes Castle entry.		
Walk	Folklore and Medicinal uses of Chalk Downland plants – Join Ecologist and GeoAmbassador Mel Wrigley, to find and hear about the amazing variety of plants, their folklore and medicinal uses across the grounds of Dover Castle.		

*with proof of address

Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2026

Apply online at

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

Opens Friday 7 November 2025 and closes at
midnight on Thursday 15 January 2026

For children born between
1 September 2021

and 31 August 2022,

Transferring to Primary school
in September 2026

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.

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, fast, convenient process which opens **Friday 7 November 2025 and closes at midnight on Thursday 15 January 2026**.

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 (**Thursday 16 April 2026**) 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 **Thursday 30 April 2026**.

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 on one of the email addresses below.

Key dates

Friday 7 November 2025	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Thursday 15 January 2026	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Thursday 16 April 2026	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Thursday 30 April 2026	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.
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . 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.

Please note applications can only be made via Kent County Council if the child resides at a Kent address. If your child does **not** reside at a Kent address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.





Lunch Menu – Week Two
Week Beginning Monday, 3rd November 2025

If you pay for your child's cooked lunch, the cost will be **£2.75** 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

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<p>whole school meals</p> <p>DATES: Week 1: 27th Oct, 17th Nov, 8th Dec, 9th Jan, 26th Jan, 23rd Feb, 16th March.</p> <p>Week 2: 3rd Nov, 24th Nov, 12th Jan, 2nd Feb, 2nd March, 23rd March.</p> <p>Week 3: 10th Nov, 1st Dec, 19th Jan, 9th March, 30th March</p> <p>Allergens: 1. Gluten/Wheat 2. Dairy/Milk 3. Eggs 4. Soya/Soyabean 5. Mustard 6. Celery 7. Fish 8. Molluscs 9. Shellfish/Crustaceans 10. Sesame Seeds 11. Nuts 12. Lupins 13. Sulphur Dioxide 14. Peanuts</p> <p>All items with * can be made Vegem. All items with ** can be made Dairy Free.</p>	<p>WEEK 1</p> <p>WEEK 2</p> <p>WEEK 3</p> <p>All items are subject to availability.</p>	<p>Vegetable Pasta Bake 1 Garlic Bread 1,4 Mixed Vegetables.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Yoghurt & Fruit Compote 2 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>Beef Tacos 1,2 Veggie Burrito 1 Vegetable Rice. Carrots & Green Beans.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Carrot Cake 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>Roast Chicken, Stuffing & Gravy 1 Vegetable & Chickpea Tart 1 Rustic Roasties Cabbage & Sweetcorn.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Shortbread 1 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>Pork Meatballs 1 Meatless Meatballs 1 Pasta 1 Broccoli & Carrots.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Lemon Cake 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>Fish Fingers 1,7 *Cheese Pizza 1,2 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Baked Beans & Sweetcorn</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Cooks Choice 1,3.</p>	
			<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Mixed Bean Wrap 1 Pasta 1 Peas & Sweetcorn.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Yoghurt & Fruit Compote 2 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>TUESDAY</p> <p>Chicken Tacos 1,2 Sweet Potato & Spinach Dahl 6 Savoury Rice 6 Broccoli & Mixed Veg.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Chocolate Cake 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Roast Pork Veggie Meatloaf 1,4 Rustic Roasties Swede & Peas.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Shrewsbury Biscuit 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>Beef Bolognese Veggie Bolognese Pasta 1 Carrots & Sweetcorn.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Chelsea Buns 1,4,12 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>Fish Bites 1,7 Veggie Nuggets 1 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Baked Beans & Peas.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Cooks Choice 1,3.</p>
			<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Tomato Pasta 1 Garlic Dough Balls 1,4 Mixed Vegetables.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Yoghurt & Fruit Compote 2 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>TUESDAY</p> <p>Mexican Beef Tortilla Bake 1,2 *Veggie Tacos 1 Pasta 1 Carrots & Peas.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Joad Cookie Bun 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Sausages & Gravy 1,12 Quorn Sausage & Gravy 1 Mashed Potato Sweetcorn & Baked Beans.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Oat Cookie 1 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>Curried Chicken Chunks 12 Vegetable Frittata 2,3 Rainbow Rice Cauliflower & Peas.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Marble Sponge 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>Fish Fingers 1,7 *Cheese Pizza 1,2 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Peas & Sweetcorn.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>Cooks Choice 1,3.</p>

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