

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide



Friday, 9th January 2026

Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Mrs Comfort

Welcome to 2026!

I hope that this new term and new calendar year finds you all well, it has been good to have everyone back at school this week.



January is a good time to look ahead and to set some personal goals for the new year. I note that 2026 is the National Year of Reading 'with a focus of reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around'.

You will know how we already work to promote a love of reading with all members of our school community. I look forward to us being further supported in this work by the ideas and materials

Within <https://goallin.org.uk/> which includes information aimed at supporting families as well as schools, you may like to have a look.

Class 3 Library Visit

Speaking of reading, Class 3 were the first of our classes in 2026 to visit our local town library, wrapping up warm the children and staff walked to the library on Tuesday. Miss Sayer reports '*Class 3 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Dover Library this week. They spent time exploring the new space and discovering a wide range of book genres before selecting a book to borrow and bring back to school. The children are excited to continue reading their books in class and look forward to swapping them with their peers.*'

A Chilly Wind...

Temperatures have dropped significantly this week as you will all have noticed! Children need gloves, hats and scarves as well as a coat to help to keep them warm at breaktime and to and from school.

PE

PE lessons for all classes have already started. This term everyone will be learning gymnastic skills in the school hall. For gymnastic lessons children need a t-shirt (either in their house colour or plain white) as well as shorts. The children will work in bare feet. They may wear soft-soled plimsolls if preferred but not trainers – please be advised of this.

PE is an important part of the curriculum, thank you for your support with ensuring that your child has what they need in order to take part. As always, if you are struggling to manage this please do speak with Debbie Morris, our Family Liaison Officer.

Parking

It has come to my attention that some cars are parking on the pathway of Laureston Place at the end of the school day at dismissal time - this poses a hazard to pedestrians who are unable to walk on the pavement freely. Please do use the car parking bays on Laureston Place or surrounding streets; in addition, St James Retail Park is only a short walk away where you can park - please click on the link for further details: <https://www.stjames-dover.co.uk/car-parking/>

We do regularly liaise with Dover District Council regarding this matter, who ensure that Parking Officers will be present, when available. I thank you to all our families who do park appropriately; this helps to keep our school community safe.



Shout Out for Harley

Hugh congratulations to Harley in Otters Class for his generous donations of toys to Dover Foodbank! Harley has been presented with a certificate from the Food Bank for bringing joy and happiness to children in the local area. Well done Harley – you are a fantastic example of kindness and community spirit!

Reception Class 2026

Applications for our new class of Reception children who will start in September must be made by **Thursday, 15th January 2026**. Lots of families have already expressed an interest with many coming to visit our school over recent weeks.

Do spread the word to anyone you know with a child born between **1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022** and encourage them to book in a time to meet with Mr Lamprell.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

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 **Isla**! Isla always shows a really positive attitude towards all of her learning and enjoys sharing her ideas on the carpet. She is a kind friend to others and loves to help around the class. This week she has amazed us with her super singing – well done Isla!



Class 1 – Our Learner of the Week in Starfish Class is **Melissa K**! Melissa is always happy to be in our classroom and she is a good friend to others. She has shown great effort to improve her writing this week, and has tried really hard to form her letters accurately. In maths, Melissa is working hard to practise counting numbers to 20. Well done Melissa – keep up the hard work!

Class 2 – **Joseph** is our Learner of the Week in Otters Class for the fantastic progress he has made! Joseph has shown great determination by coming into school happily and with confidence. He takes pride in his responsibility of collecting the lunch register, and always completes his job sensibly and independently. Joseph is polite, kind and tries his best with all his work. Well done Joseph!

Class 3 – Puffins Class Learner of the Week is **Arthur** as he has had a fantastic start to Term 3! Arthur has worked tirelessly in all lessons and consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and determination to succeed. Arthur is a polite, kind and enthusiastic member of our classroom community. He is always ready to learn and approaches each day with a positive, helpful attitude. Keep up the brilliant work Arthur!

Class 4 – **Sana** is our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class as she has demonstrated a positive attitude to the new themes and topics introduced this term. She has really enjoyed reading and discussing the story of Perilous in English, and has developed her multiplication and division skills in maths. Sana has been extremely helpful supporting a new member of Penguins Class and we are all really impressed with how she responded to this special responsibility. Well done Sana!

Class 5 – Orcas Class Learner of the Week has displayed our school's Christian values of friendship and peace. They are inherently kind and thoughtful to their peers, and it is a pleasure to have them in our class. We hope you believe in yourself as much as we do! Keep being amazing!

Class 6 – **Leo** is our Learner of the Week in Seahorses Class for the brilliant effort he has made to be in class this week! We have been so impressed with the quality of work he has produced, having written his own 4-chapter novel in addition to completing class work. Leo has read the class text fantastically, and has contributed confident answers in maths, showing his new and accurate knowledge of algebra. An amazing week Leo – well done!

Go with the Flo...

Our school setting is part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse.

As a school setting we have ensured that a member of our Designated Safeguarding Lead team will be trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

On 24 May 2024 Royal Assent was granted to The Victims and Prisoners Act. The Act placed Operation Encompass into Law.

This places a statutory obligation on police forces to share Operation Encompass notifications with school settings.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and through Operation Encompass we will be able to provide the best possible support to our children.

Mrs Debbie Morris – Family Liaison Officer

Spotlight on SEND...

We are pleased to invite you to our upcoming Kent Adult Education course, 'Family Language'.

This course is for parents and carers whose first language is not English to practise speaking, listening, reading and writing, and to improve your English to cope with everyday situations. You will also discover how English is taught in schools in the UK.

Our fun and practical course will improve your English and make daily tasks easier, build confidence and help make new friends.

The course is open to all parents/carers and will be hosted at St Mary's CEP between 1:00pm and 3:00pm each Wednesday between 14th January and 4th February 2026.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you would like to join our Family Language course.

Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCO



Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

The children returned from the Christmas Break in fine voice, as they contributed well in this week's Collective Worship and Singing Worship.

Mr Lamprell started the week off sharing our school's Christian Values, three key rules and termly targets. The pupils were able to provide excellent examples of how they can demonstrate our school values and rules, and how they can continue to flourish and progress in their learning.

Revd Melissa delivered an engaging Worship that focused on Epiphany. 6th January is the celebration in the Christian calendar called Epiphany - this is when the Christian church remembers the wise men visiting Jesus. Epiphany comes from Greek and means 'manifestation'; Christians believe that it celebrates the revelation of God as his Son as human in Jesus Christ. The wise men came from lands far away from Bethlehem to bring gifts to Jesus - I wonder how they felt during this time? I wonder what gifts you give to someone special to you?

Today's Collective Worship was full of praise and positivity with many awards shared - well done to all the children for their fantastic effort in the first week back.

DOVER SWAP SHOP



HAS YOUR CHILD OUTGROWN THEIR TOYS, CLOTHES OR BOOKS? IF SO, BRING ITEMS IN GOOD CONDITION TO THE SWAP SHOP WHERE YOU CAN SWAP THEM FOR THE NEXT SIZE AND DIFFERENT TOYS

17th January
11am to 1pm



BEACON CHURCH HALL
BARTHOLOMEW STREET
DOVER, CT16 2LH



Online Courses January 2026

Course Code	Course Title	Start	End	Day	Start Time	End Time
152991	Managing Sleep	09/01/26	09/01/26	Friday	10:00	12:00
152918	Exploring Behaviour Strategies	13/01/26	13/01/26	Tuesday	09:30	11:30
152982	Autism Awareness	13/01/26	03/02/26	Tuesday	09:30	11:30
152985	Strategies to Support Your ADHD Child - Webinar	13/01/26	13/01/26	Tuesday	19:00	20:00
151041	Introduction to Working with Children	15/01/26	12/02/26	Thursday	17:30	19:30
153004	Supporting Your Child's Anxiety	21/01/26	21/01/26	Wednesday	19:00	21:00
153173	Supporting Your family through our Screen Obsessed World	27/01/26	27/01/26	Tuesday	19:00	21:00
153189	Keeping Up with the Children-Maths	13/01/26	3/2/26	Tuesday	9:30	11:30

To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.



To book your place on one of these FREE courses, scan the QR code or go to www.kentadulteducation.co.uk

and enter the course code into the search box.

For further information email businesssupport2@kent.gov.uk

Call 03000 41 22 22

kentadulteducation.co.uk
Bringing learning to life



Kent Adult Education is part of Community Learning and Skills

HOUSE POINTS

- 1st - **RAMSEY** - 242 points
- 2nd - **FISHER** - 201 points
- 3rd - **TEMPLE** - 197 points
- 4th - **LANG** - 173 points



GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

- 1st - **Class R** - 115 points
- 2nd - **Class 1** - 107 points
- 3rd - **Class 6** - 106 points

Thought for the Week



Breakfast Club at St Mary's CEP, Dover

Breakfast Club starts at 8:00am and breakfast is served until 8:25am, and all children are then supervised in the hall until 8:40am.

Bookings can be made termly or weekly as required. We will try to be as flexible as we can where places are available, but bookings should be with us 24 hours in advance of when you require the service.

Monday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal • Toast or crumpet with reduced sugar jam or reduced salt marmite • Squash or milk • Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Tuesday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal • Beans on Toast or toast with reduced sugar jam or reduced salt marmite • Squash or milk • Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Wednesday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal • Toast or Scotch pancakes with reduced sugar Jam or reduced salt marmite • Squash or milk • Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Thursday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal • Toast or Waffles with reduced sugar Jam or reduced salt marmite • Squash or milk • Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Friday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal or Porridge • Toast or children's choice served with reduced sugar jam or reduced salt marmite • Squash or milk or hot chocolate • Selection of fresh and dried fruit

Wraparound Care

To register or book, please use the link below:

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



AFTERSCHOOL CARE

OFSTED Registered

Arts & Crafts Forest School

LEGO Baking Sports

Manage all bookings online

3 Sessions to choose from
Monday-Friday

15:10 -16:15	£5.50
15:10 -17:00 (Hot snack included)	£10.00
15:10 -17:45 (Hot snack included)	£14.00

Tax Free Childcare Save 20%

Term 3 2026



Monday 12th January:

Dodgeball Club – Year 4, 5 & 6

Tuesday 13th January:

Drama Club – Year 1, 2 & 3

Football Club – Year 4, 5 & 6

Class 4 Local Visit

Wednesday 14th January:

Kent Adult Education 'Family Language' Course – 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Class 3 History Workshop

Art Club – Year 1, 2 & 3

Thursday 15th January:

September 2026 Primary School Applications Close at Midnight

Class 4 Ukulele

Little Engineers Club – Year R, 1 & 2

Computing Club – Year 3, 4, 5 & 6

Friday 16th January:

Class 6 Family Collective Worship

Forest School: Class 1 – morning / Class 4 – afternoon

Archery Club – Year 1, 2 & 3

Lunch Menu – Week Two Week Beginning Monday, 12th January 2026

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

whole school meals						
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<p>WEEK 1</p> <p>DATES: Week 1: 27th Oct, 17th Nov, 8th Dec, 9th Jan, 28th 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/Soyabans 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 Vegan. All items with ** can be made Dairy Free.</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>WEEK 2</p> <p>All items are subject to availability.</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>Chicken Tacos 1,2 Sweet Potato & Spinach Dhal 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>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>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>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>WEEK 3</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>Mexican Beef Tortilla Bake 1,2 *Veggie Tacos 1 Pasta 1 Carrots & Peas.</p> <p>Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2.</p> <p>iced Cookie Bun 1,3 Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit.</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>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>MONDAY</p>			<p>TUESDAY</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p>

A polite reminder that, for the health and safety of our children, we kindly request that hot food and drinks are **not permitted** in pupils' lunchboxes. If you have any questions regarding this, please do contact the school office. Thank you for your understanding.



Medication in School

If your child requires medication throughout the school day, please hand this in at the office and complete a Parental Agreement for the Administration of Medicines form. Please do not send any medication to school with your child, or in their school bag.

Please also be advised, antibiotics can only be administered by the office if they are to be taken four times a day.

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

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.

