

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide



Friday, 24th April 2026

Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Message from Mrs Comfort

Here Comes the Sun!

Welcome to the summer term, and what a glorious week it has been!

I am pleased to say that the children and staff have all returned in good spirits and have settled back into the school routine this week. Term 5 is going to be short but, as always, busy!

Whole School Fundraiser

Our annual school fundraiser has taken place today – I will write about this in more detail in next week's newsletter. In the meantime, very many thanks to everyone who has supported this event and well done to all of the children.

Kent Adult Education Session

We hosted another Kent Adult Education family session at school this week. Thank you to Mrs Burkett for organising this, she reports 'On Tuesday we were joined by Lauren from Kent Adult Education (KAE) who delivered a magical family event inspired by the beloved tale of *Stick Man!* Lauren helped us to step into a world of imagination as we brought the story of *Stick Man* to life through interactive storytelling and hands-on creativity. Children and grown-ups loved crafting their very own stick or twig people using natural materials, ribbons, and a sprinkle of creativity. The creations had a range of hairstyles and clothing, as you can see from our photos! This was a perfect opportunity for families to bond, get creative, and enjoy the outdoors together. These events are always popular and we would love to see more families or carers joining. Our next KAE family event is 'Cooking on a Budget' on Thursday, 11th June 3:00pm – 5:00pm.'



Class Newsletters

Class Newsletters have been sent out by ParentMail recently. I hope you have enjoyed reading these and seeing what the individual classes have been learning about in the Spring term.

Breakfast Club September 2026 onwards

Did you see our ParentMail about Breakfast Club provision from September 2026? Do please fill in our very short survey – we need to know your thoughts! If you cannot find the survey please ask staff at the school office or school gate.

Reception Class visit to Dover Castle

The children and staff had a super visit to Dover Castle this week. Mrs Tomkinson reports *'The Turtles have once again been counting down sleeps and have been so excited for their trip to Dover Castle. The children did not let the size of their legs deter them from climbing all of the steps and they thoroughly enjoyed exploring inside and outside. The children even climbed to the top of the keep! During the trip, the children loved looking at all of the interesting artefacts, especially the bedrooms and kitchen area! They also each had a turn to pour water down the well... we then had to listen carefully to hear the splash at the bottom! To finish their day, we went in search of the siege play area, which all of the children agreed was AMAZING. I am so proud of all of the children; their behaviour was exemplary and they were all shining lights!'*



Reception Class 2026

Offer letters for our new Reception Class children due to start with us in September were sent out this week; we are looking forward to meeting our new cohort soon. We have a range of induction events so that families can get to know the school ready for their start in September. As always, if you know of anyone due to start school in September do please help them to get in touch with us.

Wishing you all a good weekend and thanking you for your continued support.

Mrs Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Collective Worship at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

The children returned from their Easter Half Term break with a fine attitude that demonstrated positivity and enthusiasm.

Pupils were able to reflect on the school's Christian values, key rules and targets (Handwriting, Presentation, Timestables); many strategies were shared which will enable the pupils to progress and be the best that they can possibly be.

Moreover, the children looked at the importance of 'hope'; they shared thoughts and feelings around their 'hopes and aspirations' for the coming term. I wonder what hope and aspirations you have? I wonder why 'hope' is important in our lives?



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 for the great excitement and enthusiasm they showed on our trip to Dover Castle! They asked interesting questions and loved exploring the grounds. The children were also fantastic ambassadors for our school! Well done Turtles!

Class 1 – Starfish Class Learner of the Week is **Nancy** as she has tried hard to learn about counting in twos, fives and tens, and has joined in brilliantly with our phonics lessons! Nancy worked hard to complete her writing and has amazed us when taking great care to write some fantastic sentences independently. Well done Nancy – this makes us very proud of you!

Class 2 – **Arthur** is our Learner of the Week in Otters Class as he has shown great progress in everything this week, especially maths! His reasoning when comparing mass, and the way he clearly explains his calculations, have really stood out. Arthur is also kind and supportive, always looking after others and being a great peer support. Well done Arthur!

Class 3 – Puffins Class Learner of the Week is **Fraser** as he has had a great first week back and settled quickly into his learning. Fraser has tried his best in all areas and shown a real interest in our English focus text. He is a kind and fun-loving member of the class who is a great friend to his peers. He comes to school with a smile and is a pleasure to teach. Keep up the great work Fraser!

Class 4 – Our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class is **Sulaman** as he has settled in really well and is already making a great contribution to the class! Sulaman has shown a keen interest in all areas of learning and applies himself well to produce work of a high standard. Well done Sulaman – it is great to have you here at St Mary's!

Class 5 – **Lexie-Rose** is our Learner of the Week in Orcas Class as she has shown a real effort in her learning! She has worked hard in DT to produce a lovely piece of work, and has been a kind friend to her peers when they were lonely on the playground. Lexie-Rose displays our values of perseverance, friendship, peace and trust and we are all so very proud of her! Well done.

Class 6 – Seahorses Class Learner of the Week is **Leo** for the brilliant effort he has made to be in class and for the quality of work he has completed! Leo has been really engaged and keen to share his ideas in class. He has also worked really hard in maths, and produced some amazing work exploring angles in maths! A brilliant week Leo – well done!



Thought of the Week



HOUSE POINTS

- 1st – **FISHER** – 259 points
- 2nd – **RAMSEY** – 208 points
- 3rd – **TEMPLE** – 198 points
- 4th – **LANG** – 151 points

Class Photos

Class photos are being taken on

Thursday, 30th April 2026



GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

- 1st – **Class R** – 117 points
- Joint 2nd – **Class 1 & Class 5**
110 points

Class 4 Multiplication Tables Check Parent Workshop

Thursday, 30th April 2026 - 2:15pm

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is statutory for all year 4 pupils registered at state-funded maintained schools, special schools or academies, including free schools, in England.

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

Mrs Fagg will be hosting a 'Multiplication Tables Check Workshop' to parents/carers of our Year 4 children on Thursday, 30th April, to provide information, answer any questions and offer guidance to support your child with the test, and learning the times tables.

We will discuss how we teach multiplication in school as well as provide resources and materials to support you with helping your child at home.

We hope you are able to join us.

Term 5 2026

Monday, 27th April

Cricket Club – Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6

Tuesday, 28th April

Class 1 Local Visit

Class 5 Mini-Medics

Football Club – Yr 4, 5 & 6

Wednesday, 29th April:

Class 2 Local Visit

Art / Pottery Club – Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6

Thursday, 30th April:

Class Photos

Class 4 Ukulele

Class 4 Multiplication Tables Check Parent Workshop – 2:15pm

Year 5 & 6 Football League Match

Friday, 1st May

FOREST SCHOOL

Morning – Class 2 / Afternoon – Class 5

Forest School Club – Yr 1, 2 & 3

Multi-Skills Club – Yr R, 1 & 2

DOVER FOODBANK MOST needed ITEMS

APRIL 2026

- CUPPA SOUPS
- UHT MILK
- FRUIT JUICE (UHT)
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- JAM AND SPREADS
- TINNED FRUIT
- CUSTARD
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- PASTA SAUCES
- TINNED BEANS
- PASTA N SAUCE
- NOODLES
- CLEANING PRODUCTS

PLEASE NOTE

We have plenty
of pasta & pulses

INFO@DOVER.FOODBANK.ORG.UK
UNIT 7, CHARLTON CENTRE, HIGH ST, DOVER
CIREBITE NO. 231 084



• Ashford & District Young Farmers Club •

LAMBING DAY

Sunday April
26th 2026
10am - 4pm

Lambing &
farm animals

BBQ & local
food & drink

Tractor &
trailer rides

Have a go at
spinning

Sheep shearing
demo's

Hope Farm, Wittersham, Kent TN30 7NP

• £5 per head (Under 2's free) •

Tickets on the gate only - cash only Sorry no dogs
This is a working farm with limited disabled access

Supporting:



After School Wraparound Care

A message from Olympus Learning Collective

We offer our wrap-around care with flexible collection times and pricing:

- **Until 4:15pm** – £5.50
- **Until 5:00pm** – £10.00 (includes a hot snack)
- **Until 5:45pm** – £14.00 (includes a hot snack)

To help us manage places effectively, all sessions should be booked in advance using our online booking system (Olympuslc.magicbooking.co.uk).

This can be accessed by scanning the QR code on the image below, and we will also provide a simple step-by-step guide to support you.

Same-day bookings online can be made up until 11:00am. After this time, availability cannot be guaranteed.

If you need to request a booking after this time, please contact us on:

07879 755588 / stmarys@olympuslearningcollective.co.uk

Please note that responses may not be immediate, as messages can take time to be received and processed.

We continue to accept **Tax-Free Childcare**, which can save you up to 20% on fees. We also work alongside **Universal Credit**, allowing eligible families to claim back a portion of childcare costs.

FOUNDED 1789



OLYMPUS
LEARNING COLLECTIVE

AFTERSCHOOL CARE

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%



Breakfast Club at St Mary's CEP, Dover

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

Bookings can be made daily, weekly or termly 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 	Cereal Toast or crumpet with reduced sugar jam or reduced salt marmite Squash or milk Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Tuesday 	Cereal Fruit bread or toast with reduced sugar jam or reduced salt marmite Squash or milk Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Wednesday 	Cereal Toast or Scotch pancakes with reduced sugar Jam or reduced salt marmite Squash or milk Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Thursday 	Cereal Toast or Waffles with reduced sugar Jam or reduced salt marmite Squash or milk Selection of fresh and dried fruit
Friday 	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

PE Day's - Term 5 2026

- **Year R - Thursday**
- **Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday**
- **Year 2 - Thursday & Friday**
- **Year 3 - Monday & Wednesday**
- **Year 4 - Wednesday & Friday**
- **Year 5 - Monday & Wednesday**
- **Year 6 - Tuesday & Thursday**



