

St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 17th July 2026



Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance



A Final Message from Mrs Comfort

All of a sudden – it seems to me – we have arrived at the end of the term and also the end of this academic year. For me, it is also the end of my time working at St Mary's CEP. It has been an absolute pleasure to be Executive Headteacher at this fantastic school since 2017. I am proud of our school community and eternally grateful to the fabulous staff team who work tirelessly to provide the very best education to our pupils. I thank the children and families for their ongoing support and look forward to hearing about all of the wonderful things which happen at St Mary's CEP in the future.

I would also like to acknowledge that the school are saying a fond farewell this week to Miss Ellis, one of our Teaching Assistants. In addition, Mrs Debbie Morris is leaving St Mary's CEP as she begins her retirement from education. Mrs Morris has had a long and successful career supporting many children and families to access education; I thank her for all that she has given to St Mary's and wish her a long and happy retirement.

A Round-up of the Year

Mrs Morley has gathered together, for me to share with you, a variety of photographs and events which have taken place this year; it feels good to look back and to reflect on all that has been achieved – what a busy year it has been!

September 2025

2025-2026 House Captains

Our Year 6 House Captains were presented in Collective Worship in September - they all did brilliantly when sharing their reasons for why they believe they can be successful within this prestigious school role!



Class 6 Swimmers

Year 6 also began their school swimming lessons this month. They attended the Dover Leisure Centre two afternoons a week for five weeks – a total of ten lessons. They all did very well and we were pleased with the progress they made with this important lifeskill.

October 2025

BeSmART Odd/Silly Socks Day!

In October we all enjoyed supporting Dover SmART with our annual odd/silly socks fundraiser! We were pleased to welcome Laura from Dover BeSmART to our Collective Worship who shared with the children the purpose of the day and the fabulous work that the charity does.



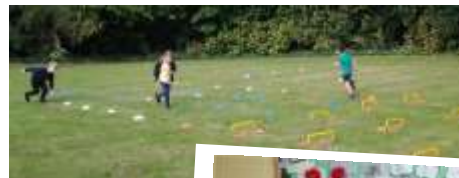
Harvest Thanks

Further support from our families came in the form of our annual Harvest collection and attendance at our Church service.



Inter-House Sports Competition Success!

Children from Year R to Year 6 brought their energy, enthusiasm, and team spirit to our first Inter-House Sports Competition of the year.



November 2025

Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Week

In November we observed our annual Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Week, using the 2025 national theme of "Power for Good".



Supporting Children in Need

During the same week we were also very happy to support this national fundraiser at school. Yet again, we had great support from our families and many kind donations. In recognition of the year being 2025, the children worked on completing 25 acts of kindness during the week.



First Dover League Fixture!

This month, our Year 4 to Year 6 team took part in their very first **Dover League** fixture, the first of many during the year which the children thoroughly enjoyed!



St Mary's Church

Class 3 and 5 took a trip to St. Mary's Church this month – all classes visited during the year! Miss Sayer and Ms Race report: *"This week, our children visited St. Mary's Church for a talk regarding the fascinating history of the church - some parts dating all the way back to the Roman era!"*



Library Visits

Dover Library re-opened at its newly refurbished site in November and yet again all classes commenced a programme of regular visits throughout the year. Here are Class 6 enjoying the facilities!



East Kent College Electricity Talks

We welcomed staff and students from East Kent College into school on a Tuesday afternoon in November. They delivered workshops to each of our key stage 2 classes on the theme of electrical safety.

December 2025

Getting the Christmas festivities off to a good start!

Our first Monday morning Collective Worship during Advents was a super beginning to Christmas with the children being excited to see the school Christmas tree, and decorated Christmas hoops.



Kent Adult Education Christmas Crafts Family Session

There was a wonderful festive-feeling in the school hall when lots of our families attended our Kent Adult Education (KAE) Family Session - Christmas Crafts.



Infant Nativity

The hall was packed with families of our Class 1 and Class 2 children when they came to enjoy the children's performance of Baarmy Bethlehem.



Christingle Service

The children all made Christingles at school in preparation for our Christingle Service which was held at school. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning.



Key Stage Two Carol Service at St Mary's Church

Key Stage 2 families joined us at St Mary's Church for our annual Key Stage 2 Carol Service.

Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

Our jumper-clad tummies were very nicely filled with our school Christmas lunch during the last week of term! We all looked the part in our festive woollies and were very thankful to Lorna and Corrie for their hard work in preparing such a special lunch for us all.



Singing in our Local Community

Classes 3 and 4 visited two local residential care homes to sing some Christmas Carols and spread some joy!

January 2026

Dig Deep

Class 3 were lucky enough to welcome an **archaeologist** into school in January to talk about artefacts found throughout history, some of which were even linked to **Dover**.



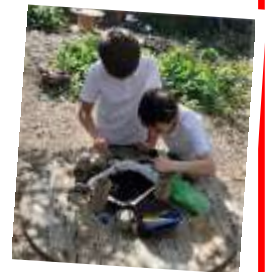
Little Lambs Visits

Our Year 6 termly trip to Little Lambs took place throughout the year. Mrs Morris reports, *'It is always a real pleasure to be involved in this activity.'*

February 2026

Forest School at St. Mary's CEP

From our youngest children in EYFS to our confident Year 6 pupils, everyone enjoys learning at Forest School with sessions running throughout the year. Children take part in exciting activities such as climbing, building, investigating and exploring nature.



Reception Class Dress-Up Day

Class R thoroughly enjoyed their **'Future Careers'** Dress-Up Day, linked to their learning in PSHE.



NSPCC Number Day

We were 'mega maths' fundraising for the NSPCC Number Day in February – another successful fundraiser.



Maths Mastermind Inter-House Event

With a variety of inter-house events throughout the year, St Mary's CEP took part in the Maths Mastermind Inter-House Event during February.

March 2026

The National Year of Reading

In line with our ongoing work to promote the joy of reading with all of our pupils, most particularly during this National Year of Reading, we celebrated World Book Day in March.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

A range of clubs, with activities to suit all interests, run throughout the year. In March Mrs Morris commented about Art Club 'I have always had a real passion for making 'stuff' from clay so I decided to let the children at Art Club have a go at making their own creations'.



Key Stage 2 Spelling Bee

This month, Mrs Wallis introduced our school community to a competitive Spelling Bee.



Class 5 Dover Castle Trip

In March it was Class 5's turn to walk up the hill to the Castle.

Easter Service at St Mary's Church

We were all delighted with our annual Easter Service which took place at St Mary's Church.

Easter Egg Hunt

Mrs Wallis led the school in this popular venture on the last day of term – this year it didn't rain on us!



April 2026

Kent Adult Education Session

We hosted another Kent Adult Education family session at school in April. Thank you to Mrs Burkett for organising this, she reported *'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!'*



May 2026

School Fundraiser

We were all incredibly proud of and grateful to our school community for their commitment to and support with our annual school fundraiser in May. All children met the physical challenge with enthusiasm and determination.



Class 2 Visit to RNLI Dover

Class 2 visited the RNLI in Dover. The children learned about water safety and the important work of the volunteers who help keep people safe at sea.

St Mary's CEP Football Team

The last fixture in the Dover Football League for schools was hosted by us in May, another hugely enjoyable game for the players and spectators!

Ukuleles & First Aid!

Class 4 have been benefiting from ukulele tuition delivered weekly, throughout the year, by Robin File from Kent Music, and Class 5 undertook first aid training with PCSO, Mark Ball within the Mini Medics programme.



Mosque Visit

Class 5 enjoyed a visit to our local mosque in May as part of their RE learning. Miss Race reports: *"Class 5 learned more about the Five Pillars of Islam and the importance of faith, community and prayer in Muslim life."*

Geography Fieldtrip

Class 6 examined our local area as part of their curriculum geography work. Mrs Miles reported: *'Class 6 took part in a fieldwork trip in our local area, answering our enquiry question: How can Pencester Park be kept clean and better used for local families to enjoy?'*



Inter-house Sports Event Classes R-6

In May, another inter-house event – this time sports themed.



June 2026

Class 5 Design Technology

Class 5 peeled and chopped carrots, celery, mushrooms and apples as part of their DT cooking lessons.

Class 5 Singing Festival – Charlton Church

Class 5 worked tirelessly to learn a range of songs and dance moves for the Singing Festival at Charlton Church held in June.



Sporting Success!

All of the children demonstrated their sporting skills in June during our two sports afternoons working hard to accumulate points for their Houses.

Rain did not stop play – this time!

Classes 3 and 4 undertook their rescheduled visit to Connaught Park. Miss Sayer and Ms Morris report 'Classes 3 and 4 had a fantastic time at Connaught Park'. It seems hard to believe that any trip could have been rained off this summer!



Reception Class Kent Fire & Rescue Visit

The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Kent Fire and Rescue.



July 2026

Class R & 1 – Teddy Bears Picnic

Classes R and 1 took their Teddy Bears to Connaught Park at the beginning of July for a picnic!

Whole School Grand Day Out to Wingham Wildlife Park

We all had a fantastic time together in Wingham for our annual Grand Day Out; the children and staff enjoyed visiting the animals and the children's play area was also very popular!

Bye-Bye to Class 6

This week we say a fond farewell to our lovely Year 6 children. They have had an ever increasingly busy end of year: a fun week of activities recently; some of them learning to ride their bikes on the road and becoming Bikeability qualified; their outstanding end of year production which we enjoyed this week as well as their Leavers' Service yesterday. We wish them all well as they embark on their secondary education and thank them for all they have contributed to St Mary's CEP School.

During their activity week, Year 6 engaged in a number of activities to mark the end of their time at primary school. A trip on the bus to St Margaret's Bay; a train journey to London to ride the London Eye and school-based activities such as games and drama were all enjoyed by the children and staff.



Class 6 Performance Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies

The hall was packed with parents and family members for our end of year 6 show.



Year 6 Leavers' Service

A poignant reflection of the children's time at St Mary's CEP.



And finally.....

Once again, I thank this marvellous school community for all that they do and wish everyone a happy and safe summer holiday. The new school year starts for children on Wednesday, 2nd September and I know that Mr Lamprell and the staff team will be looking forward to welcoming you all to what is set to be another very successful year.

Mrs Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Goodbye from the Flo...

A Massive Thank You! To all our amazing families

As I pack up my things and get ready to head off into retirement, I couldn't leave without saying a proper goodbye and a huge thank you.

Thank you so much for all your support, the lovely chats at the gate, and your constant backing over the years. Your kindness has made my time at St Mary's CEP incredibly special, and I've loved being part of this community.

What can I say about your children other than they are all super stars. Watching them learn, grow, and occasionally make me laugh until I cry has been the absolute best part of this job. They are so kind, curious, and full of life—you should be incredibly proud of them. I'm going to miss their energy (and their ability to make me laugh!) more than anything.

I'm leaving with a heart full of wonderful memories. Thank you for sharing your children with me, and I wish you all the very best for the future.

Warmest regards

Mrs Debbie Morris – Family Liaison Officer



Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class R – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Kyle**! Kyle comes into school every day with a smile on his face ready to learn. He always tries his best and always gives 100% effort! Kyle is also a kind friend to others and has a great sense of humour! Well done Kyle!

Class 1 – Our Learner of the Week in Starfish Class has progressed well during their time in class. They can be a kind friend to others, and try hard when completing tasks. We wish them every success in Otters Class and look forward to hearing how they are getting on as they move upwards through the school! Well done!

Class 2 – EVERYONE in Otters Class are our Learners of the Week for working well together during our maths multiplication revision, showing a positive attitude towards their writing about their future selves, and being helpful around the classroom. They have worked hard and are making a great final push towards being ready for Year 3 – well done Otters!

Class 3 – Noah is our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class as he has approached everything with a fantastic attitude, always trying his very best and giving every activity his full effort! Noah has been polite, kind and caring towards others, making him a wonderful friend and a valued member of our class. He has shown excellent listening skills and completes all of his work to the best of his ability. Well done Noah!

Class 4 – Penguins Class Learner of the Week is **Lavin** as she is a cheerful and positive member of the class who is always enthusiastic about school life! Lavin participated well in our drama work, and has continued to apply herself well in maths. Her artwork is careful and creative, and she has produced some lovely pieces. Well done Lavin – a fantastic week!

Class 5 – ALL OF ORCAS CLASS are our Learners of the Week for representing our school so brilliantly on our trip to Fort Burgoyne this week! They were polite, respectful, enthusiastic and impeccably well behaved throughout the day, making all the adults incredibly proud! Thank you all for making our class such a positive, supportive and enjoyable place to be!

Class 6 – EVERYONE in Seahorses Class are our Learners of the Week just for being completely amazing. We are going to miss you all so much and wish you nothing but success on your onward journey through education! Well done Seahorses!

We're Going on a Bug Hunt!

Class 5 went to Fort Bug-oyne this week! Miss Race reports: *"Class 5 discovered what it takes to become an insect detective at Fort Burgoyne, exploring different habits and investigating how various mini-beasts live in the different habitats, using a magnifying glass and a bug collector."*

There was a presentation on the different insect and animal classifications which the pupils listened carefully to and asked interesting questions.

The children found the day very interesting, with Waleed saying, "I love being in nature, I spotted 12 crickets!" and Zante saying, "This is the best day ever!". The adults were really impressed with how well the children listened and showcased their very best while on our trip, with lots of compliments from the Fort team. Great work, team Year 5!"



HOUSE POINTS

- 1st - **RAMSEY** - 196 points
- 2nd - **LANG** - 191 points
- 3rd - **FISHER** - 181 points
- 4th - **TEMPLE** - 139 points

HOUSE POINTS Term 6 Winners

- 1st - **RAMSEY** - 1107 points
- 2nd - **FISHER** - 986 points
- 3rd - **LANG** - 973 points
- 4th - **TEMPLE** - 935 points

HOUSE POINTS

2025 - 2026 Overall Winners

- 1st - **RAMSEY** - 7759 points
- 2nd - **LANG** - 7586 points
- 3rd - **TEMPLE** - 7519 points
- 4th - **FISHER** - 7020 points

PE Day's - Term 1 2026

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

Term 1 2026

Monday, 31st August 2026

BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

Tuesday, 1st September 2026

**Staff Development Day – SCHOOL
CLOSED**

Wednesday, 2nd September 2026:

First day of Term 1

Thursday, 3rd September 2026:

Friday, 4th September 2026:

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%



Lunch Menu – Week One Week Beginning Monday, 21st August 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

DATES: Week 1: 26th April, 11th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 1st Sep, 21st Sep, 12th Oct Week 2: 27th April, 18th May, 8th June, 29th June, 7th Sep, 28th Sep, 19th Oct Week 3: 4th May, 15th June, 6th July, 14th Sep, 5th Oct					
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 Allergens in brackets are a possibility All items with * can be made Vegan. All items with ** can be made Nut Free	MONDAY Pizza & Sauté Potatoes 1,2,4 Herby Tomato Pasta & Garlic Bread 1,4 Baked Beans & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Cornflake Crunch 1,2 Fresh Fruit TUESDAY Burger in a Bun 1,4 Vegan Sausage Roll 1 Pasta Salad 1 Coleslaw & Salad 3,5 Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Shortbread 1 Fresh Fruit WEDNESDAY Gammon Frittata 2,3 Mashed Potatoes Peas & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese and Beans 2 Lemon Cake 1,3 Fresh Fruit THURSDAY **Chicken Fajitas 1,2 Sweet Potato & Spinach Dhal Savoury Rice 6 Mixed Veg & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Jelly Fresh Fruit FRIDAY Fish Fingers 1,7 Veggie Nuggets 1 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Baked Beans or Sweetcorn & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Cooks Choice (1,2,3) Fresh Fruit				
	MONDAY *Cheese Whirl 1,2 **Loaded Chilli Bean Wedges 2 ½ Jacket Potato Baked Beans & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Ice Cream 2 Fresh Fruit TUESDAY Pork Meatballs 1 Meatless Meatballs 1 Pasta 1 Carrots & Mixed Veg Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Chocolate Cake 1,3 Fresh Fruit WEDNESDAY Roast Chicken & Yorkshire Pudding 1,2,3 Roasted Cauli Bites Rustic Roasties Broccoli & Sweetcorn Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Oat Cookie 1 Fresh Fruit THURSDAY Baked Sausages 1,13 Quorn Sausage 1 Crushed New Potatoes Peas & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Summer Fruits Pinwheel 1 Fresh Fruit FRIDAY Fish Fingers 1,7 Veggie Nuggets 1 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Baked Beans or Sweetcorn & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Cooks Choice (1,2,3) Fresh Fruit				
	MONDAY Mac 'n' Cheese 1,2,5 ** Mixed Bean Burrito 1,2 Garlic Dough Balls 1,4 Peas & Sweetcorn Medley & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Chocolate Krispie Cake 1 Fresh Fruit TUESDAY Breaded Chicken Steak 1,4 Veggie Nuggets 1 Pasta Salad 1 Coleslaw & Salad 3,5 Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Marble Cake 1,3 Fresh Fruit WEDNESDAY Roast Pork & Gravy Mustardy Sausage Bake 1,5,6 Rustic Roasties Cauliflower & Peas Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Jelly Fresh Fruit THURSDAY Mexican Beef Tortilla Bake 1,2 Chilli no Carne Rice, Carrots & Green Beans Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Apple & Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 Fresh Fruit FRIDAY Fish Fingers 1,7 Curried Veggie Pasty 1,2 Skin on Fries or Pasta 1 Baked Beans or Sweetcorn & Salad Jacket Potato with *Cheese & Beans 2 Cooks Choice (1,2,3) Fresh Fruit				

Menu Change – Wednesday, 2nd September 2026 Only

Please be advised, lunch on Wednesday, 2nd September will be:

Burger in a bun, Vegan sausage roll, Pasta salad, Coleslaw & Salad
Jacket potato with cheese and / or beans
Shortbread / fresh fruit

The usual menu choices will resume on Thursday, 3rd September as above

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