St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover

Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 6th November 2026

Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance








A Message from Mr Lamprell

Welcome to Term 2 - it has been lovely to see all our children return to school this week energised and enthused to flourish in what will be a busy term. As I have walked around school, the children have been engaged in their activities whilst talking positively about their learning.

As we enter the colder months, please can I remind families to ensure that their child comes to school with a coat, hat, scarf, gloves etc. It is important that our children feel comfortable and, of course, well! Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Staff Training

Alongside colleagues from the Samphire Learning Hub, our Class Teachers received useful training on Monday as they focused on mind-set, well-being and how effective strategies can be cascaded into the classroom to support our children; the session was led by a highly reputable company, 'The Art of Brilliance'. In the busy field of education, sometimes it is easy to not spend time reflecting on ourselves – being you matters! Our staff work tirelessly to provide the very best for our children, exactly what each child deserves. Like we teach our pupils, being kind to ourselves is imperative to enable us to be the best that we can possibly be and therefore provide a high-quality primary school experience; this is in line with our school's Christian vision, values and narrative.



art of brilliance

Class 6 Canterbury Cathedral Day!

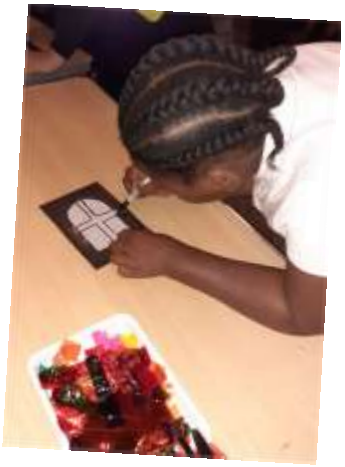
Children in Year 6 ventured to Canterbury Cathedral this week as they represented the school brilliantly in our Schools Cathedral Day!

Mrs Wallis reports, *'Year 6 had a fantastic visit to Canterbury Cathedral this week. We caught the train to Canterbury and walked through the beautiful city to the cathedral. We were one of many schools from across Kent to visit and participate in their 'Schools Day'. We attended prayer workshops led by the charity 'Porchlight' and reflected on the importance of helping others. We thought about how we can be a 'voice for the voiceless', particularly focusing on homelessness in Kent. We also participated in workshops including: stained-glass window making, a costume tour and learning about the Cathedral organ. In the afternoon the schools came together for a special Act of Worship in the Nave. Our children proudly carried our school banner and even wrote and read one of the prayers to close the service. The children were a credit to the school and had an incredibly memorable day in the city!*









Class 3 and 4 St Mary's Church Visit

As part of our curriculum offer, we always look to extend learning beyond the classroom by providing engaging experiences. This week, Year 3 and 4 visited St Mary's Church where they enjoyed their learning. Miss Sayer and Ms Morris report, '*Classes 3 and 4 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to St. Mary's Church, where they explored the church to find and sketch different signs and symbols of the Holy Trinity. The children took part in some fascinating discussions about the stories and meanings depicted in the beautiful stained-glass windows. They also enjoyed observing and sketching different features of the church, creating some lovely pieces of artwork while deepening their understanding of the Christian faith.* '







Poppy Appeal Donations/Gifts

You may have seen from the letter that was distributed to families at the end of last term that 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 the World Wars. Gifts will be circulated by Year 6 House Captains and available until 13th November – all monies raised will be collected by the Royal British Legion.



Anti-Bullying Week

The week commencing Monday 16th November, is Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Break the Silence'.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance says: '*This year's campaign – Break the Silence – will encourage children, young people and adults to start conversations about bullying, speak up, listen and take action together. The theme was developed in collaboration with the anti-bullying sector and shaped directly by the voices of more than 200 children and young people, many of whom spoke about the silence that can surround bullying and the barriers young people face in asking for help.*'



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, 13th November

To raise money for Children in Need this year we will be hosting a 'SPOTacular' dress up day on Friday 13th November. The children can choose to wear yellow or Pudsey items of clothing - 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 2027

Primary School Applications for parents to complete opened **today** for children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023.

Apply online in 5 Easy Steps at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

- Register to use the site
- Enter your contact details
- Enter your child's details
- Add school preferences
- Submit your application

Important Dates to remember:
Applications open on 6th November 2026
and close on 15th January 2027

If you need help applying, please let us know and we will be happy to assist.

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 2027.

We invite families to book an appointment to come and have a look around our school at a time to suit. 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.

I wish you all a wonderful and restful weekend.

Mr Matthew Lamprell - Headteacher

Ms Bernie Mayall - Chair of Governors
St Mary's CEP School, Dover



As parents will be aware, Ms Bernie Mayall has stepped up from Vice-Chair of Governors to the Chair of Governors role. The Governing Board is a key and pivotal stakeholder by working with the Headteacher to ensure that the school is led effectively; this is to ensure that the school is providing the very best for our children and families.

Ms Mayall shares, *'I am a Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Systems and Governance leader working closely with NHS Trusts, schools and nonprofits. In addition, I am a Lead Governor and Dover representative with our local NHS Trust and a Trustee with a number of charities. Importantly, I live in Dover and have grandchildren at local schools including St Marys CEP; I have contributed to local projects such as 'Dover Big Local'. I am committed to Dover, to education, to healthcare, and to the community*.'

Ms Mayall is always welcome to hear parents' views, so if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact her via the school office.

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

Learning for Life with God as our Guide

New Intake Tours

Is your child due to start Primary School in September 2027?

Is your child born between September 2022 and August 2023?

We warmly invite parents and their children to come for a tour of our wonderful school





Please contact the school office to request an appointment –

01304 206887

Spotlight on SEND….

What is Emotional Regulation?

Emotional regulation is the ability to notice, understand and manage feelings. Children often need adults to help them regulate before they can regulate independently. When children are highly upset, they may find it difficult to listen, explain themselves or solve problems. Calm adult support, predictable routines and opportunities to practise coping strategies can all help.

Over this weekend try and ask your child: "How does your body tell you that you are getting upset?"

Here is a useful visual to use alongside any discussions with your child about emotions.



Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCO

Go with the FLO…



St Mary's CEP - Free Breakfast Club!

Did you know we run a completely FREE Breakfast Club every morning?

With these dark, rainy mornings drawing in, let us take the rush out of your day! Bring your child/children along for a warm, welcoming start to the morning where they can enjoy a healthy breakfast and catch up/play games with friends before school day starts. Best of all, there is absolutely no need to book - just drop in! Children can arrive anytime between 8:00 am and 8:30 am via the main school office.

Extra excitement next week: We are taking part in a special Breakfast Club competition, where children can design a Morrisons delivery van!

The lucky winner will get to see their own art-work design displayed on a real, life-sized Morrisons delivery van in our local area! It is going to be a fantastic week, and we would love to see as many faces there as possible. Come along, warm up and get creative!

Miss Lisa Graham – Family Liaison Officer

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:



Class R – Ophelia is our Learner of the Week in Turtles Class as she comes into school every day with a smile on her face ready to learn. She has enjoyed joining in with our class story 'The Gingerbread Man', and learning about 'more than' and 'less than' in maths. This week Ophelia has wowed us with her kindness to others. Well done Ophelia!

Class 1 – Starfish Class Learner of the Week is **Nainika**! Nainika has been showing all our school values, especially friendship and perseverance. She has been especially determined when working on her English, giving really thoughtful answers and engaging so well with our new text '*The Rainbow Fish*'. Well done Nainika - you're a star!

Class 2 – Otters Class Learner of the Week is **Ariana**. Ariana has practised her letter formation this week and she has tried her very best. She showed great enthusiasm for learning throughout the week, approached activities with a positive attitude and was always eager to give things a go. Well done Ariana for always trying your best and keeping such a positive attitude towards learning!

Class 3 – **Richard** is our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class as he has had a fantastic week! He produced a brilliant story map to represent our text '*How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth*' and has thoroughly enjoyed using actions to help retell the story. Richard has also shown great enthusiasm and engagement in our Maths and Phonics lessons, always giving his best effort. Richard particularly enjoyed our trip to St Mary's Church, where he completed some lovely sketches of the different things he could see around the church. He has lovely manners, always tries his very best and is an absolute pleasure to teach. Keep up the great work, Richard!

Class 4 – **Hada** is our Learner of the Week in Penguins Class as she is diligent, well-motivated and has applied herself well to her learning in all areas. She concentrates well in order to complete tasks carefully and responds positively to advice about how to make further improvements. Hada has cooperated sensibly with the other children when retelling the story of '*The Pied Piper*' in English, and has shown a strong grasp of our work on shapes and area in maths. Hada is a polite girl who is respectful towards adults and her peers and we have all enjoyed getting to know her. Well done Hada!

Class 5 – Orcas Class Learner of the Week is **Adrian** as he has been showing wonderful kindness and care towards others, both in the classroom and during playtime. Adrian has displayed thoughtfulness, looking out for his friends and helping others to feel happy and included. He is a fantastic example of our Christian values of peace, trust and friendship. We are so proud of you, Adrian. Well done!

Class 6 – **EVERYONE** in Seahorses Class are our Learners of the Week for their excellent behaviour at Canterbury Cathedral, and for being wonderful representatives of St Mary's CEP! Well done Seahorses!

Collective Worship
at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

In our first week back in school this week, we have enjoyed learning about the significance of Guy Fawkes and bonfire night. The children enjoyed learning the rhyme: "Remember, remember the fifth of November....Gunpowder, treason and plot!"

We also learnt some important rules about how to stay safe around bonfires and fireworks. The children reflected about being considerate to others, especially pets at this time of the year.



Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2027

KCC residents apply online at *kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions*

Opens Friday 6 November 2026 and closes at midnight on Friday 15 January 2027

For children born between **1 September 2022** and **31 August 2023,** Transferring to Primary school in **September 2027**

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 6 November 2026 and closes at midnight on Friday 15 January 2027.** Other LA deadlines may differ.

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 **(Friday 16 April 2027)** an email will be sent to you informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by **Friday 30 April 2027.** 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 are moving, please email the team on one of the email addresses below for advice.

Key dates

Friday 6 November 2026	Online application process opens. Go to ***www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions*** to register and apply.
Friday 15 January 2027	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to ***kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk***
Friday 16 April 2027	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after **4pm.**
Friday 30 April 2027	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.
Monday 17 May 2027	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 (KCC) if the child resides at a KCC address. If your child does **not** reside at a KCC address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2027

Common misconceptions

For children born between **1 September 2022** and **31 August 2023,** Transferring to Primary school in **September 2027.**

MYTH #1

Attending a nursery or pre-school will automatically guarantee your child a space at the associated school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ Nurseries and primary schools are not linked for admissions purposes.

MYTH #2

A sibling attending the school will automatically guarantee your child a space at the same school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ If eligible, your application may be considered under a school's 'sibling' oversubscription criteria.

MYTH #3

Attending an infant school will automatically guarantee a space for your child at the linked junior school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ Children do not automatically transfer to a junior school. Admissions are ranked according to the school's admission criteria, including any linked school arrangements.

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Need help?

Email ***primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk***
Full information booklet can also be viewed online at ***kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions***

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

Reception Class 'First Class 2026'
Newspaper Photo Special!



We are delighted to inform you that our Reception Class '**First Class 2026'** photograph will be published in the **East Kent Mercury on Thursday, 12th November 2026**!

Copies of the newspaper will be available from your local newsagent or supermarket.

East Kent Mercury are also offering parents a whole year of access to the KentOnline premium website, app and all digital newspapers and supplements for just £20.00.

To take advantage of this offer, visit www.kentonline.co.uk/subscribe and use the offer code **FIRSTCLASS**.

Lunch Menu – Week Two
Week Beginning Monday, 9th November 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
WEEK 1	Mac 'n' Cheese 1,2,5 Mediterranean Pasta 2 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Garlic Dough Balls 1,4 Peas & Sweetcorn Medley Salad Flapjack 1 Fresh Fruit	Chicken Tacos 1,2** Mexican Bean Burrito 1,2* Tomato Pasta with Cheese 1,2* Rice Carrots Mixed Veg Melon Medley/Fruit Cocktail Fresh Fruit	Roast Chicken & Stuffing 1 Carrot & Lentil Bake 2**,3 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Rustic Roasties Cabbage Swede Marble Sponge 1,3 Fresh Fruit	Sausage Roll Slice & Gravy 1,13,7 Veggie Slice & Gravy 1,4 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Mash Broccoli Carrots Angel Delight 2 Fresh Fruit	Fish Fingers 1,7 Veggie Nuggets 1 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Chips/Pasta 1 Baked Beans Sweetcorn Shortbread 1 Fresh Fruit
WEEK 2	Burger in a Bun 1,4 Veggie Hot Dog 1 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Jacket Wedges Baked Beans Salad Ice cream 2 Fresh Fruit	Mexican Beef Taco's 1,2** Cauliflower Bhaji 6 Tomato Pasta with Cheese 2 Rice & Beans Green Beans Mixed Veg Melon Medley/Fruit Cocktail Fresh Fruit	Roast Chicken Paprikash 6 Frittata 2,3 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Rustic Roasties Broccoli Carrots Cheeky Chocolate Cake 1,3 Fresh Fruit	Pork Meatballs 1 Loaded Chilli Bean Wedges 2* Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Pasta 1 Peas Swede Rice Pudding & Mixed Berries 4 Fresh Fruit	Salmon Pinwheel 1,7 Cheese Pizza 1,2,4 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Chips/Pasta 1 Sweetcorn Baked Beans Cookie 1 Fresh Fruit
WEEK 3	Cheesy Pinwheel 1,2** Pasta Provencale 1 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Pasta Cucumber Salad Sweetcorn Krispie Cake 1 Fresh Fruit	Fish Tacos 1,7 Chilli Beans Tacos 1 Tomato Pasta with Cheese 1,2 Rice & Peas Beetroot & Carrot Salad Green Beans Melon Medley/Fruit Cocktail Fresh Fruit	Roast Pork Veggie Meatloaf 1,4 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Rustic Roasties Cauliflower Carrots Carrot Cake 1,3 Fresh Fruit	Beef Bolognaise Veggie Bolognaise Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Pasta 1 Broccoli Mixed Veg Oat Cookie 1 Fresh Fruit	Sausages 1,13 Quorn Sausages 1 Jacket Potato, Cheese 2 & Beans Chips/Pasta 1 Baked Beans Peas Jelly Fresh Fruit

DATES:
Week 1:
2nd Nov, 23rd Nov, 4th Jan, 25th Jan, 22nd Feb, 15th Feb.
Week 2:
9th Nov, 30th Nov, 11th Jan, 1st Feb, 1st March, 22nd March.
Week 3:
16th Nov, 7th Dec, 18th Jan, 8th Feb, 8th March.
Christmas week Special 14th - 18th Dec Menu to follow...

Allergens:
1. Gluten/Wheat
2. Dairy/Milk
3. Eggs
4. Soya/Soyabeans
5. Mustard
6. Celery
7. Fish
8. Molluscs
9. Shellfish/Crustaceans
10. Sesame Seeds
11. Nuts
12. Lupins
13. Sulphur Dioxide
14. Peanuts

All items with * can be made Vegan.
All items with ** can be made Dairy Free.

All items are subject to availability

WSM CIC - Company no. 5271609 - Registered Address: Alfold House, Burtholme Lane, Penrith, CA11 0XT

HOUSE POINTS

1st – LANG – 145 points
2nd – RAMSEY – 142 points
3rd – TEMPLE – 135 points
4th – FISHER – 121 points

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1st – Class 2 – 110 points
2nd – Class 1 – 108 points
3rd – Class 3 – 107 points





In Aid of Alzheimer's Society – World Record Attempt

The official Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people dressed as Santa's elves is 1,762 people, set in Bangkok, Thailand at the Siam Paragon shopping mall on November 25, 2014. To be officially counted for the largest gathering of Santa's elves, participants cannot just wear a generic holiday outfit.

They must strictly meet **four specific costume requirements**:

Elf Hat: A pointed red and green festive hat.
Pointy Elf Ears: Distinct, pointed ears
Red and Green Clothing: A top/shirt that features both red and green colours.
Red Cheeks: Face paint or makeup to give the appearance of rosy, bright red elf cheeks.



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 following the link 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



Please visit

http://olympuslc.magicbooking.co.uk/

to register your child and book your sessions

Thought for the Week



PE Days - Term 2 2026

- **Year R - Thursday**
- **Year 1 – Tuesday & Friday**
- **Year 2 – Thursday & Friday**
- **Year 3 – Tuesday & Wednesday**
- **Year 4 – Monday & Wednesday**
- **Year 5 – Wednesday (P.E.) & Friday (Swimming)**
- **Year 6 – Monday & Thursday**

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.

Matthew Lamprell – Headteacher

office@stmarysprimary.net - 01304 206887