St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dover

Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 27th November 2026

Our Christian Values

Peace; Friendship; Respect; Trust; Perseverance








A Message from Mr Lamprell

With Advent beginning on Sunday, the lead up to Christmas is certainly underway with the children preparing for key events. A 'festive-touch' has been added to our school hall with the stage put up ready for our annual infant nativity performance; our class Christmas hoops have been hung; and the school Christmas tree has been decorated by our Class 6 pupils – many thanks to all involved in these important preparations.









After School Club Provision

At St Mary's CEP, we offer a range of after school clubs to enrich the children's experience at school. The variety of clubs enables children to explore and develop skills that are beyond the classroom environment. It is excellent to see many children participating, as well as providing some positive feedback.

In addition, Olympus Learning Collective still provide wrap-around care until 5.45pm if families require this – details of this service is included in this newsletter – this is an excellent resource that we offer in order to support families. If you have any questions regarding after school club provision/care, please do contact the school office.

I dropped in to just a few this week and observed the children having a wonderful time with their friends! Just some of the comments included:

"I love having some relaxing time with my friends after school in Chill & Create club, we chat and make stuff!"

"I like that we can make new things"

"I love gardening club because we make things and explore nature"

"I really like Lego club because I like building things and completing challenges"

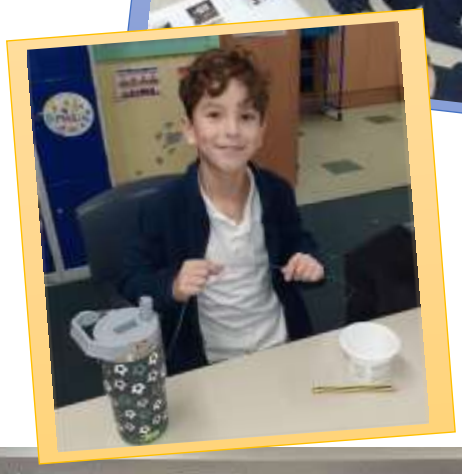
"We really like being outside and learning about plants"











Year 6 Library Visit

This week, it was Class 6's turn to visit Dover Library; the children thoroughly enjoyed this visit. Developing a love for reading is so important – the visit provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore the library and discover the range of books available. It was wonderful to see the children engaging with books and developing their enthusiasm for reading.



"I enjoyed looking at all the new Christmas books on display and I chose one about a Christmas tree."

"I always enjoy going to the library, they have so many books to choose from."

"I liked listening to Mrs Wallis read a chapter of The Twits to us all."

Reception Class 2027

It has been fantastic to continue showing prospective families around our wonderful school – I always feel proud when 'showing off' the excellent work that we do at St Mary's CEP! It has been great to hear such positive feedback from families in particular providing one to one tours during the school day; families really get to see the school 'live in action'.

Primary School Applications for parents to complete are **open** 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 2022 and 31st August 2023? 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.

The temperature is certainly starting to feel more like winter – make sure you wrap-up and keep yourselves warm. Have a joyful weekend and I look forward to seeing the children and families on Monday.

Best wishes,

Mr Matthew Lamprell - Headteacher

Go with the FLO…

Wrapping Up Warm for School ❁

With temperatures dropping and ice on the ground, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the cold weather every day. We still go outside for break and lunchtimes whenever it is safe to do so, and we want all our pupils to stay warm and comfortable.

Please make sure your child brings:

- A warm, waterproof winter coat
- Extra layers (such as jumpers, cardigans, or vests under their uniform)
- A hat, scarf, and gloves or mittens

Please Name Everything

We only hold a very limited supply of spare coats and winter accessories in school, so we cannot lend items out to pupils who forget theirs. Please ensure your child's name is clearly written inside every item of clothing—especially coats, hats, and gloves—so that any misplaced items can be returned straight away.

If your family is struggling to provide a warm winter coat or extra layers, please contact the school office, we are always on hand to help.

Miss Lisa Graham – Family Liaison Officer

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....

Friendships and Social Communication

This week's SEND focus: Friendships can be rewarding but also complicated.

Children learn social expectations in different ways and at different speeds. Some may find it difficult to join games, understand unspoken rules, manage disagreements or recognise when friendships are changing. Rather than assuming children should know, adults can help by talking through situations and practising possible responses.

5 things that make a good friendship

- Caring about each other's opinions
- Being able to have fun and good times together
- Helping each other when things are tough
- Respecting each other's needs and boundaries
- Treating each other equally

Try this at home

- Talk through social situations e.g. asking for a turn on the swings at the park.
- Practise phrases for joining in or asking for help.

Ask your child: "What makes someone a good friend to you?"

Conversation Prompt: Friendship success is about meaningful connection, not the number of friends a child has. Saying something nice can be a good way to start building a friendship with someone.

Mrs Charlotte Burkett - SENCO

Collective Worship
at St Mary's CEP School, Dover

We learnt about Advent and Thanksgiving in Collective Worship this week! Sunday, 29th November is the first Sunday of Advent and for Christians, a particularly special time of year. We learnt about the significance of the Advent period as a time to prepare for the arrival of the baby Jesus. The children shared the various ways they celebrate and prepare in the Advent period, including the excitement of opening our Advent calendars each day!

On Thursday, Ms. Race then shared her experiences of celebrating Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is an annual harvest and gratitude holiday celebrated most famously on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States. People gather with family and friends to share a large meal, give thanks for the year's blessings, and mark the start of the autumn and winter holiday season. The children enjoyed learning about holidays in a different culture and could share their ideas of gratitude.





HOUSE POINTS

1st – LANG – 219 points
2nd – RAMSEY – 212 points
3rd – FISHER – 175 points
4th – TEMPLE – 167 points

GOLDEN MANNER POINTS

1st – Class 3 – 120 points
2nd – Class 1 – 118 points
3rd – Class R – 111 points

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:



Class R – Turtles Class Learner of the Week is **Janelle** as she comes into school smiling and is always ready to learn! Janelle listens carefully, participates in all our class activities and can be relied upon to try her best in everything she does. This week she has wowed us with her handwriting and hard work in phonics. Well done Janelle!

Class 1 – Well done to **Brooklyn** for being our Starfish Learner of the Week! Over the past few weeks, we have seen a huge leap in his confidence and skills. He wowed us all by reading aloud from a book, using a clear speaking voice whilst beaming with pride! We are so proud of his hard work and can't wait to hear him read more!

Class 2 – Otters Class Learner of the Week is **Nitheesh**. Nitheesh has been trying so hard and we are very proud of his efforts! He is becoming more confident in joining Collective Worship for a short period and enjoys having a go at little learning activities with Mrs Pressnell. He is doing his best with tracing and copying tasks. Well done, Nitheesh keep shining!

Class 3 – **Grace** is our Learner of the Week in Puffins Class as she has had a wonderful week and continues to be a fantastic member of our class! Grace always approaches her learning with a positive attitude and has such lovely manners, showing kindness and respect towards those around her. She particularly enjoyed our science experiment this week and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to explore our learning in a practical way. It is lovely to see her enthusiasm for learning shining through in everything she does. Well done Grace!

Class 4 – Penguins Class Learner of the Week is **Aleena** as she comes to school each day with a cheerful smile and a great attitude. Aleena is always 'ready to learn' and makes a good effort to engage with the adults in school when tackling challenges. She is working hard with her multiplication, and has also recently produced a lovely story in English making a good effort to ensure her spelling is more accurate. Aleena tries hard to express her ideas and her behaviour in school is excellent - she is respectful towards the adults and is a kind and caring friend to her classmates. Well done Aleena!

Class 5 – Our Learner of the Week in Orcas Class is **Lily-Marie** for showing fantastic perseverance and determination, both in the classroom and during our swimming lessons - facing the challenges head on. She has demonstrated a positive attitude and refusing to give up even when things become difficult. Lily-Marie should be incredibly proud of her efforts and achievements – keep shining! Keep being the superstar you are, Lily-Marie!

Class 6 – Our Learner of the Week in Seahorses Class has demonstrated a wonderful attitude towards all of their learning. They are always focused and keen to succeed, despite finding some aspects challenging. They are a fantastic mathematician, which they have demonstrated when multiplying and dividing fractions mentally. They always portray our Christian values each and every day and are a wonderful role model for others. An absolute super shining star! Well done!

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**

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Parent/Carer To-Do List

Important reminders and upcoming events

Please take a moment to check the reminders for your child's class and complete any outstanding actions. Thank you for your support!

Reception Class



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for upcoming trip on 4th December 2026, if not already paid

Class 1



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for upcoming trip on 4th December 2026, if not already paid

Class 2



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for upcoming trip on 4th December 2026, if not already paid

Class 3



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for the upcoming KS2 trip on 2nd December 2026, if not already paid
- [ ] Ensure your child brings a packed lunch for the trip on 2nd December if you haven't ordered a school packed lunch
- [ ] Ensure your child has their Forest School clothes on Friday, 4th December

Class 4



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for the upcoming KS2 trip on 2nd December 2026, if not already paid
- [ ] Ensure your child brings a packed lunch for the trip on 2nd December if you haven't ordered a school packed lunch
- [ ] Ensure your child has their Forest School clothes on Friday, 4th December

Class 5



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for the upcoming KS2 trip on 2nd December 2026, if not already paid
- [ ] Ensure your child brings a packed lunch for the trip on 2nd December if you haven't ordered a school packed lunch
- [ ] Ensure your child has their swimming things on Friday, 4th December

Class 6



- [ ] Pay the voluntary contribution for the upcoming KS2 trip on 2nd December 2026, if not already paid
- [ ] Ensure your child brings a packed lunch for the trip on 2nd December if you haven't ordered a school packed lunch

Thank you for your continued support!

Please remember to check ParentMail and ensure all payments and forms are completed where applicable.



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.



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OLYMPUS LEARNING COLLECTIVE



Please visit

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

to register your child and book your sessions

Lunch Menu – Week Two
Week Beginning Monday, 30th 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



Thought for the Week



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.

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

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/

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

PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

BUCKLAND & St RADIGUNDS

Festive Family Fundays

FREE EVENTS

St Radigunds Community Centre
Saturday 21 November 12pm-4pm

Buckland Community Centre
Saturday 28 November 12pm-4pm

- Santa & Grinch
- Face painting
- Hot chocolate
- Arts & Crafts
- Entertainment
- Refreshments
- Meet Local Clubs & Groups

Your voice matters. Come along, share your views, and help shape the future of our community.
Together, we will make our community even better.

PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

BUCKLAND & St RADIGUNDS

Festive Christmas Dinners

FREE EVENT*
Booking Required

Buckland Community Centre
Thursday 3 December 6pm-8pm

St Radigunds Community Centre
Wednesday 9 December 6pm-8pm

Catering by: MK Catering

Pride in Place is investing in our local area, and we want to hear from you.
Join us for an evening of good food where you can share your ideas, meet local people, and help decide what improvements matter most to you.

* To book email **prideinplace@dover.gov.uk** with your name and how many people will be attending.
Deadline to book is **23rd November.**

SANTA AT THE MUSEUM

5TH & 6TH DEC 2026

10AM - 4PM

BOOKING VIA WEBPAGE FOR SANTAS GROTTO

RAFMANSTON.CO.UK

HE'S ON HIS WAY

SANTA'S 'HELI-GROTTO'

BOOK HERE

Santa's grotto and present included in normal Museum admissions fee (Event T&Cs apply)

TICKETS ARE AVAIABLE ON THE DAY*

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL

INFO@RAFMANSTON.CO.UK

RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WEATHER CONDITIONS, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS AND SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS AND/OR EXHIBITORS.
* QUEUE TIMES MAY VARY WITHOUT BOOKING - PLEASE ASK BEFORE PAYMENT.

IT'S A BOY!

PROFESSIONAL PANTO WITH WEST END COMEDIANS!

MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER, 9.15AM
CHARLTON CHURCH HALL, ST ALPHEGE ROAD

DANCING DONKEYS | SHEPHERDS WHO'VE LOST THEIR SHEEP | THE BADDEST BADDIE OF THEM ALL, KING HEROD
A FESTIVE ADVENTURE BURSTING WITH MUSIC, MISCHIEF AND MAYHEM

Your children become the stars — stepping on stage as Angels, Wise Men, and more!

Fun, heart, and Christmas cheer for the whole family!



LIMITED SEATING! BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

ADULTS £10.
CHILDREN £5.
REFRESHMENTS!