

Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide



Friday, 23rd April 2021

A Message from Ms Comfort

Welcome!

All children have settled remarkably well as they returned to school this week for the beginning of the summer term. Whilst the sunshine is very welcome, I am sure you agree with me that we would all benefit from it feeling a bit warmer!

Children who will be joining our new Reception Class in September received their offer letters recently and we are looking forward to getting to know our new entrants. We have also welcomed some new children to St Mary's this term.

Parent/Carer Consultations

We were not able to hold our March consultation meetings. Arrangements are to be made for telephone consultations from 4th May. Appointment times for these will be sent out shortly.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is re-starting next week. This runs from 8am every school day. If you wish your child to attend please contact the school office.

Alzheimer Society Fundraiser

Huge thanks to all who have supported our fundraiser today – I am pleased to say that your donations total **£193.00**. Thank you to Charlie in Class 5 for suggesting that we support this worthy charity.

Family Liaison Officer – Miss Claire Yarnley

Claire Yarnley has started her new role as Family Liaison Officer this week and has been at the top gate morning and afternoon for drop-off and collection. Next week she will be at the bottom gate; she and Mrs Trelfer will alternate the gates on a weekly basis. You are very welcome to make contact with Miss Yarnley via email on flo@stmarysprimary.net or through the school office. Look out for the 'Go with the FLO' section in our weekly newsletter.

Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

Spotlight on..... Starfish Class



Starfish class would like to welcome you all back after the chocolate-eating Easter holidays.

This week, Starfish class has been learning about George and the dragon story for St. George's day; we created pictures to illustrate the story.

We have started to explore our local area – thinking about where we live, our school and what places we have around us. Dover Castle and Kearsney Abbey are two firm favourites. Next week, we are hoping to go out and spot some of the signs of Spring around the school for our Science learning – maybe you could see what signs of Spring you could spot on your way to school in the morning. We have brightened up our classroom with our painted blossom pictures too. We hope you have all had a good week.

Mrs Emma Fagg & Ms Daisy Craig



Go with the FLO....

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may already know I have taken over the FLO role at St Mary's. Some of you may recognise me from Class 5, and some of you may have seen me at the gates.

It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school this week. I am looking forward to getting to know you all.

If there is anything you need, big or small, you can contact me via email at flo@stmarysprimary.net or via the main school contact number. My (virtual) door is always open...

I hope the weather continues to shine and you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Claire Yarnley



Learners of the Week

Congratulations go to the following Learners of the Week:

Class R - **Sofia** tries her best in all areas of her learning and loves to be set a challenge! She has wowed Miss Riley in Phonics this week with her super reading and handwriting, always persevering even when she finds something tricky! In RE, she also enjoyed retelling the story of how Jesus calms the storm, and joined in with lots of discussion during carpet time. Well done Sofia!

Class 1 - **Ariella** is Starfish's 'Learner of the Week' this week as she has been a 'Superstar'. She has tried hard to listen to know what is expected of her, and has worked really hard with her writing, despite finding it difficult at times. She has also made great choices every day and been extremely smiley. Well done Ariella! We are very proud of you.

Class 2 - **Eddie** is Learner of the Week in Dolphins class this week. Eddie is great at quietly getting on with his learning and producing good quality work consistently every lesson. Sometimes this makes it difficult to notice how well he is doing but this week he has really stuck out as putting in great effort in all his work, contributing excellent ideas in lessons and setting a great example to his peers in class. Well done Eddie!

Class 3 - Learner of the Week in Puffins class this week is **Maisey-Jai**. Maisey-Jai has made such a positive return to class this week, she has been smiling every day and has applied this positive attitude to her learning. Maisey-Jai has worked hard this week in all of her lessons to make positive learning choices and has persevered with her work when she has found something challenging. We are so proud of the positive learning attitude that Maisey-Jai has shown this week - keep up the good work!

Class 5 - **Suriya** is our Learner of the Week in Orca class. Suriya has been our maths star and has been helping others in his group to understand how decimals can be multiplied and divided. His writing has been detailed and he has given his best during all of his tasks. Well done, Suriya!

Class 6 - Learner of the Week in Seahorses class is **William**. He has been working super-duper hard with his Maths work this week, learning how to calculate ratios! He has persevered with a smile on his face. William also proved to be a great player of cricket too! He was batting and bowling like a professional! Keep up your hard work William. We are all proud of you.



Fair Play Award

- 1st - Temple
- 2nd - Fisher
- 3rd - Ramsey
- 4th - Lang

Golden Manner Points

- 1st - Penguins - 107 points
- 2nd - Puffins & Seahorses - 32 points
- 3rd - Dolphins - 30 points
- 4th Orca - 25 points



Collective Worship at St Mary's

On Monday we celebrated and remembered the life of Prince Phillip following his passing in the holidays.

Melissa Carter joined us on Tuesday and challenged our brains with a puzzle. How to change a fish swimming in one direction by moving 3 sticks to make it swim in the other direction. This helped us focus on the story of Jesus appearing to his disciples and cooking them breakfast on the beach.

We finished the week celebrating Earth Day and thinking about what small things we can do to care for our planet such as pick up rubbish, turn off the lights, reuse and recycle

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
office@stmarysprimary.net - 01304 206887

House and Charity News

Congratulations to Charlie and the school for a great response to the Alzheimer's fundraiser

Today would not have been possible without Charlie and his Mum. They would just like to say:

'Thank you to everyone who has donated and bought those amazing forget me not keyrings that were hand made by the talented Mrs Head.

There are good and bad moments in Alzheimer's, every day is different as our family was quick to learn. Charlie has dealt so well with this and helped me look after his Nan. Alzheimer's patients forget memories and daily functions and may sometimes be mean, but just remember patience, love and kindness is key.

They may forget you but we will never forget them or leave their side. I hope everyone had a fun day and wore your blue items with pride guys! So thankful for you all to help Charlie raise money to help awareness and funds for Alzheimer's Dementia UK'



Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust are offering free online parenting courses which Kent parents and carers can now access to support them at every stage of their child's development.

There are four separate courses starting during pregnancy and continuing up until a child's 19th birthday.

Understanding Pregnancy, Labour, Birth & Your Baby is for anyone who is expecting a baby, including friends and family

- Increases parent and carer confidence
- Helps build loving and close relationships between children and their carers
- Has information on pregnancy, labour and birth.

Course is available in English, Urdu and for women only couples

Understanding Your Baby is for anyone caring for a baby from birth to 12-months-old

- Increases parent and carer confidence
- Supports baby's development
- Helps build loving and close relationships between children and their carers
- Has information on sleep, feeding, crying, and playing as well as childcare options

Understanding your Child is for anyone caring for a child from birth to 18.

- Increases parent and carer confidence
- Supports positive relationships between parents/carers and children
- Adds simple, practical strategies to the parenting toolbox.

Course is available in English, Urdu, Bulgarian, Arabic, simplified Chinese and Polish.

Understanding your Teenager's Brain is for anyone caring for a teenager in Kent. This helps parents and carers understand what happens to the brain of a child as they go through adolescence and understand some of the behaviours they might be noticing. There is also a course designed for teenagers to access themselves.

How to access the courses - Families can visit www.inourplace.co.uk and register for a free account with the access code 'Invicta'. Courses can be completed at an individual's own pace.

Coronavirus Symptoms

Children or staff with any of the three symptoms of Covid:

- **a new continuous cough**
- **a high temperature**
- **a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell**

are to **stay at home** and isolate, as must the rest of their household. They should get a Covid test.

Children and staff must also stay at home and isolate if a member of their household has any of these symptoms until the outcome of a Covid test is known, and follow advice accordingly.

If your child tests positive for Covid you must immediately inform the school – by telephone on 01304 206887 during the school day. If you get a positive result at the weekend, during the evening or in a school holiday please email office@stmarysprimary.net

To get a test go online to:

nhs.uk/coronavirus

OR

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

OR

Telephone 111

Thought for the Week



Rapid Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing

Household members of primary age children are eligible to access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Tests are fast, easy and free. You can order home test kits online. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#) or you can collect from a home test kit collection point. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#). Please note that these tests are for **adults within the family, not the children**.

Free School Meals – Did you know...?

Your child might be able to have free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

For more information, go to:

kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

or telephone our

Family Liaison Officer on

01304 206887

Follow this link to our website

<https://www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk/>