



Happy St. Benedict's Feast Day!

We marked the occasion with a wonderful start to the day as Fr. Joseph celebrated Mass with our whole school family. Our Year 6 children delivered an inspiring homily about St. Benedict, reminding us of the importance of both prayer and work. St. Benedict taught us that prayer helps us remain close to God, while our work is a way of serving others. To honour this value of service, a representative from each class presented baskets of food collected by our school community for Medway Foodbank. May St. Benedict continue to inspire us to pray with faithful hearts, work with willing hands and care for one another every day.

Fr. Joseph also joined us for lunch, where the children enjoyed a refreshing Feast Day treat. A special thank you to the SBA for generously funding today's ice creams and ice lollies.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Fayre last Saturday. It was a fantastic day and we are delighted to share that we raised over £5,600. These funds will help support our school, create lasting memories and provide enriching opportunities for all our children. We are incredibly grateful to the SBA committee and our dedicated parent volunteers for their creativity, hard work and commitment. Many of you commented that it was our best fayre yet – a wonderful achievement!

This week, children from St. Michael's and St. Bernadette's Classes enjoyed an exciting visit to Wingham Wildlife Park in Canterbury. They had a wonderful time exploring the park and learning about a wide variety of animals in their habitats, bringing their science learning to life!

Our Sports Day morning was filled with energy, excitement, determination and plenty of smiles. The children demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm throughout the morning and gave their very best in every event. It was a pleasure to see such strong team spirit, with children encouraging one another and celebrating each other's successes. Thank you to all the parents and family members who came along to support the children from the sidelines. Your encouragement helped make the day extra special and contributed to a wonderful celebration of teamwork, perseverance and fun.

Further transition activities have taken place this week. At St. Bernadette's 'Moving Up' Assembly, Year 2 children shared favourite memories from their infant years and their hopes and aspirations as they prepare to move into the junior phase of their education. We especially enjoyed the children's uplifting performance of *I'm On My Way*!

Congratulations to our Year 6 athletes who represented our school at the Mini Youth Games Athletics Event. There were outstanding performances across the team, resulting in a fantastic overall achievement of 7th place out of 35 schools.

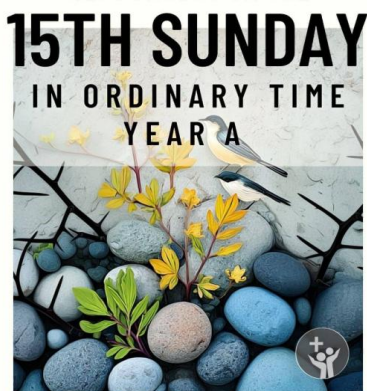
Our school football team also took part in the Medway Primary League Football Fun Day yesterday, where they had the opportunity to play against teams they have competed with throughout the year. We are delighted to report that they finished fifth overall. Well done to all involved for their teamwork, effort, and sportsmanship.

As we approach the end of the academic year, there is still much to look forward to, including our Year 6 Leavers' Play, our Biscuits and Books celebration, and a range of assemblies that will recognise and celebrate the many achievements of our children. We look forward to sharing these special moments with you.

Have a blessed weekend,

Mrs. McAlpine

Sunday 12th July



Matthew 13: 1-23

"But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."

Prayer of the Month – July



Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th July

School Football Team Match (Away)

Wednesday 15th July

6pm Leaver's Play

Thursday 16th July

Unwanted clothing collection
Biscuit & Books / Art Gallery

Friday 17th July

Prize Giving Assembly (Invited Families)
1pm EYFS – Animal Club Experience

Monday 20th July

11am Leaver's Mass

Tuesday 21st July

9:10 am Leaver's Assembly

Tuesday 21st July

Last day of Term 2pm Finish

Summer Holidays



Tuesday 1st September 2026

INSET DAY

(No children attend school on this day)

Wednesday 2nd September

Children return to school for the new academic year.

Monday 21st September

School Individual Photos

Friday 23rd October

INSET DAY

(No children attend school on this day)

Friday 13th November

Flu Immunisation Whole School

Year 6 Leavers Play 6 pm 15th July

Year 6 parents may book up to 3 seats per family for this via ParentMail. If you would like more seats, please let the office know and if any seats are spare after the initial bookings, we can allocate them to parents who want more.



St. Benedict's Catholic Primary



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Our school is committed to safeguarding all members of our community

We have a detailed Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and work hard to ensure that this is followed.

If you have a concern about a young person in school and believe that they may be suffering or are at risk of harm or abuse you should report it to the Designated Safeguarding Lead:

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL):

Sarah McAlpine (Headteacher)



DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DDSL):

Becky Howell



Assistant
Headteacher

Claire Read



Assistant
Headteacher

Jayne Stuart



SENDCO



SAFEGUARDING GOVERNOR:

Lisa Brett



**Worried about something you
have seen or heard?
Not sure what to do?**

Please come and talk to us.

Value of the Week Next Week



We are determined to always try our best.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principle of the Week



**Thinking of everyone
The Common Good**

Superstars and Learners of the Week

Year R

All of St Joseph's are superstars this week for wonderful sportsmanship and team work during their first St Benedict's sports day! We are so proud of how you supported each other and how sensible you were moving the chairs to keep in the shade throughout the morning! Stay fabulous Year R!

Year 1

Learner: Frank- what a super learner you have been recently! Well done for working independently, getting on with your task and doing your best!

Superstar: Henry- you wowed everyone during our school trip to Wingham Wildlife with your amazing dinosaur knowledge!

Year 2

Learner: LaRosa is so focused in English lessons and is producing great question sentences.

Superstar: Harry puts 100% effort in all his work and listens so attentively.

Year 3

Learner: Emelia. E for working really hard in RE this week reflecting on our gifts from God.

Superstar: Sonny, for being such a wonderful support to his peers during sports day and beyond. We are lucky to have you in our class!

Year 4

Learner: Gracie – wonderful learning this week in maths. You were excellent at recording coordinates and translating shapes.

Superstar: Thank you Bonnie for always being such a willing helper in the classroom and around the school. You are so reliable and responsible.

Year 5

Learner: Our superstar this week is Yan for his improved focus on his work, resulting in some improved pieces of writing!

Learner: Our learner this week is Adam for his confidence with Maths when converting units of measure - well done!

Year 6

Learner: Our Learner of the Week is Sophia for her outstanding scientific knowledge and understanding during our learning about the circulatory system. She confidently drew upon her prior knowledge of the digestive system to make insightful links, demonstrating excellent recall and a deep understanding of how the body's systems work together. Sophia, your curiosity and enthusiasm for Science are wonderful to see. Well done—keep up the fantastic work!

Superstar: Our Superstars of the Week are the whole of Year 6 for the resilience, maturity and teamwork they have shown during rehearsals for our Leavers' Play. As we prepare for the end of our journey together at St. Benedict's, rehearsals have brought with them many emotions. The children have approached this special time with thoughtfulness, supporting one another as they look ahead to the exciting opportunities that await them.

Year 1 Trip to Wingham



St. Benedict's Feast Day



Can I be kinder?

Can I welcome someone who feels left out?

Can I work hard and do my best?

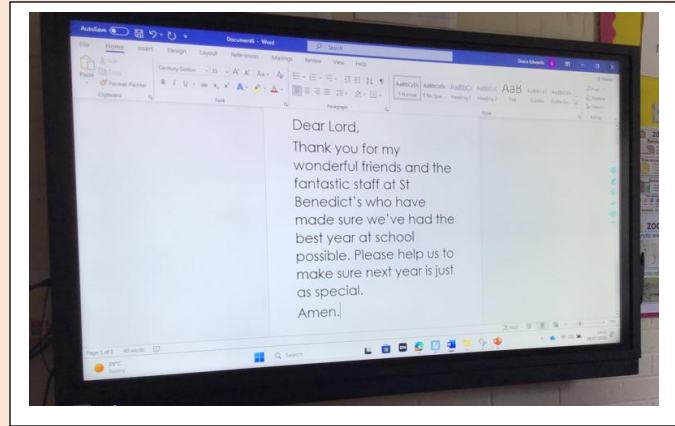
Can I spend a little more time talking to God in prayer?



St. Benedict's Day Ice Cream Treats



Year 2 'Moving up' Assembly



Medway Primary Football Cup Tournament



Well done to St. Benedict's football team who came 5th against the other teams in the Medway Primary School's Football League.

Times Table Rockstars



Fastest
Rocco

Highest Score
Audrielle

Most Improved
Bella

Star
Anabelle

Biscuits and Books

On Thursday 16th July, you are invited to attend our 'Biscuits and Books' event, where you get the opportunity to look at your child's learning and celebrate their hard work with them. Please see the chart below for the time of your child's class session. Please indicate if you will be attending this event by completing the form in the ParentMail 'forms' section.

9:10 – 9:30 am	Year 1
9:35 – 9:55 am	Year 5
10:00 -10:20 am	Year 4
10:50 – 11:10 am	Year 3
11:15 – 11:35 am	Year 2
11:35 – 11.55am	Year 6
2:40 – 3:00pm	Year R

From September, we will be using Arbor as our only communication system in school. We will no longer be using ParentMail.

If you have not seen any welcome e-mails from Arbor, please check your 'junk' or 'spam' emails and allow them, or you may miss important information regarding your child/ren. Please use the link below if you have deleted any Arbor messages:

<https://st-benedicts-catholic-primary-school-149979.uk.arbor.education/?/home-ui/index>

If you have a child in a secondary school that also uses Arbor, you will need to create a new password for the child at St. Benedict's School and log in with a different password for each child.

IMPORTANT

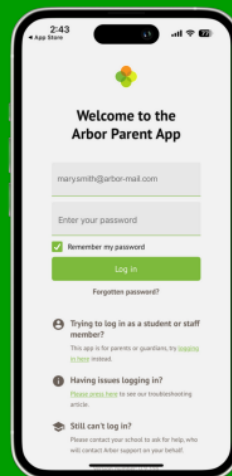
If you have any outstanding balances to pay in Parentmail account, you will be unable to order school meals through Arbor in September. Please clear any monies owed in Parentmail. All debts will be carried over to Arbor. Outstanding debts from year 6 pupils will be transferred to any other siblings at the school. **Please pay the correct amount in Parentmail to take you to the end of the summer term with a zero balance.**

Arbor



We're using the Arbor Parent App!

See and manage your child's day-to-day school information. Understand their progress, make payments and bookings, and receive in-app messages - all from one app



Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for clubs, and book parents evenings

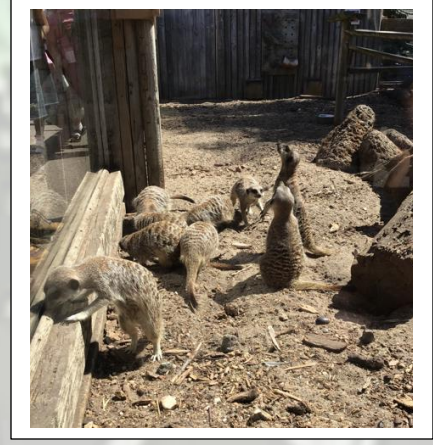
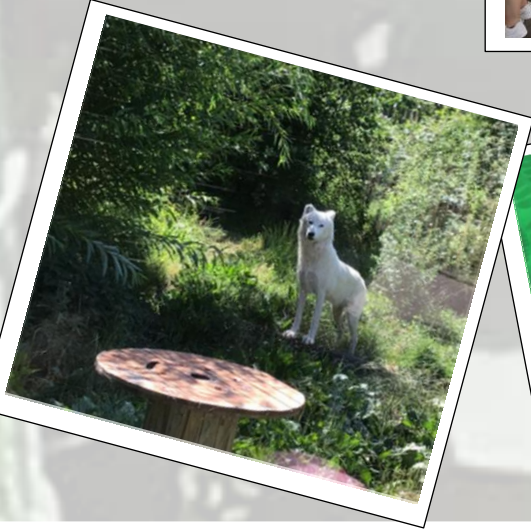
See your child's progress, attendance, behaviour points, report cards and more

Check your child's calendar, it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent App, and use your email address to log in

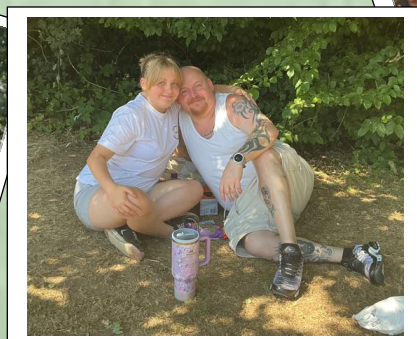


Year 2 Trip to Wingham



Sports Day





Holy Communion



Congratulations to Erin from Year 6 who received her First Holy Communion on Saturday 4th July at St. John Fisher Church in Rochester.



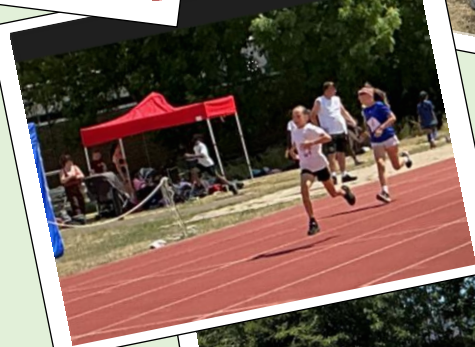
Work Experience



It was lovely to have Mia, a former pupil, back at St. Benedict's for her work experience this week. She assisted in classes and was a great help at Sports Day and in our forest school lesson.

Thank you also to Elliot B. who supported our children at the Athletics Tournament and Sports Day.

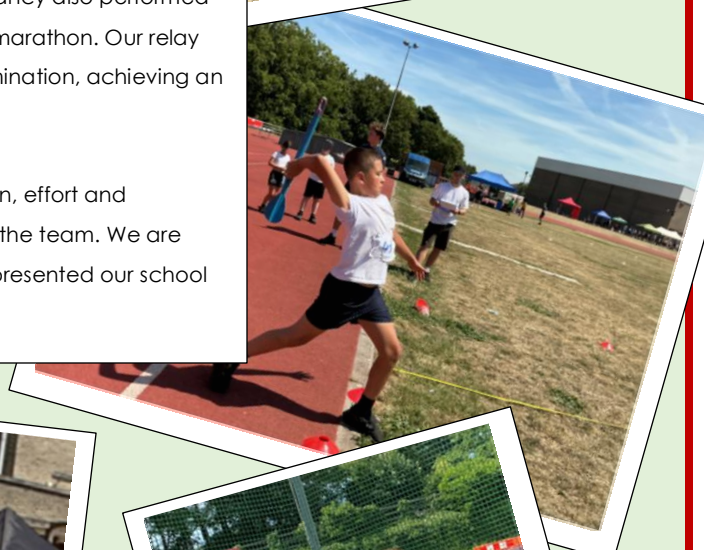
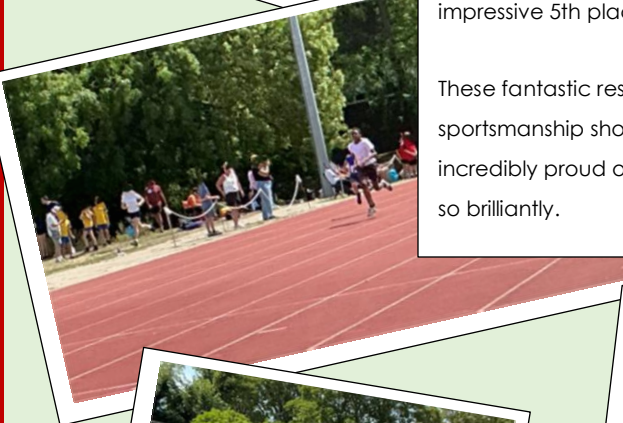
Mini Youth Games Athletics



Some notable highlights included Euan, who achieved 1st place out of 35 competitors in both the 60-metre sprint and the triple jump. Somto secured 2nd place in the vertical jump and 3rd place out of 35 in the 100-metre sprint, while Liberty-Rose achieved 3rd place out of 35 in the triple jump.

Ellyas delivered an excellent performance, finishing 3rd in the ball-push and 5th in the 200-metre race. Nancy also performed brilliantly, finishing 4th out of 35 in the mini marathon. Our relay team showed great teamwork and determination, achieving an impressive 5th place out of 35 teams.

These fantastic results reflect the dedication, effort and sportsmanship shown by every member of the team. We are incredibly proud of all the children who represented our school so brilliantly.



Summer Fayre







Recommended by

NICE National Institute for
Health and Care Excellence

Help your child build confidence over the Summer Holidays



For 7-12 year olds
Free instant access
Support worries about:

- Going to school
- Making new friends
- Speaking in front of a group
- Making mistakes and more!



To get instant access visit:
luminova.app/medway



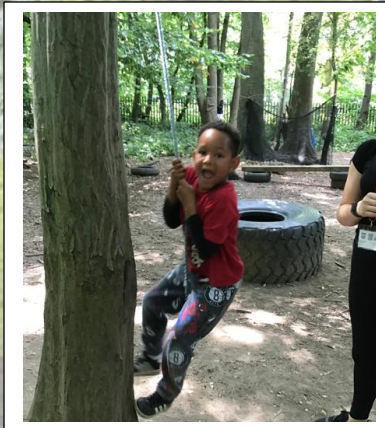
Forest School Year R



Forest School Year 1



Year 2 Forest School



Dear God,
We love the beautiful flowers that
make our forest school so pretty.
Thank you for the all the different
fruit that grows in our woods to feed
the birds. We saw cherries and the
blackberry brambles today.
We are grateful for all our friends
who get to play with us in Forest
School.

Amen



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -
more funds for
your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

16 JULY
THURSDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

✓ WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

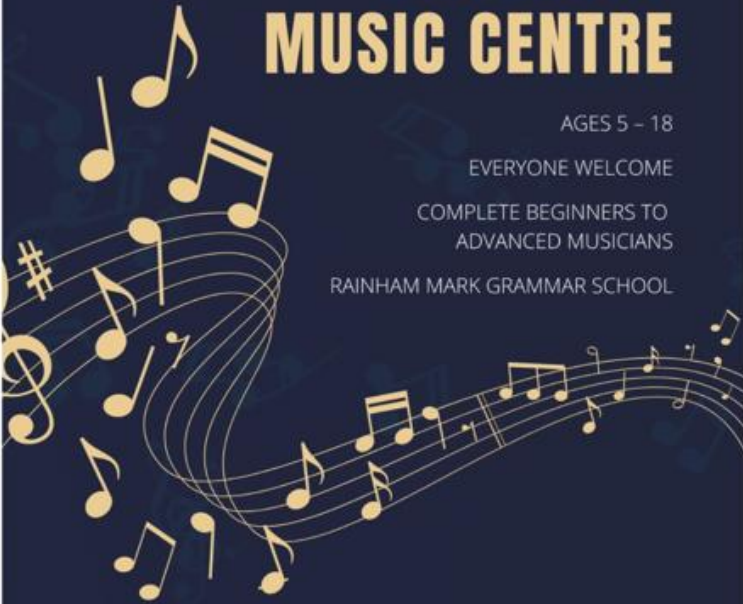
PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

TERM TIME ONLY

JOIN OUR SATURDAY MUSIC CENTRE

AGES 5 – 18
EVERYONE WELCOME
COMPLETE BEGINNERS TO
ADVANCED MUSICIANS
RAINHAM MARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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Music Hub
Partner Organisation

FREE

Online Music Technology Sessions

- Open to pupils in Year 5 - 13
- Tuesdays 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Term time only

SIGN UP NOW
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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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Parish News



Parish Of St Simon Stock

5th July 2026

14th Sunday Year A



This is the QR Code for First Collections for your convenience and flexibility. Please scan to donate. You can still donate using the gift aid envelopes or the contactless machines in the church lobby (please insert your card in this one) and the hall, or just by putting money in the offertory bag.

In the Gospel, Jesus provides a new teaching which with the grace of the Holy Spirit we can follow. This is why mission is about helping others to encounter Jesus, the light.

CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal

You can help our neighbours affected by the 24 June earthquakes in Venezuela with emergency shelter, water and food. CAFOD is already working with local Church partners to support people who have lost their homes, but we need your support to help more survivors. Your donation will provide essential supplies and help families rebuild their lives.

Donate to the CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal today: cafod.org.uk/Venezuela or call 0300 999 0030 or scan the QR code.

Please keep our neighbours in Venezuela in your prayers.



CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

Our parish is preparing for a special Youth Mass, Sunday 19th July at 11am, and we would love you to be part of it. Whether you'd like to read, welcome people as they arrive, sing with the choir, bring up the offertory gifts, be an usher for Holy Communion, help with tea/coffee after mass, or simply be involved in planning the celebration, we'd be delighted to have you join us. This is a wonderful opportunity to use your gifts, grow in faith and help lead our parish in worship. We will have a brief meeting (with ice cream!) after the 11 am mass this Sunday, 5th July or see Fr Joseph or a member of the Youth Team. All are welcome!! SSS Youth Team

Fr Joseph Donkor, S, Bleakwood Road, Walderslade, Kent. ME5 0NF. Email: josephdonkor@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Martin Smith: martin.smith@rcaos.org.uk

Please note: Parish Office is located in the new church extension

Tel: 01634 862950. Mob: 07305 831925. Website: www.stsimonstock.org.uk
Email: walderslade@rcaos.org.uk Parish Secretary: Mrs Josie Ryder
Primary schools: St Benedict's Mrs. S. L. McAlpine 01634 669700
St Thomas More Mrs. P Le Breton 01634 854701

St Simon Stock Summer Fayre 2026

Saturday 18th July

11am-3pm

