



It was wonderful to see so many children wearing their odd socks on Monday to kick start Anti-Bullying Week. Our Year 6 school councillors led a whole-school assembly, helping everyone understand what bullying is and how to report it. This year's theme, 'Power for Good', encouraged every child to perform one kind act every day—spreading positivity and kindness throughout our school.

The School Council has been working hard this week, gathering ideas from each class to create a Pupil Anti-Bullying Charter. Once our councillors have published the Charter, we'll share it with the whole community and add it to our Anti-Bullying Policy.

Year 3 led a beautiful assembly for the school and their families, sharing why Mary, Jesus' Mother, is special and reflecting on their own experiences of trust. The assembly included a poignant mime, the song 'We Will Trust in God' (sung and signed), collaborative artwork and heartfelt prayers. We are so proud of Year 3 for their creativity and reverence.

Thank you to all families who supported the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal by purchasing poppies and merchandise. On Remembrance Day, children wore their club uniforms (Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows and others) and participated in a two-minute silence and prayer service, honouring those who have served.

Congratulations to our Year 6 Basketball Team, who competed at the Medway Mini Youth Games Basketball Event at Medway Park. The team showed fantastic determination and team spirit, finishing 9th out of 24 teams—only losing to the top three medal winners. Well done!

The children looked fantastic in their Pudsey gear today! Thank you for your continued support of this important cause.

Next week, I will be away for two days attending the Diocesan Headteacher Conference. The rest of our leadership team will be available should you need anything.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for helping to make St Benedict's such a vibrant, caring community.

Have a blessed weekend.

Mrs. McAlpine

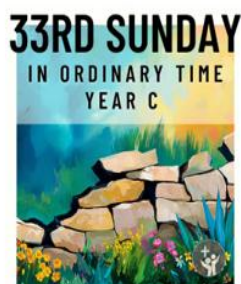
Prayer of the Month - Eternal Rest

As November is the month of remembrance, all children have been set a challenge to learn the Eternal Rest prayer. Can you help them at home?

Eternal Rest
grant unto them,
O LORD,
and let
perpetual light
shine upon them.
MAY THEY
Rest in Peace
Amen



Sunday 16th November 2025



Luke 21: 5-19

God is always at work, even when times are hard.

Prayer of the Month – November



Let us pray that those who are struggling might find the support, care and love they need in their community and be open to the beauty of life.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 1st December

2.30pm Advent Wreath Service

Tuesday 2nd December

TAG day
(KS1 – Chocolates. KS2-Bottles)

Thursday 4th December

Year 3 Carol Concert Rochester Cathedral

Monday 8th December

2pm Infant Nativity

Tuesday 9th December

10am Infant Nativity

Wednesday 10th December

3.20 pm Christmas Market

Thursday 11th December

2 pm Grandparent Tea Party

Tuesday 16th December

2pm Junior Carol Concert
6pm Junior Carol Concert

Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Reading Café
1.30pm Children's Pantomime -Aladdin

Thursday 18th December

9.10 am Pre-Schooler Advent Craft and Play
Christmas Dinner and Parties

Friday 19th December

9.10 am Achievement Assembly (for invited parents)
Last Day of Term 2 pm Finish

Value of the Week Next Week



*We learn from our mistakes and
keep trying our best.*

School Term Dates Holiday Booking

**Schools are not permitted to authorise holidays
in school time.**

Please see the term dates below to help you
plan your holiday.

Christmas Break

Monday 22nd December to Monday 5th January

February Break

Monday 16th February to Monday 23rd February

Easter Break

Friday 3rd April to Friday 17th April

Late Spring Break

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Summer Term Ends

Tuesday 22nd July

Future Inset Days

Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 23rd February 2026
Monday 29th June 2026

Class Assembly Dates

All assemblies will begin at 9:10am.

Year 4:	Took place in October
Year 3:	Wednesday 12 th November
Year 5:	Wednesday 28 th January
Year 2:	Thursday 12 th February
Year 1:	Wednesday 25 th February
Year R:	Thursday 12 th March
Year 6:	Monday 30 th March

Key Assessment Dates

Key stage 2 tests (Year 6)

The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026.

Multiplication tables check (Year 4)

Schools must administer the multiplication tables check within the 2-week period from Monday 1 June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026.

Phonics screening check (Year 1)

Schools must administer the phonics screening check within the 1-week period from Monday 8 June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026.

★ Superstars and Learners of the Week

Year R

Learner: Olivia for working extremely hard with her letter formation and sentence structure this week to create beautiful sentences! Keep up the great work Olivia!

Superstar: Chester for making fabulous progress with his behaviour for learning this week and remembering the school rules! Keep it up Chester!

Year 1

Learner: Chloe F, for always trying hard and doing her best in all that she does. Well Done Chloe!

Superstar: Henry for showing forgiveness and understanding that accidents sometimes happen

Year 2

Learner: Marco has amazed me this week with his incredible writing. He is making so much progress. Well done, Marco!

Superstar: Roseanna
It is such a pleasure to have Roseanna in the classroom. Her positivity, forgiveness and compassion is just wonderful to be around. Thank you, Roseanna.

Year 3

Learner: Cleo goes above and beyond with her learning and I was especially impressed with your Maths this week. You focus well and love contributing your ideas. Keep it up Cleo!

Superstar: Isabella- You have really worked hard this week with your writing and you demonstrate our school values of forgiveness and integrity in all that you do.

Year 4

Learner: Well done Elsie for working so hard with your writing this week. You have taken care to check your spellings and ensure your sentences are spectacular. So proud of you!

Superstar: Anjola you are a true superstar in year 4 – working hard, encouraging your peers and being fabulous every day. Thank you

Year 5

Learner: Our learner of the week is Myles for his excellent contributions to class discussions- especially in history which he has a passion for!

Superstar: Our superstar of the week is Lily G for always being considerate by thinking of how she can help others. She has also written some lovely prayers to share with the class.

Year 6

Learner: Our Learner of the Week is Scarlett for working exceptionally hard in English, especially in developing her sentences to be more detailed and descriptive, resulting in a lovely character description. Great work, Scarlett!

Superstar: Our Superstar this week is Euan for truly embodying all our school values. Euan shows a maturity beyond his years, demonstrating forgiveness, empathy, fairness and a strong determination to be a Christ-like role model. We are very proud of you, Euan.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principle of the Week



Putting people most in need first
**Preferential Option
for the Poor**

Times Table Rockstars



Fastest Rocco Y5
Highest Audrielle Y4
Improved Noelle Y4
Star Henry Y5



Attendance Winners for Last Week

1 st	Year 6	98.75 %
2 nd	Year 5	98.44%
3 rd	Year 2	98.4%



Safeguarding



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



PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

5 MINUTES

late each day

= 3 days off
in total



Coats

Please ensure that your child brings a coat into school with them. Now that the colder, wetter weather is here, they should be wearing a coat outside.



Remembrance Day

Feathers all stained red,
for the soldiers that are sadly dead,
Poppies dotted grounds,
for the fighters that went safe and sound,
we remember that they didn't flee,
for the freedom we now see,
the chilling deaths never left,
because we remember their deaths,
lets protect what they saved,
a free world for us to brave,
we remember all who helped
as they helped us to see a better world.

By William Y6

Our whole school community gathered for a special prayer service to honour those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in conflict.

During the service, we observed a two-minute silence, reflecting on the bravery and selflessness of those who have served.

We were incredibly proud of the reverence and respect shown by the children throughout the service. Their thoughtful participation demonstrated our school values in action and reminded us all of the importance of remembrance and gratitude.



We will Remember Them.

Those who have passed and have gone,
we will remember them.

The bravest ones who gave their lives,
we will remember them.

They might be gone but we will remember them.

The ones we've lost are the ones we remember.

By Joe in Y6



Mini Youth Games Basket Ball



Thank you to Mr Edwards, one of our Governors, and Mr McAlpine for accompanying the children to Medway Park for the Mini Youth Games Basketball.

Won 4
Drew 1
Lost 3
Overall 9th place



Odd Socks Day – Anti-bullying Week



Year 3 Assembly

Noku and Cleo shared this beautiful prayer:

Dear God,
Thank You for loving me.
Thank You for choosing me to be part of Your big family.
Sometimes I feel small or not important,
but You remind me that I matter to You.
You made me special, with a big purpose.
Help me to listen to You,
to follow You,
and to share Your love with others.
Thank You for picking me,
for calling me Your child,
and for always being with me.
I'm so glad I belong to You.
Amen.



Online Safety

Children deserve a safe digital world.

We are committed to helping you keep your child safe while they are exploring the digital world.

Here are some helpful hints and tips to keep in mind:

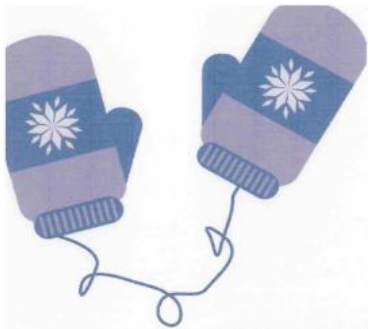


1. Set boundaries: It is important to set clear boundaries for your child when it comes to technology use. Decide on a specific time for them to use the internet and what websites or apps are appropriate for their age.
2. Monitor their activity: Keep a close eye on what your child is doing online by regularly checking their browsing history. This will help you identify any potential risks or issues early on.
3. Educate them: Talk to your child about the importance of online safety and the potential dangers they may encounter. Encourage them to come to you if they ever feel uncomfortable or unsure about something they see online.
4. Use parental controls: Most devices and apps have built-in parental controls that can help you restrict access to certain websites, apps or content. Take advantage of these features to help keep your child safe.

At our recent Parents/Carers Evening, we shared a helpful guide to support you in ensuring a safe and positive online experience for children aged 6-10. If you weren't able to attend, or would like to revisit the information, the link is available below.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>

Collection of items for the homeless



Please bring any of the following items listed below:

- woolly hats
- pairs of socks
- pairs of gloves
- scarves

Please bring these items by the end of November



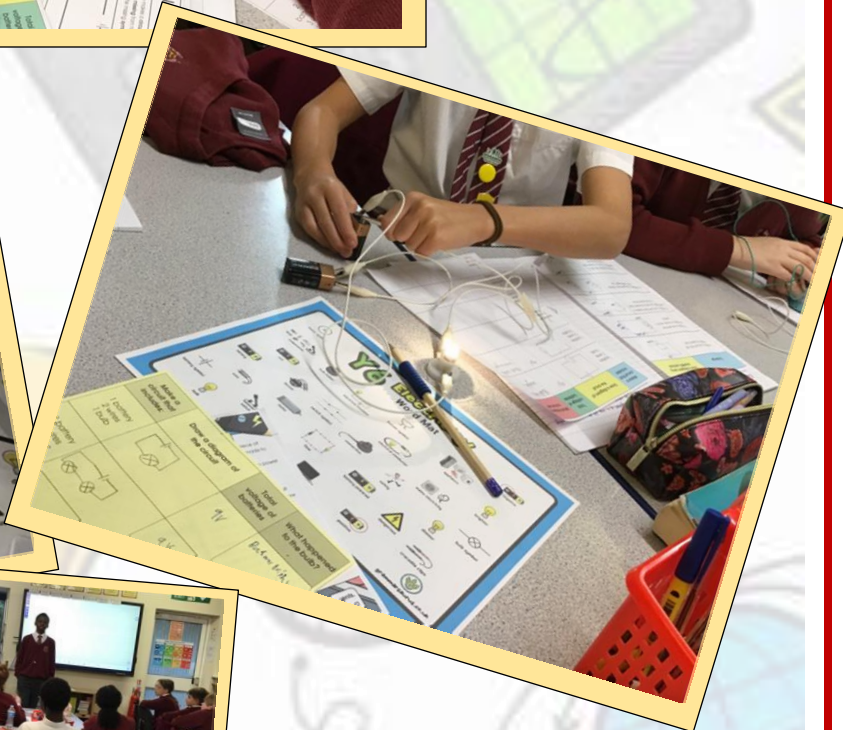
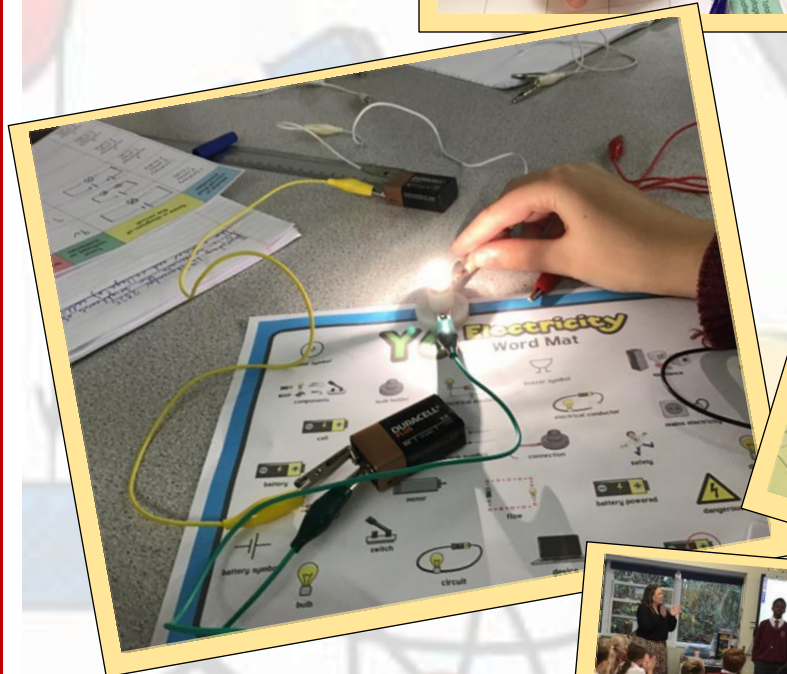
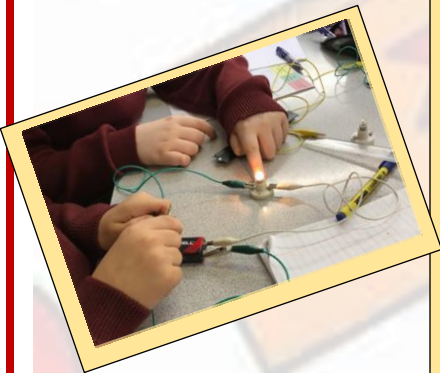
Please hand in any unused items to the office
where there is a collection box. Thank you



Designed by Janet - Mini Vinnie

Year 6 Science

Year 6 conducted a scientific investigation using circuits in their Science lesson this week.





Learning and Challenge Rooted in Faith.
2025/2026

**School Tours for
September 2026**

for children born between 1st September
2021 and 31st August 2022

Parents of children of all faiths are invited
to visit the school for a tour with the
headteacher.



Dates and Times of Tours:			
Thurs	FULL	2025	9:30am
Friday	FULL	2025	2:15pm
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday 8 th January			9.30am

Please book via the office:
01634 669700
office@st-benedicts.medway.sch.uk

Apply for a school place
for September 2026
Medway Residents
<https://admissions.medway.gov.uk/Synergy/Admissions.aspx>

Now Open

Apply for a school place
for September 2026
Kent Residents
<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places>

Now Open

Year R Forest School

ST BENEDICT'S WOOD



Year 2 Forest School



AGES
5-11

HOO SPORT ACADEMY PRESENTS DECEMBER CAMP

22ND AND 23RD DECEMBER
29TH AND 30TH DECEMBER

VARIOUS VENUES
ACROSS MEDWAY

9AM TO 3PM

£19.95 A DAY
FIVE DAY DISCOUNT
FOR £89.95

ACTIVITIES:

RANGE OF SPORTS	BOUNCY CASTLES
ARTS AND CRAFTS	GO-KARTS
DANCE AND DRAMA	ANIMAL WORKSHOP
NERF WARS	SWEET TREATS



scan to book



OR VISIT US AT:

WWW.HOOSPORTACADEMY.CO.UK





St Simon Stock Parish in Walderslade

Bleakwood Road
Walderslade
Kent, ME5 0NF
Tel: 01634 862 910 Mob: 07305 831 925
Email : walderslade@rcaos.org.uk



*Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of Southwark*

St Simon Stock Parish

Bleakwood Rd., Walderslade ME5 0NF

22nd
November
2025

Christmas Fayre

**FREE
ENTRY**

11am – 2pm

*Some great stalls: gifts, Christmas crafts, bottle
tombola, toiletries, toys, raffle for food hampers,*

Christmas cards, mini xmas gifts from £ 1.5

The mulled punch & homemade cakes!

Wouldn't it be great to get some Christmas gifts?



Parish Of St Simon Stock



9th November 2025



Dedication of Lateran
Basilica

Newsletter

On the anniversary of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran in Rome, we join our hearts and prayers with those of our Chief Shepherd, the bishop of Rome, Pope Leo XIV. We are proud to be baptised Christians and members of the universal Church which exists in every corner of the world and is made up of diverse people. Just as the water flowing from the Temple brought life to all the places it flowed, the life-giving waters of baptism bring us the gift of eternal life. We will one day share this gift with all of those who are faithful to the call to salvation.

Finally, our purpose for this Remembrance Sunday is not to glorify war, but to acknowledge the sacrifices of so many people who gave their lives so that we might live in freedom. We realise that war is dreadful, and we never underestimate the devastation and terrible human cost involved. Our heart goes out to the families and friends who have to carry on their lives despite the loss of their loved ones.

Fr Joseph Donkor

2nd Coll this weekend is for the Archbishop's Appeal. You can find envelopes in the porch or there is a poster with a QR code above the paying in machine.

Parishioners may remember deceased family members/friends during this important month, by writing their names into our Remembrance Book and putting a donation into one of the Holy Souls envelopes which can be found in the church porch. A Mass for all the Holy Souls will be held on Saturday 29th November at 6pm.

We will be starting an extra session of Adoration 7pm to 8pm before Friday evening Masses from beginning of Advent. First Adoration 5th December

Priest: Fr Joseph Donkor, 5, Bleakwood Road, Walderslade, Kent. ME5 0NF. Email: josephdonkor@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Martin Smith: martinsmith@rcaos.org.uk.

Parish Safeguarding Rep Margaret Whitworth: waldersladesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk tel: 07811 852267

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

Tel: 01634 862910. Mob: 07305 831925, Website: www.stsimonwalderslade.co.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 864701

Children's Liturgy will be held every Sunday during 11am Mass during Advent.

As usual the children will be acting out the Nativity during the Gospel at the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass. If your child would like to take part there will be rehearsals from 10.30am to 10.50am every Sunday during Advent so please come along on 30th November and sign up.