



November is a special time for remembrance, reflection and looking forward with hope. Today, our whole school came together for the Jubilee for Schools Celebration Day. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the Jubilee Year's impact and to look ahead with renewed hope as we continue living out our Jubilee Pledges, striving to build a better world together.



This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King.

This important feast reminds us that Jesus's kingship is not about power or wealth, but about love, mercy and peace.

As this celebration marks the end of Ordinary Time, it fills us with hope as we approach Advent, a season of joyful preparation.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Kowalik, who joins our staff team as our new lunchtime supervisor. Mrs. Kowalik will also continue to support our children during their Forest School sessions.

As part of Maths Week England, our children have enjoyed a range of creative opportunities under this year's theme, 'Connection or Coincidence?' All classes have been getting their thinking caps on with a new puzzle each day – challenging themselves and each other to find clever solutions! With outdoor Maths, The Escape Room Challenge and our Juniors showing off their times tables skills in TTRS England Rocks national competition, it has been an exciting week. Some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils also took part in the Primary Maths Challenge organised by the Mathematical Association – well done to everyone who took part for giving it their all!

Protecting our children from extremism and radicalisation is a key part of our safeguarding responsibilities, known as the Prevent Duty for Schools. This week, all staff took part in refresher Prevent training led virtually by Sally Green, Medway and Kent Prevent Education Officer, focusing on the local context for Medway Primary Schools. If you would like to know more about the Prevent Duty and how we keep children safe, please visit our school website for further information:

[Prevent Duty at St Benedict's](#)

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Parish Christmas Fayre tomorrow, from 11am to 2pm. It's a fantastic opportunity to come together as a community and begin our Advent preparations.

Have a blessed weekend.

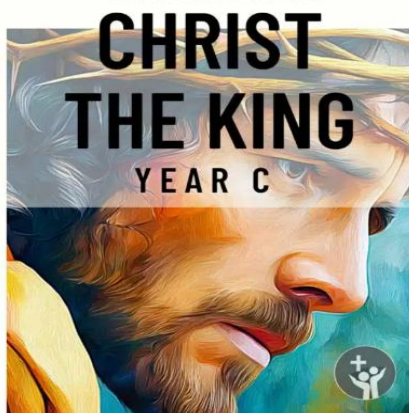
Mrs. McAlpine

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 23rd November 2025



Luke 23: 35-43

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

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

Thursday 27th November

Mini Youth Games Badminton

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



Monday 5th January 2026

INSET Day (No children to attend school)

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Children return to school

Catholic Social Teaching Principle



Caring for God's gifts
Stewardship

Value of the Week Next Week



We are kind and
listen to others.

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 12th November

Year 5: Wednesday 28th January

Year 2: Thursday 12th February

Year 1: Wednesday 25th February

Year R: Thursday 12th March

Year 6: Monday 30th March

Key Assessment Dates

Key stage 2 tests (Year 6)

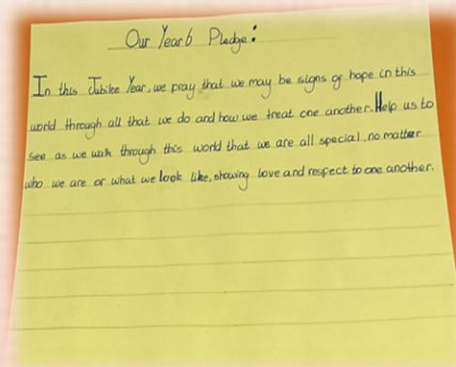
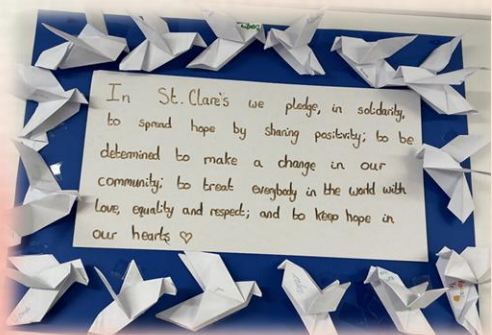
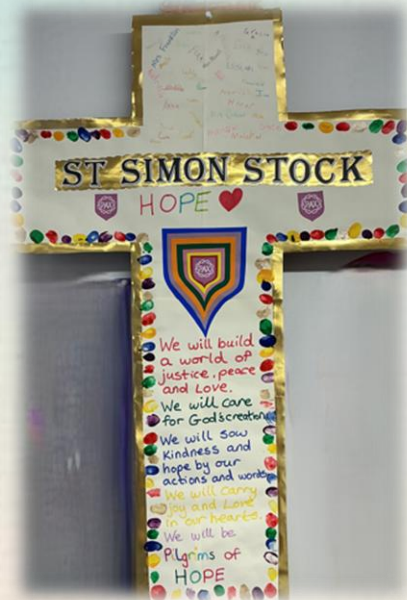
The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026.

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: Rory for making great progress with his phonic knowledge and working really hard to blend the new sounds he has learnt! Keep it up Rory!

Superstar: Eliora for always working hard during carpet time as well as independent learning and always being a smiley, happy member of the class!

Year 1

Learner: Kiara- well done for showing great resilience this week with your writing. You kept trying even when it was tricky!

Superstar: Tommy for really trying hard to focus on your work this week. Keep it up Tommy!

Year 2

Learner: Grace has worked incredibly hard this week to ensure she has been able to work to the best of her ability. Her resilience and positive attitude have been exceptional.

Superstar: Amelia, has been an amazing friend to her peers and incredibly helpful this week in the classroom. Thank you, Amelia.

Year 3

Learner: Ismael for working really hard in Science yesterday learning all about human bones! He was so focused and resilient.

Superstar: Stephanie for growing in resilience every day and for making better choices and keeping a positive attitude.

Year 4

Learner: Nancy you worked so hard and showed resilience when drafting your informal letter. Well done – we are proud of you!

Superstar: Isaiah you have been a superstar solving all our daily puzzles and challenges during Maths Week England. Great job!

Year 5

Learner: Our learner of the week is Anabel for her incredible writing in English. She has written cohesively when comparing characters and included relative clauses and parenthesis.

Superstar: Our superstar this week is Lilah for having a resilient attitude towards her learning. She has applied this skill when proof reading and editing her writing, taking consideration of adult advice.

Year 6

Learner: Kinga has shown fantastic resilience and determination in her learning, making super progress across the curriculum. Her growing confidence in Maths, especially in her arithmetic skills, has led to some truly pleasing results. Well done, Kinga — you should be very proud of yourself!

Superstar: Our superstar this week is Alice who has shown wonderful compassion and kindness. She was a caring and supportive friend, demonstrating empathy and a truly thoughtful heart. Well done, Alice — you are a shining example to others!

Forest School

Now that the weather has become much colder, please ensure that your child has (named) scarves, gloves and warm extra layers in their forest school kit.



Breakfast Club

Please ensure that when you drop off your child to Breakfast Club, you park in one of the parking bays and do not leave your car in the middle of the car park, preventing staff and other parents from parking their cars.

Breakfast club starts at 7.30 am. Please do not leave your children before this time.

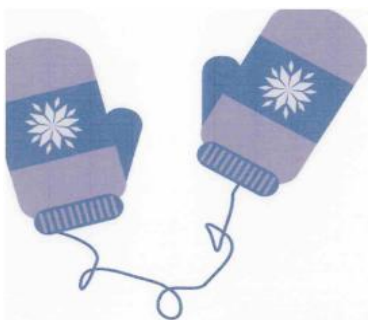
Thank you for your cooperation.

Children's Information

Please remember to let the school know if any of your child's details have changed, ie. change of address or new telephone number. It is essential that we have up-to-date data.

Medicines/Lip Balm

No medicines / throat sweets / lip balm or ointments of any kind should be brought to the school by the children.



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

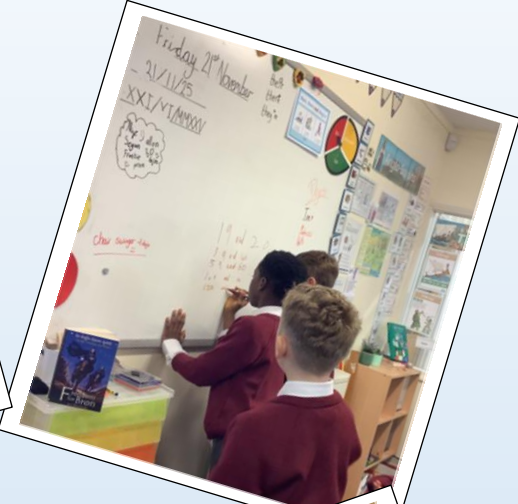
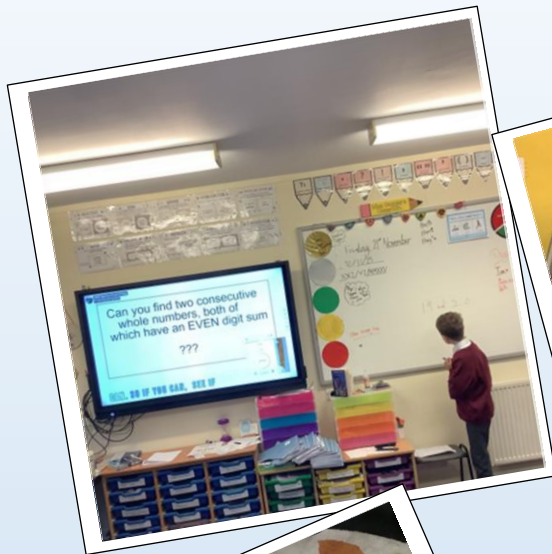


Please hand in any unused items to the office where there is a collection box. Thank you



Designed by Janet - Mini Vinnie

Maths Week England



DISCOVER 100's OF FREE ACTIVITIES DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



MedwayGo
FREE ACTIVITIES DURING
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- Free places available for children eligible for benefit related free school meals
- Free places available for children that are in care, from military families or children with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities)
- Plus paid places on selected activities

FOLLOW THESE 3 EASY STEPS TO ACCESS MEDWAYGO ACTIVITIES

STEP 1

Check you are eligible. If you are receiving benefit related free school meals this makes you automatically eligible. If you are not in receipt of benefit related free school meals but think you may be eligible for them, please apply via the medway.gov.uk website. If you believe you are eligible for any other reason please email go@medway.gov.uk.

STEP 2

Once you have confirmed your eligibility, you can explore activities and book your place via the website (during booking periods).

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

football, tennis, karate, trampolining, dance, theatre, swimming, outdoor pursuits, arts and crafts and so much more

STEP 3

If eligibility is confirmed your booking will be approved. Paid places may also be available to book for non-eligible children.

All staff and volunteers are experienced and DBS checked, providing peace of mind for you and lots of fun for your kids!

MedwayGo
FREE ACTIVITIES DURING
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

READY WHEN YOU ARE!
GO.MEDWAY.GOV.UK

go@medway.gov.uk

Medway
Serving You

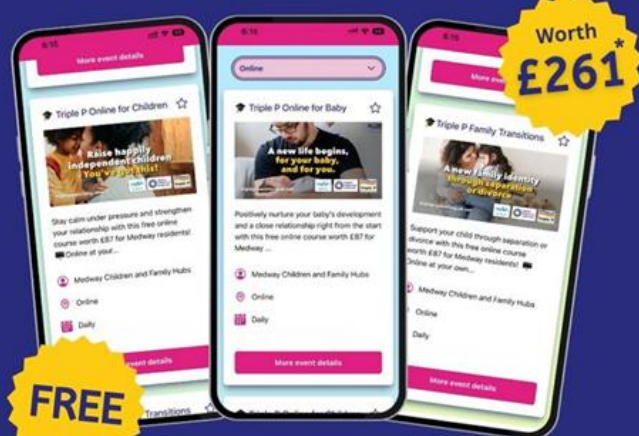
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MEDWAY**
Easier ways to be healthy

Find out more



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Triple P is now **FREE**
for Medway Families



Triple P Online

Confidently handle everyday parenting challenges

Online

Free for Medway Families

8x 30 mins

>Up to 12 years

- ✓ Improve behaviour and grow closer
- ✓ Positively influence your child's development
- ✓ Create a happier, calmer family life



**Medway Children
and Family Hubs**

Medway
Children and
Family Hubs

Medway
Serving You

**BEST
START
IN LIFE**



St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School

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





ST BENEDICT'S WOOD

Year 1 Forest School





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?



16th November 2025

Parish Of St Simon Stock



33rd Sunday Yr C



This Sunday all the readings weave together a message of hope concerning the second coming of Christ. We encourage ourselves by recalling our union, even now, with Jesus in the Eucharist and with the holy ones who have preceded us in the Communion of Saints. *Fr Joseph Donkor*

We are always grateful for your financial contributions to help support our parish, but we would also be grateful if you would share your talents. Do you have knowledge of maintenance issues, for example, or any other skills? You do? Please contact Fr Joseph who would be very grateful for your help. A DBS would be required (Fr can advise about this).

Have you heard of The Legion of Mary? Would you like to hear about it? It's object is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operations in Mary's and the Church's work. Representatives of the Legion of Mary will be speaking at our w/e Masses over the 22nd & 23rd Nov with the hope that a unit of the Legion called a Praesidium can be established here at St Simon Stock. You can also find out more at: legionofmary.ie If you would like to register interest before or after the w/e of the 22nd & 23rd please do get in touch with me. Thank you: David Redding, 07735 957271, davidredding1000@gmail.com

During Advent we will be having a gathering hymn/music before 11am Mass at 10.55am.

Children's Liturgy will be held every Sunday during 11am Mass during Advent and there will be a practice from 10.30am till 10.50am for the children's Nativity at the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass. If your child wishes to take part please come to the first practice on 30th November.

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

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

Primary schools

St Benedict's

St Thomas More

Parish Secretary: Mrs Josie Ryder

Mrs. S. L. McAlpine 01634 669700

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.