



A big thank you to all our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) parents who were able to join our phonics workshops this week. We hope you found it useful to see how phonics is taught using our Read Write Inc Programme. Today, we have sent out a short survey to EYFS parents. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback on your child's transition into life at St. Benedict's. Your views are invaluable in helping us support all our new families.

The Mini Vinnies group have been busy planning ways to support those in need within our local community. Please look out for Janet's poster (further on in this newsletter) asking for donations of socks, hats and scarves for the homeless this winter. If you are able to donate, please bring items to the school office by Friday, 28th November.

Odd Sock Day is Monday, 10th November — the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Power for Good'. We invite all children to wear odd socks to celebrate individuality and to stand up against bullying. Next week, our School Council will be using ideas from their class to create an Anti-Bullying Charter. This will be added to our school's Anti-Bullying Policy, reflecting the voice of our pupils.

On Tuesday, 11th November 2025, children who are members of Brownies, Rainbows, Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs or Scouts are welcome to wear their uniforms to school as we commemorate Remembrance Day.

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 9th November



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

Wednesday 12th November

9.10 am Year 3 Assembly

Friday 14th November

Nasal Flu Immunisation YR-Y6

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 forgive others when they
have made a mistake.

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: Ara has shown fabulous independent sentence writing this week. Well done Ara!

Superstar: Joe M.
Joe has been consistently working independently. He has also been doing extra work at home.
He is a true superstar!

Year 1

Learner: Tabitha showed great maths work this week finding out fact families. Keep up the good work Tabby.

Superstar: Mia for showing her integrity by always trying to do the right thing, even when no-one is watching. Thank you, Mia!

Year 2

Learner: Tobi has worked incredibly hard this week, as always, but I was particularly impressed with his knowledge of Prophets from the Old Testament and the way in which he shared this knowledge with the rest of the class.

Superstar: Ethan has shown such honesty, respect and kindness to his peers and, as always, I'm so impressed with his consistent integrity on a daily basis.

Year 3

Learner: Olive- Olive has really impressed us this week with her learning and focus in all areas of the Curriculum. Keep it up Olive!

Superstar: Olivia-Olivia embodies our school value of Integrity in all that she does. She is honest, reliable and a super member of our class!

Year 4

Learner: Elena you worked so hard to retell our traditional tale from Haiti this week. You used great detail, description and interesting vocabulary.

Superstar: Well done Gracie for always showing integrity in the classroom and around the school. You always try your very best and are an excellent role model.

Year 5

Learner: Our learner this week is Leontine as she is consistently someone that I can trust to give their work 100% effort. Leontine makes an excellent role model within the classroom and outside of it. Well done Leontine!

Superstar: Our superstar of the week is Medeea for representing our value of integrity. Medeea is honest, trustworthy, helpful and considerate of others. Keep being a superstar, Medeea!

Year 6

Learner: Luca has shown improved behaviour for learning this week. He has demonstrated increased focus in class, and a much greater effort towards producing work that reflects his true ability. His attention to tasks and his willingness to stay on track has resulted in noticeable progress, particularly in his writing. Well done, Luca - keep up the fantastic effort!

Superstar: Our Superstar of the week is awarded to Éva for consistently demonstrating the highest level of integrity. She can always be trusted to be honest and truthful; embodying our school's core value of integrity in everything she does; setting a positive example for others to follow. Well done, Éva—your character shines brightly.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principle of the Week



Thinking of everyone
The Common Good

Times Table Rockstars



Fastest	Rocco	Year 5
Highest	Audrielle	Year 4
Improved	Lily H.	Year 5
Star	Yan	Year 5

Attendance Winners for Last Week

1st	Year 6	99.38 %
2nd	Year R	99.17 %
3rd	Year 4	98.13 %



Parking

We have had further complaints this week from our neighbours, informing us that parents are blocking their driveways when parking in Lambourn Way.

Please be considerate to our neighbours and please do not block their driveways.

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



Appeal from Mrs Pierce

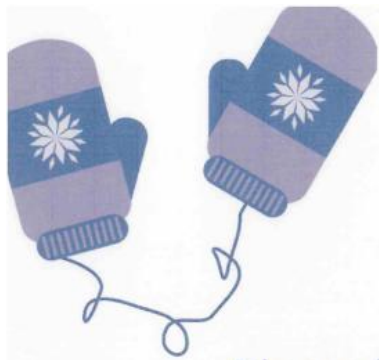
As Christmas is fast approaching, you may be considering a new bike or scooter for your child. If you have one that your child has outgrown and is still in good condition, St Joseph's class would greatly appreciate it! (Suitable for age 4-5 year olds) Please contact the office if you think you may be able to help us grow our bike and scooter fleet!

Thank you in advance!

Monday 10th November Odd Socks Day

We invite all children to wear odd socks on Monday to celebrate individuality and to stand up against bullying.





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



National School Attendance Award

2024/25 Academic Year



St Benedict's Catholic Primary School

Top 25% of all FFT Primary Schools in England

Year R Phonics Lessons



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/>

Flu Immunisations Year R - Year 6

School Code KT149979

Children will be having their flu immunisation in school on Friday 14th November. The immunisation team has advised us that not many parents have completed the consent/do not consent form.

Please can you ensure that you complete this form whether you wish for your child to have the nasal spray or not, using the school code above.

www.kentimmunisations.co.uk

NHS
Kent Community Health
NHS Foundation Trust

**The Immunisation
Team is coming.**

Find the e-consent form at
www.kentimmunisations.co.uk





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	yr 2025	9:30am
Friday	FULL	2025	2:15pm
Thursday	16 th October 2025		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Thursday	FULL		9:30am
Monday 15 th December			9.30am

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

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

Year R 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



2nd November 2025

Parish Of St Simon Stock



All Saints Year C



Newsletter

Today, we celebrate all members of the great family of God who are now in heaven-a bright array of all those who have entered fully into the mystery of God. These are the heroes of ordinary life, the fellow pilgrims who share fully in the victory of Christ and now serve as examples to us in our daily walk with the Lord. Much like stained glass windows, the saints of God are of every shape and colour, and each of them is resplendent because they have allowed the light of Christ to shine through their lives. Their intercession is their most exalted service to God's plan. 'We can and should ask them to intercede for us and for the whole world' There is no 2nd collection this weekend. Next weekend it is for the Archbishop's Appeal. *Fr Joseph*

Please remember to pick up your Red Missio Box from the porch this weekend.

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.

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

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