



Catholic Social Teaching (CST) underpins our mission and shapes the way we help our children live out the Gospel each day. As a proud member of Kent Catholic Schools Partnership (KCSP), we share a collective commitment to place Christ at the heart of all we do.

This year, our Trust focus CST is 'Preferential Option for the Poor', reminding us that Jesus calls us to care for those who are most in need and to put others before ourselves.

This week, we were delighted to welcome Roy and Iona from Mary's Meals, who led an inspirational assembly about the charity's work to provide a daily school meal for children living in some of the world's poorest communities. Our children listened beautifully and were inspired by the difference that something as simple as a meal at the cost of 10p can make to a child's life and education.

Our Chaplaincy Team are now buzzing with ideas about how we can support Mary's Meals and put our faith into action by making a real difference to children around the world. We have some exciting ideas in the pipeline...watch this space!

A huge well done to all our pupils who completed this year's Summer Library Reading Challenge! It has been wonderful to see so many of our children embracing their love of reading over the summer holidays, whether by taking part in the library challenge or joining us in school for our special summer reading sessions. Reading opens the door to new worlds, new ideas and endless possibilities, so keep turning those pages and discovering something new! We are incredibly proud of you all. Well done, everyone!

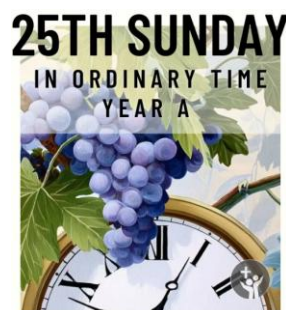
It has been lovely to welcome parents and carers into school this week for the start of our 'Meet the Teacher Curriculum Afternoon' sessions. We hope you found the sessions helpful and that they gave you a useful insight into your child's learning, the curriculum and the year ahead. For those who would like to revisit the information — or for anyone who was unable to attend — teacher PowerPoint presentations will be uploaded to your child's class page on our school website. Please follow this link: [St Benedict's Catholic Primary School - Our Class Pages](#)

We look forward to welcoming our Year R, Year 2 and Year 5 parents and carers to next week's sessions.

Have a blessed weekend,

Mrs McAlpine

Sunday 20th September 2026



Matthew 20: 1-16

"Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous – to give and not to count the cost."

St Ignatius (Prayer for Generosity)

Prayer for the Month September



For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 21st September

School Individual Photos

Thursday 24th September

Used Clothes Collection

Friday 25th September

YR & Y4 Teddy Bears Picnic

Monday 28th September

9:10am Pupil Leadership Assembly
(Invited parents only)

Tuesday 29th September

KCSP Trust Mass (Year 4)

Thursday 1st October

Year 3 School Trip to Kent Life

Friday 2nd October

8:50am Year 4 Times Table Parent Meeting
followed by Year 4 Class Assembly (School
Hall)

Tuesday 13th October

2pm Harvest Mass

Thursday 15th October

Year R and Year 6 Height and
Weight Check.

Wednesday 21st October

9:10 am Celebration of Achievement (Invited
parents only)

Friday 23rd October

INSET DAY (No children attend school on this day)

Meet the Teacher Sessions

Parents can informally meet with their child's
new teacher after school at 3:30pm on the
following evenings:

Date	Year Group
Monday 21 st September	Y2
Tuesday 22 nd September	Y5
Thursday 24 th September	YR

Each session will last approximately 20
minutes and will cover curriculum and class
information.

The sessions will take place in the classroom
and we would prefer only adults to attend
please.



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



Please speak to us if you have any concerns.

Value of the Week



We believe in ourselves.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principle of the Week



Everyone is special
Human Dignity

Learners and Superstars of the Week

Year R

Learner: Finley for working hard to blend words using the sounds he knows – super reading Finley we are so proud of you!

Superstar: Darasimi for being our little ray of sunshine in class, being a kind friend and having a positive attitude to all of her learning!

Year 1

Learner: Divine for writing super sentences describing Beegu's thoughts in English. Well done!

Superstar: Amelia, for showing her love of learning by participating and trying her best in every lesson. Keep it up!

Year 2

Learner: Tonia- for showing such a wonderful love of learning! Tonia approaches every lesson with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. She always tries her best and enjoys learning new things.

Superstar: Chloe F- for always showing such love, compassion and kindness to others. You have such a sweet nature Chloe and we're so grateful to have you in our class.

Year 3

Learner: William, for being such a focused learner this week and actively participating in class discussions especially in Maths. Keep it up!

Superstar: Hudson, for showing our school value of Love this week by being such a kind, loving member of our class and a super friend to all.

Year 4

Learner: Flo has worked so hard this week and joined in brilliantly with whole class learning. She has also enjoyed editing and improving – especially in maths.

Superstar: Maison you showed a great love of learning this week and enjoying sharing your writing for our whole class editing session. Thank you.

Year 5

Learner: Our learner of the week is Malakai for his super use of vocabulary and descriptive techniques when describing a scene in English.

Superstar: Our superstar this week is Zion for representing our value of love, especially in our RE lessons where he is keen to share his lovely thoughts.

Year 6

Learner: Our Learner of the Week is Oscar for writing a fantastic formal letter which included all of the necessary features and demonstrated an excellent understanding of the character of Carrie. You captured her thoughts, feelings and experiences so effectively, making your writing engaging and authentic. Your letter was a pleasure to read, Oscar – well done!

Superstar: Our Superstar of the Week is Isabella for fully embracing her new leadership role in the lunch hall and showing such a positive attitude and excellent sense of responsibility. You have been incredibly helpful to the staff and have carried out your duties with maturity, kindness and enthusiasm. You are a wonderful role model to others, Isabella— thank you!

Mary's Meals



I was inspired by how small food changes a big difference in people's lives. Like when there was a 10 or 11 year old girl. She had a little brother who she had to get money to get food for her family.

Lucy

We were inspired by Mary's Meals and how they feed over 3 million children every year.

Amelia

I was inspired by how a 13 year old boy rode his bike from Edinburgh to Poland just to raise money for Mary's Meals.

By Noku

I was inspired by how only food changed millions of children's lives and it only happened because of Mary's Meals.

Ashley

We were inspired by Mary's Meals because they feed a healthy person with nutritious meals for only £19.15 a year.

Callum

Year 6 Topical Talk

Year 6's First Topical Talk Lesson

Year 6 enjoyed their first Topical Talk lesson this week, exploring the thought-provoking question: Should social media be banned for under-16s?

The children began by playing a game designed to introduce them to a range of viewpoints, facts and statistics surrounding the issue. They worked collaboratively to discuss what they had learned, consider different perspectives and think carefully about the potential advantages and disadvantages of a ban.

To conclude the lesson, the children were challenged to make their own decision about whether they would support a ban on social media for under-16s, using the information and ideas they had explored to explain and justify their views.

It was fantastic to see the children engaging so enthusiastically in discussion, listening respectfully to one another and beginning to develop the skills needed to become thoughtful, informed and confident speakers.

Mrs King



Rocksteady is back!



Cycle to School Week 5th – 9th October

With the cost of the school run continuing to rise for many families — from fuel and parking to the time spent in traffic — cycling to school offers a simple, healthier and more affordable way to travel. It also helps children build confidence, independence and positive lifelong travel habits. We would like to invite all children to take part in Cycle to School Week 2026 by cycling or scooting to school.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has become over-subscribed this term on some days. Please remember to pre-book well in advance for our Breakfast Club via Arbor.

Please do not turn up with your child without a pre-booking, as unfortunately we may not be able to accept your child due to staff ratio numbers.



Summer Reading Challenge

Well down to all the children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge. It was great to celebrate your success in completing the challenge in today's Celebration Assembly!

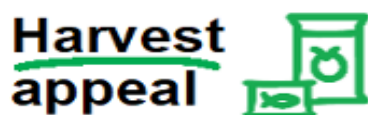
Medway
SCHOOL
Serving You



Harvest Mass Donations

Please send in donations of the items below for our Harvest Mass. After the Mass, the food items will be donated to Medway Foodbank. The donations can be brought in week beginning 5th October. A table will be available on the playground for your donations.

Thank you in advance.



Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

Harvest Shopping list 2026

- Long-life milk
- Pasta sauce
- Coffee
- Tea bags
- Instant mash
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned custard
- Tinned ham
- Tinned meat
- Tinned fish
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned spaghetti
- Cup-a-Soup
- Pot Noodles/Packet noodles
- Jelly
- Angel Delight
- Savoury snacks

TOILETRIES & HOUSEHOLD:

- Shampoo
- Washing-up liquid
- Deodorant – male and female
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes

THANK YOU! for joining us to help stop UK hunger!

medway.foodbank.org.uk; 01634 757057

Registered Charity No: 1166505



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

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

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

24 SEPTEMBER

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

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

Year 4 Drum Lessons

There are 2 spaces available for Year 4 children to have drum lessons.

There will be 30 lessons over the academic year at a cost of £206.24 (£6.87 per lesson) payable in 2 installments of £103.12 in September and March.

Mr Currington from Dynamic Music Association will be teaching the lessons during Monday lunchtimes.

If you would like your child to be added to these lessons, please contact Mrs Thexton at the school office. The places will be given out on a first-come-first-served basis.

Thank you.





TOGETHER, WE CAN



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

YOUR DONATION MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE

School Fund donations help
us provide and enhance:



Learning resources
and equipment



Enriching activities
and experiences



Sport, play and
wellbeing



Opportunities for
every child

JUST

£20

PER FAMILY

Thank you for
your support!



PAYABLE VIA
THE ARBOR SHOP

TOGETHER, WE HELP OUR CHILDREN THRIVE! ♥



Ken
Catholic
Schools'
Partnership



'Academies in Christ'
Part of the Archdiocese of Southwark

ATTEND AND ACHIEVE

School isn't just a place
to be – it's where you learn
most, grow in confidence,
build friendships and
create your future.



Thrive under 5



Students who have **fewer** than 5 days
off per year, statistically **thrive** within education.



BETTER PROGRESS

Excellent attendance
leads to stronger
learning and higher
achievement.



CONFIDENCE GROWS

Being in school
regularly builds
confidence and
resilience.



STRONGER CONNECTIONS

Attend, belong,
and build positive
relationships.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Good attendance
opens doors to more
choices and brighter
futures.



Every lesson counts.
Every day shapes your future.
Thrive under 5. Be here. Succeed.

TERM TIME ONLY

JOIN OUR SATURDAY MUSIC CENTRE

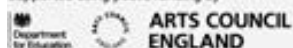
AGES 5 - 18
EVERYONE WELCOME
COMPLETE BEGINNERS TO ADVANCED MUSICIANS

RAINHAM MARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

DISCOVER MORE
www.medwaymusicassociation.co.uk

mma

Supported using public funding by



FREE

Online Music Technology Sessions

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

SIGN UP NOW!

www.medwaymusicassociation.co.uk

mma

Supported using public funding by



mma

KS1 MUSIC GROUP

Just £45 for the whole academic year

A fun and engaging introduction to music for children in Years 1 and 2

- Sing, play, and explore music together
- Build confidence, creativity and a love of music
- Led by experienced and friendly music tutors
- Make friends and have lots of fun!

SIGN UP NOW!
www.medwaymusicassociation.co.uk

Supported using public funding by



flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

Most children have the nasal spray vaccine which is the preferred vaccine. A vaccine injection is also available which does not contain gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine).

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu 1mmunisation
Helping to protect children, every winter

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St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School



Learning and Challenge Rooted in Faith.

2026/2027

School Tours for September 2027

for children born between 1st September
2022 and 31st August 2023.

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

Dates and Times of Tours:

Thursday 1st October 2026	9:30am
Thursday 15 th October 2026	9:30am
Thursday 22nd October 2026	9:30am
Thursday 5 th November 2026	9:30am
Thursday 12 th November 2026	9:30am
Thursday 26 th November 2026	1:15pm

Please book via the office:

01634 669700

office@st-benedicts.medway.sch.uk



Forest school Year 2



Forest school Year R



Forest School Year 1

