



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 10th October 2025

MEDWAY FOODBANK

A heartfelt thank you to all our families for your generous donations to this year's Harvest collection in support of Medway Foodbank. Your kindness and compassion will make a real difference to local families in need, and we are truly grateful for your continued support in helping us live out our values of care and community.

MULTICULTURAL WEEK

We are delighted to announce that next week, week beginning 13th October, will be **Multicultural Week** at St Thomas of Canterbury. This is a special opportunity for our children to celebrate the rich diversity within our school community and learn about cultures from around the world.

Throughout the week, children will be exploring the lives and contributions of significant figures, gaining a deeper understanding of their impact on history, society and culture.

To make the week even more meaningful, we warmly invite you to take part in the following events:

International Food Festival – Thursday 16th October

We would love for families to bring in a dish that represents their heritage or culture to share with the community after school. This is a wonderful way for children to experience the tastes and traditions of different countries. Please let the school office know if you can support this event.

International Dress Day – Friday 17th October

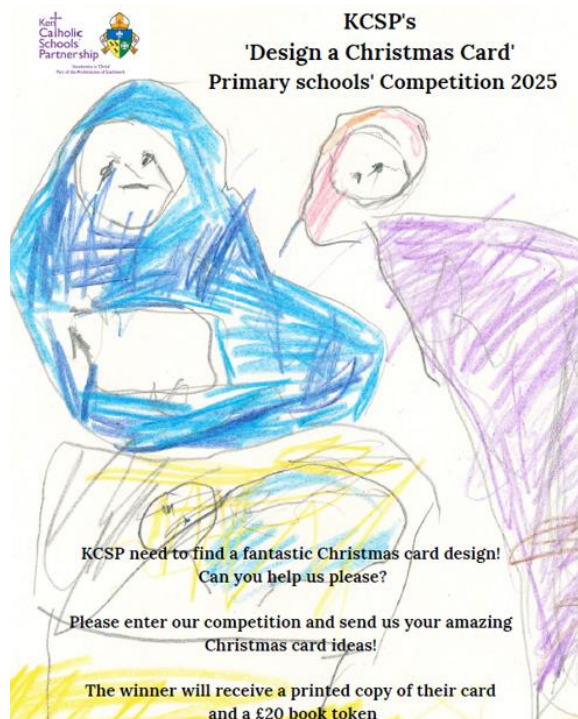
Children are encouraged to come to school dressed in traditional clothing that reflects their cultural background. This celebration of identity helps foster pride and appreciation for our diverse community.

Story Sharing Sessions – Throughout the Week

We invite parents and carers to visit their child's class to share a story or talk about their heritage. Whether it's a folktale, a personal experience, or a cultural tradition, your voice will help bring our learning to life.

If you would like to participate in any of these events, please let your child's class teacher know via Class Dojo. We look forward to celebrating with you and making this week a joyful and educational experience for all.

KCSP CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



🎄 KCSP Christmas Card Competition 2025 🎄

We're excited to share that KCSP are running their annual Design a Christmas Card competition — and all pupils are invited to take part!

Key details:

- Designs can be hand-drawn or created digitally.
- Entries must be no larger than A4.
- Please submit flat designs only — 3D or pop-up cards cannot be reproduced.

If your child would like to enter, please ensure their design is returned to school by **Wednesday 5th November 2025**.

RECEPTION 2026

If you know of a child who is due to start school in September 2026, we warmly invite them to visit our school and experience first-hand the vibrant, supportive, and nurturing environment we offer.

Why Visit Us?

Meet Our Staff: Get to know our dedicated teachers and support staff who are committed to your child's development.

Explore Our Facilities: Take a tour of our classrooms, library, playground, and other facilities to see where your child will learn and grow.

Learn About Our Curriculum: Understand our approach to education and how we tailor learning to meet the needs of each student.

Ask Questions: We welcome any questions you may have about our school, curriculum, and the admissions process.

The next sessions will run on the following days and times:

30th October 2025 - 13.30

11th November 2025 - 13.30

25th November 2025 - 13.30

8th January 2026 - 9.15

Applications opened on Monday 1st September 2025 and close on Thursday 15th January 2026 at 5pm.

PRAYER AND LITURGY

Please see the link to St Thomas of Canterbury RC Church below:

[St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, Rainham, Kent](http://rcrainham.co.uk)
rcrainham.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Emmanuel Onwu



October – The Month of the Holy Rosary

October is a special month in the Catholic calendar as we honour Our Lady of the Rosary. During this time, children will be learning about the importance of prayer and reflecting on the mysteries of the Rosary in class and collective worship.



We warmly invite parents and carers to join us in saying the Rosary in the school hall every Thursday morning at 8:30am throughout October. This is a lovely opportunity to come together in prayer and reflection as a school community.

We encourage families to take time to pray the Rosary together at home and join us in celebrating this beautiful tradition of faith.

Marian family prayer ideas

DEANERY MASS



This week, members of our staff attended the Deanery Mass held at St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School, a beautiful celebration led by Bishop Paul Hendricks. It was a truly special occasion, bringing together teaching staff from Catholic schools across our Deanery to unite in prayer and reflection. Moments like these remind us of the strength and support found in our shared faith and mission.

<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		<u>CASTLE POINTS</u>
		DOVER - 565
Reception	97.4%	HEVER - 493
Year 1	97.1%	
Year 2	99.52%	LEEDS - 498
Year 3	93.8%	
Year 4	97.5%	ROCHESTER - 493
Year 5	97.8%	
Year 6	92.7%	

Child Protection at St Thomas of Canterbury

Please note, if you have any safeguarding concerns regarding any child at St Thomas of Canterbury please report your concerns to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) at the school.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are: **Mrs. Copperwheat, Mrs. Gallagher, and Mrs. Thomas**

LUNCH MENU

LUNCH

Week 1

W/C 01/09, 22/09, 13/10, 03/11, 24/11, 15/12, 05/01, 26/01





	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V)	Southern Baked Chicken & Wedges	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes	Tandoori Chicken Flatbread	Fish Fingers with Chips
MAIN 2	Crispy Topped Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake (V)	NEW Chilli Bean Tortilla Stack, Wedges (V)	Hearty Quorn Roast, Roast Potatoes (V)	Curry Club Rainbow Jalfrezi, Garlic Bread (V)	Crispy Quorn Nuggets & Chips (V)
VEG	Half Jacket & Green Beans	Fresh Broccoli	Carrots & Cabbage	Sweetcorn	Carrots & Peas or Baked Beans
3 rd OPTION	Pasta, Jacket Potato & Deli	Pasta, Jacket Potato & Deli	Pasta, Jacket Potato & Deli	Pasta, Jacket Potato & Deli	Pasta, Jacket Potato & Deli
DESSERT	Freshly Baked Chocolate Cookie (V)	Plum Sponge Pudding & Custard (V)	Pear Upside-Down Pudding (V)	Fruity Jelly Pot (V)	Lime & Coconut Cake (V)

AVAILABLE DAILY: A selection of fresh seasonal fruit (cut or whole) (🍌), flavoured yoghurts (V) as well as freshly baked bread (V) & seasonal salad bar (🍌). Third option includes vegan and vegetarian items.

MENU KEY
V Vegetarian
 Ve Vegan and Planet Friendly
 NEW New Dish










OUR WEEK AT SCHOOL

NURSERY



The children had fun investigating around our school on an Autumn walk. We collected leaves, plants and conkers and loved Forest school. We used the leaves for art work and made pet conkers which the children took home on a lead. The children then sent photographs of them looking after their pets which we discussed in class.



Forest School



RECEPTION



Pumpkin Soup!



**Yum!
Yum!**



**Yum!
Yum!**



**Practicing
those fine
motor
skills!**



**We had great fun making
pumpkin soup this week! It was
so tasty and healthy too!**

YEAR 1

In Year 1 Art lessons this term our topic this term is Drawing: Marvellous Marks! The children had great fun exploring different lines and patterns using felt tip pens. Together they made a master piece while being creative and practising their fine motor skills.



YEAR 2

Year 2 have had a busy week this week! We have been learning about working systematically in Maths as well as writing our beautiful narratives about Florence Nightingale which are displayed in our classroom! We have been to our new library and read in groups, sharing our favourite parts of our new books. In Science, we carried out an investigation all about our heart beats, we tested many different forms of exercise to see which one made our hearts work the hardest. We also had a special visitor of Deacon Arthur who came to talk to us about our RE topic of Beginnings. We were given lots of new, lovely information and the children answered lots of questions.



YEAR 3

In this week's Year 3 PE lesson with Mr B, the children took part in a variety of fun and engaging games designed to develop their ball skills. The activities focused on improving coordination, accuracy, and teamwork, with pupils working both individually and in small groups. Throughout the lesson, they showed great enthusiasm and perseverance, encouraging one another and demonstrating growing confidence in their ability to control and pass the ball effectively. It was a positive session that supported both their physical development and social skills.



I like PE because it is so fun and Mr B gets the lesson ready for us! I really like it!



Mr B's PE lessons make you work hard but they are also fun! I like the games and music!

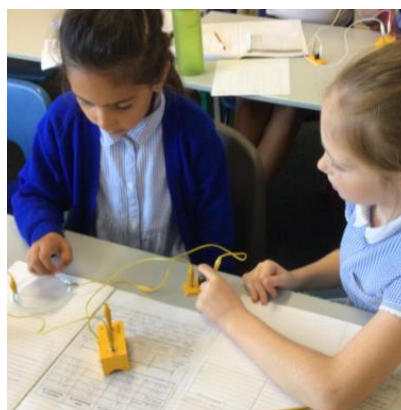
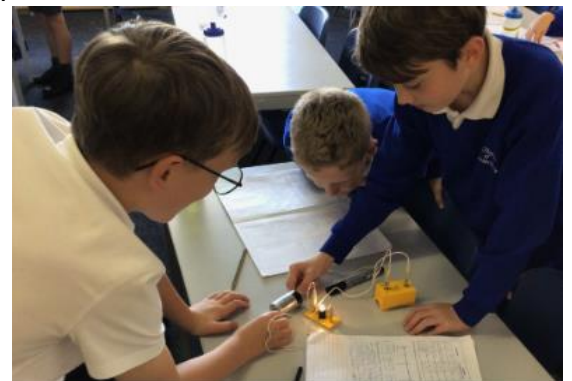
YEAR 4

Year 4 have become Scientists this week conducting an observational experiment on eggs. They have been learning about teeth this term and since egg shells are made out of a similar material to teeth, year 4 have been experimenting with how different liquids affect our teeth. Children chose liquids such as coke, apple juice and water to observe how the shells change over a week.



YEAR 5

This week, Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed exploring electrical conductivity through hands-on experiments! The children built their own circuits and tested everyday materials to discover which ones conduct electricity and which ones act as insulators. They were amazed to see how the brightness of the light bulb changed dramatically when testing different materials. Through their investigations, the children learned why certain materials, like copper, are used in electrical wires, and how insulators help keep us safe around electricity.



YEAR 6

This term, Year 6 have been deepening their understanding of multiplication by using a wide range of manipulatives to represent different problems. From counters and cubes to arrays and number lines, pupils explored how multiplication can be visualised in multiple ways, helping to strengthen their conceptual understanding. Building on this, the children investigated square and cube numbers. They discovered that square number arrays form perfect squares, while cube number arrays create solid, three-dimensional cubes. This hands-on approach made abstract concepts much more tangible and engaging.



NEW DATES ADDED IN RED	
Wider curriculum theme – OUR HERITAGE	
1 – 31 st October Black History Month	
Monday 13 th October to Friday 17 th October MULTI-CULTURAL WEEK	
Wednesday 16 th October	Parents Evening Registration Opens on Arbor
Friday 17 th October	Year R Class Assembly – all are welcome to attend
Monday 20 th October to Friday 24 th October 2024 Half Term	
Wednesday 29 th October	Parent Evening 16:00 – 18:00
Thursday 30 th October	Parent Evening 16:00 – 20:00
Friday 31 st October	Year 4 Class Assembly - all are welcome to attend
Friday 31 st October	Secondary School applications closing date
NOVEMBER	
Tuesday 4 th November	Individual School Photos
Tuesday 4 th November	Youth Games Basketball – selected pupils
Friday 7 th November	Celebration Assembly – all are welcome to attend

Tuesday 11 th November	Reception 2026 – School Tour 13.30
Monday 10th to Friday 14th November Anti Bullying Week	
Friday 21 st November	Year 2 Class Assembly – all are welcome to attend
Saturday 22 nd November	PTA Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 25 th November	Reception 2026 – School Tour 13.30
DECEMBER	
Thursday 4 th December	KS2 Choir – Rochester Cathedral
Tuesday 9 th December	Nursery Nativity 09.00
Tuesday 9 th December	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Nativity – 1.30pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Nativity – 1.30pm
Tuesday 16 th December	Rock Steady Concert 2.30pm – all are welcome to attend
Wednesday 17 th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day
Friday 19 th December	14:00 finish – Last day of term
Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January 2026 – Christmas Holiday	
Monday 5 th January 2026	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 th January	Children return to school
Thursday 8 th January	Reception 2026 – School Tour 09:15
Thursday 8 th January	Youth games Cross Country – selected pupils
Monday 20 th January	Young Voices at the O2 – selected pupils
Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026 Half Term	