



St Mary of Charity Primary

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th October 2025

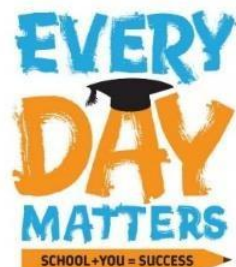


Telephone: 01795 532496

Email: office@smcs.aquilatrust.co.uk

Website: www.smcschool.co.uk

Attendance



EYFS Hamilton	Year 1 Donaldson	Year 2 Anning	Year 3 Malala	Year 4 Hockney	Year 5 Rosen	Year 6 Attenborough
98.3%	92.8%	99.2%	98.3%	93.3%	98.9%	93.2%
Whole School 96.3%					Target 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week we have had this week, preparing for our final week of the term next week.

On the last day of term, Friday 17th October we will be holding our Harvest Service at the Church. This is a service primarily led by the children and will begin at 9.30am in St Mary of Charity Church. For our new parents please be advised that children need to start their day as normal at school and we will walk to the church together as a school. Parents are all welcome to join us for the service, please leave the pews in the centre of the church for the children to sit at, parents are welcome to sit in the side pews. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

We will also be taking part in 'Restart a Heart' Day on Thursday 16th October. This is something that is very close to our hearts at SMC and we feel that it is important that all children learn how they can support in an emergency to help try and save a life. We invite all children and staff to bring a teddy into school on Thursday as a patient to practise on.

Well done to all the children who logged into TTRS and worked towards achieving points in the battle of the bands competition. This competition was between all 17 Aquila schools and I am delighted to announce that in Year 4 SMC came in 2nd Place and in Year 3 SMC

came in 1st place. We will be awarding certificates next week.

It was lovely to see all of the children dressed up, expressing themselves as part of our Hello Yellow Well-Being day on Friday. Thank you to those parents who attended our anxiety workshop and learnt strategies for how to support children who have worries.

Finally, please don't forget that we have our parents' evenings appointments next week and that the book fair will be open during these times, 2.30pm – 5.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

We have had some donations for Harvest coming in so far – please don't forget to send in a food item from the list below before Thursday ready for collection from the Faversham Foodbank.

School finishes at usual time on Friday 17th October and we return to school on Monday 3rd November.

Kind regards,

Mrs Louise Rowley-Jones
Headteacher



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 100 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Baked Beans

Tinned veg (carrots/peas)

Cooking sauces

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Cold meat

Rice Pudding

Fruit juice (long-life)

Biscuits

Tinned Spaghetti

Potato (tinned/instant)

07938 720604



This foodbank is run in partnership with local churches, facilitated by Faversham Foodbank.
Registered charity number 1158413 | Registered in England and Wales.

**PLEASE
NOTE..**



**Breakfast
Club**



We run our own **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club**; spaces for these need to be pre-booked at least 24 hrs in advance using the MCAS App. Please contact the school office if you need support booking a place for your child.

Breakfast Club: 7:30am-8:35am

After School Club: 3:15pm- 6pm (with a 4pm, 5pm & 6pm collection option)

Please note: If you wish to collect after 5pm, we require 7 days' notice. Contact the office via email or phone to book a 6pm slot.

**LOST AND
FOUND**

We have a large amount of school uniform in the lost/unclaimed uniform box in the reception area. Please do check if you are missing any items. Anything not claimed will be passed onto the community wardrobe.

Please ensure that you name all of your child's school uniform, including lunchboxes and water bottles to prevent items getting lost.

St. Mary of Charity Primary School



**HAS BEEN SELECTED TO RECEIVE A GRANT
FOR OPAL PLAY EQUIPMENT FROM**



Community Grants



we now need your help in 2 easy steps...

1

Between October and January, please remember to ask for a blue token every time you shop, and use it to vote for SMCS at the front of Tesco



2

Share this information with family and friends so they can vote too!

THE GRANT VALUE MAY BE £500, £1000 OR £1500.

THE MORE TOKENS, THE LARGER GRANT WE RECEIVE!

This week in Worship

This week in Worship we have been exploring 'Standing up for what you believe in'. We thought about all of the people of faith we have learnt about this term and how it can be difficult to give the right message when people do not want to listen or do the right thing when it puts you at risk. We also considered some key figures from history who have inspired us such as Rosa Parks and Nelson Mandela.

Feed my lambs....take care of my sheep." John: 21

We are a community where everyone is included. A place of nurture where through creative learning, acceptance and celebration we are all able to flourish. Our inclusive school encourages children to be curious, passionate, ambitious and courageous. Everyone at St Mary of Charity is determined to be confident in who they are, aspire to realise their full potential and support each other through respect, honesty and forgiveness. Guided by Jesus we are accepting of the wonderful diversity within our community and have hope that our children will continue to advocate for and celebrate the unique needs of all throughout our wider world.



COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**Year 4, Year 3, Uriel, Oscar,
Mustafa, Ralph, Myla, Kiana,
Ben, Ellis, Romeo, Noah,
Arthur, Eile.**





INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster is about **TOP TIPS FOR ADOPTING SAFE AND HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS**. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Ling.

ATTENDANCE



If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone.

DROP OFF

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:45am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school.



We have created additional parking bays over the summer holiday to help improve congestion in the carpark. Please do park sensibly and do not block the entrance of exit to the car park or other vehicles. We hope to get these more clearly defined asap

Top Tips for Adopting SAFE & HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS

Everyone has so much going on in their lives, and that includes children: from exams and deadlines to anxiety and mental health struggles. It's quite easy to send memes, make jokes and vent online about the things that irritate us, but when was the last time you – or your child – took a moment to share something kind or positive instead? In fact, when did you last stop and think about your family's online activities? To help keep them safe and teach them healthy online habits, we need to develop our children's digital resilience. There are lots of ways that children can become more digitally resilient, and we've pulled together some popular strategies here...

WHAT IS DIGITAL RESILIENCE?



Resilience doesn't mean being so tough that nothing gets to you, and it's not about "putting up with things" either. Instead, it's the ability to recover from setbacks. Everyone feels sad, worried, scared or upset at times: it's how we respond and adapt to those situations which is important. Digital resilience is about making choices that keep us safe and happy online, even when we're exposed to something negative or upsetting. Building your child's digital resilience will help reduce the impact of potential risks as they engage with and navigate around the online world.

MAKE POSITIVE LIFESTYLE CHOICES



- ✓ Make time for the people and things that make you happy.
- ✓ Monitor your screen time and stick to your limits.
- ✓ On social media, follow people that make you feel good about yourself – and unfollow the ones who don't.
- ✓ Spread some positivity: post good reviews, leave encouraging comments and share good news.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN MIND



- ✓ Try to factor in regular breaks offline and away from your screen – ideally, outdoors for some revitalising fresh air.
- ✓ Exercise is a brilliant stress-buster: even a walk around the block, a bike ride or a stroll to your local shop can really work wonders.
- ✓ Be strict with yourself about putting devices away in plenty of time before bed: they can interfere with a good night's sleep, which is essential for staying healthy.

REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

- ✓ If you have a problem online, don't be afraid to reach out to specialist people or organisations that could help.
- ✓ Follow people on socials who have the same values and morals as you.
- ✓ You could always talk to a friend, or a trusted adult like a teacher or family member for some advice.

PUT SAFETY FIRST



- ✓ If you see something online that upsets or worries you, tell a trusted adult about it as soon as possible.
- ✓ You could also report the content that's making you feel uncomfortable to the site or app that you saw it on, so they can look into it.
- ✓ Another option is to block the person or the account that's causing you a problem – or you could go one step further by totally deleting the app you were using.

GET THINGS CLEAR IN YOUR HEAD



- ✓ Ask yourself what kindness online actually looks like. Can you remember the last time someone was kind or supportive towards you online? What did they do?
- ✓ Think about how it makes you feel when someone sends you a positive or funny message online.
- ✓ What about the opposite: has someone ever been deliberately unkind to you online? What did they do and how did it make you feel?
- ✓ If someone's behaviour online is causing you stress, try to remind yourself of all the steps you can take if a person's being unkind online.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a registered counsellor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, working in private practice to offer counselling to children, teenagers and young adults. She is the founder of Ingage Support, a mobile app focusing on mental health awareness with the goal of providing resources and solutions to schools worldwide.



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

REMINDER

The School Gate

Please be mindful of other children and parents at the school gates. The front of the gates can become a very crowded place and we want children to have ease entering the school in the morning. Please encourage your child to walk through the gates on their own and do not stand in groups talking where you potentially block the entrance. It is intimidating for children to walk through adults into school.

HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at St Mary of Charity Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

Sweets: Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

Drinks: children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

Nut Free: Please be aware that we are becoming a nut-free school. We now have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.

Thank you for your co-operation.



SCHOOL DINNERS –

Dinner Money cost £3.05

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance.

WRAPAROUND CARE: Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.

Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
TERM 1	
14/10/25	Parents Evening for years R, 2, 3 4, 5 and 6
15/10/25	Parents evening Year 1
16/10/25	Parents evening all classes Parents receive outcomes of the Kent Test Restart a Heart Day – children to bring a teddy into school.
17/10/25	Last day of term – Harvest Festival 9.30am in the church, all welcome
TERM 2	
03/11/25	Start of term 2
04/11/25	Year 4 Egyptian Day
10/11/25	Anti-Bullying week begins SMC community arts day Abbeyfields care home visit for school councilors
11/11/25	Remembrance Worship 9am Year 5 Astronomy Roadshow pm
12/11/25	EYFS 2026 Tours 9.30am & 1.30pm
19/11/25	EYFS 2026 Tours 9.30am & 1.30pm
24/11/25	UK Parliament week begins
25/11/25	Year R & Year 6 NCMP Screening
27/11/25	Whole School Family Trust Christmas Show 9.30am
1/12/25	Kent Fire & Safety Workshops – all classes
8/12/25	Abbeyfields care home visit for school councilors
9/12/25	SMC Football Match against BysingWood 3pm Kickoff
12/12/25	Carols on the Playground – 3.15pm
16/12/25	KS1 Nativity

17/12/25	Governor Prize Giving
19/12/25	Christingle Service at the Church 9.30am End of Term 2 – school finishes at 2pm

