



St Mary of Charity Primary

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5th December 2025

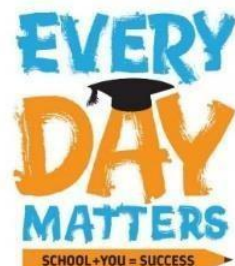
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Attendance



EYFS Hamilton	Year 1 Donaldson	Year 2 Anning	Year 3 Malala	Year 4 Hockney	Year 5 Rosen	Year 6 Attenborough
87.2	92.2	98.6	89.2	93.3	94.7	95.2
Term 2 93.8%		Year to Date 95.3%			Target 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to December! Apologies for the missed Newsletter last week. Christmas has now officially begun in school and the children have enjoyed taking part in lots of events, so far, they have watched a Christmas show, Year 4 have taken part in experience Christmas at the local church and year 2 and 3 have experienced Christmas workshops.

Thank you to our PTFA for organizing the Christmas jumper swap rail in the school reception area. We will be taking part in Christmas jumper day next Thursday as well as inviting children to wear a Christmas jumper into school on Christmas dinner day.

We are all looking forward to our Carols on the Playground event next Friday. The school gates will be open from 2pm and children will be performing carols on the playground with their classes. Once they have performed you are able to sign your child out from their class teacher so that you can explore the stalls that are on offer.

There are some wonderful items up for grabs in the Christmas raffle. Tickets have gone home with your child so please do purchase some to support the fundraising which our PTFA do for the school.

I would also like to say a huge well done to both our Girls and Boys football teams who have been playing matches recently. As newly formed teams we have been delighted in how well they have supported each other regardless of wins. They have represented SMC incredibly well and we are proud of them both. Keep up the great work.

And finally, I am delighted to announce that we are now working in collaboration with Blueprint arts who provide Arts Holiday Clubs. They have already booked in dates for the February half term, please see the posters in this newsletter for more information.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Rowley-Jones
Headteacher



£35
per Day



ARTS HOLIDAY CLUB

16,17,18TH FEBRUARY 2026

St Mary of Charity Primary School,
Faversham

10am-4pm (wraparound care from
9am-5pm additional £5)

suitable
for all
primary
school
ages

WHO ARE WE?



We're a Kent-based community arts not for profit who believe in the power of the arts to transform people and places. The majority of our work is with communities in Gravesend & Dartford, but as our Artistic Director has recently moved to Faversham, we have decided to trial our highly successful holiday clubs here.

We've been running holiday clubs for 5 years, and what makes our sessions so brilliant is that they are always run by artists (fully trained and DBS checked) so children always go home with great crafts and having learned something new.

Our sessions are mostly visual arts based, with a few theatre games thrown in too. If you've got any questions, please email us - ella@blueprintarts.co.uk



**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.



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.

Cold and Extreme weather

We have reached the time of year when the weather has turned. Please do ensure that your child comes into school with appropriate clothing, including coats, hats and gloves.

Each morning the site is assessed by Mr Muddiman who clears and salts paths, please do ensure that you take care as freezing temperatures can make paths extremely icy.

In the event of a school closure due to severe weather you will be contacted as early as possible by a notification on the MCAS app, we will also post information on ClassDojo and our Facebook page.



This week in Worship

As the start of December has arrived we have been exploring the theme of advent and how we prepare for Christmas Day, we have considered how this looks different in different households and the true meaning of Christmas.

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

**Ingrid, Runa, Isla, Lola-Rae,
Dottie, Lucinda, Atticus,
Peter, Aurora, Darcy, Jack,
Ada, Nora**





INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster is about **Tracking Devices**. 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 vehi

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 30 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces - like home - that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are often used to prove ownership, they could be misused to "prove" ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, place a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location - whether in person or online - it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be placed include jacket strings, bag straps, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it - this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's "Tracker Detect" or the third-party app "X-Force" to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to stalk, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, the Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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 2	
9/12/25	SMC Football Match against BysingWood 3pm Kickoff
11/12/25	Christmas Jumper Day – children invited to wear a Christmas jumper or festive item into school.
12/12/25	Carols on the Playground 2pm – 4pm
16/12/25	KS1 Nativity 10am and 2pm Performance times
17/12/25	Governor Prize Giving Christmas Lunch Day Father Christmas visiting classes
18/12/25	Yr 6 Golden Ticket trip to Ninja Warrior
19/12/25	Christingle Service at the Church 9.30am End of Term 2 – school finishes at 2pm
22/12/25 23/12/25	Holiday HAF Club
29/12/25 30/12/25	Holiday HAF Club
5/1/26	TERM 3
5/1/26 – 8/1/26	Arty Party Art Days
15/1/26	Year 3 Ancient Greece Day

