



**ST ETHELBERT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY**  
*HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL, IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST*

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30th January 2026

**Latest Newsletter from Mr Marshall**

**Dear God,**

**In a world that can feel hurried, divided, and unkind, help us to slow down and notice one another. Teach us to speak with care, to listen with open hearts, and to act with compassion, even when it is difficult. May our words heal rather than harm, our choices build bridges rather than walls, and our kindness ripple outward in ways we may never see. Help us to be patient with ourselves and generous with others, remembering that everyone is carrying something unseen. May kindness guide our thoughts, our actions, and our days.**  
**Amen.**

Dear St Ethelbert's Community,

It has been a real pleasure this week to see the fantastic learning taking place across the school in such a wide range of subjects. From Year 6 pupils confidently playing their trumpets, to Year 5 artists learning about and taking inspiration from Picasso and Andy Warhol, the children have shown great enthusiasm and creativity. In RE, pupils have been exploring Saints and writing thoughtfully about how they can become more like a Saint in their own lives. In Nursery, our youngest learners have been busy building a café using construction bricks, showing wonderful imagination as our little ones become budding entrepreneurs! Year 2 have been learning all about collage in art; Year 4 have also impressed us with their beautiful handwriting during their Hot Write sessions. A Hot Write is an independent piece of writing where children apply all the skills they have been learning, such as spelling, punctuation,





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grammar, and presentation, without adult support. Children produce a hot piece of work in every year group from Years 1 to 6, every time they finish a genre of work.

Well done to all the children for their hard work and for demonstrating our school value of knowledge so clearly. Photos of this learning can be found on our Facebook page. Please follow us and like our page.

God Bless

Mr Marshall  
Headteacher

### [Kindness Day Menu](#)

On Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February we will be having a change of menu for kindness day when the children will be able to decorate their own pizza! If you would like your child to have a school meal there is no need to pre-book just let the teacher know in the morning. Please pay via School Money. Thank you.





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**Advanced preparation - World Book Day**

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March. Children are welcome to come to school dressed as a character from a book, but if your child prefers it, they could come in their uniform and bring in a book to share with their class instead.

**Around the World Day/Sharing the Learning**

On Friday, 13th February, all the children from Nursery to Year 6 will be off timetable for the day celebrating Inclusion. The children will be exploring their class country and learning more about it. We will be carrying out lots of creative lessons. All parents and grandparents are invited into school from 2.30pm for sharing the learning.

Nursery – United Kingdom  
Reception – Poland  
Year 1 – Romania  
Year 2 – Hungary  
Year 3- Japan  
Year 4 – Italy  
Year 5 – India  
Year 6 – France

**RAF Manston History Museum**

RAF Manston History Museum annual Bricks at the Museum event, is being held over the February half term between the 14th and the 22nd. This is our biggest event of the year, and the museum is full of Lego and other brick companies, with existing sets and peoples' own original creations. We are also holding a raffle this year, with the prize being a Star Wars Lego set valued at around £300. For details please see attached flyer.

**Study Smart UK – free online courses**

These courses are FULLY FUNDED (Free) to attend and specifically designed for parents and carers who are looking for a springboard into working in a school. Each course only takes 6 weeks to complete, with online sessions run ONLY in school hours and term times, to fit in around family life.

Our next course starts on Monday 2nd February. Places are limited and will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

**STUDY SMART**  
Free Online Courses

Fully Funded Education Support Course  
Online LIVE Webinars  
6 Week Course  
Mon - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 & 12.30 - 2.00  
Support Session 4.00 - 4.30

**Starting Monday 2nd February**

Levels 1, 2 & 3 Available  
Accredited Awards & Certificates in:  
Prepare to Work in Schools  
Wellbeing  
Safeguarding & Prevent  
Occupational Studies  
Understanding Challenging Behaviours  
Principles of SEN

Aspire Education | Ofsted Approved Provider



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If you are interested please follow the link for more information and to book a place

<https://www.studysmartuk.online/>

**SEND**

Please click [here](#) for the latest Kent County Council Newsletter for SEND. Here you will find the latest news on Children's mental health, KCC SEND progress to date and further general advice, guidance and support.

**PTFA**

Please nominate our PTFA for the chance to win £1000 for our children/school.

They start each year with a clean slate - 2025 nominations are not carried over, so please nominate us again this year!

Thank you for your continued support.

[Click here](#)

**EVERY ENTRY  
COUNTS**



Please take one minute  
to nominate us  
for £1,000!



Children showing our school values this week				
Year Group	Class Name/Saint Name	Child	Value	Reason for Value
Nursery	United Kingdom Saint George	Lottie	Knowledge	Wanting to practise writing and concentrating very hard to form letters correctly!
		Ivy	Knowledge	Wanting to practise writing and concentrating very hard to write her name!





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Reception	Poland Saint Jadwiga	Sahr	Knowledge	Trying really hard to improve his pencil grip!
		Lucia	Knowledge	Doing some wonderful writing in our topic of deserts and trying hard to sound out the words!
Year 1	Romania Saint Andrew	Louisa	Inclusion	demonstrating skills and supporting her partner to achieve in PE
		Kenny	Knowledge	Attempting to write his recount independently using his phonics knowledge
Year 2	Hungary Elizabeth of Hungary	Stanley	Knowledge	His wonderful use of language when retelling a traditional tale
		Dominion	Knowledge	His improvement of his reading skills
Year 3	Japan Paulo Miki	Riverlynn	Knowledge	Understanding that God has eternal love for us
		Ruby	Thoughtfulness	Making a fantastic bug home in Forest School, taking lots of thought and care
Year 4	Italy Catherine of Siena	Meghan	Thoughtfulness	Working collaboratively and respectfully with others
		Anshika	Knowledge	Thinking like an art historian during this week's art lesson





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Year 5	India Saint Mother of Teresa	Joe	Knowledge	Showing enthusiasm for his learning; teaching his mum about the Tudors at home!
		Isaiah	Knowledge	Increasing his focus in lessons, especially in mathematics! Keep it up.
Year 6	France Saint Vincent de Paul & Saint Therese of Lisieux	Julia	Thoughtfulness	Always taking it upon herself to be helpful and kind! Thank you!
		Lena	Thoughtfulness	Always showing initiative and helping adults and children! Thank you!



**Well done!**





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**Class Masses**

If you would like to join us for a class Mass then you are very welcome. Children lead the Mass with readings and bidding prayers.

Date	Year Group attending Mass
5th February	Year 2
12th February	Year 5
	Half Term
25th February (Wednesday)	Feast of St Ethelbert Whole School (Yr6 Leading)
5th March	Year 4
12th March	Year 3
19th March	Year 2
26th March	Year 6

**Mass will be on Thursday mornings at 9.30am in St Ethelbert's church**



**Attendance this academic year...**

Class with No Lates: All classes had children late this week

**Our attendance policy states that we aim for a 100% attendance**

<b>Reception</b>	<b>80.6%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>93.6%</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>99.3%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>81.9%</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>94.2%</b>





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<b>Year 5</b>	<b>97.8%</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>Whole School this week</b>	<b>91.6%</b>
<b>Whole School academic year to date</b>	<b>95.1%</b>
<b>National Average academic year to date</b>	<b>94.7%</b>

**PLEASE NOTE – IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE WRAPAROUND CARE STAFF AFTER 4PM  
THE NUMBER TO CALL IS **07400 170519****

**DIARY DATES**

**2025/26**

**February 2026**

9th Children's Mental Health Week - non-uniform on 13<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup> Safer Internet Day  
13th Around the World Day  
13th Sharing the Learning - parents invited in from 2.30pm  
**13<sup>th</sup> END OF TERM 3 FOR CHILDREN**  
17<sup>th</sup> Shrove Tuesday  
18<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday  
**23rd TERM 4 STARTS FOR CHILDREN**  
25th St Ethelbert's Feast Day – whole school mass

**March 2026**

1st St David's Day  
5th World Book Day - Dress up  
9<sup>th</sup> Class photos  
17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day





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17th St Gertrude's Day  
20<sup>th</sup> Red Nose Day - wear red  
24<sup>th</sup> Feast of Saint Oscar Romero  
24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening – 3.20-6.00pm  
30th Easter hats and bonnets due in  
30th Sharing the learning - parents invited in from 2.30pm  
30th Multiplication Table Check parent's info meeting 3.20pm  
31st Passion Service - 10am  
31st Stay and Play session for children starting Nursery in Term 5 - 3.30pm-4.00pm

**April 2026**

**2nd END OF TERM 4**

