



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

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**23rd January 2026**

**Latest Newsletter from Mr Marshall**

**Dear God,  
Thank you for this week. Help us to rest, feel calm, and be peaceful.  
Give us strength for a new week ahead.  
Bless our families and our school.**

**Amen.**

Dear St Ethelbert's Community,

**Young Voices 2026 & Sporting Success**

We are incredibly proud of 27 of our choir children who represented St Ethelbert's School at Young Voices 2026 at the O2 Arena in London on Wednesday. Young Voices is the largest choir in the world, and we are delighted to take part in this amazing event every year.

The children spent the day rehearsing songs and performances before singing together in the evening concert in front of thousands of parents and spectators. Although it was a very long day and we didn't return home until just after 11pm. The children were exceptionally well behaved throughout. The venue was extremely busy and not all schools showed the same level of courtesy; our children stood out for





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their respect, patience, and positive attitude. They were truly a credit to St Ethelbert's, and we could not be prouder. Well done and thank you to all involved, especially Mr Evans for organising the trip.



We would also like to congratulate our handball team, who played against a number of schools last week at Ursuline College. The team showed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the competition. Well done to everyone who took part!

God Bless

Mr Marshall  
Headteacher





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**Year 5/6 Handball Tournament**

On Friday our year 5/6 pupils took part in a handball tournament.

The children played brilliantly and represented the school really well showing some great sportsmanship.

Out of 5 games played the children won 2, drew 1 and lost 1 narrowly missing out on the final stage this coming Friday.

Despite missing out on the finals, the children worked so hard and have it their best and showing some great teamwork throughout.

Well done!



**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

**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  
Kent 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/>

**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<br>Saint George | Malachai  | Knowledge      | Showing amazing improvement with his pen control! Well done!            |
|  |                                | Bella-Mae | Thoughtfulness | Tidying up the construction area even though she did not make the mess! |
| Reception                                    | Poland<br>Saint Jadwiga        | Riley     | Knowledge      | Trying really hard when writing about London                            |
|  |                                | Asmin     | Thoughtfulness | Moving her dinner tray to sit next to a child sitting alone 😊           |





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|        |                                 |              |                |   |
|--------|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---|
| Year 1 | Romania<br>Saint Andrew         | Bea          | Knowledge      | Her use of adjectives when describing an animal in English                  |
|        |                                 | Kasi         | Knowledge      | Her improved basketball skills and recall of previous learning              |
| Year 2 | Hungary<br>Elizabeth of Hungary | Dominion     | Inclusion      | Working well with others in the classroom                                   |
|        |                                 | Gracie-Marie | Knowledge      | The improvement of her handwriting and presentation                         |
| Year 3 | Japan<br>Paulo Miki             | Nikola       | Knowledge      | Creating a different ending to our class text                               |
|        |                                 | Darcie       | Thoughtfulness | Helping and sharing her ideas with adults and peers                         |
| Year 4 | Italy<br>Catherine of Siena     | Ernie        | Knowledge      | Always presenting his work to a high standard in all subjects               |
|        |                                 | Alfie        | Knowledge      | Working hard to write an informative newspaper report based on The Creakers |
| Year 5 | India<br>Saint Mother of Teresa | Daisy        | Knowledge      | Trying really hard to complete her learning more independently              |
|        |                                 | Maisie       | Inclusion      | Consistently trying her best and being a fantastic role model for her peers |





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|        |   |        |           |  |
|--------|---|--------|-----------|--|
|        |   | Holden | Knowledge | Trying really hard to complete his learning more independently             |
| Year 6 | France<br>Saint Vincent de Paul &<br>Saint Therese of Lisieux | Elliot | Knowledge | Showing incredible enthusiasm across all subjects! You are a joy to teach! |
|        |   | Zoe    | Knowledge | Giving 100% effort in maths this week! Well done Zoe!                      |



**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                        |
|---------------------------|--|
| 29th January              | Year 3   |
| 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>97.9%</b> |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | <b>90.3%</b> |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | <b>96.5%</b> |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | <b>92.2%</b> |





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|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Year 4                                 | 97.8%       |
| Year 5                                 | <b>100%</b> |
| Year 6                                 | 97.3%       |
| Whole School this week                 | 95.9%       |
| Whole School academic year to date     | 95.3%       |
| National Average academic year to date | 94.7%       |

**It will be a non-uniform day on Monday for Year 5 who achieved 100% attendance this week. Well done!**

**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**





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25th St Ethelbert's Feast Day – whole school mass

**March 2026**

1st St David's Day

5th World Book Day - Dress up

Class photos (date TBC)

17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day

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**

