



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

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Latest Newsletter from Mr Marshall

Lord Jesus, On this feast of Saint Matthew on Monday, we thank you for calling him from his old life to become your faithful disciple and apostle. Help us, like Matthew, to hear your call and follow you with open hearts. Give us the courage to leave behind whatever keeps us from you, and make our lives a witness to your mercy and love. Saint Matthew, pray for us, that we may faithfully follow Christ and share His Good News with others.

Amen.

Dear St Ethelbert's Community,

We are delighted to share our Curriculum Newsletters with you, which gives you an insight into what your child will be learning in each subject this term, per year group. We hope this will help you to understand and support your child's learning at home, and provide lots of opportunities to chat together about what they have been learning at school. If you would like to find out more about the topics and knowledge being covered, you can find further information under the 'Curriculum' tab on our school website. You can also find your child's class timetable on the website. Our Curriculum Newsletters will be shared with you every term, so you will receive six newsletters throughout the academic year, helping you to stay up to date with your child's learning journey.

Homework should be coming home now every Thursday. Please view our homework policy on our school website for more details. Homework is to be completed and handed in on the following Monday (or Tuesday if it is a bank holiday).

On Monday, children in Year 6 will be completing their speeches as candidates to be Head boy and Head girl. The whole school will then go back to theory classroom to vote. We have received so many





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applications this year so we will have to complete the speeches over two weeks. The boys will complete their speeches in assembly this Monday with the girls completing their speeches a week on Monday.

Have you changed your address, mobile phone number or emergency contact details over the summer? We should have three emergency contact numbers for your child. If you need to update us, then please let the office know next week as a priority. Thank you.

Keeping Our School & Home Community Cyber Secure

At our school, cybersecurity is a year-round priority. Our staff undergo regular awareness training to ensure all pupil records, school data, and digital platforms remain safe and strictly protected. However, cyber safety does not end at the school gates, protecting our children's digital footprint works best when home and school work together.

As technology evolves, cyber criminals and online risks are targeting families through new avenues. From sophisticated phishing scams and AI-generated content to hidden location tracking on popular social apps, staying vigilant is essential.

Here is how you can strengthen your family's digital security at home:

- **Use the "Pause, Screenshot, Ask" Rule:** Teach children never to click links sent via direct messages (DMs) or act on messages that demand urgent action, offer free gifts, or cause panic. Encourage them to pause, take a screenshot, and show it to you first.
- **Be cautious with emails, texts and messages:** Scammers may pretend to be schools, banks, delivery companies, friends or other organisations you trust. Take a moment before clicking a link, opening an attachment or sharing personal information. If a message creates a sense of urgency or asks you to make a payment, stop and check it through an official website or known contact method.
- **Use strong, different passwords:** Avoid using the same password for several accounts. In particular, make sure your email account has a strong and unique password, as access to your email can sometimes provide a route into other accounts. A password manager can make it much easier to use different passwords without having to remember them all.
- **Turn on two-step verification:** Wherever it is available, enable two-step verification (also called 2FA or MFA) on important accounts such as email, banking and social media. It provides an additional layer of protection if someone obtains your password.
- **Back up important information:** Photos on your phone, important documents and other valuable files can be protected by regularly backing them up to a trusted cloud service or external storage. That way, if a device is lost, damaged or affected by malware, you have another copy.





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- **Keep devices and apps updated:** Don't ignore those update notifications! Turn on automatic updates where possible for phones, tablets, computers and apps. Security updates help protect devices against newly discovered threats.
- **Turn Off Geolocation on Apps:** Many popular apps track live locations by default. Go into your child's device settings and turn off location services for social media, camera apps, and gaming platforms to avoid exposing your home address or daily routine.
- **Build Strong "Passphrases":** Encourage your child to use a passphrase (a string of 4+ random words like *purple-duck-potato-boat*) rather than simple passwords, and remind them never to share passwords with friends.
- **Maintain Open, Judgment-Free Communication:** Make sure your child knows they can come to you if they encounter something unsettling online, see a fake account, or make a mistake, without fear of having their device immediately taken away.

A useful family habit: STOP – CHECK – THINK

Before responding to an unexpected message, encourage everyone in the family to:

STOP – Don't rush, even if the message says something is urgent.

CHECK – Is it really from the person or organisation it claims to be?

THINK – Is it asking for something unusual, such as a password, payment or personal information?

If something doesn't feel right, don't click the link. Find the organisation's official website or contact them using a trusted phone number instead.

What if you make a mistake?

Don't panic. If you have clicked a suspicious link, shared a password or entered financial information, act quickly. Change affected passwords, contact your bank if necessary, and seek advice. The UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) provides clear guidance on what to do if you think you've been caught by a phishing scam.

Together, we can ensure our children enjoy the benefits of technology while staying safe and secure online. If you ever have questions about our school's digital safety policies, please don't hesitate to reach out!

[Year 6 parents - Secondary School Places](#)

It's time to start thinking about secondary schools!

For children starting Year 7 in September 2027, applications opened on Monday 1 September and close on Monday 2 November 2026.

You can apply for up to 4 schools:





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- Put the schools in your order of preference.
- It is in your best interest to list 4 schools.
- Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give priority for a place over another child.
- You are not able to name the same school more than once.

Details can also be found here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

God Bless

Mr Marshall
Headteacher

[Year 6 Residential parent meeting](#)

There will be a parent information evening for Y6 parents on Tuesday 22nd September at 3.20pm to share more details and answer any questions.

[Good Luck!](#)



Good luck to our Year 5/6 Football Team who are playing in the John Curran Cup tonight at Newington Primary School.

[Nursery - Virtual Tour](#)

Experience our nursery space first-hand with our immersive [virtual tour](#).





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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.

Kent Adult Education

Please see attached information about the September Family Learning online courses, along with community workshops which are happening in Thanet, Canterbury and Dover. All courses are free to eligible learners and cover a range of topics designed to support family life, wellbeing and learning.

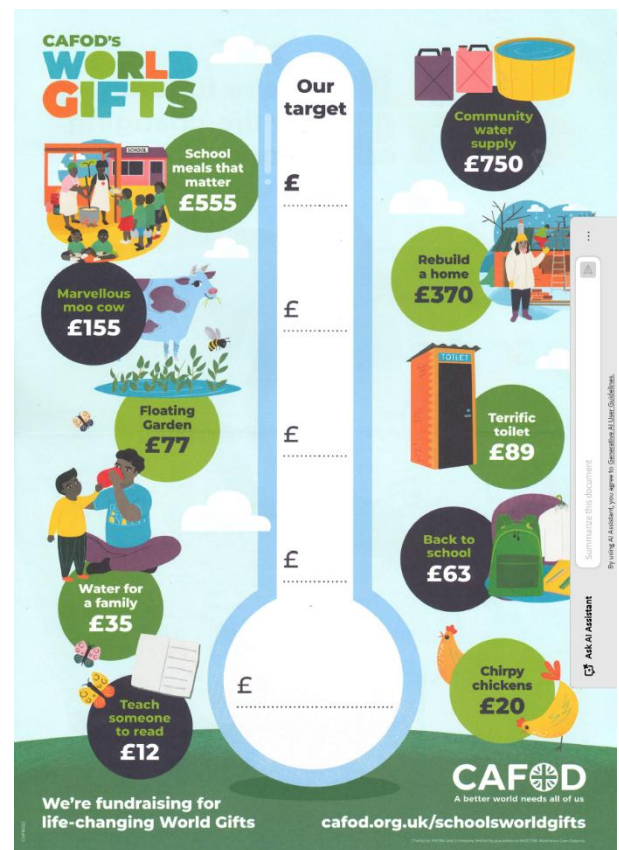
For full information and to book your free place please visit : www.kentadulteducation.co.uk

Non-uniform for CAFOD

On Friday 25th September we will be having a non-uniform day for [CAFOD](#). Children can wear their own clothes for a £1 cash donation with all the money going directly to the charity. Following this, on Monday 5th October we will have an assembly with John Darby, a representative from the charity, who will share details with the children about how their fundraising makes a life changing difference.

Our ongoing target is to raise £750 for a community water supply.

Thank you for your continued generosity!





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Scholastic Travelling Book Fair

We are delighted and excited to announce that after its success last year, the Scholastic Book Fair will be returning to St Ethelbert's! The Book Fair will be on the KS2 Front playground before and after school on 1st and 2nd October and on Year 1 and 2 playground before and after school on 5th and 6th October. However, you are welcome to visit either playground on the day and time that suits you best. There will be over 200 books to choose from to suit all ages, interests and budgets. For every book that you purchase, you will help us to earn free books for our school. Like last year, we are unable to accept cash payments. If you wish to purchase a book, there will be a QR code to scan with your phone which will take you to the Scholastic website where you can make payment. We can't wait to see you all!

Mrs Webb and Mrs Russell



Children showing our school values this week				
Year Group	Class Name/Saint Name	Child	Value	Reason for Value
Nursery	United Kingdom Saint George	June	Knowledge	Always joining in with our phonics and recognising rhyming words!
		Emily	Inclusion	Settling into Nursery really well and following all Nursery rules!





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Reception	Poland Saint Jadwiga	River	Knowledge	Telling Mrs Cayley all about sea glass and how it is formed
		Heaven	Thoughtfulness	Always wanting to tidy up without being asked and looking after the classroom
Year 1	Romania Saint Andrew	Ella	Knowledge	Using her phonics to write sentences in English lessons
		Marnie	Thoughtfulness	Ein a good, kind and supportive friend to a new member of the class
Year 2	Hungary Elizabeth of Hungary	James	Knowledge	Sharing his synonym for the word 'scared' (fearful)
		Alexander	Thoughtfulness	Helping his classmate who had fallen over
Year 3	Japan Paulo Miki	Zachary	Knowledge	His wonderful use of flexible partitioning
		Naya	Thoughtfulness	Always being a good friend in the playground
Year 4	Italy Catherine of Siena	Aidan	Knowledge	Working hard to develop his cursive style in our handwriting lessons
		Akorede	Knowledge	Making lots of contributions to our class discussions
Year 5	India	Maymunah	Inclusion	Always putting her hand up and sharing ideas





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	Saint Mother of Teresa	Theo	Knowledge	Completing his mathematics independently. Keep it up Theo!
Year 6	France Saint Vincent de Paul & Saint Therese of Lisieux	Bailey	Thoughtfulness	Always being kind, polite and considerate towards others
		Chika	Thoughtfulness	Always being the first to hand out or collect books, tidy up and consider others



Well done!

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.





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Date	Year Group attending Mass
24 September	Year 4
1 October	Year 3
8 October	Year 2
15 October	Year 6
22 October	Year 5
	Half Term
5 November	Year 4
12 November	Year 3
19 November	Year 2
26 November	Year 6
3 December	Year 5
10 December	Year 4
15 December	KS2 Carol Service
	Christmas Holiday

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

[Attendance this academic year...](#)





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

Reception	97%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	93%
Year 3	98.7%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	97.3%
Year 6	97.04%
Whole School this week	96.5%
Whole School academic year to date	96.5%
National Average academic year to date	%

**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

2026-27

September 2026

18th Year 5/6 football – John Curran Cup 3.45pm Newington Primary School

21st Feast of Saint Matthew

25th Non-uniform for CAFOD - cash donation

30th Book Fair arrives





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October 2026

1st Autumn Census

5th World Teacher's Day

5th CAFOD Assembly

7th Book Fair collected

18th Feast of Saint Luke

19th Sharing the Learning - parents invited in from 2.30pm - thrive focus

19th Multiplication Table Check parent's info meeting 3.20pm

20th/21st Parents evening - 3:20 - 6:00pm

22nd END OF TERM 1

23rd INSET DAY (3 of 5)

