

Chilham St Mary's CE Primary School

Friday 17th October 2025

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come towards the end of Term 1, we hope you are all looking forward to the Half Term break. The children have all worked so hard this term and we are very proud of all they are achieving. Please have a look at the information on this newsletter and get in touch if you do have any questions.

Harvest Festival Celebrations

As always, our Harvest Festival was a seasonal event we all look forward to. Each class performed beautifully, and the singing from the whole school was truly delightful. A big thank you to Dan and Louis Sherlock (Governor and an ex-pupil) for preparing the wonderful Harvest Wreath for us.



🎄 Own Clothes Days for Christmas Fair Donations! 🎄

To help make our Christmas Fair a success, we're inviting pupils to enjoy own clothes days on the following Fridays in exchange for a small Christmas Fair donation:



Friday 7th November – Christmas Sweet Jar Donations (see pictures for ideas)

Friday 14th November - Chocolate Tombola Donations

Friday 21st November - Cuddly Toy Donations



If you are able to help set up in the village hall from 12:30pm on Friday 28th November or even run a stall from 3.30pm, we will have a sign up sheet up after half term.

Secondary School admissions

- Applications for secondary school places for children entering Year 7 close **Friday 31 October 2025**. Apply here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>
- You can name up to **4 preferences** for schools.
- After the deadline, applications are processed between **1 November 2025 and 1 March 2026**.
- If circumstances change after you apply, you can email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk to request amendments.

A Message About Parking Considerately

We would like to remind all parents and carers to park safely and respectfully when dropping off or collecting children from school.

Recently, there have been several cars blocking the hill and obstructing the road outside the school. This not only causes frustration for local residents but also creates potential hazards for our children and other pedestrians.

Please help us keep our community safe and pleasant by:

- Using designated parking areas or walking a short distance to school. Taylors Hill carpark has plenty of spaces.
- Avoiding stopping on School Hill to drop or collect.

We understand that mornings and afternoons can be busy, but a few extra minutes to park considerably can make a big difference to everyone's safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.



Attendance

Our whole-school attendance for this half term is 94.5%, which is a great improvement compared to this time last year. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child's regular attendance.

PTA

A big thank you to the PTA for donating £10 per pupil towards our pantomime trip on 5th December. We are really looking forward to this whole school event and their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Children in Need Ramble- Friday 21st November

We will be holding our ramble on Friday 21st November. A letter will be sent out with more details after half term. Here is a link for donations towards our school fundraising page set up for donations towards Children in Need:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/chilham-st-marys-cepschool1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Labelling school uniform

We are trying our very best to locate items when they do go missing. Please could you ensure all school uniform is labelled with your child's name. We will try our best to put any jumpers and cardigans out on a Friday afternoon for parents if we cannot find an owner!

Internet Safety



KS1 Nativity

Our Nativity Service will take place in the Church at **2pm on Thursday 11th December**. We always look forward to this and hope to see lots of you there.

Swimming Lessons

Term 2 Swimming Lessons for Peacocks are on the following dates:

30th October

6th, 13th, 20th and 27th November

Children should wear the following for swimming, and earrings **MUST** be removed:

Girls: A towel, one-piece swimsuit (not bikinis), hair bands for shoulder length hair, goggles where needed (children must be able to fit themselves).

Boys: A towel, trunks or swim shorts (these must be above the knee and not baggy beach style swim shorts), goggles where needed (children must be able to fit themselves).

To save time once we arrive at the pool it would be useful if the children came to school wearing their swimming clothes under their uniform.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term break and look forward to seeing all the children back at school from **8.35am on Monday 27th October**.

Dates for your diary

Monday 27th October	Return to school
Tuesday 28th October	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Wednesday 29th October	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Tuesday 4th November	Year 6 visit to Cathedral Day at Canterbury Cathedral
Wednesday 12th November	Film Night
Thursday 13th November	Bishop Rose visiting for Collective Worship
Friday 21st November	Children in Need Ramble from 1.30pm
Friday 28th November	Christmas Fair- 3.30pm-5.30pm in Chilham Village Hall
Friday 5th December	Whole School trip to Pantomime- Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wednesday 10th December	Film Night
Thursday 11th December	Nativity play at 2pm (in St Mary's Church)
Sunday 14th December	Carols in the Square from 6pm
Wednesday 17th December	Children's Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Disco in Village Hall from 3.30pm (run by Reverend Sue)
Friday 19th December	Break up for Christmas at 1.30pm

Best wishes,

Rebecca Dolan



*Design Ashford Borough Council's
Christmas Card!*

Children aged 4 to 11 can enter

Deadline: Sunday 9 November 2025

Submit entries to christmascardcomp@ashford.gov.uk

WIN £30 worth of Waterstones vouchers and
10 printed cards to send to family and friends.