St. RICHARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

2025-2026 Term 5

A busy Term 6

We are moving into Term 6, which is our busiest term.
Please make sure you look out for emails and app messages being sent by School.
Our Schools App is no longer in use and we are pleased to announce that our new Arbor App is being launched this week.
Details of how to access our new Arbor app will be emailed to you at the address that we have on file, via no-reply@mail.arbor-education.com - please check your junk folders and mark us a safe sender.
This is our new way of communicating with families and things can change last minute as we head into the last few months of the school year.

Please also take some time to visit our new website.

If you need any help with this, please see Mrs Gillard in the office.

Residential Reminder

A reminder that the Year 6 Residential Trip needs to be paid in full by the end of this term.
Thank you to the families who have already paid and been using the suggested payment plan.

Please speak to Mrs Gillard if you have any problems using Parent Pay.

Give Mrs Gillard A Wave

Mrs Gillard is training for a half marathon in London later in the year, and sees quite a few of our families while she is out and about running.

If you see her over half term training, give her a wave. It is a well needed little boost!

Thank You!

It has been wonderful to support the children with more outdoor learning and educational visits recently.
We have had classes visit the beach, various museums, lots of sporting events and we have some really fun trips due next term.
We also have the return of our Year 6 residential trip!
We would like to thank families for supporting these trips both financially and volunteering to help so we can safely run the visits.
If you would like to volunteer to help on School Trips, please see Mrs Gillard or your class teacher.

Year 5 Simon Langton Open Mornings

Please see the following link we have been sent to share with our Year 5 families in preparation for their Secondary School Transition journey.

https://www.langton.kent.sch.uk/admissions/year-5-tour-mornings

Kent Test Information for Year 5 families

https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test

Registration for the Kent Test for children due to **start secondary school in September 2027** opens on Monday 1st June 2026 and **closes at midnight on Wednesday 1st July 2026.**

Kent County Council cannot accept late registrations.
Registration for the Dover Boys and Girls Grammar Schools Entrance Tests are done separately.

The link to register for the Boys test is below,

Dover Boys Test - Application Form for Admission in September 2027

And the Girls test,

https://dggs.applicaa.com/entranceexam

This year, the test will take place on **Thursday 10th September 2026** for pupils in Kent primary schools, and on the weekend of **Saturday 12th September 2026** for other pupils.

The results will be sent on Thursday 15th October 2026.

We will be holding a parent meeting on Tuesday 2nd June at 3.30pm to discuss the Kent Test information.

This is really important please read.

If your child has a disability or special educational needs which will affect their access to testing, you need to discuss this with their primary school's special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) before you register them for the test as the school will need to apply for any necessary access arrangements. ***Requests will not be accepted after 1 July 2026.***

The online registration form asks ***you to confirm that you have discussed a request for access arrangements with your child's school.***

September 2026 Intake

All of our families joining us in September will be very shortly receiving a letter welcoming you with important dates for your calendar.

Our parent meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9th June at 5pm. During this event we will book your home visits.

We will then welcome children into school for a classroom taster session on Tuesday 30th June 9am – 11am.

We look forward to seeing our families and meeting younger siblings.

Summer Uniform

A reminder that our summer uniform is a red polo shirt to be worn with either shorts or trousers for the boys, and the usual school kilt for the girls. T-shirts can be purchased from Channel Uniforms, our preloved uniform from School or the children can wear a plain red-collared t-shirt.

Recently we have noticed lots of jewellery and branded t-shirts. The only earrings we allow are ear studs. Our School Uniform is a smart one and our children are encouraged to take pride in their appearance.

All items of clothing, footwear and personal property MUST be clearly marked with the child's full name.

Children should not come to school in make-up, nail varnish or jewellery. For safety reasons we ask that ALL children with longer hair wear it tied back at all times, ear studs must be removed on PE days.

If you need any help please come and see us in the office.
Please remember to adhere to the uniform guidance on our website.

https://www.st-richards.kent.sch.uk/Uniform/

Attendance Reminder

This is just to remind you about the important changes made by the Government around attendance penalties, and the expectations of schools to act in this area. The most significant changes include:

1. Requesting schools to enforce per child penalty notices. Therefore, 3 siblings on an unauthorised holiday or absence will result in separate fines for each child.

2. Fines being applied for unauthorised absences of less than 5 days.

3. An increase in the standard fine from £60 to £160. This reduces to £80 if paid within 21 days.

4. For people who have been fined before this will be classed as a second offence and the fine will be £160 per parent per child; it will not reduce if paid on time, the full tariff applies.

5. A third offence will go straight to a magistrate's court where a fine of up to £2500 could apply per child. Importantly, this offence will appear on a parent's DBS certificates under the category of, 'Failure to Safeguard a Child's Education.' This of course could have an impact on future employment prospects.

6. Fines for 10 days of absence within a 10-week period.

It is important to note that the school does not receive the money from fines issued. It always remains our policy to work positively with parents to avoid fines wherever possible.

Ultimately, if you go on holiday during term time then you will be fined. Please avoid those fines and go on holiday during the school holidays.

Dates of the Diary

Mon 1st June – Back to School
Tues 2nd June – YR5 Kent Test Meeting
Weds 3rd June- YR2&3 Dymchurch Trip
Fri 5th June – PTFA Non-Uniform Day and Disco
Tues 9th June – New intake meeting 5pm
Weds 10th –Fri 12th June – Year 6 Residential Trip
Weds 17th June – KS1 Sports Day
Thurs 18th June – Year 5 Taster Day at St Edmunds
Fri 19th June – Father's Day Blessing
Weds 24th June – Reserve Date for Key stage 1 Sports Day
Weds 1st July – Key Stage 2 Sports Day
Thurs 2nd July – Year R Class Assembly
Fri 3rd July – PTFA Summer Fete Weds
Weds 8th July – YR R&1 Broadstairs Trip
Weds 8th July – Leavers Production
Thurs 9th July – Leavers Production
Mon 13th July- Leavers Mass
Fri 17th July – Leavers Assembly
Fri 17th July – Last Day of Term, school closes at 2.30pm

Term dates for this school year- 2025/2026

Term 6

Mon 1st June – Fri 17th July

Please note that the staff development days, where the school is closed to children are:

Monday 20th July 2026,
Tuesday 21st July 2026.

Term dates for next school year – 2026/2027

Term 1

Weds 2nd Sept- Thurs 22nd Oct

Term 2

Mon 2nd Nov – Fri 18th Dec

Term 3

Mon 4th Jan – Fri 12th Feb

Term 4

Tues 23rd Feb – Thurs 25th March

Term 5

Mon 12th Apr- Thurs 27th May

Term 6

Mon 7th June – Tues 20th July

Please note that School is closed on the following staff development days:

Tuesday 1st September
Friday 23rd October
Monday 22nd February
Friday 28th May
Wednesday 21st July

These dates are available all year round on our website https://www.st-richards.kent.sch.uk/Our-term-dates/

Links to Church websites:

Please find the links to our affiliated Churches for information about the Parish.

St Paul's Roman Catholic Church: https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/

Our Lady of Dover Church: http://ourladyofdover.cloudaccess.net/

St Richard's Prayer

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits thou hast given me,
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day.
Amen

Have a lovely, restful week.
We will see you all on Monday 1st June