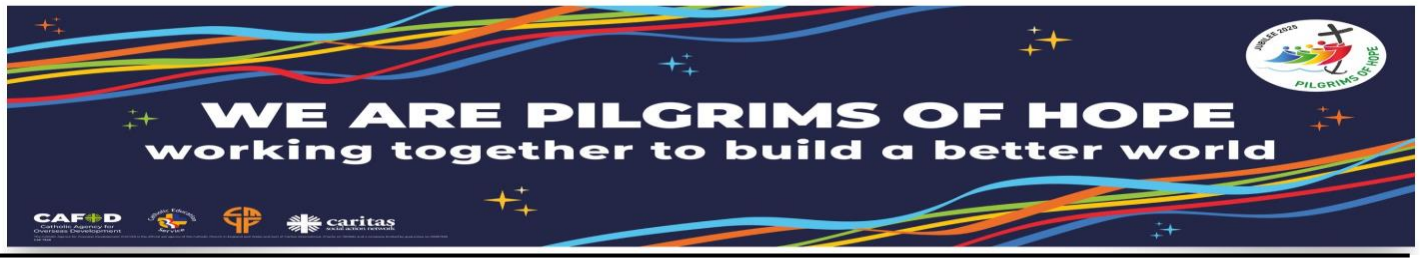
St. RICHARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

2025-2026 Term 1



Winter Uniform

As we officially move into the colder months, we would like to remind you that we have returned to the winter uniform.

The below uniform must be worn at all times:

Boys:
Grey trousers
White shirt (no polo shirt)
School tie
School Jumper
Grey socks
Black Shoes (no boots or trainers)

Girls:
Tartan School Skirt
White shirt (no polo shirts)
School tie
School Jumper or Cardigan
Navy socks
Black Shoes (no boots or trainers)

No jewellery, except a watch, may be worn.
All the school uniform can be purchased from Channel Uniforms in Folkestone (see below link), and a leaflet can be found in the School Office with the price list.

https://www.channeluniforms.co.uk/

We also have a small selection of pre-loved uniform items in school available to purchase at a reduced rate.

Is Your Child Starting School in September 2026?

Admissions for Reception places for September 2026 open this autumn. We are looking forward to welcoming prospective parents to look around the school during November and December.

If you have a child or know someone who has a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 please come along to see everything that the school has to offer.

Our Open Days will be 09.30am Friday 7th November, 5.30pm Wednesday 12th November, and 09.30am Thursday 4th December. This year we will also have 10am Saturday 22rd November – by appointment only.
To enquire or register your interest for these events, please contact Mrs Robinson in the School Office.

School Meals

School meals are prepared the children by Chartwells and cost £2.95 per day for children in Years 3,4,5 and 6.

Dinners must be booked and paid for (if applicable) using ParentPay. Bookings can be made in advance or on the day (before 9.30 am).

Regardless of whether or not your child is a Universal Free School Meal (Year R, 1 and 2), Free School Meal or Paid – all meals must be pre-booked by the parents as the kitchen take the meal number daily, directly from ParentPay and not the school.

Social Media

We would just like to respectfully remind parents to be mindful of posts on social media. WhatsApp groups that evolve to support parental communication should not use school badges or logos as they are not managed or endorsed by the school. Occasionally parents throughout the year have brought some posts to our attention and which we have had to deal with.
These forums can be useful to help support each other with

communication and reminders and we do not feel it is necessary to ask you to not use these groups.

However, if you have any concerns relating to your children or issues in school, staff are very approachable. We are on the gate every morning and evening. Do come and talk to us, as in the vast majority of cases issues or misunderstandings can be dealt with more efficiently by coming direct.

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 for your diary:

Mon 27th Oct – Inset day, School closed to children
Tues 28th Oct – Children return to School
Thurs 30th Oct – Kent Fire and Safety Talks in School
Fri 31st Oct – Flu immunisation day
Mon 3rd Nov – YR 3 & 4 Road Safety Workshops in School
Thurs 6th Nov – NHS NCMP visit to YR R & 6
Fri 7th Nov – YR6 visit to Imperial War Museum
Fri 7th Nov – New Intake Open Day
Tues 11th Nov – Remembrance Assembly
Weds 12th Nov – Whole School Trip to Cineworld
Weds 12th Nov – New Intake Open Day
Thurs 13th Nov – Class 1 Assembly
Fri 14th Nov – PTFA Tag Day
Fri 14th Nov – PTFA Disco
Sat 22nd Nov – New Intake Open Day
Fri 28th Nov – PTFA Tag Day
Thurs 4th Dec – Sunshine Club Assembly
Thurs 4th Dec – New Intake Open Day
Fri 6th Dec – St Nicholas Day Mass
Fri 6th Dec – PTFA Christmas Bazaar
Weds 10th Dec – YR6 Pantomime Trip
Fri 12th Dec – Advent Prayer Breakfast
Weds 17th Dec – Christingle led by YR3
Fri 19th Dec – Last Day of Term, School Closes at 2.30pm.

Term dates for next school year- 2025/2026

Term 1

Tues 2nd Sept – Fri 17th Oct

Term 2

Tues 28th Oct – Fri 19th Dec

Term 3

Mon 5th Jan – Fri 13th Feb

Term 4

Tues 24th Feb – Thurs 2nd April

Term 5

Mon 20th April – Fri 22nd May

Term 6

Mon 1st June – Fri 17th July

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

Monday 1st September 2025,
Monday 27th October 2025,
Monday 23rd February 2026,
Monday 20th July 2026,
Tuesday 21st July 2026.

These dates are available on our School Website.

https://st-richards-catholic-primary.secure-primarysite.net/term-dates/