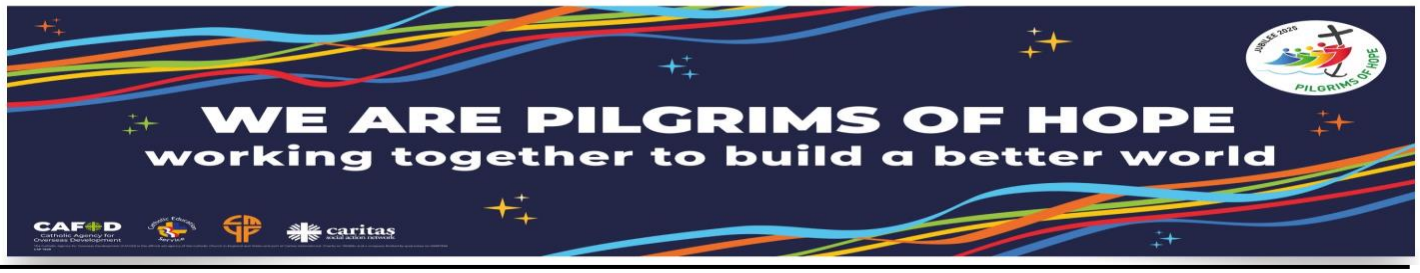
St. RICHARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter



A Sad Farewell

Next term we will be saying a very sad farewell.

Miss Drage will be leaving at the end of the School Year after 8 years of keeping our Year 6 classes in check.

She has always been committed to preparing our children for their moves into Secondary Schools and helping them through such a tricky stage in their lives.

As a School Family we are going to miss her terribly and will do all we can to make her last term a great one!

Leaver's Hoodies

A reminder that Leavers Hoodies need to be ordered by Friday 23rd May with Payment due by Friday 6th June.
If you would like to purchase a hoodie please email Mrs Gillard with the name of your child and the size your child needs Louise.Gillard@st-richards-dover.kcsp.org.uk

If you have any problems logging on or using ParentPay please speak to Mrs Gillard.
The sizes available with chest measurements are listed on ParentPay.

A busy Term 6

We are moving into Term 6, which is our busiest Term.
Please make sure you have our school app set up and notifications switched on.
This is our main way of communicating with families and things can change last minute as we head into the last few months of the school year. If you need any help with the School App, please see Mrs Gillard in the office.

After School Club Collection

From Monday 2nd June, parents collecting children from after school clubs will need to use the small gate where morning drop off takes place.
The main gates and office will remain closed and the small gates will be open to collect from after school club. Teachers leading after school activities will dismiss the children from this gate.

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 have also had lots of fun activities and workshops held in School. Sometimes run by people more fun than our normal teaching staff?!

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.

We have lots more planned so watch this space!

Kent Test Information for Year 5 families

https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test#tab-1

Registration for the Kent Test for children due to **start secondary school in September 2026** opens on Monday 2nd June 2024 and **closes at midnight on Tuesday 1 July 2025.**

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,

https://www.dgsb.co.uk/605/key-information-1/key_information/1/admissions

The QR code to book the girls test has already been sent to our Year 5 families.

This year, the test will take place on **Thursday 11 September 2025** for pupils in Kent primary schools, and on the weekend of **Saturday 13 September 2025** for other pupils.

The results will be sent on Thursday 16 October 2025.

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 2025.

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

September 2025 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 10th 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 Thursday 3rd July 9am – 11am.
We look forward to seeing our families and meeting younger siblings.

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'll be fined. Please avoid those fines and go on holiday during the school holidays.

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 and the dates for the remainder of this school year are available on our School Website.

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

Dates for your diary:

Mon 2nd June – Start of Term 6
Mon 2nd – Fri 13thJune – Times Tables checks (YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND SCHOOL)
Fri 6th June – PTFA non uniform day
Fri 6th June – PTFA Race Night
Mon 9th – Fri 13th June – Phonics Screening (YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND SCHOOL)
Tues 10th June – Dover Schools Singing Festival – YR 5 Children
Tues 10th June – Sept Intake meeting with new parents
Weds 11th June – YR6 trip to Down House
Thurs 12th June – YR6 trip to Science Jamboree
Fri 13th June – Father's Day Blessing
Mon 16th June- Start of National Sports week
Mon 16th June – Yoga Day in School
Tues 17th June – St Richard's Day Blessing
Thurs 19th June – Year R Class Assembly
Fri 20th June – PTFA non uniform day
Weds 25th June – Key Stage 1 Sports Day
Thurs 26th June – Captain Wonderweb Workshop
Fri 27th June – YR 1 trip to London Aquarium
Mon 30th June – KCSP Sports Day
Tues 1st July – YR R,2&5 trip to Wingham Wildlife Park
Thurs 3rd July – Transition Day
Fri 4th July – St Edmunds second transition day
Fri 4th July – PTFA Summer Fete
Weds 9th July – Key Stage 2 Sports Day @ Duke of Yorks
Thurs 10th July – Year 1 Class Assembly
Tues 15th July – Year 6 Production
Fri 18th July – Leavers Mass at St Pauls
Mon 21st July – Leavers Assembly
Mon 21st July – Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2.30pm

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 2nd June!