



## MESSAGE FROM MR ROWDEN

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and safe festive break. The weather has certainly taken a turn for the worse and it feels as though we have experienced every possible condition!

Please do take extra care and allow additional time when travelling to school during this period.

A reminder that the school gates open at 8.40am and close promptly at 8.55am, when the registers close. Any children arriving after this time will need to be signed in at the school office.

It has been wonderful to see how positively the children have returned to school. We have also welcomed some new children into our Pre-School and I have been extremely impressed with how quickly they have settled into school life.

Year 3 began their swimming lessons today and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The challenging weather certainly did not dampen their spirits!



## New Lunch Menu & Favourites Day Menu

On **Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> January** we will have a special Favourites Day menu. Please view the menu [here](#).

Please [click here](#) to see the new Menu for Term 3. Our school kitchen will be happy to provide an allergy-friendly alternative for your child.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pabulum on [education.csu@compass-group.co.uk](mailto:education.csu@compass-group.co.uk). Thank you.



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## *Year 6 1940's Day - Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> January*

As part of our learning about World War II, we are planning a special active learning day on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026. We ask that the Year 6 children come to school dressed in a simple costume as an evacuee for the day. Please don't feel you have to get a special costume – just use whatever you have.

In the afternoon, we would like to invite parents to join us for a carousel of activities where we will explore the 1940s. Please come along at 1:45pm until 3.00pm. We kindly ask that just one adult per child attends and please do not bring any younger children. Please sign up for the Parent Share by [clicking here](#).

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## *Carpark Safety*

Please can we remind you to take extra care when driving in the Oaks Nursery car park. We ask all parents and carers to drive slowly and be considerate at all times, as children and adults are moving around the area.

Please park only in the clearly marked bays and keep the designated nursery parking spaces clear. Do not double park or block other vehicles that are already parked in marked bays, as this can make it difficult and unsafe for others to leave. Thank you for helping keep the car park safe and accessible for everyone.

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## *Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop*

This is a reminder that the Mastering Number at Home Workshops for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are taking place on the following dates:

**EYFS:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9.10am – 10.00am

**Year 1 - Dore Class:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 1.30pm

**Year 1 – King Class:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm

**Year 2 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 9.10am – 10.00am**

It is not too late to book your slot, please do so by [clicking here](#). Last year, lots of parents, who participated in the workshop chose to buy double-sided counters to use at home rather than using the cardboard ones provided. As this proved popular, this year we will again have sets of counters available to buy in groups of 10 - £1 (for EYFS), 15 - £1.50 (for Year 1) or 20 - £2 (for Year 2). We are only able to accept cash payments for these.

These will be available at the workshops, so if you would like to purchase any, please bring the exact amount along. You do not need to buy these; the cardboard counters will work adequately for the home activities.

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## *Year 3 Swimming Lessons*

This year, the school will cover the cost of swimming instructors and pool hire. We kindly ask parents to contribute towards transport costs, which total £67.45 per child. If you experience any difficulty in making this payment, please contact Mrs Jones, Business Manager, in confidence. Payment can be made via your ParentPay account or at the school office using the card machine. You may choose to pay in full or in instalments, with **all payments due by Friday 13th February 2026**.



## Reception Intake September 2026

If your child was born between **1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**, they are due to start school next September. Visit Kent Primary Admissions for details, or contact [primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk](mailto:primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk) or 03000 412 121. **Applications close on Thursday 15 January 2026.**

If you have a sibling due to start next September, please email the office if you plan to apply, even if you won't be attending a tour.

## Year 6 Activities Week

The remaining balance for the Year 6 Activities Week is available on your ParentPay app. To make things easier, we have set up an instalment option should you prefer to pay in smaller amounts rather than in full. Alternatively, you can make payment using the card machine in the school office.

Please note that the **deadline for payment is Friday, 1st May 2026.**

If you are experiencing any difficulty with the cost of this trip but would still like your child to attend, please contact the School Business Manager in confidence to discuss possible support.

## Term 3 - Forest School

In Term 3, Key Stage 2 will continue their Forest School sessions. Children will change into their Forest School clothes before the session begins. Please pack Forest School clothes in a separate bag, ensuring all items are named and are suitable for outdoor play in any weather conditions.

### Your child will need to wear:

- A long-sleeved top
- Full-length trousers
- Wellies, sturdy shoes, or boots

### Other recommended items:

- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Hat, scarf, gloves for colder days
- Extra layers in case of cold or wet weather

Please be aware that clothing is likely to get muddy or wet. Avoid sending anything valuable or that you wouldn't want soiled and make sure all clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with your child's name.

### Year 3

**Moses** – 12<sup>th</sup> Jan, 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 9<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Russo** – 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb

### Year 4

**Barnes** – 13<sup>th</sup> Jan, 27<sup>th</sup> Jan, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Delahunt** – 20<sup>th</sup> Jan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

**Evergreens** - Every Thursday.

### Year 5

**Denly** – 16<sup>th</sup> Jan, 30<sup>th</sup> Jan, 13<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Gurnah** – 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

### Year 6

**Shariff** – 14<sup>th</sup> Jan, 28<sup>th</sup> Jan, 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Thomas** – 21<sup>st</sup> Jan, 4<sup>th</sup> Feb





## Forest School Newsletter



### Welcome back to Term 3. Winter Wonderland!

Winter is one of the most beautiful seasons of the year, but it can be a bit of a challenge during Forest School sessions. Staying warm makes all the difference. Layers and hats are essential, and spare socks and gloves can be real lifesavers. If you need any support with warm clothing, please let the school office know. We are always happy to help.

### Exciting news!

From **6th-13th January**, we will be taking part in the School Birdwatch. Children are encouraged to get involved during our sessions, and they have already made a great start.

If you would like to join in at home, you can also take part in the Big Garden Birdwatch over the weekend of **23th-25th January**. It is free, easy to take part in, and a lovely way to spend time connecting with nature. All it takes is one hour at a time that suits you.



More information and the sign-up form can be found [here](#).

Please feel free to take photos and share them with us - we'd love to see them! The Forest School Team.

## Wildlife Calendar & Events

January is a great month for spotting birds. If you would like to learn more about the birds you might see at this time of year, take a look at the [RSPB's Birds of January guide](#).

For bird lovers who want to support wildlife at home, the RSPB also has [helpful guidance on what and how to feed garden birds](#), along with high-quality bird food options.



## Sportshall Decathlon - Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and Year 6 pupils are invited to the U11 Sportshall Decathlon on **Sunday 11 January** at the Stour Centre, Ashford. The event includes ten indoor athletics activities, with medals awarded and results used for next year's Kent County squad selection.

For more information and details on how to enter can be [found here](#).

# CUP WINNERS

## This week's Cup Winners are...

**Catman - Dash** for challenging himself in phonics.

**Pettman - Leo** for producing amazing Christmas news writing.

**Dore - Lila** for super counting in Maths.

**King - Andrew** for his fantastic number knowledge in Maths.

**Bailey - Winnie** for her amazing writing using super adjectives and trying hard with her spellings.

**Cooper - Penelope** for demonstrating positive learning behaviours.

**Moses - Rhea** for a brilliant start to Term 3 at Blean. We're so happy you've joined our class.

**Russo - Zunairah** for inspiring thoughtful discussions when learning about prehistoric artefacts.

**Barnes - Isabelle** for showing all her Blean bees and demonstrating great resilience.

**Delahunt - Sofia** for an excellent attitude to her learning.

**Denly - Leela** for an outstanding reflective piece about 2025, demonstrating excellent Year 5 writing skills.

**Gurnah - Penelope** for amazing creativity and beautiful use of Art that she applies to every lesson.

**Shariff - Freddie & Trevelyan** for always being ready to learn.

**Thomas - Jensen** for great participation and recall of key facts in our English & History lessons this week.

We are pleased to inform you that this week's attendance winners are...

**Year 5**  
**99.2%**

We are pleased to inform you that this week's attendance House winners are...

**Maple**  
**99%**

We are pleased to inform you that this week's Walk once a Week winners are...

**Year 6 - Shariff**  
**20 children**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

[For term dates please click here.](#)

Term 3	05.01.2026 - 13.02.2026	Inset Days 2025/26	Forest School Dates
Year 6 1940's Day	12.01.2026	01.09.2025 19.12.2025	<b>Year 3</b>
Year 6 Parent Share	12.01.2026	23.02.2026 20.07.2026	<b>Moses -</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Year 5 Walk	13.01.2026	21.07.2026	<b>Russo -</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb
EYFS Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop	15.01.2026	<b>P.E Days</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
Dore Class Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop	13:30pm 15.01.2026	<b>EYFS -</b> Thursday	<b>Barnes -</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb
King Class Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop	14:30pm 15.01.2026	<b>Year 1 -</b> Wednesday & Thursday	<b>Delahunt -</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb
Year 2 Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop	16.01.2026	<b>Year 2 -</b> Wednesday & Friday	<b>Year 5</b>
Year 3 Swimming Lessons	16.01.2026	<b>Year 3 -</b> Tuesday & Friday (Swimming)	<b>Denly -</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb
		<b>Year 4 -</b> Monday & Friday	<b>Gurnah -</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan, 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb
		<b>Year 5 -</b> Monday & Thursday	<b>Year 6</b>
		<b>Year 6 -</b> Monday & Friday	<b>Shariff -</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb
		<b>Additional P.E. Days</b>	<b>Thomas -</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan, 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb
		Tuesday 13th January: Year 1, 5 & 6	