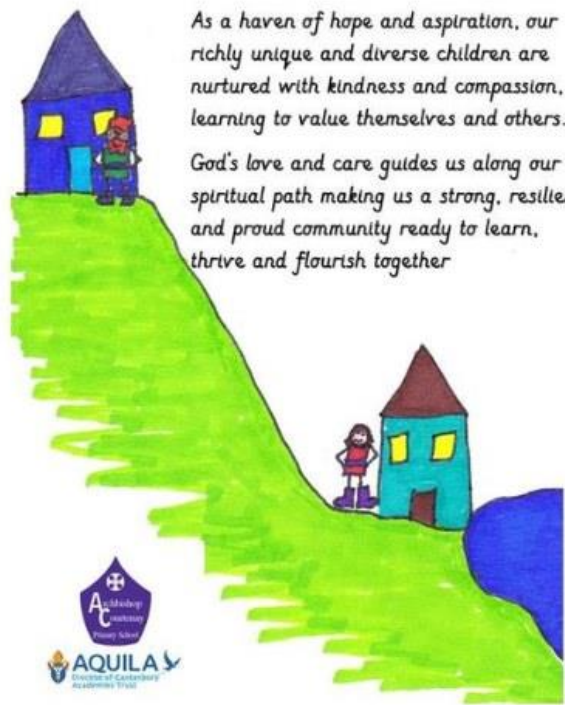




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -  
Thursday 2nd April FB



*As a haven of hope and aspiration, our richly unique and diverse children are nurtured with kindness and compassion, learning to value themselves and others.*

*God's love and care guides us along our spiritual path making us a strong, resilient and proud community ready to learn, thrive and flourish together*

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Dear Families,

**HAPPY EASTER!**

As we come to the end of Term 4, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a wonderful few weeks it has been. The children have worked incredibly hard, and it has been a joy to see how much learning, growth and enthusiasm has filled our school.

This week's Easter Bonnet parade was a true highlight—creativity was in full bloom! The children proudly wore their colourful, imaginative designs, and it was clear how much effort had gone into each one.

Across the school, beautiful new displays are beginning to appear, ready to welcome everyone back for the start of the new term. They reflect the rich learning that has taken place and the excitement we all share for the term ahead.

Yesterday, I had the privilege of welcoming some children to my office who performed their dance to *"Spring Chicken"*—a firm favourite at this time of year. Watching them sing, dance and radiate joy was an absolute delight and a reminder of the happiness that fills our school every day.

In Collective Worship, our focus has been on the meaning and message of Easter. Our Worship Warriors led the assembly with confidence and pride, and we were pleased to welcome Mrs Joy and Mr Freed from All Saints, St Philip's and St Stephen's, who joined us for this special time of reflection.

I would also like to congratulate the children who won their vending machine token this week. Their commitment to reading for pleasure shines through, and it is wonderful to see their love of books continuing to grow.

As we head into the Easter break, I wish you all peace, rest and time with loved ones. Thank you for your continued support throughout another successful and joyful term.

I look forward to welcoming you all back on **Monday 20th April**.

Warm wishes,

Sue Heather

Headteacher



1 - Year 5 & 6



2 - Year 1 & 2 display being created



3 - Year R



4 - Our Easter Bonnet Winners



5 - Preparing for "Spring Chicken" dance

## Dear Parents and Carers,

We are always keen to celebrate the wonderful work our staff do each day. If a member of staff has been particularly helpful, kind, or has made a positive difference to you or your child, we would love to hear about it.

Please feel free to let a member of the Senior Leadership Team know so that we can personally pass on our thanks and recognition.

Your feedback means a great deal to us and helps us continue to foster a supportive and appreciative school community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

*S. Heather*  
Headteacher



## Attendance & fundraising



Well done to all those families regularly using MCAS to report their child's absence this makes things so much better for our very busy office ladies in the morning. Please make sure that you add the reason for the absence 'unwell' unfortunately is not sufficient for the children's records so please be more precise i.e. a cold, upset tummy, injury etc. Thank you

#### Easter Raffle

We hope you enjoyed the prizes that have been given out this week from the Easter raffle. Many of the children looked very excited to have a bag of Easter goodies. Thank you to those of you who provided prizes and /or bought raffle tickets your support is invaluable. We raised £300 which will go towards some more outside equipment for the children to enjoy in the coming summer months. Happy Easter everyone - Mrs Gooding

#### Wrap Around Information



#### Wraparound:

<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk>

**Breakfast** (7:30am-8:30am) £4

**Social Club** (3:15pm-4:15pm) £3

**Wraparound** (3:15pm-6pm) £12

Tax-free childcare vouchers = 20% off

Universal credits = claim up to 85% back

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT:

archbishop-courtenay@cbfs.uk

01444 523 335

## Dates for Diary



**Monday 20th April - Start of Term 5**

**Wednesday 22nd April - Year R**

**Wednesday 22nd April - Year 4 Swimming**

**Thursday 23rd April - Center Stage Workshop**

**Thursday 23rd April - UKS2 Netball match ABC v Brunswick**

**Monday 4th May - BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Wednesday 20th April - No Pens Wednesday**

**Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May - Year 6 SATS**

**Tuesday 19th May - Outstanding Achievement Assembly - by invitation**

**UKS2 (Year 5&6) @ 8:50am**

**EYFS & KS1 (Year R, 1 & 2) @ 2:30pm**

**Wednesday 20th May - Outstanding Achievement Assembly - by invitation**

**LKS2 (Year 3&4) @ 8:50am**

**Friday 22nd May - Last Day of Term 5**

**Monday 1st June - First Day of Term 6**

**We have been sent this...**

## **Young Cooks Maidstone – School Invitation**

### **A One-Day Cook-Along Experience for your Pupils**

We are delighted to invite students within your school to take part in Young Cooks Maidstone, an exciting, hands-on cooking experience for children and young people, delivered in partnership with Golding Homes and Social Enterprise Kent Schools.

For over 15 years, Young Cooks has helped children across Kent and Medway build confidence, essential life skills and healthier habits through food and we are now bringing this opportunity directly to students in Maidstone.

### **About the Event**

What is it?

A fun, inclusive, and interactive cook-along masterclass held in professional training kitchens focused on learning, not competition.

### **Who is it for?**

- Pupils aged 7–16 years
- Suitable for all abilities no prior cooking experience needed

### **Where?**

At MidKent College giving pupils access to industry-standard kitchens.

### **When?**

June 16th –

Primary 9.30am – 11.30am

Secondary 1pm – 3pm

### **What Pupils Will Experience**

- A guided cook-along session led by professional chefs and educators
- Learning to prepare healthy, affordable meals
- Developing key skills including:
  - Knife skills
  - Food safety and hygiene
  - Nutrition awareness
- Building confidence, independence, and teamwork

- Taking home recipes and resources to continue cooking with their families

### **Cost & Participation**

**There is no cost to your school or the student.**

**The programme is fully funded by Golding Homes as part of their commitment to supporting local families and young people.**

### **How to Get Involved**

We are currently inviting parents to express interest and reserve places for their children.

Places are limited, so early registration is encouraged. Once the places are gone, they are gone.

***PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT***

👉 To register your interest or find out more, please contact:

Sophie Wallace

Corporate Fundraising Manager

Social Enterprise Kent

✉️ [s.wallace@sekgroup.org.uk](mailto:s.wallace@sekgroup.org.uk)

07704003484

 Social Enterprise Kent in collaboration with 

**A FREE One Day Cooking & Nutrition Event for Maidstone Families**



**FREE MASTERCLASS**

Where: MidKent College – Maidstone Campus  
 Date: Tuesday 16th June 2026  
 Time: 9:30am - 11:30am - Primary  
 1:00pm - 3:00pm - Secondary

**Have fun - Cook nutritious family meals - Make the most of ingredients at home - Learn about healthy food**

*Apply Now / Register Your Interest*

Spaces are limited - book your place now  
 email: [s.wallace@sekgroup.org.uk](mailto:s.wallace@sekgroup.org.uk)  
 Tel: 07704003484



## OPAL Play



It's been a fantastic term for OPAL play, filled with creativity, laughter, and imagination. The children especially loved our Easter role-play area, as well as taking to the stage with microphones and a wonderful selection of funny hats! Looking ahead, next term promises even more exciting developments, including the introduction of a home corner, a HUGE sandpit, and an outdoor water play station—fingers crossed for warm weather so everyone can enjoy getting a little wet! We are also working towards installing a new fence around the pond area, which will allow us to safely reopen Forest School, alongside putting the finishing touches on our woodland walk. Keep an eye out next term for our 'Invitation to Play' event,

where families will be warmly welcomed to join in and experience the joy of play alongside their children during break and lunchtimes.

As always, donations are very much welcome and appreciated.

## Collective Worship



This week in our collective worship, we explored the theme of Easter, helping the children to understand why this is such an important and special time for Christians. Easter is a celebration of hope, new beginnings, and the belief in Jesus' resurrection. Through our reflections, the children learned how the Easter story reminds Christians of God's love, forgiveness, and the promise of new life. It was lovely to see them engaging thoughtfully with these ideas and considering how messages of hope and renewal can be part of our everyday lives.

On Tuesday, we held our Easter service in school and were delighted to be joined by Mr Freed and Mrs Joy. Our wonderful Worship Warriors led the service so beautifully, showing confidence, respect, and real understanding of the message they were sharing. They guided us through the Easter story, helping everyone reflect on why Christians celebrate Easter — not just as a historical event, but as a time to remember hope overcoming sadness and light overcoming darkness.

During the service, Mrs Heather spoke to the children about the symbolism of the egg. She explained that, just like a chick emerges from an egg, Easter represents new life and fresh beginnings. The egg, with something new growing inside, is a powerful symbol of the

resurrection of Jesus and the idea that from something that may seem closed or lifeless, new life can begin again. This helped the children make a meaningful connection between a familiar Easter symbol and the deeper message of the Christian story.

We also enjoyed singing a selection of hymns together with great enthusiasm. “Spring Chicken” was a particular favourite and brought lots of energy, smiles, and laughter to the hall!

Well done to our Worship Warriors for leading such a thoughtful and uplifting service, and to all the children for their respectful participation. We are very proud of you all.

## EYFS: Darling and Rashford



We cannot believe we have reached the end of term already—what a fantastic and busy few weeks it has been in EYFS! Time has flown by, and it has been wonderful to see how much the children have grown in confidence and independence. They continue to impress us every day with their enthusiasm for learning and their willingness to try new things.

This week has been our phonics assessment week, where we recapped all of the learning from this term. The children worked incredibly hard, naming digraphs and trigraphs, and reading both tricky words and words they could blend independently. We are so proud of their achievements—so many children scored 80%, and lots even reached into the 90s! What an amazing effort from everyone—well done!

In Drawing Club, we have been enjoying the story *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig*. We were all shocked at just how bad the pig was and the extreme lengths he went to in order to destroy the wolves’ houses! However, we loved the heartwarming ending, where

they became friends and shared a beautiful house made of flowers. The children have been busy drawing and describing the Big Bad Pig, as well as designing the wolves' houses. Many children have been working hard to extend their sentences by using the word "because" to explain their ideas—fantastic progress in writing!

In Maths, we have been learning about doubling numbers. We began by thinking about where we had heard the word "double" before, with some great links made to a double decker bus! The children now understand that doubling means adding the same number again. We have been exploring doubles to 10, and many children have even gone beyond this, confidently recalling their doubles—amazing work! Please do keep practising these at home to build confidence even further.

As we come to the end of term, we would like to say how proud we are of all the children and everything they have achieved.

We wish you all a wonderful and restful Easter break—filled with fun, family time, and of course, lots of chocolate!

We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 20th April.

## Year 1 & 2 Rowling, Attenborough and Frank



What a busy term it has been! As we welcome the arrival of spring, it's wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and creativity blossoming alongside the flowers. This term has been filled with exciting projects and engaging lessons that have truly brought our curriculum to life.

In Design Technology, the children have been hard at work on their Moving Monsters project. They have not only designed their monsters but also evaluated their creations, focusing on the effectiveness of their moving linkages. It has been a joy to see their imaginative ideas come to fruition, with some truly inventive designs that showcase their understanding of mechanics. The children have demonstrated great teamwork and problem-solving skills throughout this project, and I am incredibly proud of their achievements.

In Religious Education, our discussions have centred around the significance of Easter for Christians. The children have explored the events of Holy Week, which is the week leading up to Easter Sunday. They learned about key events such as Palm Sunday, when Jesus entered Jerusalem, Maundy Thursday, when the Last Supper took place, and Good Friday, which commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. These discussions have not only deepened their understanding of Christian beliefs but have also encouraged them to reflect on themes of sacrifice and renewal, which are so relevant during this time of year.

Meanwhile, in our Curious Quest sessions, Attenborough and Rowling classes embarked on a thrilling alien quest. The children faced the challenge of communicating with aliens using their muddled-up cars. They had to invent creative methods of communication, which sparked their imaginations and encouraged collaboration. It was delightful to see their inventive ideas come to life as they worked together to solve problems and think outside the box.

In Frank class, the adventure continued with an exciting quest alongside their faithful friend. They stumbled upon a mysterious box and faced the dilemma of whether to open it or not. This activity not only engaged their curiosity but also prompted discussions about decision-making and the consequences of their choices. It was heart-warming to witness their excitement and the thoughtful conversations that emerged from this experience.

As we approach the half-term break, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the hard work and dedication shown by the children. It has been a term filled with learning, laughter, and growth, and I am so proud of all that we have accomplished together.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term and a joyful Easter break. Enjoy this time with your families and friends, and I look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday, 20th April, ready for more adventures and learning!

Best Wishes,


KS1 Team


## Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst





We started our final week wonderfully with our LKS2 Outstanding Achievement Assembly. It was brilliant to hear about how much the nominated children have grown in self-belief, confidence and maturity. The words enthusiasm, determination and resilience were core themes with teaching staff celebrating academic subjects, sports and the creative arts. Well done to all of our leaf winners this term, we are so proud of you all!

Here's a snapshot of our last week of term 4:

 English: The children have finalised their writing about whales and have been busy publishing this for both their books and the hub display boards. The quality and in some cases the quantity of the writing have been superb!

 Maths: The children have been working on mass and capacity this week, reading scales, comparing physical weighs and posing great mathematical reasoning and problem solving questions including do tall people weigh more than short people? Are the lightest babies still the lightest people in the hub? and scaling questions looking a recipes for 4 people and converting these to recipes for 8 people. Baking and cooking at home are brilliant ways to reinforce our learning on this topic!

 RE: We gathered together as a school to celebrate Easter with our annual Easter Service. In class we have completed our studies on Sikhism. Next term we will focus back on Christianity and Pentecost.

 DT: The children have been busy this term planning, designing, making and evaluating their own 3D pneumatic machines and toys. The creativity in the ideas and the ingenuity in

the building have been incredible to watch and work alongside. Soe children have been allowed to take their work home, whilst we have kept others for our hub display.

🏊 PE: The children have reached the end of their Tag Rugby and Dance units for this term. They have worked hard to develop their knowledge and understanding of rules, tactics and movements. We have witnessed some incredible sporting moments and seen some hidden sporting talents revealed.

#### REMINDERS:

LKS2 PE will be on WEDNESDAYS in term 5, this is due to year 4 swimming. To clarify, all children need to come to school on WEDNESDAYS in their PE kits as normal lessons will still take place in the mornings. Year 4 will go swimming in the afternoon and year 3 will have Tennis at school. **Year 4's don't forget your swimming kits - bring a towel and goggles!**

### Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



As we come to the end of another busy term, we are incredibly proud of all the hard work and achievements in UKS2. The children have shown great determination, creativity and enthusiasm across all areas of learning. This was showcased in our Outstanding Achievement Assembly on Wednesday. Well done to all the children who were awarded this term.

#### 📖 English

In English this week, the children completed their autobiographies about Malala Yousafzai and began publishing them. The finished pieces are fantastic, and it has been wonderful to see how well the children have adapted to writing in a formal, non-fiction style. They have

worked incredibly hard to include accurate information, thoughtful details and a clear structure. The children should be very proud of their achievements.

### Maths

In Maths, the Year 5 children have finished their learning on perimeter and area, showing a good understanding of how to measure and calculate different shapes. Meanwhile, the Year 6 children have been completing their final areas of learning in preparation for their SATs and are now beginning their revision. We are very impressed with their focus and dedication as they approach this important time.

### PE

In PE, we completed our Tag Rugby unit with a series of mini games, where the children rotated to play against different teams. They have all worked incredibly hard throughout the unit and have successfully mastered the backwards pass required in rugby and tag rugby. It has been great to see their teamwork, communication and sportsmanship develop.

### RE

In RE, we have finished learning about Jesus' sacrifice and how Christians believe this has helped humanity. The children discussed how and why these events took place and reflected on what we can learn from them to help guide us in our own lives. They shared some very thoughtful and mature ideas.

### Science

In Science, we have completed our topic on life cycles. The children produced some wonderful work, demonstrating their understanding of the different stages in a variety of life cycles. Their final pieces were beautifully presented and showed great effort.

### School Display

We have also created our Year 5 and 6 display board in the downstairs corridor, showcasing work the children have completed across Terms 3 and 4. It looks amazing! Please do take a look at the photos for a sneak peek of their fantastic work.

Have a wonderful and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 20th April for another exciting term.

## Contact Us



**We are here to help you so please never be afraid to get in touch**

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