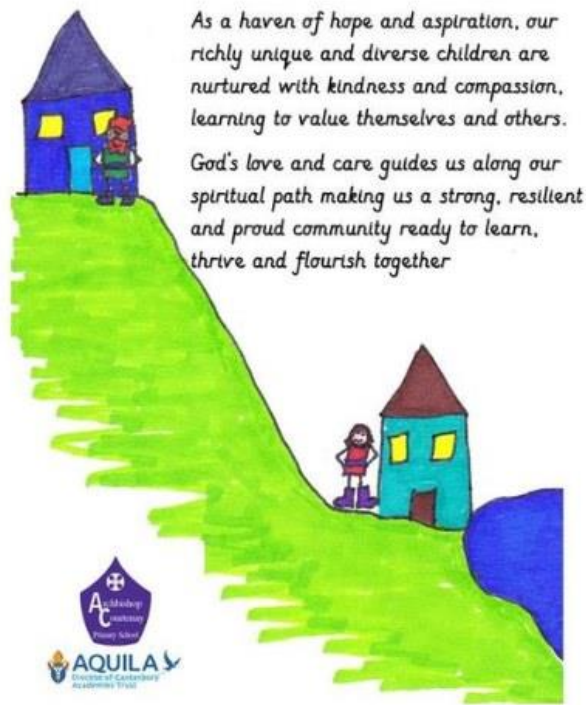




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -
Friday 30th January FB



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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[Headteacher Welcome](#)



Dear Families,

I hope everyone has had a lovely week. I have been truly impressed with the children's learning this week, particularly in history. During my visit to Simmonds Class, I saw them deeply engaged in their study of the Mayans. The quality of their research was outstanding, and their enthusiasm for learning was truly inspiring to witness.

I would also like to congratulate all our pupils for their thoughtful behaviour during Collective Worship. Speaking up in front of the whole school can be daunting, yet the vast majority of our children embrace this opportunity with confidence and share their opinions with maturity and respect.

Later this term, I will be sending out a questionnaire to families asking for your feedback about the school. No school is perfect, and it is vital for me and my team to understand what we can do to improve the experience for you and your children. Equally important is hearing what we are doing well so we can continue to build on those strengths and keep making you smile.

I am delighted to announce the launch of a girls' football club, which will take place on Friday lunchtimes. This initiative came directly from the feedback many of you provided, and we are thrilled that Tori, Maidstone United's ladies manager, will be leading the training sessions. A letter was sent to all KS2 parents this afternoon with details on how to sign up via MCAS. Spaces are limited to 15, so please act quickly if your daughter is interested!

Finally, a huge congratulations to our netball team, who played brilliantly in their match last night and secured a fantastic win. Well done to all the players for your hard work and team spirit.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday.

Warm regards,

Sue Heather

Headteacher



Our non-uniform day on Thursday to raise funds for additional play equipment was a great success.

We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of so many families who supported this cause.

Thanks to your kindness, we raised just over £400—an excellent amount that will help us begin purchasing the play items the children requested. However, we still need to raise an additional £200 to cover all the resources.

If you haven't had a chance to contribute yet, there is still time to make a donation.

Netball Team



UKS2 Netball League Match Report

ABC vs Westborough

ABC took to the court for an exciting UKS2 netball league match against Westborough, captained by Splendor. The match got off to a strong start with Splendor and Jack working brilliantly in attack, creating space and taking confident shots, narrowly missing a few early chances.

Westborough seized the moment and managed to convert a lucky short, putting the first score on the board. However, ABC didn't let that stop them. With excellent passing, movement and communication, ABC quickly found their rhythm and brought the game back, scoring an amazing **10 goals** in reply.

The whole team showed fantastic effort and determination. Splendor led well as captain, supported by strong performances from Jack, Harvey S, Paul, Leah, Letitia and Solaleh. Substitutes Scarlett and Esther also made a great impact when they came on, keeping the energy high and the teamwork flowing.

It was a great game filled with team spirit, positive attitudes and impressive play from everyone involved.

Well done to ABC for a brilliant performance against Westborough! 🏀🏆

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



- Wednesday 4th February - Magistrates Visit (Year 6)
- Tuesday 3rd February - UKS2 Netball Match - Allington
- Friday 6th February Reform, Restore, Respect - Year 6
- Friday 6th February - Maidstone Light Up Festival
- Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day
- Thursday 12th February - Year 6 Online SATs Stress Assembly
- Friday 13th February - Last day Term 3
- Monday 23rd February - Term 4 Begins
- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Friday 6th March - British Science Week begins

February Half Term



Schools Out!
Holiday Club

Schools Out Club provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 13 to participate in a range of sports and arts & craft activities.

Places are provided on a first come basis and charged at £5.00 per day. Payments are non-refundable.

Dates: Tue 17 Feb • Wed 18 Feb • Thu 19 Feb

Greenfields Community Primary School Shepway, Maidstone	Archbishop Courtenay Primary School Tovil, Maidstone	Leigh Academy Tree Tops Brishing Lane, Parkwood, Maidstone
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Sessions run for 4 hours between 10:00 - 14:00.

Visit stonesinthecommunity.org/programme/schools-out-holiday-club to book a space at one of our locations.

Part funded by
 MAIDSTONE
Borough Council

 **STONES**
in the community

Created by
 Cohesion.Design

stonesinthecommunity.org

Maidstone United's, Stones in the Community will be once again running their holiday club at ABC.

We are delighted to support this community event so much so many of our teaching assistants will be working over the three days. They are looking forward to welcoming many of our children for fun, laughter and some excellent activities!

Book now!

FOOTBALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
SPARKING CONFIDENCE THROUGH FOOTBALL
ARCHBISHOP COURTENAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM FOUR - £30

25TH FEB - 1ST APR **26TH FEB - 2ND APR**

KEY STAGE 1
WEDNESDAYS
3:15-4:15PM
YEARS 1 AND 2

KEY STAGE 2
THURSDAYS
3:15-4:15PM
YEARS 3 AND 4

SIGN UP HERE → 

PLEASE ENSURE YOU MAKE PAYMENT THROUGH THE LINK AT THE END OF THE FORM TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/E/TUNIM27BSL](https://forms.office.com/E/TUNIM27BSL)

Contact: info@sportonyourdoorstep.co.uk for more info

SPORT ON YOUR DOOR-STEP **#DOORSTEPSPORT** **SPORT ON YOUR DOOR-STEP**

We are excited to welcome a new coaching team to ABC to lead our after-school football club!

Their approach focuses on developing key skills, ensuring that children not only have fun but also deepen their understanding of the game.

I recently met with Wayne Smith, Director and Business Manager at Sport On Your Doorstep CIC, and was truly impressed by his commitment to designing and delivering high-quality sports and educational programmes for children.

My hope is that our pupils' football experience will be both enjoyable and enriching, fostering a lasting love for the sport.

Book your space now!

OPAL Play



We still have many new areas we want to set up for the children from a new woodland walk, to sandpits and water play!

How can you still help? Things we would still love to have...

- cable reels
- tractor tires
- lorry tarpaulin
- wooden hat rack
- role play hats, microphones and fancy dress
- Easter themed items for next terms role play area
- Sandpit toys (shovels, spades and buckets)



Collective Worship



This week in collective worship, our children engaged in meaningful reflections that encouraged both compassion and thoughtful awareness.

Earlier in the week, on Tuesday, we reflected on Holocaust Memorial Day. This was a moment for the children to consider deeply the thoughts and feelings surrounding this important day of remembrance. We encouraged them to think about the experiences of those affected by the Holocaust, the consequences of prejudice and hatred, and the importance of standing up for justice and human dignity today. Through guided discussion,

children expressed their reflections on empathy, respect, and the responsibility we all have to challenge discrimination and work towards a more compassionate world.

On Thursday, we were joined by the Family Trust, who led a session focused on the theme of “Goodness.” The children listened to the story of Jesus healing the paralysed man, a powerful example of kindness, empathy, and selfless action. Together, we explored what goodness looks like in everyday life—how small acts of care, helping others, and showing understanding can make a big difference. The children shared thoughtful ideas about ways they can demonstrate goodness at school, at home, and in their wider community, reinforcing the idea that each of us has the power to make positive choices that reflect kindness and compassion.

Our collective worship this week helped our children connect stories, history, and personal actions, showing them how faith, kindness, and reflection can guide their own lives.

EYFS: Darling and Rashford



What a week it has been in EYFS! We had an unexpected return of the cold this week, which made our learning feel extra cosy and seasonal. ❄️

In Drawing Club, we explored the story of *The Snow Thief*. The children thought carefully about the characters’ personalities and actions, discussing the clever squirrel and the adventurous bird. We reflected thoughtfully on why the characters behaved the way they did and what we could learn from them. During Adventure Time, our imaginations ran wild as we speculated who the mysterious snow thief might be. There were so many brilliant ideas—some thought it could be polar bears, others suggested Queen Elsa, and a few even imagined entirely new characters of their own!

In Maths, we focused on the composition of 6, 7, and 8. The children explored how smaller numbers can combine to make these bigger numbers, using part-whole models and tens frames to represent their thinking. They enjoyed seeing that, for example, 3 and 4 together make 7, and 5 and 3 make 8. This hands-on exploration helped them understand that numbers are made up of smaller parts, building a strong foundation for addition and problem-solving.

In R.E, we learned about the Parable of the Yeast. We explored how something very small, like yeast, can grow and have a big impact—just like small acts of kindness can grow and make a difference in the world. The children especially loved trying different types of bread, with the homemade, warm bread fresh from the breadmaker being a real favourite! Through tasting and discussion, they began to see the connection between small beginnings and big outcomes in both stories and real life.

It's been a week full of curiosity, imagination, and thoughtful reflection—our EYFS children have truly shone in their learning and discussions.

Year 1 & 2 Rowling, Attenborough and Frank



What a busy and chilly week we've had in Key Stage 1! As the temperatures drop, our classrooms have been buzzing with excitement and creativity, making the most of the winter season.

In **English**, our 'Curious Quest' has taken us on an adventure that has captured the imaginations of both Attenborough and Rowling classes. This week, we faced a rather mischievous challenge when a miserable ogre decided to steal our 'bag of joy'. The children were tasked with inventing clever ways to carry the contents of the bag, which led to some

wonderfully inventive solutions. It was heart warming to see the children collaborating, sharing ideas, and using their creativity to overcome this obstacle. Their enthusiasm was infectious, and it was a joy to witness their storytelling skills flourish as they crafted narratives around their inventions.

Meanwhile, in Frank class, we embarked on an exploration of a power station and how it works. The children were fascinated to learn about the different components and the importance of energy in our daily lives. Through engaging discussions and hands-on activities, they developed a deeper understanding of how power stations generate electricity and the role they play in our communities. It was wonderful to see their curiosity ignite as they asked insightful questions and shared their thoughts on renewable energy sources.

In our **art** sessions, we continued our journey through the world of Picasso and cubism. The children have been experimenting with shapes to create their own unique animal drawings. It has been delightful to watch them embrace the cubist style, using geometric shapes to represent their favourite creatures. The creativity displayed in their artwork is truly impressive, and it's clear that they are developing a keen eye for colour and form. We look forward to showcasing their masterpieces in our upcoming art display!

In **ICT**, the children have been busy programming the 'Beebots' to navigate a course. This activity was filled with moments of trial and error, which is a vital part of the learning process. The children learned to troubleshoot their programming, making adjustments and trying different routes until they successfully guided their little robots to the finish line. Their perseverance and teamwork were commendable, and it was fantastic to see their excitement when they achieved their goals.

As we move forward into the next week, we encourage our families to continue supporting their children's learning at home. Whether it's discussing the stories they create in English, exploring the wonders of energy, or encouraging their artistic talents, your involvement makes a significant difference.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. We look forward to sharing more of our adventures with you in the coming weeks!








Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst





Another great - but VERY noisy week in LKS2.

 In English the children have been creating and developing narrative descriptions about hunting in the stone age, which is leading us into planning and drafting our own stone age stories.

 In maths we have been learning different methods for division. Some extra practice at home would benefit the whole hub.

 In Science we have been looking at soils and how they are different.

 In RE we have continued our studies on the Sikh religion and investigated and researched who the Ten Guru's were and why they are important to Sikh's.

 In PSHE we have been discussing what gratitude and appreciation are and how we show and receive this. Interestingly, all 3 classes agreed that when their classrooms are really noisy everyone feels unhappy and unsettled.

It would be wonderful if all three LKS2 Classes could reduce the noise in their rooms as we appear to be a VERY LOUD Hub and not everyone enjoys being in a noisy environment! Some children are finding it challenging to focus and concentrate in class due to the levels of noise made by their peers. Please can we ask parents to speak to your children about the volume of their voices in the classroom and the building.

Have a wonderful weekend.

LKS2 Team

Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



We've had another busy and productive week of learning in UKS2, and the children have shown great enthusiasm across the curriculum. Below is an overview of what we have been working on this week.

English

In English this week, we have finished reading *Arthur and the Golden Rope*, and the children could not believe the twist in events at the end of the story. This led to some excellent discussions about how authors build suspense and surprise for the reader.

The children then looked closely at illustrations from the story and thought carefully about how they could group these images into paragraphs. We discussed different ways to start a paragraph and how a new paragraph can signal a change in action, time, setting, or focus. This activity helped to develop their understanding of text organisation and improved their confidence when structuring their own writing.

Maths

In Maths, the children have been learning about ratios. They practised identifying and simplifying ratios and explaining what they represent in different contexts. The children were then able to apply their knowledge to a range of reasoning questions, showing good progress in explaining their thinking clearly and using accurate mathematical vocabulary.

RE

This week in RE, we continued learning about Humanism. The children explored humanist values and discussed how people can show kindness, responsibility, and respect in everyday

life. They created a slogan for the side of a bus to communicate these ideas creatively and thoughtfully.

History

In History, we have continued thinking and planning our non-chronological report about the Mayan civilisation. This week, the children added more detailed information and began organising their writing into clear sub-headings. This is helping them to structure their work effectively and prepare for extended writing.

PE

In PE, we continued our work on the circus theme. The children watched clips from circus performances from 1850 and modern day and discussed how performances have changed over time. In groups, they selected one circus performance and created a dance inspired by this motif. The children worked well as teams, showing creativity, cooperation, and confidence in their movement.

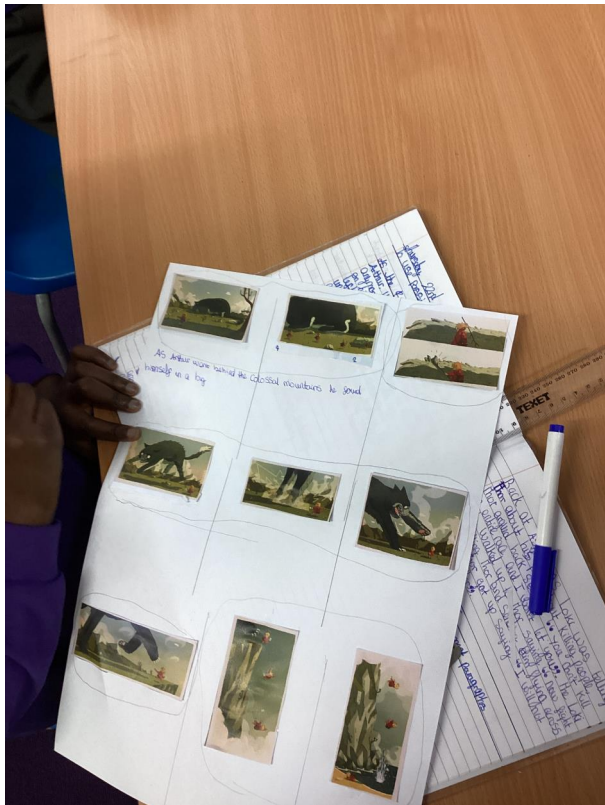
Thank you for your continued support at home. Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions about our learning.

Kind regards,

Miss Taylor, Mrs Hawks and Mr Donnay









The ABC Archie Awards





1 - This week our four Archie's have been awarded to:

EYFS: Charlie M- For always having the most beautiful manners.

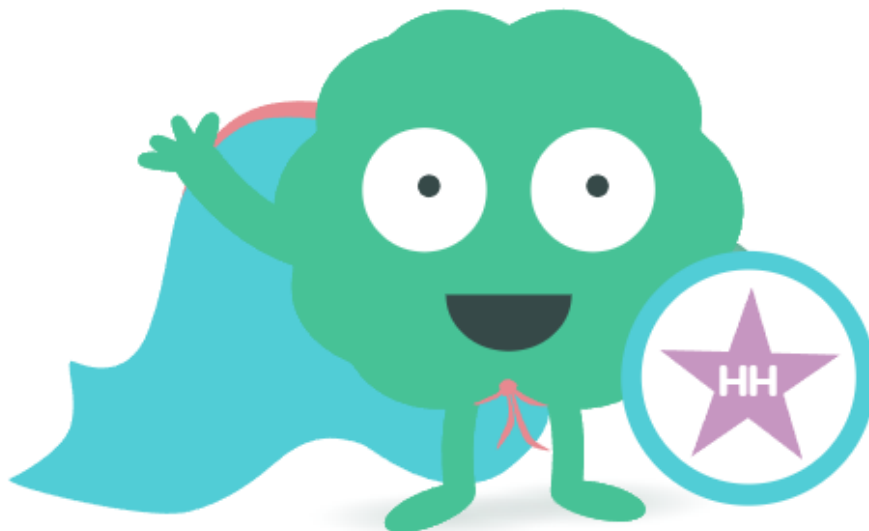
KS1: Daniel- For always being polite, thoughtful and considerate and consistently shows the schools values.

LKS2: Ismael- for always showing the school values and being so thoughtful.

UKS2: Sienna- for always supporting her friends and being there for them.

Well done everyone and I wonder who will win the Archie's next week?

My Happy Minds Accreditation



The Happiness Heroes are applying for Bronze Accreditation Status with My Happy Minds. We would love as many ABC families to help us by answering the short survey below - it should only take 2-3 minutes to do. This is the SAME survey as the link sent out on DOJO earlier this week.

All responses need to be logged by 13th February 2026

[Parent Feedback - Bronze Accreditation 2026](#)

Thank you so much for your help and support

Miss Copley and the Happiness Heroes

[Maidstone Light Up Festival 2026](#)



This week the lantern team met again after school on Thursday to start stage 2 of our lantern building project, for the upcoming Maidstone Light Festival on Friday 6th February. The children were again incredible! Having built our diamond frames last week, this week we had the even more challenging task of covering them and decorating them. Well done Team Lantern Builders!

Contact Us



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

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