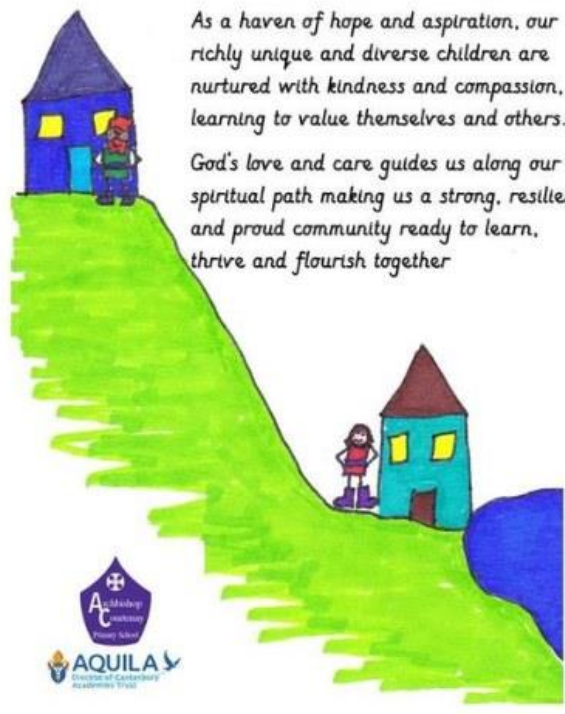




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -
Friday 13th FB



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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Reading Awards

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[Headteacher Welcome](#)



Dear Families,

As we reach the end of this busy term, I, for one, am looking forward to a well-deserved rest. I hope that you and your families have a wonderful and refreshing half term break.

Our school is always bustling with new initiatives designed to support learning and ensure that every child is catered for so they can thrive and flourish. We remain committed to providing a nurturing environment where kindness, compassion, and respect are at the heart of everything we do. Our children are so kind and considerate—they make me smile every day from the moment they arrive in the morning until they leave at 3:15. When things get tough, they often know just what to say, showing resilience and friendship in action.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for placing your children in our care. They truly are a credit to you and to our community.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create a strong, resilient, and proud school where every pupil can grow academically, socially, and spiritually.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term.

Sue Heather

Headteacher

Emotional School Based Avoidance



What is EBSA?

Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) occurs when a child finds it hard to attend school because of emotional distress, such as anxiety, fear, or low mood. It's not about being "naughty" or "lazy" but about genuine feelings that make going to school very difficult. Understanding and support can help children overcome these challenges.

For more information about EBSA, visit this website to watch a video for parents:

<https://www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/educational-psychology/educational-psychology-services2/emotional-barriers-to-school-attendance-ebsa>

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



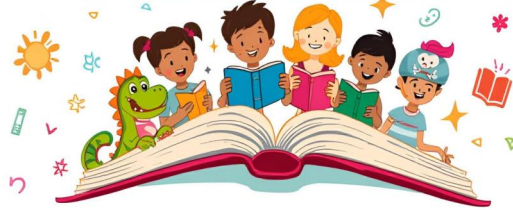
- Monday 23rd February - Term 4 Begins
- Tuesday 24th February - School Nurse Visit - Year 6
- Tuesday 24th February - Outstanding Achievement Assembly LKS2 8:50am (by invitation)
- Tuesday 24th February - Outstanding Achievement Assembly EYFS & KS1 2:30pm (by invitation)
- Friday 27th February - Outstanding Achievement Assembly UKS2 2:30pm (by invitation)
- Tuesday 3rd March - Parents Evening
- Wednesday 4th March - Parents Evening
- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Thursday 5th March - Netball Match - ABC v Snodland (home)
- Friday 6th March - British Science Week begins
- Thursday 12th March - Year 6 Online SATs Stress Assembly
- Friday 13th March - Mothers' Day Breakfast

World Book Day



WORLD BOOK DAY
5 MARCH 2026

Enter our World Book Day Competition!
Deadline is Thursday 5th March.
Prizes to be won from our vending machine!



Create a story book character using an egg carton!



1 - WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

World Book Day



WORLD BOOK DAY
5 MARCH 2026

Dress as your favourite book character!
Bring your favourite books to school.



Reading for Pleasure
5th March 2026

More details to follow soon.

2 - WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

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



MEBC **STONES**
in the community

Created by **Cohesion.Design**

stonesinthecommunity.org

After School Football

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**

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, we have been learning about the teachings of Jesus Christ, focusing particularly on the Sermon on the Mount. During this time, Jesus spent a lot of time speaking to those who followed Him about God and His Kingdom.

We explored how many of His messages went against what society often tells us. Jesus taught people to love those who hurt them, to forgive, and to care for those who are marginalised or overlooked in society. These teachings can feel challenging, and we spent time reflecting on why Jesus might have said such radical and counter-cultural things.

We also thought about the powerful imagery Jesus used when He said that **we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world**. The Bible says that *YOU are the salt. YOU are the light*. We paused to wonder why Jesus chose those words.

What does it mean to be salt and light?

How can we live this out in our daily lives?

The children shared some thoughtful ideas. Salt changes the flavour of food — just a small amount can make a big difference. Light helps us to see clearly and brings comfort in darkness. We discussed how, in the same way, our actions — even small acts of kindness — can make a big difference to others.

Jesus wants His followers to shine out so that others will see the good they do and praise God because of it. Christians care for others to follow the example of Jesus and because of the love God has shown to them. As it says in the Bible:

“We love each other because he loved us first.” (1 John 4:19)

This verse comes from the First Epistle of John and reminds us that love begins with God's love for us. Our care, kindness and forgiveness flow from that example.

We encouraged the children to think about simple, practical ways they can be salt and light — showing kindness in the playground, forgiving a friend, helping someone who feels left out, and choosing to do what is right even when it is difficult.

It has been a thoughtful and reflective week, and we are proud of the maturity and insight the children have shown in their discussions

EYFS: Darling and Rashford



What a wonderful way to end the term! We are incredibly proud of all the children for their hard work, growing confidence, and developing independence. It has been a joy to see how much they have progressed — well done everyone!

Phonics

This week in phonics, we recapped all the digraphs and trigraphs we have learned this term and practised applying them when reading words. We also revisited our tricky words and the children are becoming much more confident in recognising and spelling them. We are getting really good at our spellings and are now writing three words in each phonics lesson! The children have also completed their end-of-term assessments, and we are so proud of the fantastic progress they have made. Well done to them all!

Drawing Club

In Drawing Club, we watched an episode of Love Monster. We drew Love Monster and thought carefully about his feelings and why he might have felt different emotions at different times. The children then wrote key words or a short sentence to describe this.

In Adventure Time, we imagined what we would cook for dinner and who we would invite to share it with us. The children loved drawing their ideas and writing about them — we had some very creative menus and guest lists!

Maths

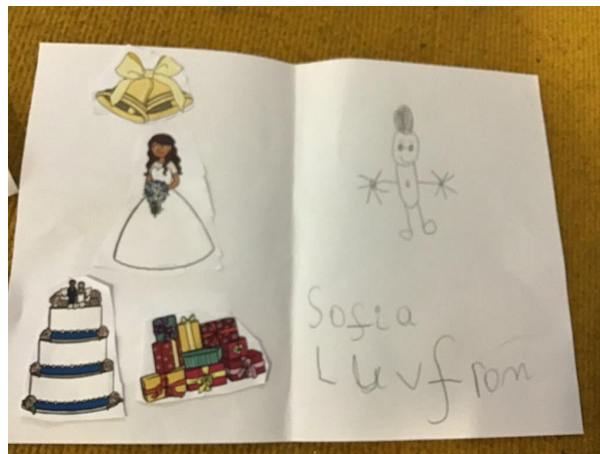
In maths, we have been learning about doubles. We used Numicon to help us work out doubles and practised recording our answers using number sentences. We learned that when we double, we add the same number to itself. The children showed great understanding and enthusiasm during these activities.

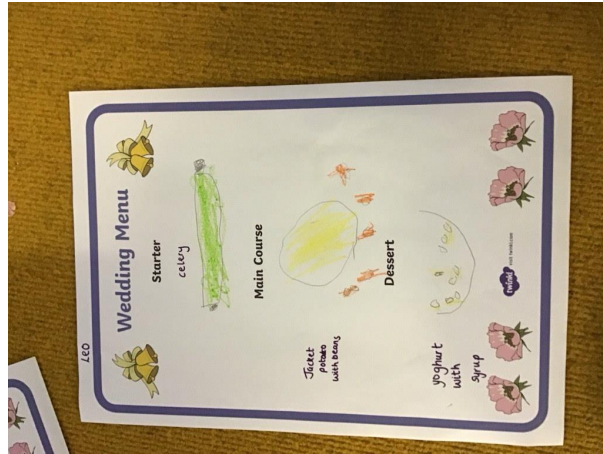
Pancake Day Fun!

We also enjoyed learning about Pancake Day and were so excited to make our own pancakes! The children helped to make the mixture and even had a turn at flipping the pancakes. The most exciting part was choosing their toppings and, of course, eating them — what a tasty way to end the term!

Thank you for your continued support this term. We are so proud of the children's growing independence and all the effort they put into their learning every day.

Wishing you all a restful, fun, and happy half term!





Year 1 & 2 Rowling, Attenborough and Frank



As we reach the end of term, it's hard to believe how quickly the weeks have flown by! Despite the persistent rain, the enthusiasm of our children has remained unwavering. Their spirits have been high, and it has been a joy to witness their engagement and excitement throughout this term.

This term, our students embarked on an adventurous journey during their Curious Quest. They bravely faced the challenges of the malevolent mountain and worked together to help a Griffin who had lost its family. This imaginative experience not only sparked their creativity but also fostered teamwork and problem-solving skills. It was heart-warming to see how they supported one another, demonstrating kindness and empathy along the way.

In maths, manipulatives have played a crucial role in enhancing our children's understanding of key concepts. In Frank Class, students have been mastering their multiplication skills using hands-on resources, which has made learning both fun and effective. Meanwhile, in Attenborough Class, children have been tackling addition and subtraction, particularly when crossing over ten, with great success. Rowling Class has also been busy reinforcing their number facts, and it's wonderful to see their confidence grow as they apply these skills in various contexts.

Our RE lessons have been equally enriching. We explored the Parable of the Pearl of Great Price, as told by Jesus in the book of Matthew. This thought-provoking story led to meaningful discussions about what is precious to each of us and why those things hold significance in our lives. It was inspiring to hear the children share their thoughts and values, reflecting their understanding of the lesson in a personal way.

In Science, we delved into the fascinating world of reptiles. The children identified and named a variety of reptiles, learning about their unique characteristics and habitats. This hands-on approach to learning has not only deepened their knowledge but also ignited a curiosity about the natural world around them.

As we approach the half-term break, we hope that all our families take this opportunity to rest and recharge. It's important to take a step back and enjoy some quality time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of Term 4, where we will continue to build on the wonderful progress our children have made.

Wishing you all a lovely half-term!

Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst



Well we've made it to the end of term 3 - was it real or was it all just a dream?

📖 In English this week the children have been finalising, editing and publishing their Stone Age Child stories. We have really enjoyed the process of creating and drafting our own versions of this terms text. Make sure you take a look in their Pink Published Pieces Books on Parents Evening in term 4.

📐 In Maths we have been finishing our unit on length and perimeter and are ready to to start tackling fractions next term. Both year 3 and 4 did incredibly well in the Aquila MTC Cup last week. Although we didn't win the final battles we did come out on top with the most correct answers logged! Well done everyone for taking part. Let's see if we can do even better next term!

In PE we have finished our units on Basketball with some highly commendable play and skills seen across all 3 classes! Well done everyone!

🎨 In Art this week we have finalised our pop art unit by creating pop art inspired compositions using 4 colours with some amazing end products - those who didn't get to finish due to the complexity of their designs will complete these at the start of term 4 - Don't forget your sunglasses on Parents Evening!

As part of Safer Internet Day the children across the school have been learning about the ways in which AI can be used and thinking about is it helpful or harmful to our development. In Shakespeare Class the children have written a great Song about AI and we are hoping to publish it on the school website!

Reminders:

8.20-8.30am

When the top gate is opened in the morning, children in Pankhurst and Shakespeare Classes can walk along the balcony to their classrooms and wait *quietly* outside. Children in Jobs Class should walk down the pathway and wait outside their classroom. Children should not be going onto the black or red pitches to play football or basketball.

Pencil cases

We have gone through an incredible amount of pencils this term due to over sharpening. Not only does this waste precious resources it also wastes a huge amount of learning time and it creates huge amounts of mess. Please can we ask that a SMALL pencil case (that can fit in a tray) is supplied for your child to use at school with: **A pencil, a ruler, a rubber and 4 colour pen (Red, Blue, Black Green ink)** We have noticed lots of oversized pencil cases appearing with everything except the required resources in them and these are proving to be distractions for many pupils and also difficult to store.

School uniform:

Please can pupils come to school dressed in the correct uniform in Term 4. Grey skirts and trousers and purple jumpers please - NO JEANS, NO BLACK TROUSERS OR LEGGINS, SPORTS BRANDED HOODIES/ZIP UP TOPS. We have a number of own clothes days throughout the year for the children to wear their own clothes on. Children should also be wearing school SHOES. Trainers can be worn on *Monday for our PE day in LKS2*

Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term, we are so proud of everything the children in Luther-King Class have achieved. It has been a fantastic half term filled with hard work, creativity and perseverance.

📖 English

In English, we have finished our Norse mythology narratives and published them in our neatest, best handwriting. The stories are truly amazing! The children have worked incredibly hard to craft engaging plots, powerful descriptions and exciting mythical elements. It has been wonderful to see their confidence and stamina as writers grow, and they should all feel very proud of their finished pieces.

🏛️ History

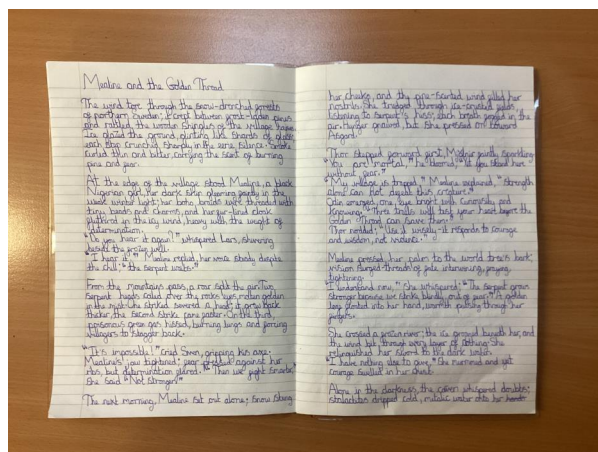
We have now completed our Mayans topic. The children collated all of their knowledge from across the term and produced some wonderful non-chronological reports. Their writing is both factual and engaging, clearly organised and full of interesting information about the Mayan civilisation. It has been fantastic to see how much they have learned and remembered.

🎪 PE

In PE, we finished our circus-inspired dances, and the final performances were full of creativity and teamwork. We also ended our football topic with some epic games, where the children demonstrated the tackling, defending and teamwork skills they have been developing over the term.

Next term, we are looking forward to starting some exciting new topics. In Geography, we will be learning about volcanoes and mountains, and in DT we will be designing and making our own fidget spinners!

Have a wonderful and restful half term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 23rd February 2026.



THE MARVELOUS

The Mayans were an ancient civilization that lived in Central America from about 2000 BC to 1600 AD. They were known for their advanced agriculture, architecture, and art. They were also known for their complex social structure and their belief in a multi-headed god.

Who was the Mayan god? The Mayan god was a multi-headed deity known as K'uhul Kan, the God of Rain. He was depicted with multiple heads and was believed to control the weather and fertility of the land.

How were the Mayan gods? The Mayan gods were depicted as human figures with multiple heads and were often shown in a variety of poses and activities. They were believed to be powerful and to have a significant influence on the lives of the people.

Amazing Temples and Cities The Mayans built amazing temples and cities that were a testament to their advanced architecture and engineering. Some of the most famous Mayan cities include Tikal, Palenque, and Chichen Itza. These cities were built on a grid system and were surrounded by a wall.

MAYAN HISTORY!

Did you know? The Mayans were one of the most advanced civilizations in the Americas. They were known for their complex social structure, their advanced agriculture, and their art. They were also known for their complex calendar system and their belief in a multi-headed god.

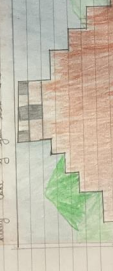
Check out the Mayan calendar! The Mayan calendar was a complex system of interlocking cycles. It consisted of a 260-day cycle known as the Tzolkin and a 365-day cycle known as the Haab. The combination of these two cycles created a 52-year cycle.

Mayan Calendars The Mayan calendar was a complex system of interlocking cycles. It consisted of a 260-day cycle known as the Tzolkin and a 365-day cycle known as the Haab. The combination of these two cycles created a 52-year cycle.

ALL ABOUT HOW

How were the Mayans? The Mayans were a highly organized and sophisticated civilization. They were known for their complex social structure, their advanced agriculture, and their art. They were also known for their complex calendar system and their belief in a multi-headed god.

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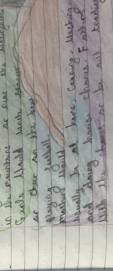


Mayan gods were a multi-headed deity known as K'uhul Kan, the God of Rain. He was depicted with multiple heads and was believed to control the weather and fertility of the land.

THE MAYANS LIVED!

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The ABC Archie Awards





3 - This week our four Archie's have been awarded but we will update with who at the start of next term.

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

Maidstone Light Up Festival



On Friday 6th February Miss Copley met with Parents and Children in Maidstone Town Centre for the 2026 Maidstone Light Up Festival. The children proudly represented the school and paraded with their lanterns through town, dancing away to the Samba drummers who were just in front of us! We even got to meet Iggy the Maidstone United mascot!

A huge well done to all the children who helped to build our wonderful lanterns after school and to those younger children and families who came out to support us and join in the festival - everyone had an amazing time.

Michelle and Emnie at One Maidstone who organised this years festival were so impressed with the children's behaviour and conduct and their "Amazing lanterns" that we have been asked if we will join in again next year! So of course We've replied YES!



Reading Awards



Well done to the first round of children that won a book from the new book vending machine! These children had all won raffle tickets this term for reading at least 4 times a week and were chosen in their class draw this afternoon!

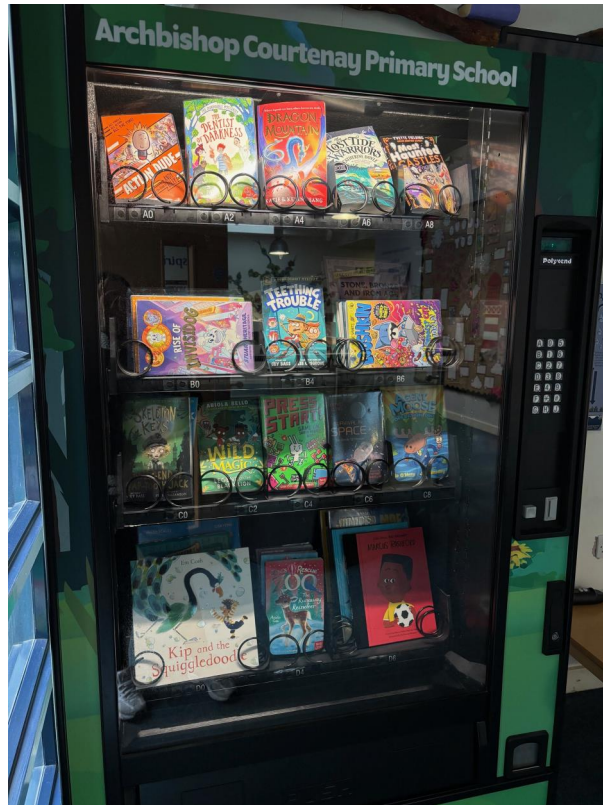
We had a few technical glitches but our chosen books eventually fell from the trays and the children were thrilled with their prizes! Keep up the great reading as there are more prizes to be won next term, the shelves are being restocked as we speak!

And remember, you could be in with a chance of winning a book from the vending machine if you enter and win the World Book Day competition! Good luck!

Mrs Hawks







Contact Us



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

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