

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs L Huotari
Quantock Drive
Ashford
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TN24 8QN



Tel: 01233 622797
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11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank you to those parents who were able to join us for our first parent & child prayer breakfast of the year. The theme was about supporting each other by showing kindness. It was lovely to welcome some of our new families. During our whole school worship this week we reminded ourselves of the impact of our school value of LOVE. We read a beautiful book, 'No Matter What' – teaching the children that love bears everything.

A special well done to our new little 'Hedgehogs' who have completed their first full week at school. They are already very much part of the St Teresa's family and are very much loved! Thank you to the parents from this class who were able to join us for their first phonics' workshop.

We had the pleasure of meeting our new priest this week. We look forward to working with Fr. Mario throughout the year.

Skip2Bfit

We hope your child enjoyed themselves today! If your child would like to continue to practice their skipping at home, we have Skip2Bfit skipping ropes on sale in the school office from Monday 14th September at a price of £7.50 each. Payment can be made for these via ParentPay (no cash payments sorry).



Grapes in School

Your child is very welcome to bring grapes into school as a healthy snack, but we would be very grateful if you could please cut them in two before sending them into school to help prevent any possibly incidences of choking as per the guidance below.

[Why are grapes so dangerous? | Child Accident Prevention Trust](#)

Free School Meals

Just a reminder that if you are in receipt of Universal Credit, your child is eligible for a Free School Meal every day whilst they are in school. Please apply online at the following link:

[Free school meals - Kent County Council](#)

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Compulsory Pupil Assessments this Year

For some year groups, the school must complete compulsory assessments and report these results to the Government. These are listed on the calendar of events for this year and we must advise that we cannot authorise any absences from school whilst these assessments take place.

More information about these assessments can be found at the attached link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-information-for-parents>

ParentPay Logins

ParentPay Logins have been sent home to our new pupils today and we would be very grateful if you could please log in and register for this free to use website as soon as possible, as we use this as a platform to communicate with all of our Parents and Guardians by email and/or text in an emergency.

If a second Parent would also like to access ParentPay, receive emails and make payments, please email the school office with their full name, name of child at the school and their email address; we can then create a second account for you.

YR, 1 and 2 Chartwells' Accounts on ParentPay

Just a reminder that we are aware that the accounts are showing with a debit balance, due to the price increase of a school meal. Chartwells are aware of this and are in the process of rectifying the problem. If we can please just confirm that no monies are due for meals and no payment is required.

Parking

Please, please be considerate when parking. Neighbours have been complaining due to drives being blocked and cars being parked inconsiderately – meaning emergency vehicles would not be able to get through. Please also remember that cars are not allowed on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school. A car reversed onto the entrance this afternoon, just as several children were crossing. Please also drive slowly around the school. We do not want anything to happen to our children – they are very precious!

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PTFA Annual General Meeting Next Friday

We need you! Everyone is welcome to attend our meeting next Friday 18th September at 3.30pm, free childcare can be provided, we just ask that you reserve a place for your child via the school office.

Our current team will be standing down this year and we shall be looking for a new chairperson and treasurer. It is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, be involved with the community and raise extra funds to enhance the school's ability to offer new experiences to the children.

Calendar of Events

Please find attached a calendar of events for this year. This calendar will continue to be updated throughout the year, but we will try to keep any changes to a minimum.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 14th September - Y6 Tiger Troops Workshop, Children should arrive in school in comfortable clothing suitable for active participation and outdoor conditions. **Please ensure that they have their school uniform, spare socks and shoes to change into after the session.**

Tuesday 15th September - Kent Messenger First Class Photo for our Hedgehog Class! If you do not wish your child to have their photo taken and have this printed in the local newspaper, please let us know by Monday 14th September.

Wednesday 16th September - Y2 Prayer and Liturgy Day

Thursday 17th September - Y6 Secondary School Admissions Meeting at 6pm - everyone is welcome to discuss the secondary school process. Start of Year Mass – St Teresa's Church 10am (TBC)

Friday 18th September - Reception Class welcome assembly - all Reception Class parents are welcome to attend. Please just arrive for 9.55am as late admittances cannot be guaranteed.

Have a lovely weekend!

Lisa Huotari

Headteacher