

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 | 11.09.2026

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Executive Head: Liz Thomas-Friend
Head of School: Jacqui Spinks
School Business Manager: Manda Cullen
Chair of Governors: Paula Trewin
Address: St Alphege CE Infant School
Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DA
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/stalphege
Mrs Spinks School Mobile: 07535013075
Afterschool Club Mobile: 07947555370
Text number: 01227 250106

If online payment details are required, please contact the school office.

[Click here for our School & Nursery Term Dates](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 2026

Mon 14th - Whole School Collective Worship (Church 9.10am)

October 2026

Fri 2nd – Year 1 and Year 2 Open Classrooms

Mon 19th – Whole School Harvest Service (Church 9.10am)

Fri 23rd – End of Term 1

November 2026

Mon 2nd - Staff Development Day

Tues 3rd - Start of Term 2

Fri 6th – Flu Immunisations

Sat 7th – School Open Morning

Mon 9th – Individual School Photos

Mon 16th– Whole School Collective Worship (Church 9.10am)

December 2026

Mon 7th - Whole School Christmas Service (Church 9.10am)

Fri 18th – End of Term 2

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome our St Alphege family back to school and the buzz of excitement has been such a joy to see. All of our children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and we are so proud of how well they have coped with the transition. Our new Reception children are now in school full-time and we have been amazed at how quickly they have settled into their new environments and how confident they have appeared in school. The school is a happy, vibrant place and it is a joy to hear the laughter, singing and chatter. The shared joy of being back together in our school family is uplifting for us all!



Year 1 and Year 2 Open Classrooms – Friday 2nd October

On Friday 2nd October we will be opening up our Year 1 and 2 classes at 2.45pm so that parents can have the opportunity to see their child's new class. This will be an opportunity for your child to show you around their new learning spaces.

We understand that this might not be convenient for everyone so if you would like to come on another day, please speak to your child's class teacher, who will be able to arrange this.

Animate Arts CREATE Installation

As many of you will already know, each year we create a new art installation in our entrance hall which is linked to the priorities on the School Development Plan. This year our acronym is CREATE. We will write to you all next week with further details of the school priorities. We are excited to announce that we will again be working with our long-standing arts partners at Animate Arts Company to create this new display. Jo from Animate Arts will be working alongside each class on the 21st September, to gather their ideas and set arty challenges for the installation. Jo will return on Thursday 28th September to bring all of the children's creations together in our school entrance. We cannot wait to share this with you, so please keep an eye on the school Facebook and Instagram pages, where photographs will be posted over the coming weeks. We will also invite you all in to see it in person once it is complete!

Year 2 Swimming Lessons

Year 2 swimming lessons will be starting on Friday 18th September. Please can your child wear their swimming costume and bring a towel to school in a separate bag. The children will walk to and from the pool and be back at school before lunchtime.



The lessons will be subsidised by the school but we are requesting a contribution of £35.00 for all 10 lessons, payable in advance of the first lesson.

Please pay by cash at the school office or by direct bank payment in to the school bank account. Instalments are available if you would like to spread the cost. Please email the office to advise us that you have made a bank transfer so we can reconcile the payment on the bank statement. If for any reason you are unable to pay or require support with this payment, please contact the office where we will be very happy to help or advise you on your options.

The children will swim on Friday
**September 18th & 25th and October 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd in term 1 and
November 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th in term 2.**

There is no swimming on Friday 30th October as this is the half term holiday.

Whole School Collective Worship at Church

All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend the following school church services at St Alphege Church:



Monday 14th September at 9.10am

Monday 19th October at 9.10am - Please send a donation of non-perishable food items with your child to school ready for the Harvest service.

Monday 16th November at 9.10am

Monday 7th December at 9.10am (Christmas Service)

School Tour Dates and Open Morning

Is your child due to start school in September 2027? We warmly invite you to come along to our Saturday Open Day on 7th November or book onto one of our school tours during the day to meet our incredible children and staff. We cannot wait to show you everything that our school has to offer. Please ring the school office on 01227 272977 to book on a tour.



ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

Tours with Mrs Spinks our Head of School and
Mrs Thomas-Friend our Executive Headteacher

Day	Date	Time
Tuesday	22 nd September 2026	1.30pm
Wednesday	30 th September 2026	9.30am
Friday	2 nd October 2026	9.30am
Wednesday	7 th October 2026	1.30pm
Wednesday	14 th October 2026	9.30am
Friday	23 rd October 2026	9.30am
Tuesday	3 rd November 2026	9.30am
Friday	6 th November 2026	9.30am
Monday	9 th November 2026	1.30pm
Friday	13 th November 2026	9.30am
Tuesday	17 th November 2026	9.30am
Wednesday	25 th November 2026	9.30am
Saturday	7 th November 2026	Open Morning 10.00am – 12.00pm

Please call the office to book onto one of the tours listed. There are limited places on each tour. We are able to offer alternative dates if you are unable to attend any of the tours available.

St Alphege CE Infant School
 Oxford Street
 Whitstable CT8 1DA

Tel: 01227 272977
 Email: office@st-alphege.kent.sch.uk
www.st-alphege.kent.sch.uk



ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

'Loved, Inspired, Shining'
National Award Winners for Outstanding Arts Education



Make something creative!

We are a vibrant
and creative school
who celebrate
childhood.

Our Open
Morning is
on
Saturday
7th
November
2026

Come and see
for yourselves
what our
fabulous school
has to offer!



Take part in some Forest
School activities with our
Forest School Teacher!



Wander freely around our
school site, meet our incredible
staff team and see all the
treasures we have to show you!

Come and join the
fun between
10:00am & 12:00pm



Join in with a fun music
session with our specialist
Music Teacher,
Mrs Memmott!



Meet our Outstanding
Early Years team and
spend time playing and
exploring in our inspiring
Early Years environments.

We warmly welcome you to the St Alphege family.

Clubs on offer for Term 1



Achieve Sports Year 1 & 2

Achieve sport clubs will start week commencing Tuesday 15th September and run for 6 weeks until Thursday 22nd October. Achieve sport will be open to Reception in term 2. Letters will come home today via email or you can collect a paper copy from the office foyer.

Tuesday
Thursday

Year 1 & 2
Year 1 & 2

Football
Multisport



ANDREW PARRY

MUSIC

Andrew Parry Music Lessons

Andrew Parry provide music lessons in over 50 schools all across Kent, as well as group rock school workshops and one-to-one lessons outside of school. Please contact Andrew Parry if you would like to book a lesson. Lessons are currently held in school during the school day on a Wednesday and Thursday. <https://www.andrewparrymusic.com/lessons>

Dot Kids After School Art Clubs – Year R, 1 & 2

Dot Club runs weekly on a Thursday and a Friday from 3.15pm -4.15pm. Pick up is from the main office front doors.

Please book via the following links:

<https://dotkids.co.uk/pages/thursday-dot-kids-after-school-art-club-at-st-alphege-infants-school-whitstable>

<https://dotkids.co.uk/pages/friday-dot-kids-after-school-art-club-at-st-alphege-infants-school-whitstable>

Year 1 and Year 2 Choir

Year 1 and 2 choir will run every Tuesday from 8:15am - 8.40am in the Community Room, starting Tuesday 15th September. Children will need to be dropped off at the Year 2 door where Mrs Memmott will meet them. Time will be limited, please make sure that the children arrive promptly at 8:15am.



Community





Canterbury Family Hubs
Timetable
7th September to 23rd October 2026
Closed on Bank Holidays

City Family Hubs:

Kingsmead
03000 413999
Kingsmead Road, Canterbury,
CT2 7PH
CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Wincheap
03000 410014
Hollinsmead, Wincheap, Canterbury,
CT1 2BZ
CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

All of our groups and services are free to attend.
Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

Monday	Kingsmead		Wincheap	
	Baby Massage 10:00am - 11:00am		Little Talkers 1:00pm - 2:00pm	
Tuesday	Wincheap SEND Stay and Play 9:30am - 11:00am		Wincheap Ready for Baby 12:15pm - 1:45pm Third Tuesday of the month	Kingsmead Baby Group 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Wednesday	Wincheap Introducing Solid Foods 12:30pm - 2:30pm	Kingsmead Stay and Play 1:00pm - 2:30pm	Wincheap Online Safety (11-18) 5:00pm - 6:30pm	
Thursday	Wincheap Talking Walk-in 9:30am - 11:30am (First Thursday of the month)	Wincheap Baby Massage 1:00pm - 2:00pm	Wincheap Baby Group 1:00pm - 2:30pm	Kingsmead Child Health Clinic 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Friday	Kingsmead Parenting Support and Advice Group 9:30am - 11:30am First Friday of the month	Kingsmead Talking Walk-in 9:30am - 11:30am Second and Fourth Friday of the month	Wincheap Stay and Play 10:00am - 11:30am	Canterbury Salvation Army Hall Tots to Teens Emporium 10:00am - 11:30am

@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@Canterburyfamilyhubs11to15



Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council
www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub



Canterbury Family Hubs

Timetable

7th September to 23rd October 2026

Closed on Bank Holidays

Whitstable Family Hub:

03000 421554

Tower Parade, Whitstable, CT5 2BJ

CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Monday

Whitstable
Talking Walk-in
9:30am - 11:30am
First Monday of the month

Whitstable
Baby Group
10:00am - 11:30am

Whitstable
Little Bookworms
1:00pm - 2:00pm

Whitstable
Speak Out Youth
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Tuesday

Whitstable
Parenting Support and
Advice Drop In
9:30am - 11:30am
Second Tuesday of the month

Whitstable
Stay and Play
10:00am - 11:30am

Whitstable
The Communication Tree
1:00pm - 2:00pm

Whitstable
Compass
5:00pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday

Whitstable
Ready For Baby
5:00pm - 6:00pm
Second Wednesday of the month

Whitstable
Baby Massage
1:30pm - 2:30pm

Thursday

Whitstable
Time To Shine
Evening Sessions

Friday

Whitstable
Child Health Clinic
9:30am - 11:30am

Whitstable
NCT Infant Feeding
Support Groups
9:30am - 11:30am

Whitstable
Food Bank Drop In
10:00am - 11:00am

@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@Canterburyfamilyhubs11to19



Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council
www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub



Canterbury Family Hubs

Timetable

7th September to 23rd October 2026

Closed on Bank Holidays

Herne Bay Family Hubs:

Herne Bay

03000 422889

Memorial Park, Kings Road,
Herne Bay, CT16 5RG

CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Briary

03000 420897

Greenhill Road (West), Herne Bay,
CT16 7RS

CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Herne Bay
Baby Massage
10:00am - 11:00am

Herne Bay
Housing Hub
10:30am - 12:30pm

Herne Bay
Ready for Baby
11:30am - 1:00pm
First Tuesday of the month

Herne Bay
NCT Infant Feeding
Support Groups
1:30pm - 3:30pm

Herne Bay
Child Health Clinic
1:30pm - 3:30pm

Herne Bay
Stepping Up
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Herne Bay
Parenting Support and
Advice Drop In
9:30am - 11:30am
Third Wednesday of the month

Herne Bay
Talking Walk-in
9:30am - 11:30am
Second and Fourth
Wednesday of the month

Herne Bay
Introducing
Solid Foods Workshop
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Herne Bay
Togetherness:
Understanding Your Child
12:30pm - 2:30pm

Briary
Baby Group
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Herne Bay
Baby, Family and You
9:30am - 11:30am

Herne Bay
Strengthening
Family Relationships
9:30am - 11:30am

Herne Bay
Stay and Play
10:00am - 11:30am

Herne Bay
Young Parents
Stay and Play
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Herne Bay
Baby Group
10:00am - 11:30am

@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@CanterburyFamilyHubs



@Canterburyfamilyhubs11to19



Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council
www.kent.gov.uk/famRyhub



Baby, Family & You Triple P

Are you a parent-to-be or parent with a baby up to 12 months old? These sessions, delivered in a group setting, give you practical strategies to create the best environment for your baby's development - and feel more confident in your parenting journey. Gain ways to cope with frequent crying, set up good sleep habits, read your baby's cues, look after yourself, adapt to changes in family life, and more. Get your Baby, Family and You off to a positive start!

Followed by four (optional) 1:1 follow up telephone calls, conversations or visits with a Family Hub practitioner.

Herne Bay Family Hub

Starts: Thursday 1st October 2026 (Four weeks)

Time: 9:30am - 11:30am

Address: Herne Bay Family Hub
Memorial Park, King's Road,
Herne Bay, CT6 5RG

Contact Information: Call 03000 422889
or email canterburyfh@kent.gov.uk

Booking required – contact your local Family Hub.



Visit your local Family Hub today
[Kent.gov.uk/familyhub](https://kent.gov.uk/familyhub)
KentFamilyHub



Understanding Your Child Togetherness

For parent/carers that would like to know more about sensitive and effective parenting. For parents with children aged 0-5 years.

10 week course exploring:

Tuning Into Children
Exploring Feelings
Parenting Styles
Communication

Temper Tantrums and What Might Be Meant by Them
Sleep Patterns
Supporting Parent Child Relationships

Herne Bay Family Hub

Start Date: Wednesday 23rd September 2026

Time: 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Address: Herne Bay Family Hub,
Memorial Park, King's Road, CT6 5RG

Contact Information: Call 03000 422889
or email canterburyfh@kent.gov.uk

Booking required – link in the description.



Visit your local Family Hub today
[Kent.gov.uk/familyhub](https://kent.gov.uk/familyhub)
KentFamilyHub



King Alphege Attendance Lion

King Alphege Attendance Lion

King Alphege is awarded to the class with the highest percentage attendance each Week.

King Alphege will be awarded next week after completing the first full week of school.



Weekly Awards

Introducing Our New Whole School Awards!

Our awards this year represent our School Development priorities: CREATE. The children have been busy designing our new stickers to accompany each of the areas of our School Plan. It was a very difficult choice, as their drawings were all brilliant, but we have settled on the final six below. Each class nominates one child to celebrate their achievements each week and their names will be added to the weekly newsletter.



Creativity & Curiosity
Florence – Seagulls Class



Retrieval of Learning
Larry – Reception



Engaging Curriculum
Alfie P – Puffins Class



Awe, Wonder & Spirituality
Nel – Oysters Class



Tremendous Maths
Alec – Pearls Class



Excellent Writing
Sophie – Reception

Weekly Year Group Recap

Sunbeams Mrs Humphreys

We have had a lovely start to our new nursery year in Sunbeams. It has been great to welcome back our Sunbeams from last year and hear all about the amazing adventures they have had over the summer break. It has also been a pleasure welcoming some new members to our Sunbeams community who are settling in marvellously! We have been focused on building relationships and learning routines while we play and explore the nursery environment. Mrs Memmott visited the nursery this week to play some musical games with the children and sing songs. We are enjoying singing both familiar and new nursery rhymes and songs every day which help support our language development and listening skills. Our new Sunbeams parents should have received an email this week inviting you to activate your access to our online learning journal, Tapestry. Once you have activated it, please remember to upload a family photo so that we can print it out and hang it in our home corner.

Year R
Mrs Keeble and Mrs Hopkins

Thank you for a fantastic first full week in Reception! We are delighted with how the children are becoming familiar with their new routines, building their resilience, and getting to know their new grown-ups and other children. It has been a pleasure to see their little personalities begin to emerge! We have introduced 'dough disco', which is one of the ways that we develop our fine motor skills. We have also joined our first Whole School Worship today to celebrate the learning from the week with everyone. The children have learnt how to pour themselves milk or water at snack time, and we have discussed our school rules and expectations: being ready, respectful and safe. Please could we remind parents that all children need a named water bottle in school each day and that all items of clothing are also named.

Year 1
Mrs Brown, Mrs Cohen and Mrs Cater

Pearls and Oysters have had an amazing first couple of weeks. The children have settled into their new classes so well and have been enjoying spending more time out on the big playground and playing with the resources year 1 have to offer! We have been thinking about the changing seasons and how activities and weather will begin to change from Summer to Autumn. Next week we will be thinking about different materials in science and classifying items into categories before making 3D and 2D art using the different materials. In Geography, we have been looking at maps and learning what some of the symbols mean. We then used photos from our walk through the town to create a map collage of our community. In English we have been reading 'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch'. In our imagination week this week, we have been busy making sea biscuits, transporting objects without hungry seagulls intercepting and gathering lots of vocabulary! Next week we will be thinking about instructions and following them to make a sandwich before writing a list of ingredients we used. In Maths next week the children will be counting one more than a given number. **We would be grateful for any junk modelling from home to add to our environment including cardboard, fabric, plastic, wood, metal.** We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Year 2
Mr Mead and Mrs Martin

We have had a wonderful week in Year 2! The children have loved reading the story 'Meerkat Mail' throughout our Imagination week in English. They have completed engaging activities including making suitcases, creating postcards and packing their suitcases. Next week, we will be thinking about the impact adjectives have on a sentence and describing a chosen setting as well as using verbs to explain what a character could do in their setting. In Maths, we have been focusing on place value and recapping how to partition (split) a two-digit number into tens and ones. Next week we will be partitioning two-digit numbers up to 99. In Geography, we learnt about the climate and discussed how the climate may differ in each continent around the world. We plotted this on a world map as a class and thought about which animals may live where and why. In PE this term, we have started to engage with our Outdoor Adventurous Activity (OAA) curriculum. This week we were challenged to explore our local environment and create a map. We walked through the high street and along the seafront before coming back to school to see which significant locations we had spotted on our trip. Don't forget that swimming starts next week on Friday. Puffins will be leaving school at 9am and Seagulls will be leaving at 9.15am. Please remember your swimming kits on this day! Have a wonderful weekend.