SUNBEAMS NURSERY

St ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege Values

Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 1 | 06.11.2026

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November 2026
Fri 6th – School Admissions Open for Year R and Year 3
Sat 7th – School Open Morning New Reception & Sunbeams
Mon 9th – Individual & Siblings School Photos
Tues 10th – Sunbeams Stay and Play (2.15pm)
Thurs 12th – Reading and Phonics Parent Workshop with Subject Leader (Hall 9.00am)
Fri 13th - Non-Uniform in aid of 'Children in Need'
Mon 16th – Whole School Collective Worship (Church 9.10am)
Thurs 18th – Speech & Language Therapist – one to one
Tues 24th - Year R NHS NCMP
Mon 30th – Maths Parent Workshop with subject leader (Hall 9.00am)

Click here for our School & Nursery Term Dates

Congratulations to Reverend Rachel who has been appointed as a cathedral canon. We are very proud that her hard work, energy and Ministry have been celebrated in this way!

Friends Association 'Ghoulish Goodies' Cake Sale

Thank you for the delicious cake donations and to the Friends for organising 'Ghoulish Goodies'. What a great success the cake sale was, raising £205.75. This will contribute towards the development of our new art studio and purchase of some new outdoor learning resources.

School Admissions for September 2027

Applications are made through Kent County Council at https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Admissions.aspx. You can submit your application between **Friday 6th November 2026** and **Friday 15th January 2027**. More information can be found https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places. If you have any questions or need support with the application process, please speak to the school office.

Year 2 Parents - Junior school places for September 2027

Parents of Year 2 children will need to apply for a Junior school place for your child for September 2027. Both WJS and The Endowed have parent tours for you to book onto. Please contact the junior schools directly to book. All of our children will visit both schools next term and take part in activities and see the schools. If you do want to take your child with you onto one of the tours, please advise our school office of the date so we are aware of your child's absence.

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 Open Day on **Saturday 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.

Monday	9th November 2026	1.30pm
Friday	13th November 2026	9.30am
Tuesday	17th November 2026	9.30am
Wednesday	25th November 2026	9.30am

Individual School Photos –Monday 9th November

Vancols School Photographers will be in school on Monday 9th November to take individual children's photos. We will also be able to take sibling photos for those children who have a sibling that attends our school or Sunbeams. If your Sunbeams child doesn't usually attend on a Monday morning, and you would like them to have their photo taken, please bring them via the school office at 8.35am.

Sunbeams Stay and Play Session

We would like to invite our Sunbeams families to join us at on of our stay and play sessions:
Tuesday 10th November at 2:15pm.
Thursday 17th December at 2.15pm
Please enter via the school office.

Reading and Phonics Parent Workshop with Subject Leader – Thursday 12th November

On Thursday 12th November at 9am, we will be hosting a short, reading and phonics workshop for parents. The session will give you an overview of how reading and phonics is taught across the school and provide you with easy activities to support your child at home. Coffee, tea, and biscuits provided.

Children in Need – Non-Uniform day Friday 13th November



This will be a non-uniform day for the children. We are delighted to be hosting the Herne Bay High School Dance Dash dancers again this year. Any monetary donations will be given to Herne Bay High to add to their grand total which will be donated to Children in Need. Please send in the donations with your child at the start of the school day.

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 16th November at 9.10am
Monday 7th December at 9.10am (Christmas Service)

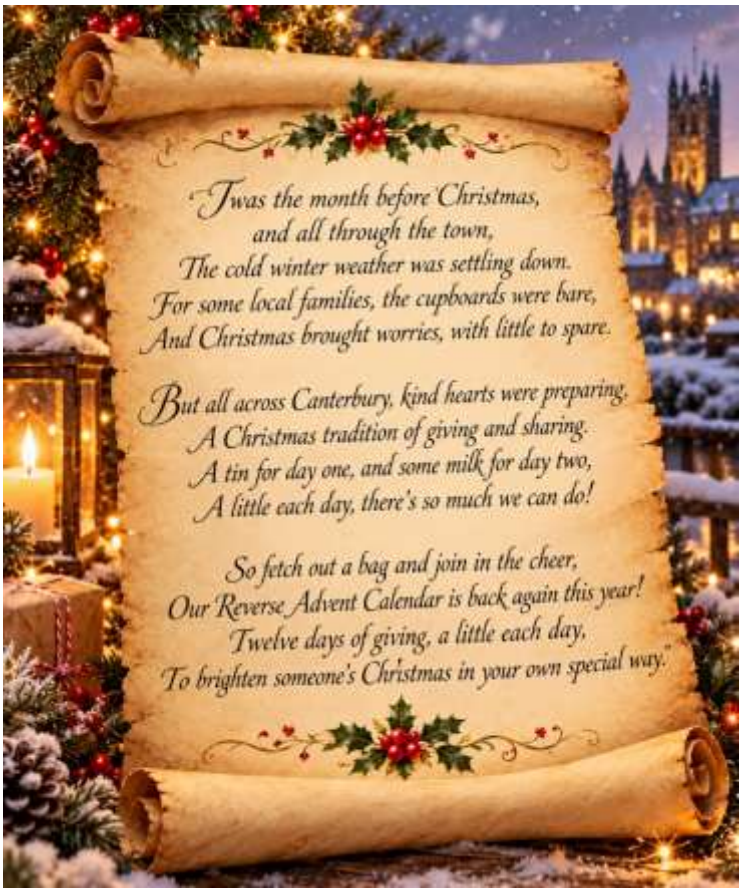
Speech and Language Therapist – Wednesday 18th November

On the morning of Wednesday 18th November, there will be an opportunity to meet one to one with our link Speech and Language Therapist. You will be able to discuss any questions or concerns you may have around your child's speech, language or communication development.
Places are limited, so please contact our Inclusion Lead Becky Strike if you would like to book a slot.

Maths Parent Workshop with Subject Leader - Monday 30th November

On Monday 30th November at 9am, we will be hosting a short, maths workshop for parents. The session will give you an overview of how maths is taught across the school and provide you with easy activities to support your child at home. Coffee, tea, and biscuits provided (and no maths tests, we promise!)

Community


'Twas the month before Christmas,
and all through the town,
The cold winter weather was settling down.
For some local families, the cupboards were bare,
And Christmas brought worries, with little to spare.
But all across Canterbury, kind hearts were preparing,
A Christmas tradition of giving and sharing.
A tin for day one, and some milk for day two,
A little each day, there's so much we can do!
So fetch out a bag and join in the cheer,
Our Reverse Advent Calendar is back again this year!
Twelve days of giving, a little each day,
To brighten someone's Christmas in your own special way."


FOOD BANK
CANTERBURY & DISTRICT
Can you SING along? Can you SHOP along?
Over 12 days at Christmas
THE FOODBANK NEEDS FROM ME...
REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR
Add each day's items to a Bag For Life from 1–12 December.
Day 1 A classic tin of baked beans
Day 2 2 long life milks
Day 3 3 tins of veg
Day 4 4 tins of fish
Day 5 5 children's treeeeats!
Day 6 6 mince pies
Day 7 7 Penguin bars
Day 8 8 hot dogs
Day 9 9 toilet rolls
Day 10 10 cereal bars
Day 11 11 hair washes
Day 12 12 bowls of cereal (one box)
Once you've filled your Bag For Life with the 12 days of items, please drop it off at one of our collection points during the following week in December.
Dates and locations will be confirmed and advertised.
For more information contact
warehouse@canterburyfoodbank.org


FOOD BANK
CANTERBURY & DISTRICT
REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR
DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS
AT OUR COLLECTION POINTS
Help us reduce supermarket bin overflow! Our friendly volunteers will be ready to receive your contributions.
SAT 12 DEC Sainsbury's, Chestfield 10am - 4pm
MON 14 DEC William Street Car Park, Herne Bay 5pm - 7pm
TUE 15 DEC Kingsmead Sainsbury's, Canterbury 5pm - 7pm
WED 16 DEC Morrisons, Canterbury 5pm - 7pm
LARGE DONATIONS & ENQUIRIES
For large donations, collection arrangements, questions or further information, please email:
warehouse@canterburyfoodbank.org

King Alphege Attendance Lion

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



King Alphege Attendance Lion
W/E 23.10.26
Shells Class – 99%

Weekly Awards

Whole School Awards!
Our awards this year represent our School Development priorities: CREATE. Each class nominates one child to celebrate their achievements each week and their names will be added to the weekly newsletter.



Creativity & Curiosity
Kobi -Seagulls Class



Retrieval of Learning
Oysters - Bonnie Class



Engaging Curriculum
Ruby – Puffins Class



Awe, Wonder & Spirituality
Jude- Shells Class



Tremendous Maths
Nelly - Pearls Class



Excellent Writing
Betsy - Pebbles Class

Weekly Year Group Recap

Sunbeams
Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have been exploring the movement of fireworks through a variety of mark making activities. We have used paint, glue, glitter and tissue paper to create model fireworks and firework pictures. We have made marks in glittery sand using sticks, that look like fireworks whizzing through the air and exploding! Mrs Memmott played an unfamiliar piece of music to us and challenged us to move in response to it. We found it quite jerky and moved our bodies in jerky, clunky ways. We have continued to explore repeating patterns through different activities and are beginning to notice when a pattern has a mistake in it, and correct it. Some of us are able to create our own repeating patterns and they are becoming more sophisticated. We have begun to spend a short time in reflection using similar elements that the school uses during their daily worship. We have a special candle that we light and have started to explore our school value – love. The Rev Ripeka visited Sunbeams on Thursday with her PAT dog Pamplemouse. We were very taken with him and talked about how we need to be respectful around dogs. We are looking forward to spending time with him this year.

Year R
Mrs Keeble and Mrs Hopkins

It has been so good to be back at school with your fantastic children! This week, we have spent time remembering our routines and expectations after our week off, and enjoying being back together. In Maths we have been learning to count objects, linking the number to a numeral (4&5) and representing the number in different ways. In phonics we are continuing with our Little Wandle programme and have learnt ff, ll, ss, & j this week. Please continue to support your child at home by practicing all of the sounds we have covered so far as well as accessing the class phonics books through the Collins BIG CAT link in your child's reading record. We encourage you to read these books as often as possible, until your child is reading all the words independently and confidently, without having to say each sound out loud. We have introduced and thought about our question for the term 'I wonder what celebrations are all about?' We have created firework pictures using a range of media and in our Heartsmart lesson we have thought about who loves us. In RE we will be thinking about the big question this term: How do different Christian people around the World celebrate Christmas? As the weather is changing now could we please ask that every child has a coat in school every day, thank you.

Year 1
Mrs Brown, Mrs Cohen and Mrs Cater

We have had a lovely start to Term 2 in Year One. We have started reading Tad by Benji Davies, and have been taking part in lots of fun activities to help us have an in-depth understanding of the book! We have looked at ourselves and our friends to see how we have changed by sharing our baby photos, we have created our own villains and we have visited the pond at the Junior School to gain ideas of how to describe a setting. Next week we will start writing down the adjectives to describe the characters in the story. We also enjoyed creating bonfire night paintings using lots of different techniques, and learning about Guy Fawkes night.
Soon we will be looking to upcycle our outdoor area. If you are able to help us with acquiring items such as crates, pallets, tyres, guttering please let us know. We are also looking for donations of real, but old, kitchen equipment such as pans, baking trays or kitchen utensils, we would be very grateful to upcycle these items.

Year 2
Mr Mead and Mrs Martin

What a fantastic first week back after half term! The children have settled back into their learning routines wonderfully. We have enjoyed lots of exciting activities and have been busy exploring new topics across the curriculum. In Maths, we have been refreshing our knowledge of number bonds and have begun exploring fact families, helping us to understand the relationships between addition and subtraction. In English, we have started our exciting new text, *The Blue Giant*. The children have been getting creative by making soundscapes inspired by our story. We have also designed some inspiring environmental posters, highlighting the importance of looking after our oceans and protecting our wonderful planet. In PE, we have put on our dancing shoes and begun learning some line dancing! The children have had lots of fun developing their coordination and learning new moves. In History, we were introduced to the Wright brothers and discovered more about their important role in the development of aviation over time. We have another exciting week ahead! In RE we will begin exploring why Christmas is important to Christians and what makes this celebration so special. In Art we will investigate colour mixing, learning how to create primary, secondary and tertiary colours. On Friday, we will be taking part in some exciting Children in Need activities. We are looking forward to a fun-filled day while supporting this wonderful cause! Well done, Year 2, for such a fantastic first week back. We are so proud of your enthusiasm, creativity and hard work. Enjoy a restful weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all next week!