St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School



Advent Newsletter
20th November 2026

Learning and Challenge Rooted in Faith

This Advent season is a beautiful time for our school to celebrate the coming of Our Saviour, Jesus. As we begin our journey, we thank God for the blessings of our families and friends. It is also a time when we think of those less fortunate than ourselves. You are invited to join us in this time of prayer and reflection as we focus on the gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Advent Wreath Service



If you would like to join our Advent Wreath Service on **Friday 4th December at 2.30pm**, please complete the Advent Wreath Service Form..

Advent Prayer Boxes

These will be sent home to families throughout the Advent season.
Please share some special prayer time with your families and return the prayer box the following day for another family to share.



Advent Preschooler Activities

Pre-school children are invited to come into school with their parents/carers on:

Tuesday 15th December
9:10am to 10 am
for crafts, activities and refreshments.

Please book by contacting the school office via office@st-benedicts.medway.sch.uk

This event will be organised by our Pupil Chaplains.

Advent Family Meditation



Monday 7th December

Advent family meditation sessions will take place on the afternoon of Monday 7th December for children in Key Stage 2.

Please complete the form Family Meditation Form if you are able to join your junior child/ren on this spiritual journey (approx. twenty minutes). Time slots may need to be allocated depending on numbers e.g. 2:40pm – 3pm, 3 – 3:20pm.

Christmas Parties

Children's Christmas parties will be held on **Thursday 17th December** in their classrooms. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers again on this day with their school uniform.



Christmas Jumper Day

Children will be able to wear a Christmas Jumper (bought or handmade) with their normal uniform on **Thursday 10th December.**



If you have any Christmas jumpers which your children have outgrown and you are happy to donate to other families, please send in from Friday 27th November. We will place any donations out on a rail on the playground from Monday 30th November.

Pupil Chaplains

As part of a joint project with our Parish, our Chaplains are collecting gifts for the Catholic Children's Society. If you would like to donate a new toy or one that is in excellent condition, all gifts must be handed into school before **Friday 18th December**. They will be placed under our Christmas tree in the hall before bringing comfort to a child in crisis this Christmas. Please do not wrap the gifts.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner is on **Thursday 17th December.** Please see the menu below.

You must pre-order your child's Christmas meal.

<u>There will be no jacket potatoes or sandwiches available on this day.</u>



Christmas Market

Our after-school Christmas Market will be held on **Wednesday 9th December from 3:30pm – 4:30pm.**

We really appreciated and listened to the feedback we received last year regarding our Christmas Market and in response, we have made some changes. This year, every child will make their own Christmas Creation, which will be available to pre-order through Arbor from 6pm on 25th November or purchase on the day of the market before 3:45pm. In addition to this, the class will make additional copies of their creations that will be available for `general public' to buy.

Christmas Market

This year, the children are making:

Year Group	Christmas Creation	Price
R	Pine Cones	£2.00
1	Wooden Christmas Tree decoration	£2.00
2	Forest School Snow Friends	£2.00
3	Christmas Bookmarks	£2.00
4	Silhouette Baubles	£2.00
5	Snowmen	£3.00
6	Festive Pom Pom	£2.00

Don't forget to bring your own mug to enjoy a hot chocolate by the campfire and your pennies for the stalls!

Tag Day

To raise gifts for the Christmas market, we will be holding a Tag Day (non-uniform day) on:

Friday 27th November

Year R, 1 and 2 children to bring in donations of chocolates (please ensure they are nut-free).

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children to bring in bottles of wine or soft drinks.

Thank you for your support.

Decorate a Wooden Cross

The Pupil Chaplains would like to invite each family to decorate a wooden cross for our Christmas tree in the school hall.



This year, all KCSP schools are focusing on the Catholic Social Teaching principle 'The Preferential Option for the Poor.'

With this in mind, we would like each family to decorate the wooden cross that will be coming home with your family's Advent promise on how we can put people most in need first. Please return your decorated cross to school.

Mini Vinnies

Give the Gift of Warmth

As the weather gets colder, our Mini Vinnie team are asking for donations to help children facing financial struggles stay warm this winter.

Please send in donations of new:

socks
hats
gloves
scarves



#ItsAWrap

SHAREWEAR CLOTHING SCHEME
Combatting crisis · Creating change

Grandparents Tea Party



Grandparents are invited to come into school for a Grandparents Tea Party on **Friday 11th December from 1:45pm**. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis until all tickets go. There will be a charge of £3 per person to help with the cost of refreshments.

Please purchase a grandparent place in the Arbor Shop.

Each class will pop in and sing a carol as entertainment. Children do not stay in the hall with their grandparent.
Bookable by purchasing in the Arbor Shop from Friday 20th November from 6pm.

Nativity and Carol Concerts



All events will be ticketed.

**** EYFS Nativity Play ****
3 seats (tickets) per family.
Tuesday 15th December
2:30pm EYFS Nativity (school hall)

**** Years 1 and 2 Nativity Play ****
1 seat per family per performance.
(40 additional tickets per performance will be available in the Arbor Shop.)
All performances will be held in the school hall.
Wednesday 9th December
10am Years 1 and 2 Infant Nativity.
Thursday 10th December
2pm Years 1 and 2 Infant Nativity

****KS2 Carol Concert****
1 seat per family per performance.
All performances will be held in the school hall.
Wednesday 16th December
KS2 Junior Carol Concert
2 pm Performance
6 pm Performance

- **You will receive one ticket for each performance per family.**
- **Morning, afternoon and evening tickets will be different colours.**
- **Tickets will be required for entrance.**
- **Please return tickets to the school office if you know you are unable to attend a performance so we know correct seating numbers.**
- **Please arrive on time.**
- **Children who are not performing are not permitted to attend the evening performance.**

Unfortunately, there will be no space for buggies in the hall.

Christmas Dates

Monday 30th November
Donations of evergreen foliage

Thursday 3rd December
Year 3 - Rochester Cathedral Carol Festival

Friday 4th December
2.30pm Advent Wreath Service

Monday 7th December
Advent Family Meditation Sessions

Wednesday 9th December
10am Infant Nativity
3:30pm Christmas Market



Thursday 10th December
Christmas Jumper Day
2pm Infant Nativity

Friday 11th December
1:45pm Grandparents Tea Party
2pm Year 2 Carol Singing at Lordswood Library

Tuesday 15th December
9:10 – 10am Advent Pre-schooler Craft and Play

2:30pm EYFS Nativity Play

Wednesday 16th December
2pm KS2 Junior Carol Concert
6pm KS2 Junior Carol Concert

Thursday 17th December
Christmas Reading Café
Christmas Dinner (Pre ordered)
Christmas Parties (Children can wear their party clothes. Please ensure your child will be warm enough and wears sensible shoes – no heels. Usual hair and jewellery expectations remain the same.

Friday 18th December
9:10am Celebration of Achievement
(for invited parents)

2pm finish for children