



Friday 9th October 2026

Minterne Messenger

This week, we had the pleasure of taking part in a Trust-wide poetry celebration assembly, bringing together children from across OCMAT through Microsoft Teams. Following National Poetry Day last week, each school was invited to nominate a poem to represent them in the OCMAT Poetry Competition. The assembly had a real Eurovision feel, as we travelled virtually from school to school, listening to the shortlisted poems being read aloud.

It was wonderful to see our Minterne children showing such genuine appreciation for their peers across Kent, enthusiastically clapping and celebrating each performance. We were especially proud to hear Mila from Shakespeare Class read Minterne's chosen entry so confidently and beautifully. Inspired by the theme of Wonder, her poem explored the awe and mystery of space, linking perfectly to Year 5's current science learning. Each class selected a poem to be entered into the competition, and I have been delighted by the creativity, imagination and thoughtfulness shown by our young poets.

Opportunities like this remind us of the power of collaboration across our Trust. Bringing children together to share and celebrate their learning not only raises aspirations but also helps them feel part of something bigger than their own school community. We are incredibly proud of all of our budding poets and the courage they showed in sharing their work with such a wide audience.

Finally, today we celebrated a very special member of the Minterne family as Arlo, our school dog, turned six years old! The children were keen to make sure his birthday did not go unnoticed, and many took the time to create thoughtful handmade cards which arrived throughout the day. Arlo thoroughly enjoyed all the extra attention, treats and birthday fuss. Judging by the excitement his birthday generated, it is fair to say that he remains our most popular member of staff! We are very lucky to have him as such a valued part of our school community, bringing smiles, comfort and companionship to children and adults alike.



DEEP
BEYOND
US!!!!!!

Racing through the
clouds rockets go,
going ZOOM!

Solar System planets now that's cool,
There's Mercury, Venus, Earth and more!

Glistening moon out of our earth,
Is a golden halo on top of the
purple blanket

"Twinkle, Twinkle", Twinkle²
Our stars are so beautifull

The belt of our solar system
Is like a rocky road ... YUM!

The Galaxy,
Is like a beautiful
purple
blanket

by Mila . G

The
Milky way
Spins round and
round,
With all its galaxy
sailors racing each other

From far far out of your bedroom window,
You can see all of the universe dancing together

Dwarf planets MASSIVE, dwarf planets small
Dwarf planets next to Neptune, nothing at all

The Sun is a really good artist,
Why? He creates the stars by sprinkling special
glitter...

Wait A MINUTE!,
I see a dark, black hole
Staring at me, Sucks all
of our galaxy and...

GONE.

The moon is like a silver, glowing pearl,
Surrounded by big black ink.
The galaxy is filled with artistic colours
All glittering and glittering.
Planets with many moons
Waiting to be discovered.
Rockets zoom into the stars like phoenixes,
With their glowing, fiery tails.
The milky way holds many colours
of purple, pink, blues and whites.
The stars shine bright,
Nothing compares to their beauty.
Space, a place of wonders,
a never ending world.
Some planets bigger than others,
Some have never been seen.





Meet Your

FLO!



Hi everyone,

my name is

Jo Nunn

and I am the FLO at Minterne.

Some of you may already know me from my many years at The Oaks. I am very much looking forward to meeting you and working with you and your families.



I have a very
cheeky chappie,

no relation to Arlo,
called

Herbie

who lives with me.



I love taking him
for walks

by the sea.



See you
all soon!





Working together with parents



HOW WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU

Keeping you informed, connected and involved



HOW	WHAT IS COMMUNICATED	WHEN	HOW	WHAT IS COMMUNICATED	WHEN
NEWSDAY TUESDAY	Parents/carers can view pupil books from 8:30am. If you cannot attend, contact the class teacher to arrange an alternative time.	20th October 1st December 2nd February 9th March 18th May 15th June	ARBOR APP	Letters and announcements, payments for trips, visitors, lunches, and club bookings. If you haven't signed up yet, look out for the link sent to you. Download the Arbor app to stay up to date with everything happening at Minterne. Contact the office for help if needed.	As needed
HOME CONNECT	Information on your child's Accelerated Reader quizzes and reading. Parents receive a letter with instructions to sign up. Contact your child's class teacher if you need another copy.	Results sent by email after each quiz	MINTERNE MESSENGER NEWSLETTER	Celebrations, achievements, key dates, weekly news, safety advice for families, and local events.	Weekly on Fridays
PUPIL DIARIES	Record home reading (5x per week), notes to teachers or teaching assistants, spelling and tables test information.	Collected weekly or handed to an adult if you wish the teacher to see a note	PARENTS' EVENING	Discuss your child's academic progress, attainment, and general updates with the class teacher and SENCO if required. Parents can also view pupil books in Term 3 and Term 5.	Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th January 2022 Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15 April 2022
SCHOOL WEBSITE	Comprehensive information about the curriculum, newsletters, term dates, policies, and general school information.	Ongoing	REPORTS	Academic attainment, progress, general comments, and attendance.	Friday 18th December Thursday 25th March Friday 2nd July
EMAIL	Contact teachers via your child's diary or email the school office. Office staff will direct your enquiry to the appropriate person. Email: office@minterne.kent.sch.uk	As needed	TAPESTRY	Teachers and Year Leaders share photos, learning updates, and curriculum news. Parents can also share photos and news from home.	As needed

Learning for a lifetime

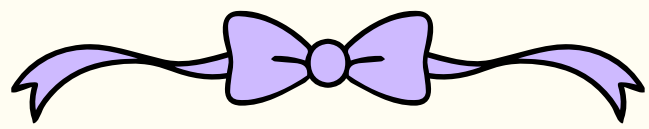


Have you emailed us?
We aim to respond to you within 72 hours.

Staff do not always have access to emails due to other working commitments; many of our staff run activities for our students both at lunchtime and afterschool. It is therefore important to enable all staff sufficient time to read, investigate and respond to any communication.

Thank you.

When you do contact us on via any platform please clearly state your child's full name and class



**Children
are invited
to wear
purple on
Friday 16th
October
2026**



DLD Developmental Language Disorder

1 IN 14 people have Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), an invisible, lifelong disability.

DLD is a diagnosis given to a person who has difficulty talking and/or understanding language.

Diagnosis is made by a speech pathologist however a person with DLD may need support from other health professionals.

DLD is the accepted term in English-speaking countries replacing specific language impairment, language disorder and language delay.

DLD affects an individual's life, regardless of their nationality and language. Speaking more than one language does not cause DLD.

DLD has a genetic and biological basis, but there is not a single known cause. DLD is not caused by how parents verbally interact with their children.

Co-occurring conditions can include learning difficulties, ADHD, dyslexia, and mental health issues.

Children with DLD are 4 times more likely to have math disabilities and 6 times more likely to have reading disabilities.

People with DLD can succeed in life, with the right supports that meet their unique strengths and areas of need.

Learn more about DLD at TheDLDProject.com

THE DLD PROJECT



#DLDday 2026 FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER

**Together
for DLD**

R4DLD RAISING AWARENESS OF DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER



HAPPY'S CIRCUS
Information & Ticket Sales

TICKET SALES
Tickets will be available online from **8th September 2026 at 9am**, or until sell-out (whichever comes first).
Ticket sales will be available to families at both Minterne and The Oaks.
Should any tickets remain, we will open them up to the general public.

TICKET PRICES
Single Ticket **£12**
Family of 4 **£45**
Family of 5 **£50**
Children 2 years and under **FREE**
(These children will need to be seated on laps, if you would like them to have their own seat then a ticket must be purchased.)

ONLINE TICKET SALES
Online ticket sales will close on **19th October 2026 at 8pm**, however if there are any remaining tickets, these will be available to purchase at the gate on the night.
We do however highly recommend purchasing in advance to avoid disappointment.

FOOD & DRINK
We will be holding hot food and drink stalls and Happy's Circus will be selling candyfloss, popcorn and circus merchandise directly.

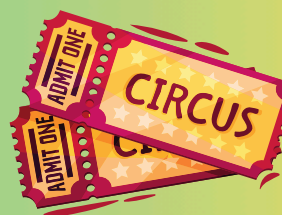
TIMES
The show will start at **6:00pm** and is expected to last approximately 2 hours.

PAYMENT
Whilst we do endeavour to facilitate card payments, poor signal can cause delays therefore, cash is preferable.

We can't wait to see you there!



THURSDAY
22ND OCTOBER



♥ We'd love to hear from you! ♥

We've put together a short parent survey and would really appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete it. It shouldn't take more than a few minutes of your time and it's completely anonymous.

The aim is simply to hear your thoughts, ideas and feedback so that we can continue to support our parents, children and school community as much as we can. Whether you have lots to say or just a little bit of feedback, every response is valuable to us. 😊
Thank you so much for taking the time to complete it and for supporting the

FOM! ♥

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE SURVEY](#)



HAPPY'S CIRCUS
Buggy Information & Location

BIG TOP LOCATION
The Big Top tent will be located on the school field, therefore please ensure you are wearing appropriate footwear, particularly if the weather has been wet.

BUGGIES & PUSHCHAIRS
Buggies/pushchairs are not permitted within the Big Top tent, therefore Happy's Circus will provide designated areas outside of the Big Top. These areas may not be covered so please keep this in mind in case of bad weather.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
Happy's Circus is on ground level and accessible to wheelchairs. Anyone requiring a chair instead of a bench, please notify a volunteer at the entrance gate.

PLEASE NOTE
Please be aware that in the event of a refund being required (for whatever reason inc cancellation of the event) **ALL** platform and card processing fees are **NON REFUNDABLE**.

Thank you for your understanding!



WE CAN HELP

If your child has had a tricky time at school, we want to help as soon as possible.

PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP

Tell us what has happened so that we can provide support:

- ✉ office@minterne.kent.sch.uk
- ✍ Write a note in your child's diary
- 💬 Speak with Miss Nunn, our FLO
- 💬 Ask a teaching assistant on morning door duty to pass on a message to the class teacher



WE CAN HELP

Keeping your child at home after an incident can have a **negative** impact:

- Unsolved problems get bigger
- Friendships can suffer
- Missed learning makes it harder to return and catch up

**STAFF WANT TO WORK WITH
YOU TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD**

THANK YOU

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the families who have sent in donations – your generosity is greatly appreciated.

As some donations were kindly dropped off at the office, we haven't always been able to identify who they came from. If we haven't had the opportunity to thank you personally, please know that we are incredibly grateful for helping us provide appropriate support for the children next year.

Can you help?

**WOODEN TOYS/PICTURE BOOKS
NEEDED PLEASE**



Wooden building blocks and construction sets
Simple puzzles and shape sorters
Wooden vehicles, animals or small-world figures
Play food, tea sets or role-play items
Stacking, threading or sorting toys

picture books

Help!

WE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR ANY DONATIONS THAT CAN HELP SUPPORT SOME OF OUR CHILDREN JOINING IN SEPTEMBER
THANK YOU!
MRS SPALDING, SENCO



Please use this [link](#) to view the latest Summer edition of the OCMAT Family Magazine.



YOU CAN FIND OUR PRIVACY NOTICE [HERE](#)



A polite reminder to please ensure that your child walks their bike, scooter, or any wheeled item once they are on school grounds. This applies to all children, including our younger pupils arriving from The Oaks.

This is important for health and safety reasons, as there are a large number of people on the playground at drop-off and pick-up times, including very young toddlers. We want to ensure that everyone remains safe and that no one is accidentally injured. Children will also be reminded of this expectation in assembly on Monday, as part of our “Be Safe” school rule.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.





Deposits for PGL are now being taken, please go to
Arbor to make payment which will secure you
child's place for PGL 2027

(Please note deposits are non refundable)



MINTERNE 2027

Leavers Hoodies

FRIENDS TODAY ♥ LEADERS TOMORROW ♥ MINTERNE ALWAYS

A special keepsake for an amazing chapter ♥

Same School Brighter Future ♥

Hoodies T-Shirts & more ♥

Personalised with your name on the arm



TRY ON SHOP

COME AND TRY SIZES BEFORE ORDERING!

TRY ON SHOP DATES 📍 AT MINTERNE JUNIOR SCHOOL



ORDER OPEN:
MONDAY
5TH OCTOBER
8.15am - 8.50am
& 3.30pm



LAST TRY ON:
FRIDAY
6TH NOVEMBER
8.15am & 3.30pm
(if needed)



Hoodie size:

T-shirt size:

Please make sure you check sizing before ordering.

£10
TOWARDS EACH
CHILD'S HOODIE

The FOM has kindly donated £10 towards each child's hoodie. ♥

My Three & Me ♥

PERSONALISED GIFTS
& CLOTHING

DISCOUNT CODE:

MINTERNE2027

Hoodies T-Shirts & more ♥



<https://my-three-me.sumupstore.com>



EXPLORING BEHAVIOUR STRATEGIES

Ever wondered what triggers your
child's behaviour?

Where:

Selling CE Primary School
The Street
Selling, Faversham
Kent ME13 9RQ

Join us in this supportive workshop
and explore reasons behind your
child's behaviour, identify their
triggers and develop strategies to
promote positive behaviour.

Date:

3 November 2026

Time:

12.30pm to 2.30pm

**To book a place please contact
your school office**



For more information
scan the QR code

kentadulteducation.co.uk
FREE, Fun & Informal



AGES 5 - 11 YEARS



Dear Parents,

I'm delighted to confirm dates for the October Holiday Club. The holiday club will be running at St Peter's Primary School, ME10 1UJ and will be open for children in School Years R-6 (ages 5-11). The Club will run from **Mon 26th - Weds 28th October**. For a full day the price will be £18. Half days will be £12. All bookings received by text or email by 19th October are automatically honoured **once payment has been received**. For booking less than a week in advance of the club you will need to await confirmation via text or email. For future holiday club info, like us on Facebook! If you could clearly write what dates you want on the rear of the sheet I would be grateful. A bank transfer with the child's name as reference or cash will be accepted for payment. If your child is staying for the full day please ensure they have a packed lunch. Please send your child with a spare change of clothes in case of accidents! Early Drop off is available from 9am for £2 extra. **PLEASE TEXT ME TO BOOK YOUR CHILD ON TO HOLIDAY CLUB.**
!!!!PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE OF BANK DETAILS!!!!

Mon	9.30 - 10am	Warm up Games	Tue	9.30-10am	Warm Up Games	Wed	9.30 - 10am	Warm up Games
	10 - 11am	Tag Rugby		10-11am	Sportday Games		10 - 11am	Kwik Cricket
	11 - 12pm	Football		11am-12pm	Rounders		11 - 12pm	Football
	12- 1pm	Lunch and Film		12 - 1pm	Lunch and Film		12 - 1pm	Lunch and Film
	1 - 2pm	Basketball		1-2pm	Hockey		1 - 2pm	Dodgeball
	2 - 3pm	Kwik Cricket		2-3pm	Basketball		2 - 3pm	Volleyball
	3 - 3.30pm	Cool down Games		3-3.30pm	Cool Down Games		3 - 3.30pm	Cool down Games

Andy Booker - UKCC Multisports Coach

Tel: 07837507246 Email: Qwlsiad@hotmail.co.uk

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Drizzle-and-Kick/230106053706166>

Child's Name D.O.B.

Parent's Contact Telephone.....

Parent's Email.....

Please list on the rear of this form the dates you would like your child to attend along with indicating if it is an am, pm or full day session they would like to participate in.

I have enclosed Cash for £..... OR I have made an electronic transfer on (DATE) for £.....
(MR A BOOKER, SORT - 20-25-85, ACCOUNT NUMBER - 00737135)

In the case of emergency and I am not contactable on the phone number provided I give consent for my child to be administered first aid or hospital treatment as required.

Signature.....Printed Name.....

**WELCOME
TO ALL**



Our Community Multi
Academy Trust

EMPOWER YOUR PARENTING JOURNEY

Upcoming courses designed especially for
our OCMAT Parents, Carers & Grandparents
in partnership with Kent Adult Education

Free courses on offer:

- ✓ Supporting Your Child's Anxiety
21 September 9.30am (2 hours)
- ✓ Exploring Behaviour Strategies
3 November, 12.30pm (2 hours)
- ✓ Supporting ADHD in the Home (4 week programme)
11, 18 & 25 January and 1 February, 9.30am (2 hours)
- ✓ Family First Aid (3 week programme with child joining session 3)
1, 8 & 15 March 2027, 12.30pm (2 hours)

Venue: Selling CE Primary School
The Street, Selling, Faversham
Kent ME13 9RQ

**BOOK YOUR PLACE
TODAY**

www.ocmat.org.uk/Our-Parent-Courses/

emma.rannard@ocmat.org.uk





Together, we can make a difference 

PRELOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

Good quality uniform, great for your child, better for our community and our planet.



SAVE MONEY
Quality uniform for less



BE SUSTAINABLE
Reuse, recycle and reduce waste



DONATE • BUY • SUPPORT



 During the **SUMMER HOLIDAYS** the uniform will be **FREE** for anyone who needs it.

 Uniform will be displayed at the **Methodist Church in Sittingbourne** during the Summer Holidays.

 Uniform will be available for all schools in Sittingbourne.

 Visit their Facebook page (Free, Preloved School Uniform Hub - Sittingbourne Methodists) for opening days/hours.

Avenue Theatre Production Junior's

PRODUCTION OF

SHREK THE MUSICAL JR.

Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the Book by William Steig

Music by **Jeanine Tesori** "I'm a Believer" by **Neil Diamond** Book and Lyrics by **David Lindsay-Abaire**

Originally produced on Broadway by **DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions** Original Production Directed by **Jason Moore and Rob Ashford**

Tue 27th	Wed 28th	Thu 29th	Fri 30th	Sat 31st
October	October	October	October	October
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	2:30pm	1:30pm

The Avenue Theatre **NODA** For every stage **£12.50**

Central Avenue 01795 471140

Sittingbourne ME10 4DN www.avenue theatre.co.uk

Shrek the Musical JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 www.mtishows.co.uk













Are you a working parent?

Do you need support with childcare costs for your primary school aged children before and after the school day? You may be eligible for Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare.

Scan the QR codes for more details.



Tax-Free Childcare



Universal Credit Childcare

 Or call the Kent Children and Families Information Service: **03000 41 23 23**

 Or email: kentcfis@theeducationpeople.org







On behalf of 

CONSIDERATE PARKING

Let's keep our school community safe, happy and respectful. 



 **PARK SAFELY**
Park carefully and legally. Do not park on yellow lines, zig zags or corners.

 **RESPECT OUR NEIGHBOURS**
Park considerately and keep noise to a minimum. Let's be good neighbours.

 **DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS**
Please keep driveways and access clear. Someone's home is someone's safety.

 **THINK OF OUR CHILDREN**
Park a little further away and walk if you can. It's safer for everyone and a great way to start the day!



Thank you for being considerate!

 **PLEASE KEEP DRIVEWAYS CLEAR**

Working together to keep Minterne Junior School a safe and happy place for all. 

⇒ Thank you for your kindness and consideration. ⇐

Visit Kent Police Museum in Faversham and become a detective!

FREE entry



Follow clues, explore real crime stories, discover fascinating police equipment, and enjoy interactive displays.

Learn how crimes were solved in the past and see unusual objects from more than 200 years of Kent Police history.

Looking for something to do this October half term?

The museum will be open from **Tuesday 27 October to Saturday 31 October, 10am to 4pm**. For the latest opening times and visitor information, please check the museum website before you visit.

Bringing Our History to Life

[kentpolicemuseum](https://www.kent.police.uk/kent-museum)
@kpolicemuseum

www.kent.police.uk/kent-museum
Email: museum@kent.police.uk
Telephone: 01795 433028



Kent Family

is here for your child's growth, happiness and health.

family.kentcht.nhs.uk



(we care)

'Parents, carers and loved ones can find support and answers to common questions on the Kent Family website. It brings together trusted information and advice for families before and after birth, through childhood and up to age 19.'



Welly Boot Swap At Faversham Library

Do you have any children's wellington boots that need a new home? We are looking for donations for our Welly Boot swap at Faversham library. Please drop off good condition, clean boots (all ages welcome) at the library from week beginning 17th August 2026

Please speak to a member of library staff for more details, call 03000 413131 or email favershamlibrary@kent.gov.uk

greenerkent



Kent Libraries

Halloween Costume Swap



Sittingbourne Library

Come and join us for a spooky Halloween Costume Swap! Drop off your clean, good quality costumes and accessories at Sittingbourne Library from now onwards and pick up something new to you from 5 October until 31 October! A fun way to refresh your wardrobe, declutter, reduce waste and support your local community.



Scan our QR code or visit our website to find other swaps near you.



kent.gov.uk/libraries

[f](https://www.facebook.com/kentgov) [i](https://www.instagram.com/kentgov) [x](https://www.tiktok.com/@kentgov) [y](https://www.youtube.com/kentgov) [v](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/kentgov) 03000 41 31 31



Admission to

Junior school in Kent 2027

KCC residents apply online at
kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions
Opens Friday 6 November 2026 and closes
at midnight on Friday 15 January 2027

For children born between
1 September 2019
and 31 August 2020,
Transferring to Junior school
in September 2027

What to do

Choose a school	Apply for a school place	Receiving your offer
-----------------	--------------------------	----------------------

It's important to find out more about
the schools you are interested in
before you decide to name them on
the application form.

Read the guide to Primary
admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

You can name up to three Junior
schools, inside or outside of Kent.
You are unable to name Primary
schools on this application.

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens
Friday 6 November 2026 and closes at
midnight on Friday 15 January 2027. Other
LA deadlines may differ.

You will first need to set up an online account.
The applicant is you, the parent/carer; you will
then need to add your child's details before
starting an application. You will receive an email
confirmation that your application has been
submitted correctly.

You can log back in at any time to view the
information submitted.

On offer day (Friday 16 April 2027) an email
will be sent to you informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you
have been offered by Friday 30 April 2027. A
link to a guide with information you will need to
provide the school with will be in your offer
email.

If it has not been possible to offer your child a
place in your preferred school, you have the right
to appeal. You can also add their name to the
school's waiting list.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you are moving, please email the team on one of the email addresses below for advice.

Key dates

Friday 6 November 2026	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Friday 15 January 2027	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Friday 16 April 2027	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Friday 30 April 2027	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Monday 17 May 2027	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklet can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete
any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all
communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our
team for confirmation.

Please note applications can only be made via Kent County Council (KCC) if the child resides at a KCC address.
If your child does not reside at a KCC address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.



Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2027

Common misconceptions

For children born between
1 September 2022
and 31 August 2023,
Transferring to Primary
school in September
2027.

MYTH #1

Attending a nursery or pre-school
will automatically guarantee your
child a space at the associated
school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application
portal at:
www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ Nurseries and primary schools are not linked
for admissions purposes.

MYTH #2

A sibling attending the school will
automatically guarantee your child
a space at the same school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application
portal at:
www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ If eligible, your application may be considered under a
school's 'sibling' oversubscription criteria.

MYTH #3

Attending an infant school will
automatically guarantee a space
for your child at the linked junior
school.

TRUTH

You must still apply using the online application
portal at:
www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

★ Children do not automatically transfer to a junior school.
Admissions are ranked according to the school's admission
criteria, including any linked school arrangements.

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklets can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions



Apply online, or contact Jo on
jo4thsittbrownies@icloud.com
for more info

'I had never climbed
before. I was scared of
heights. But I climbed
and rang the bell all by
myself and felt really
proud of myself'

Poonam

Brownies

4th Sittingbourne

Monday nights at The O'Sullivan Centre, Ufton Lane

Girls have nonstop fun,
learning and adventure

for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side,
get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after
themselves, others and the world we live in.



Registered charity number: Exempted from registration

Join a local Brownies group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

TRUST-WIDE SCHEDULED EVENTS

2026-27

8 OCT 26
NATIONAL POETRY DAY EVENT

ALL SCHOOLS

DEC 26
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN
COMPETITION

ALL SCHOOLS

WED 21 MAR 27
ANNUAL SKIPPING COMPETITION

ALL SCHOOLS

MARCH 26
TIMES TABLE COMPETITION

FOR YEAR 4 CHILDREN ACROSS THE
TRUST, AND FINALS ON 29 MARCH

MARCH 6 MAY
CHOIR PERFORMANCES

UNIVERSITY OF KENT, CANTERBURY. TRUST-
WIDE PUPIL CHOIR FOR ALL SCHOOLS

19 MAY 27
ANNUAL DANCE FESTIVAL

SUMMERS LEISURE CENTRE. FOR ALL
SCHOOLS

24 JUN 27
CRICKET FESTIVAL

HOSTED AT MILSTEAD CRICKET CLUB,
SITTINGBOURNE FOR YEARS 4,5,6

22 JUN 27
MULTI-SKILLS COMPETITION

FOR YEAR 1 AND 2 CHILDREN FOR ALL
SCHOOLS

TERM 6
BOLLYWOOD BRASS BAND

ALL SCHOOLS

JULY-AUG 27
NATIONAL READ-ALONG SUMMER CHALLENGE

ALL SCHOOLS WITH PARENT SIGN UP

TRC
FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

HOSTED BY SELLING CE PRIMARY,
FAVERSHAM FOR ALL SCHOOLS



OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

ONE TRUST. ONE COMMUNITY. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR PUPILS.

Become a Parent/Community/ Foundation Governor

**Make a Real Difference &
Play an Active Role in the Future of Our School**



The Role of the Local Monitoring Council

The Local Monitoring Council (LMC) works collectively to ensure the success of our school. Every governor's first loyalty is to the school and its pupils. While governors support the headteacher and staff, they also act as a critical friend—providing challenge and support in equal measure. This is a strategic role, not an operational one. Governors do not manage the day-to-day running of the school; instead, they help shape its vision, ethos, and priorities.

The LMC plays a vital role in supporting the work of the school and the Our Community Multi Academy Trust (OCMAT). Its responsibilities fall into three key areas:

- **Quality of Education** – Ensuring high standards of teaching and learning.
- **Distinctive Ethos and Character** – Preserving the school's values, traditions, and culture.
- **Community Engagement** – Maintaining strong communication and trust with parents and the wider community.

Governors monitor these areas and contribute to developing policies that make the school an efficient, caring, and fair environment for learning.

Why Become a Governor?

- Help shape decisions that impact pupils, families, and the wider school community.
- Gain valuable knowledge about governance and educational leadership.
- Contribute to improving outcomes for all children.

As a parent governor, you will:

- Represent the views, insights and experiences of parents at a strategic level.
 - Parent governors are normally elected for a four-year term of office.

As Community/Foundation Governor, you will:

- Bring an independent perspective to support school improvement and, as a Foundation Governor, help uphold the school's Christian vision and values.

Parent Governor:

Who can stand for election?

Any parent or carer of a pupil registered at the school is eligible to stand for election as a parent governor.

You do not need any specific qualifications or previous governance experience. We value a wide range of skills, experiences and perspectives.

Community/Foundation Governor:

We welcome applications from any member of the local community aged 18 or over who are passionate about education, the development and wellbeing of children and young people, safeguarding, and supporting schools to provide the best possible outcomes for every pupil.

Foundation governors are appointed in accordance with the school's foundation arrangements. You do not need any specific qualifications or previous governance experience. We value a wide range of skills, experiences and perspectives that can contribute to the success of the school.

The enclosed sheet summarises the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor.

Skills we are looking for:

- Communication skills
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Strategic thinking
- Interest in education and children's wellbeing
- Professional or community experience
- Ability to ask questions and offer constructive challenge

To fulfil the role, you will need to:

- Attend three Local Monitoring Council meetings each year
- Read meeting papers and other information in advance
- Participate in induction training and ongoing development
- Undertake governor monitoring visits to gain first-hand insight into the school
- Uphold confidentiality and act in the best interests of the school and its pupils
- Work collaboratively with fellow governors, school leaders and the trust

How to Apply

If you would like to put your name forward, please submit the following to the Governance Professional by the stated deadline at Stacey.Tree@ocmat.org.uk. If you would like to receive more information, please email Stacey.

Personal Statement for parent election (maximum 250 words)

For parent governor roles, if more names are put forward than there are places, an election will be held. This will be shared with voters and should include:

- **Relevant skills and experience** that will support you in the role.
- **Your understanding of the role**, the commitment required, and your willingness to undertake relevant training and development.
- **If seeking re-election**, details of your previous contribution to the governing board.

Eligibility and disqualifications to serve as a local governor:

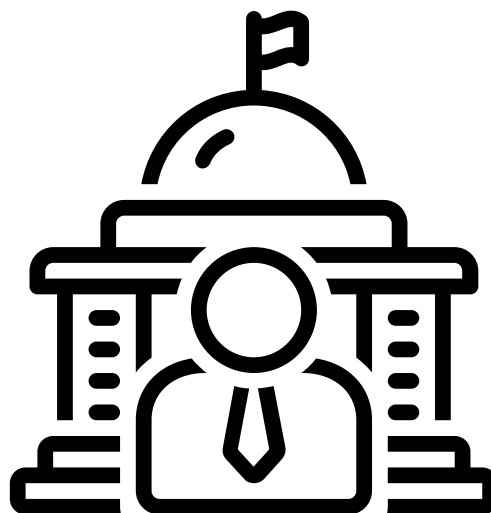
A person must be aged 18 or over at the date of their election or appointment.

A person shall be disqualified from holding office or continuing to hold office as trustee/local committee member if they:

- become incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing or administering their own affairs;
- are absent without the permission of the trustees from all meetings held within a period of six months, and the trustees resolve that their office be vacated;
- have been declared bankrupt and/or their estate has been seized from their possession for the benefit of their creditors and the declaration or seizure has not been discharged, annulled or reduced; or
- are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order;
- are subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986; or
- are subject to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order);
- cease to be a trustee by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act 2006;
- are disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision); or
- are otherwise found to be unsuitable by the Secretary of State;
- have been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which they were responsible; or to which they were privy; or which they, by their conduct, contributed to

or facilitated;

- have, at any time, been convicted of any criminal offence, excluding any that have been spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as amended, and excluding any offence for which the maximum sentence is a fine or a lesser sentence except where a person has been convicted of any offence which falls under section 178 of the Charities Act 2011;
- have not provided to the chair of trustees a criminal records certificate at an enhanced disclosure level under section 113B of the Police Act 1997.





Dates for your diary

DATE	WHAT'S HAPPENING?
TUESDAY 13 TH OCTOBER	YEAR 4 MOTE PARK TRIP
THURSDAY 15 TH OCTOBER	BUSH CRAFT DAY - YEAR 3
FRIDAY 16 TH OCTOBER	OLD DAY - WEAR PURPLE
MONDAY 19 TH OCTOBER	YEAR 5 TRIP TO HEVER CASTLE
TUESDAY 20 TH OCTOBER	NEWSDAY TUESDAY
THURSDAY 22 ND OCTOBER	HAPPY CIRCUS EVENT - FOM - SEE PAGE 4
FRIDAY 23 RD OCTOBER	END OF TERM 1
MONDAY 2 ND NOVEMBER	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
TUESDAY 3 RD NOVEMBER	TERM 2 BEGINS

SAVE THE DATE - DONATE HERE



What's for lunch?

Free school meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £13,100 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 11 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit (can be paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Some schools in Kent manage their own Free Schools Meals application process. For more information, go to kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



APRIL TO OCTOBER 2026

NOURISH DAILY DELI

Ham Bap 1,5,6

Cheese Bap 1,5,7 V

Tuna Mayonnaise Bap 1,5,8,9

With

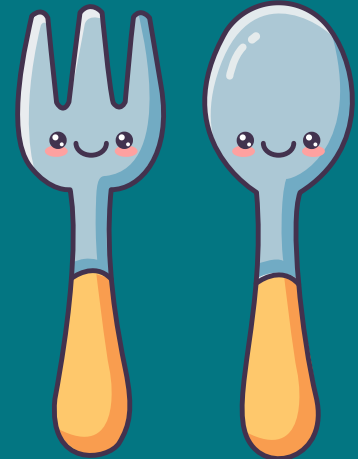
Vegetable sticks

Fruit

Mr Nourish Biscuit 1

HELP YOURSELF TO THE SALAD BAR AND DESSERT

1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian



APRIL TO OCTOBER 2026					
NOURISH					
SPRING INTO SUMMER MENU					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE					
13 April 4 May 1 June 22 June 13 July 31 August 21 September 12 October	Beef Bolognese Pasta 1 Cheese & Pesto Swirl 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V Chick Pea & Spinach Biryani VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Roast Gammon & Gravy Meatfree Meatballs & Gravy 6 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Chicken Korma Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Fish Fingers 1,8 Wrap Stack 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
	Baked Wedges Seasonal Vegetables	Carrots Mixed Peppers	Rustic Roast Potatoes Cabbage Swede	Rice Green Beans Carrots	Chips Sweetcorn & Peas Coleslaw 9
	Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Toffee Tart 1,7 & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Chocolate Orange Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Lemon Drizzle Biscuit 1,6 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG
WEEK TWO					
20 April 11 May 8 June 29 June 20 July 7 September 28 September 19 October	Cheesy Cauliflower Pasta 1,7 V Vegetable Burger in a Bun 1,5,6 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Minced Beef Curry Pesto & Pea Pasta 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Roast Chicken & Gravy Samosa Puff 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Chicken Fajita 1 Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Salmon Fish Cake 1,8 Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
	Baked Wedges, Carrots, Peas	Rice Seasonal Vegetables	Rustic Roast Potatoes Broccoli Carrots	Rice Tomato Salsa Green Beans	Chips, Peas, Grated Carrot
	Honey Cake 1 & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Summer Trifle 1,7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Cornflake Cookie 1,7,16 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Carrot & Orange Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Oaty Biscuit 1,15 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG
WEEK THREE					
27 April 18 May 15 June 6 July 14 September 5 October	Mild Chilli Beef Tomato & Herb Penne Pasta 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Chicken Pie 1 Vegetable Stir Fried Noodles 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	BRUNCH Pork Sausage & Bacon 1,3,6 Or Vegetable Sausage 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Loaded Cajun Bean Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9	Fish Fingers 1,8 Cheese & Bean Parcel 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
	Rice Peas Mixed Peppers	Crushed Potatoes Seasonal Vegetables	Brunch Hash Potatoes Baked Beans Mushrooms & Tomatoes	Rainbow Rice Sweetcorn Coleslaw 9	Chips, Peas, Baked Beans Cucumber Sticks
	Jam Roly Poly 1,6 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Sultana Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Caramel Cookie 1,7 V Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG
1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian					
Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.					
AVAILABLE DAILY					

What's for lunch?



**OUR SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE!**

We try to keep our school nut free but sometimes items containing nuts may be brought in, unknowingly, in packed lunch boxes.

 To keep risks low we ask all parents to be aware and to **NOT SEND YOUR CHILD** with any food containing nuts.



NOURISH
GROW WITH US

Nourish, our catering company, are made aware of all food related allergies and their allergens are clearly stated on their menus.



What's for lunch?

Free School Meals Important Update for Families

What's changing?

From **September 2026**, Free School Meals will be extended to include:

- ✓ All children in households receiving Universal Credit
- ✓ No income threshold applied

This means more families will be eligible.

Why register now?

Even though changes start in September 2026, we encourage families to apply now if eligible.

- ✓ Your child receives Free School Meals as soon as eligible
- ✓ Your school receives extra funding (Pupil Premium)
- ✓ Everything is ready ahead of the national changes

How to apply (Kent families)

Apply online through Kent County Council:

www.kent.gov.uk/free-school-meals

It's free and only takes a few minutes.

Not sure if you qualify?

It's always worth checking — many families are eligible without realising.

Compassion . Community . Inclusion 



NOURISH GROW WITH US

FREE SCHOOL MEALS EXPANSION

No Income Cap, Income Threshold No Longer Applies



Key Details of the 2026 Expansion

No Income Cap: The previous £7,400 net earned income threshold no longer applies to the new expanded group.

Free school meals are now split into Two Benefit Categories:

Targeted FSM (for household earnings of £7,400 or less, which unlocks Pupil Premium funding) and

Expanded FSM (for earnings above £7,400, which provides the meal only).

How to Apply: While many local authorities automatically recheck or transition existing claims, families receiving Universal Credit who are not yet registered should submit an application through their local council or use online checkers like the [Free School Meals Checker](#) to confirm status.

Official Guidance: Read the complete policy updates and requirements on the [GOV.UK Free School Meals Guidance](#) page.

YOU COULD SAVE UP TO £550 A YEAR

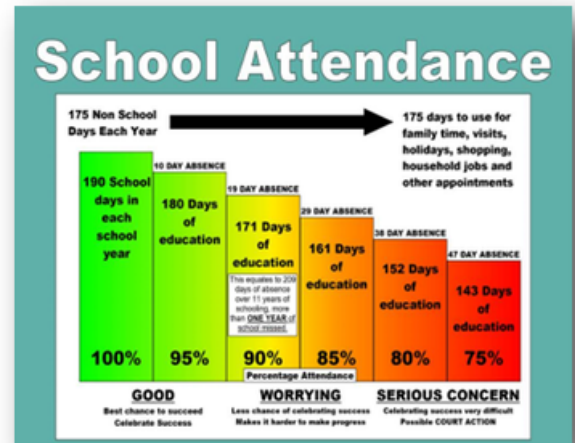


As you may be aware our school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Midmorning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children can reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised cost. If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at www.coolmilk.com/parents. If you register by 25/08/26 you could win a supermarket voucher or free milk for a year!



Attendance

Minterne's attendance so far this year is 96.48%



UK Health Security Agency NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Throatworms	Strep throat

SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrcodes.nhs.uk>

0 days off school in a year 0 lessons missed	100%	Perfect attendance
2 days off school in a year 10 lessons missed	99%	Excellent attendance
5 days off school in a year 25 lessons missed	97%	Good attendance
10 days off school in a year 50 lessons missed	95%	Slightly below average attendance
14 days off school in a year 70 lessons missed	93%	Poor attendance
20 days off school in a year 100 lessons missed	90%	Very poor attendance



ATTENDANCE CHANGES FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

FROM AUGUST 2024

PER PARENT/CHILD, PER CHILD	FIRST OFFENCE	SECOND OFFENCE	THIRD OFFENCE (within 3 year period)	5 CONSECUTIVE DAYS OF 15 MINUTE ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
Penalty Notices will be issued to each parent/child, for each child that was absent.	The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave of absence or irregular school attendance, the amount will be:	The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave of absence or irregular school attendance the amount will be:	The third time an offence is committed for term time leave of absence or irregular school attendance (within a 3 year period) by the same parent/child, a Penalty Notice WILL NOT be issued and the case will be referred to Kent County Council's Attendance Team for PROSECUTION which may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent per child.	Penalty Notices may also be issued for any term time absence that are substantial (whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 weeks). All parents/children are encouraged to inform the school of the absence and the reasons for their child's absence.
3 siblings absent for term time leave. Each parent/child will receive 3 separate fines.	£100 per parent/child, per child, paid within 15 days.	£100 per parent/child, per child paid in 28 days.		
	(PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO OPTION FOR A REDUCED AMOUNT ON A SECOND OFFENCE)			

Hello



Manuscript accepted
www.manuscriptcentral.org



Dear Parents

We would like to kindly remind all families about the importance of being honest with the school regarding pupil absences during term time.

We fully understand that the cost of holidays during school breaks can be significantly higher. As school staff and parents ourselves, we appreciate and feel those pressures too. However, attendance at school is a legal requirement, and school registers are legal documents which must be completed accurately using the correct attendance codes.

When children return from holidays, they naturally want to share their experiences and excitement with their friends and teaching staff. Unfortunately, when a child has been told not to talk about their holiday because the absence was reported as illness, this can create confusion and upset for the child. It can also raise safeguarding concerns for the school, as we have a duty to ensure that all children are safe and accounted for at all times.

Honest communication helps us use our time and resources where they are most needed – supporting children's education and wellbeing.

We are not writing this to criticise families, but rather to ask for honesty and openness so that we can work together consistently and in the best interests of all children.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that any planned absence from school should be requested in advance so that it can be considered in line with the school's attendance policy. If your child will be absent due to a holiday during term time, please inform the school truthfully so that the absence can be recorded correctly.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Mrs Amanda Adcock
Trust Attendance Manager

**Well done to our
rugby players for
going to the Gore
Court Rugby
Festival on
Wednesday!**



**One of our parents has
climbed to Base-camp on
Everest for charity. He Took
Minterne's Cybil the
Squirrel for company on the
journey! Congratulations -
what an achievement!**

There are many local clubs available to primary age children including:
Sittingbourne rugby club - <https://srufc.com/>
Gore Court Hockey Club - <https://www.gorecourthc.co.uk/junior-hockey-information/>
Sittingbourne Hockey club - <https://www.sittingbournehc.co.uk/copy-of-youth-hockey>
Woodcombe Football club - <https://www.woodcoombefc.co.uk/>