



A journey of learning for all, within God's guiding hands

September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to you and your child as they begin their journey in Reception Class at Chislet Church of England Primary School. Starting school is such a special milestone, and we are delighted to be sharing this exciting new chapter with you.

In Reception, our aim is to create a happy, safe, and stimulating environment where every child feels valued and eager to learn. We will spend lots of time helping children to settle in, build friendships, and grow in confidence. Through play, exploration, and carefully planned activities, they will develop the skills they need to become curious, independent learners.

During the first few weeks, we will focus on:

- Getting to know your child and helping them feel comfortable in their new surroundings.
- Establishing routines and building strong relationships.
- Encouraging independence in areas such as dressing, tidying up, and making choices.

We value working in close partnership with you and look forward to sharing your child's achievements and progress throughout the year. You will receive regular updates, and there will be opportunities to come into school and see what we have been learning.

Our topic this term is 'Once Upon a Rhyme' and we will be focusing on learning songs for our Nursery Rhyme Challenge. We will keep you up to date on all our learning via the Class Dojo and look forward to sharing individual learning journeys when we meet for parents' consultations in November.

Upcoming Dates – Term 1

Mon 8 th Sep	Children in 9-12 – drop off and collect from playground gate
Tue 9 th Sep	Children in 9-12 – drop off and collect from playground gate
Wed 10 th Sep	Children 9-1.30pm, children stay for school dinners or packed lunches – drop off and collect from playground gate
Thurs 11 th Sep	Children 9-1.30pm, children stay for school dinners or packed lunches – drop off and collect from playground gate
Fri 12 th Sep	Children 9-1.30pm, children stay for school dinners or packed lunches – drop off and collect from playground gate
Monday 15 th Sep	Children in full time, 8.50am-3.20pm. Drop off and collect from playground gate. Flu Immunisation
Thurs 9 th Oct	Harvest Festival (details to follow)
Sun 12 th Oct	Harvest Service at St Marys Church, Chislet
Fri 17 th Oct	Class 1 Nursery Rhyme challenge 2.45pm End of Term

PE

Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. Children come into school and remain in their kits for the whole day. In the cold weather children are welcome to wear joggers and hoodies/jumpers. Trainers are the best option

for footwear as we do go outside for most sessions. No jewellery to be worn on PE days, for their own safety. We will NOT have PE the first week. No PE kits will be needed until Tuesday 16th September.

Lunches

Children will be able to choose, on a daily basis, if they are having a school dinner or a packed lunch. During registration we will ask the children to make a choice from the lunch menu. Please discuss the menu choices with your child so have an idea what they would like to eat that day.

Snack and Water Bottles

We provide fruit and milk at snack time, which we have daily around 10.30am. Children are welcome to bring in their own snack from home but we ask that this is fruit, vegetables breadsticks etc. Children are asked to bring in a water bottle daily, which we will refill in needed and send home at the end of each day.

Reading

Your child will bring home two books per week, this will be on a Friday. One is their choice from our book corner and is a story for you to share together. The other is a Phonics Reading book; these will be wordless for the first three weeks and are meant to be a point of discussion and to be shared. In week 4 they will begin to bring home simple word books. These books are 'show-off' books. The children will have already read these in school and should be 90% fluent by the time they bring them home. They should attempt to read these to you as independently as possible. Once you have read with your child, we would ask that you complete the reading record book. I will send out further information on how we teach phonics and reading in the next few weeks.

Class Dojo

At Chislet we use Class Dojo. This is an app which allows us to communicate with one another: instantly sharing messages, updates, events, and photos from class and vice versa. It's simple, secure, and gives you a window into their school day! If you are happy to join please use the details attached to create an account.

Church

As a school we visit the Church twice a week for Worship and Celebration. These are on Mondays and Fridays. We walk the children over to the Church for 2.50pm and on these days we ask for you to collect your child from the church gates. We will bring them out to you once worship has finished at 3.20pm. Class 1 children will be brought out slightly before the rest of the school.

Uniform

Please ensure that all cardigans, jumpers and coats are labelled. We will do our best to recover any misplaced uniform, and this task is made much easier when the item is named.

Book Bags

Due to a small cloakroom area, it would be appreciated if the children could bring in a school book bag. We also ask that no toys, things hanging from bags etc, are brought into school to prevent them from being lost or damaged and also due to limited space. All resources/equipment for learning are provided in school, so there is no need for pencil cases or stationery to be brought in from home.

Free School Meals

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

Please can you have a look at the above link, if you google 'Kent free school meals' it will take you straight there. This simple form will very quickly let you know if you are eligible to claim free school meals for the duration of their primary education, it will also entitle you to additional bits throughout the year.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the office or message us on Class Dojo.

Kind Regards

Miss Fitzwilliam, Mrs Willett and Miss Wilkinson