



# River Primary School

Part of the Lydden and River Primary Schools Federation

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Website: [www.river.kent.sch.uk](http://www.river.kent.sch.uk)

Term 5 has flown by in a wonderful blur of learning, creativity and hard work. Although a very short term, it's always a busy one! Across the school, children have shown great enthusiasm in their topics and growing pride in their achievements. As we enter Term 6, we can't believe it is yet another academic year closing to an end. There is still plenty to look forward to in the weeks ahead, and we know our children will continue to give their very best right through to the finish.



## OPAL Family Learning

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our family learning sessions this term. It has been wonderful to welcome so many families into school and to see children and adults playing together. Again, we were delighted by the interest shown and hope you have found the experience valuable and enjoyable. Looking ahead, we will be exploring more opportunities for you to use our outdoor facilities beyond the school day soon.

## In other OPAL News...



We are delighted to announce that today, our school was awarded **OPAL Platinum Status** - the highest accolade available!

Over the past 2 years, we have worked tirelessly to transform play across our school. With the guidance and support of the OPAL programme, our staff, children, and wider community have reimagined playtimes, creating opportunities that are more creative, active, inclusive and enjoyable than ever before.

This success is a testament not only to the dedication and commitment of our staff, but also to the enthusiasm and imagination of our children, who have embraced new ways to play, explore, and learn together. From loose parts play to garden adventures to scooters and a sensory snug, our playground has evolved into a space filled with imagination, movement, and discovery.

Achieving OPAL Platinum School status means our play provision is recognised as “outstanding” – and we could not be prouder of this accomplishment. We believe that play is a vital part of every child's development, and this award highlights our commitment to ensuring all pupils experience the very best opportunities every single day.

We would like to give a special mention to Mrs Jones, Mrs Salisbury and Mr Ward, who go above and beyond to create different areas and bring ideas to life. Thank you for all that you do — your efforts make a real difference to our school community. We are planning a big celebration next term!

## Year 5 Kent Test Registration

Registration for the Kent Test opens on Monday 1st June and closes on Wednesday 1st July. KCC will not accept late registrations. If you would like your child to take this test you will need to register them at [Register for the Kent Test - Kent County Council](#)

### **This Term's THRIVE award winners...**



We would like to congratulate the children awarded Term 5's THRIVE award. These awards celebrate more than academic achievement; they also reflect kindness, resilience and teamwork. The children have set a wonderful example for others and we are incredibly proud of the positive impact they make across the school each day.

### **Well Done Year 6...SATS are done!**

A huge well done to our amazing Year 6 children, who have now completed their SATs. The focus, effort, determination and resilience shown by the children was amazing. They approached the tests sensibly, calmly and with a sense of perspective – putting in 100% on each and every test. The children have done their best and they know that is all that we ask of them. Our children are more than their test results and the really important thing is that they leave us as kind young people with good values and a good work ethic. No one measures that! They now look forward to celebrating their last term at Primary School.



### **Football Champions!**



A huge well done to our football team, who have been crowned champions in the Stabbs Cup this term. In a thrilling final against our close rivals from Whitfield, the team showed real determination and never gave up. After a hard fought match, they secured a brilliant 4-3 win in extra time. It was an exciting game from start to finish, and both teams played with great skill and sportsmanship. Congratulations to our champions!

### **Sports Day**

We are really looking forward to welcoming families into school for this year's Sports Days. Please ensure you take note of the dates and times, as there are different times and sessions. It's always a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy some friendly competition, show their teamwork, and celebrate their achievements.

EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 – Monday 22nd June 1pm

Year 3 and 4 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 9am

Year 5 and 6 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1pm

### **Last Day of Term 6**

Please note in the diary dates that the last day of term is Friday 17th July and school will be finishing at 1.45pm for EYFS – Year 5. Year 6 will finish slightly later at 1.55pm, this allows for all staff to dismiss their classes and then create a guard of honour for them to leave. Our after-school provision, Jack in a Box, will be starting from 1.45pm this day.

We hope you have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 2nd June.

Kind regards,

***Mrs Victoria Alliston***



## Diary Dates

Please make sure you take note of the Staff Development days for the year and term dates.

<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026</b>	Last Day of Term 5
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b>	Staff Development Day <i>School closed for children</i>
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026</b>	First Day of Term 6 Class Photos
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 6 Residential Parent Drop In 3.30pm New Intake Parent Meeting 5pm
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 2 Local Walk
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 1 Phonics Check Week
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	EYFS Pirate Dress Up Day
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	EYFS Forest School
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 3 Dover Trip Year 5 Forest School
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Sports Week
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026</b>	EYFS and KS1 Sports Day - 1pm
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026</b>	Years 3 and 4 Sports Day - 9am Years 5 and 6 Sports Day - 1pm
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Yo! Street Football Workshops in School
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 6 Residential
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 1 Forest School
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 2 Forest School
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 4 Forest School
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026</b>	Whole School Transition Morning Year 4 Theatre Trip (pm)
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026</b>	EYFS Beach Trip
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Whole School Transition Morning
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 3 Forest School Year 6 Production 4.30pm
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 6 Production 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 6 Leaver's Disco 4.30 - 6pm
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 6 Forest School
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 6 Leaver's Assembly
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Last Day of Term School finishes at 1.45pm EYFS – Year 5 School finishes at 1.55pm Year 6

Our website calendar is always up to date with what is going on in school. [River Primary School - Calendar](#)

## Academic Dates for 2025-2026

<b>Staff Development Days</b>	<b>Term Dates 2025-2026</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	<u>Term 1</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025 – 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	<u>Term 2</u> 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 – 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	<u>Term 3</u> 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 – 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	<u>Term 4</u> 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	<u>Term 5</u> 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
	<u>Term 6</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026 – 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Staff Development Days 2026 – 2027

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2027

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2027