

# Newsletter Issue 15



**Newsletter Issue 15**

**6th May 2026**





## Headteacher's News

What a super term we are having so far. We have enjoyed a book fair, a day of BMX workshops, an amazing Shakespeare play at Benenden School for Y5 – what a treat families had showcasing stunningly good performances!





We also had our annual class photographs and a non-uniform day for Opal items – thank you so much for your many generous donations.





Regarding Opal, Mrs Hodges has sent out the sign up sheet so you can join us on any lunchtime and be part of your child's day and enjoy Opal too! We love being able to offer this so please do come in if you can, even if just for part of the lunch hour. You are very welcome.

Last weekend we enjoyed a wonderful event where 35 children from our school attended the London Mini marathon and ran in either the one mile or 2.6k race with thousands of other children. This is so memorable for these children who got to run the last part of the real marathon, past Buckingham Palace and over the finish line in the Mall – what an achievement and a wonderful family day out too. Thankyou all for joining in this day to make it such a success.





We are very proud to be able to offer events to children and families and thank staff for giving their time freely to enhance our school offer in this way.

Have a lovely weekend when it gets here.

Sarah Holman



[Click here for dates](#)

## Volunteers

Every week, quietly and unnoticed, a troop of volunteers give their time freely to make a difference to our children. They help with art lessons, PE, swimming, Forest School, reading and much more. This week we want to dedicate a small section of our newsletter to these wonderful people and thank them. The volunteers are a huge part of our school and we are so grateful to all of them. A few of our voluntary helpers can be seen here...

Thankyou to all our volunteers.





## Headteacher for the Day

We are delighted to announce that Edith has won the prize to be Headteacher for the day tomorrow. She will begin the day with Mrs Holman on the gate to welcome everyone as they

come in and lead worship first thing then she has lots of monitoring to do and playground duties at break and lunchtime too. She will be busy! We hope she has a lovely day.

## Scholastic / Travelling Book Fairs

A huge thank you to all families who supported our **Summer Book Fair**. We're delighted to share that it was a **huge success** — we sold **£744.51 worth of books** and earned an amazing **£297.80 in rewards** for the school. These rewards will go directly towards new books and reading resources for classrooms and our school library.

*Sharmila Desai*

*Deputy Head Teacher*



## Caterlink Special Menu - Census Day - 21 May 2026

Census day happens three times a year and our funding for school meals is based on this so if anyone would like to join to have a school dinner on this day we are very grateful.



## Hawkhurst Library - Local History Talk

Local historian Joanna Davis returns to Hawkhurst library with another fascinating talk -  
*Hawkhurst Houses*

A short, illustrated talk, on a selection of the vast houses, estates and people moulding old Hawkhurst into a destination of wealth and beauty. Places are limited, so booking is required.

For more information talk to a member of staff or email [hawkhurstlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:hawkhurstlibrary@kent.gov.uk)

# HAWKHURST HOUSES

Wednesday, 13th May 2.30pm  
Hawkhurst Library

A short illustrated talk from a time gone by, on a selection of the vast houses, estates and people moulding old Hawkhurst into a destination of wealth and beauty

**Please book with the library**



## Cranbrook Library Community Day - Friday, 15 May

Help celebrate Cranbrook Library and Family Hub at their Community Day on Friday 15 May

You are invited to see their great new Library and Family Hub and meet some of the groups who are members of this partnership

- Discover what the library can offer you
- Find out about the Family Hub and the services they offer
- Meet their library volunteers, and see what volunteering opportunities are available in libraries
- Learn more about the National Year of Reading and the Summer Reading Challenge

There will be an official opening ceremony at 2pm - Everyone welcome

## Parking - Carpenters Meadow

This continues to be a problem for the residents. Please note that Carpenters Meadow is not for school parking. It is a private road with parking restrictions. Please refrain from parking in this road to avoid residents having to take further action.

Thank you.

## Brighton Marathon - Thank You

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our Brighton Marathon fundraising effort. Thanks to your generous donations, we were proud to raise £600 for MIND. The marathon was a fantastic experience—challenging in parts, but incredibly rewarding. Your encouragement and support made a real difference!

Kate Vanns and Kelly Woods



## Get Set 4 PE

We know how important it is for children to stay active, and being active as a family can make it even more enjoyable! Each newsletter I will be sharing one or two simple activity ideas that you can try together at home. These activities are designed to be quick, fun and suitable for all ages – a great way to build healthy habits, develop physical skills and spend quality time together.

We would love to hear/see how you get on!

Mrs Kidd

### Capture the Socks



**What you need:** a basket, four pairs of rolled up socks and two players

**How to play:**

- Place the socks randomly in the playing area.
- One player (the attacker) begins at the basket.
- The defender begins three big steps away.
- The attacker has six attempts to collect a pair of socks and place them into the basket.
- The defender can tag the attacker once they leave the basket and if caught the attacker must return to the basket and start again.



How many socks did you get in the basket?

[www.getset4education.co.uk](http://www.getset4education.co.uk)

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### Catch Tennis



**What you need:** two players, three markers and a ball

**How to play:**

- Create a net through the middle using your markers.
- Stand on either side of the net.
- Take turns to throw underarm over the net.
- Try to catch the ball before it bounces twice.

**To win a point:**

- Partner throws the ball and it bounces on their side of the net first.
- Partner does not catch the ball before it bounces twice.



[www.getset4education.co.uk](http://www.getset4education.co.uk)

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## Forest School - Donations

If anyone has any spare tent pegs and plastic storage containers Mrs Walker would be really grateful for them for Forest School.

Many thanks

## Kent County Show 2026 - Art Competition

**NEW to Kent County Show in 2026, the Kent Art Competition is for children aged 4 – 11 and all entries will be featured in our brand-new Kent Art Quarter in the John Hendry Pavilion alongside works by local Kent-based artists.**

Kindly Sponsored by Trail Blazers, the Kent Art Competition challenges young people to create a piece of art inspired by farming, farm animals or the countryside. Each entrant will receive 1 free child's ticket and 1 free adult ticket for the entrant and a parent/guardian to attend the Kent County Show and see their work of art on display!

Artwork submitted should be on an A4 sheet of paper and can be in any medium including paint, paper, collage etc.

All entries should be mailed to:

Emma Stewart

Kent Art Competition,

Kent Showground,

Detling

Kent, ME14 3JF

**Entries close on 20th June 2026!**

Prizes: 1st Prize: A Trail Blazers Fishing Party or Forest Adventure Experience for the winning entrant and 9 friends.

2nd Prize: A one-to-one fishing lesson and a two-day fishing pass at a Trail Blazers Lake.

3rd Prize: A Family ticket to Biddenden Tractorfest for two adults and two children for the 15th or 16th August 2026.

## KENT ART COMPETITION

### About the competition

Children are invited to create an artwork inspired by Farming, Farm Animals or the Countryside. Entries will be proudly displayed in the Kent Art Quarter during the Kent County Show 3 - 5 July in the John Hendry Pavilion.

### Win on entry

- All entrants receive:
  - FREE Child's entry ticket to the Kent County Show (3-5 July, Detling Showground)
  - FREE Parent/Carer entry ticket to the Kent County Show.

### Important information

- Closing date: 20th June 2026
- Artwork size: A4 only (Paper or card)
- Medium: Any (paint, paper, collage etc.)
- REMEMBER:** Write your name, age and school on the back of the artwork
- Entries cannot be returned

### Winner & runner up prizes

- 1st prize: A Trail Blazers Fishing Party or Forest Adventure Experience for 10 children.
- 2nd prize: 1:1 fishing lesson and a two-day fishing pass at a Trail Blazers site.
- 3rd prize: Family Ticket to Biddenden Tractorfest for two adults & two children for the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16th August.

### Child's Information

First Name : \_\_\_\_\_ School Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Age : \_\_\_\_\_

School Name : \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent / Carer Information

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (Block Capitals) \_\_\_\_\_

Kent County Show Tickets will be emailed to this address

### Artwork Details

Title of artwork : \_\_\_\_\_

Medium used : \_\_\_\_\_

### I confirm that:

- This artwork is the original work of the child named above
- I agree to the artwork being displayed during The Kent County Show (3 - 5 July 2026)
- I consent to my child's first name, age and school being used for display purposes

Parent / Carer signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

### Submission Instructions

Please submit your artwork along with this completed form to your teacher or send to Emma Stewart, Kent Art Competition, Kent Showground, Detling, Kent ME14 3JF  
By 20th June 2026

### Sponsored By



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR AMAZING CREATIONS!

**CRANBROOK TOWN BAND**  
presents  
**at the Movies**



**St Dunstan's Church  
Cranbrook**  
**Sunday 17th May, 2026  
@ 3pm**

**Free Admission**  
with a retiring collection for the  
**Friends of St Dunstan's**  
**Refreshments and a Raffle**  
will be available.

[www.friendsofstdunstans.org](http://www.friendsofstdunstans.org) [www.cranbrooktownband.org.uk](http://www.cranbrooktownband.org.uk)

# Art & Tennis Camp

**MAY Half Term**  
A fun, creative & active  
two day course!

**Thursday 28 + Friday 29 May**  
9.30 - 3.15  
**Iden Green Farm, Benenden**

Each day = 2.5 hrs Tennis, 2.5 hrs Art  
£100 pp for 2 day course

**Charlotte Greenwood: Tennis Coach**

**Anna Saunders: Art Tutor**

**AGES**  
6-8  
8-11

**Booking Essential:**  
see link below  
click for booking form

Experienced  
DBS Checked  
PL Insured

FEEL THE THRILL OF SPEED AT OUR RC RACE & DISPLAY!  
WATCH HIGH-PERFORMANCE RADIO-CONTROLLED  
VEHICLES IN ACTION, ENJOY STUNNING DISPLAYS, AND  
EVEN BRING YOUR OWN RC TO JOIN THE FUN.  
A GREAT WEEKEND OUT FOR ALL AGES!



# RC RACE AND DISPLAY



10AM-4PM

ADULTS: £3  
CHILDREN: £1.50  
EVENT ENTRANCE ONLY



OPTIONAL ONLINE  
BOOKING AVAILABLE



## 30TH & 31ST MAY 2026

ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL [INFO@RAFMANSTON.CO.UK](mailto:info@rafmanston.co.uk)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WEATHER CONDITIONS, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS AND SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS AND/OR EXHIBITORS

10-12 mm SAFE MARGIN (Keep all important content inside this area)




# SUMMER Holiday MUSIC WORKSHOPS

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 8-18


— LED BY —  
*Mrs Elizabeth Harris*  
MMus


DATE	TIME	WORKSHOP	COST
 <b>TUESDAY</b> 21 <sup>ST</sup> JULY	 10:00 – 12:00	<b>Theory of Music</b> Beginner to Grade 5 (max 15 students)	<b>£20.00</b>
 <b>TUESDAY</b> 28 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	 10:00 – 10:45 (Beginner)	<b>Recorders</b> (max 15 students in each session)	<b>£7.50</b>
	 11:00 – 12:00 (5 notes and above)		<b>£10.00</b>
 <b>TUESDAY</b> 4 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST	 10:00 – 12:00	<b>Singing for ages 8 – 11</b> Songs from musicals / pop (max 20 students)	<b>£15.00</b>
 <b>TUESDAY</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST	 10:00 – 12:00	<b>Flute Ensemble grade 3 and above</b> (max 15 students)	<b>£20.00</b>


 **LOCATION** – Hawkhurst Baptist Church, Western Road, Hawkhurst, Kent, TN18 4BT (limited parking).

 All workshops are led by Mrs Elizabeth Harris MMus. Trained in Safeguarding and on the DBS update service.

 Please email [Harrisflutedreams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Harrisflutedreams@yahoo.co.uk) for further details and to book a place on any of the courses.

 Own instruments, theory books, and pencil are required (other materials will be provided).

 Music Stands – Please send your child with a music stand for recorder and flute ensembles if they own one.

 Participants are invited to bring a snack.



# ANDREW PARRY

MUSIC

## SUMMER ROCK SCHOOLS 2026



FAVERSHAM PRIMARY || 27 & 28 JULY  
FAVERSHAM SECONDARY || 29 - 31 JULY  
MAIDSTONE PRIMARY || 3 & 4 AUGUST  
MAIDSTONE SECONDARY || 5 - 7 AUGUST  
\*\*ADVANCED\*\* || 27 - 30 JULY

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY VISIT [WWW.ANDREWPARRYMUSIC.COM](http://WWW.ANDREWPARRYMUSIC.COM)

# KESTREL



## GYMNASTICS ACADEMY

AFFILIATED TO



Unit 1 Counter Buildings

Woodchurch



Ashford

TN263SP

Email: [kestrelgymnastics2009@gmail.com](mailto:kestrelgymnastics2009@gmail.com)

Phone: 01233861441



 **CALLING ALL GIRLS** 

WE ARE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE A GIRLS ONLY X4 WEEK COURSE, DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE NEXT GENERATION OF GIRLS TO START THEIR JOURNEY PLAYING AND LOVING THE SPORT.

YOUR RECEIVE X4 ONE HOUR SESSIONS

- A RISE UP TENNIS T SHIRT FOR £25 - THAT'S 50% OFF!!

LEAD BY LTA ACCREDITED COACH WITH OVER 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE.

- NO RACKET NO PROBLEM, WE CAN LEND YOU ONE EXCLUSIVELY FOR AGES 6YRS TO 12YRS

LOCATION: BIDDENDEN TC

WHEN - SATURDAYS 11:30 AM - 12:30PM

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL - [DANNY@RISEUPTENNIS.CO.UK](mailto:DANNY@RISEUPTENNIS.CO.UK)

# RUGBY TAGGERS

FUN, SAFE, NON-CONTACT RUGBY  
FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

PLAY • LEARN • GROW • BELONG

Build confidence, make friends and stay active  
in a safe, supportive environment.



### SESSION DETAILS



WHEN:  
Saturday mornings



TIME:  
9:30am – 10:30am



WHERE:  
Southons Field, Marden

### WHAT CHILDREN WILL DEVELOP



Confidence & social skills



Teamwork & respect



Fitness & coordination



A love for being active



FIRST SESSION  
**FREE!**



**PAY AS YOU PLAY**  
No monthly commitment –  
just turn up and play!

### CONTACT & BOOKING



EMAIL:  
[rugbytaggers@gmail.com](mailto:rugbytaggers@gmail.com)



CALL / TEXT:  
07834 225584




BOOK ONLINE:  
[www.rugbytaggers.co.uk](http://www.rugbytaggers.co.uk)




**JOIN THE RUGBY TAGGERS FAMILY TODAY!**

Everyone is welcome. All abilities. All backgrounds. Rugby for all.





# BENENDEN Swimming Camps



**25-28 AUGUST 2026**  
9.00am - 5.30pm

**BENENDEN SCHOOL**  
Cranbrook, TN17 4AA

Led by Olympian Robin Francis

2 x 2 hour pool sessions per day

Land Training with S & C

Technical analysis and more...

**£225**  
including lunch  
and snacks

BOOK NOW by visiting  
[www.benenden.school/swimming-camps](http://www.benenden.school/swimming-camps)

BENENDEN  
A COMPLETE  
EDUCATION



## CRANBROOK SPORTS CLUB

# 7,777

### FUN RUN

ADULT & CHILDREN'S RUNS

## 29TH AUGUST 2026

Run with a legend, support a cause

Featuring Kevin Sinfield CBE

Register on line

[www.cranbrooksportsclub.com](http://www.cranbrooksportsclub.com)

MN Association

ACS

mnda

MEC

FINISH

QR code

## Feedback

We welcome feedback. Please use the form here <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/form/?pid=86&form=16> if you ever have any suggestions for us to consider.

## News & Events

For upcoming local events in the parish of Cranbrook & Sissinghurst:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/>

Sign up to receive 'Be In The Know' emails from the parish council:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/>

Or follow the Parish Council Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CranbrookandSissinghurstPC>

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### **Sissinghurst (VA) Church of England Primary School**

Common Road, Sissinghurst, Kent TN17 2BH

Tel: 01580 713895 / Fax: 01580 710051

[office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk) / <http://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk>

Office opening hours are 08.30am to 3.30pm (term-time only)