



19 December 2025

# NEWSLETTER!

Dear Families,

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas here at school! We've had a sparkling week filled with productivity and success across all year groups. From racing trophies to festive bakes, there is so much to celebrate as we wrap up the term. Please read on for all the highlights and important reminders for the days ahead.

## Key Dates:

- 05 January 2026** - Staff Development Day
- 06 January 2026** - Start of Term 3
- 08 January 2026** - Year 7 Parents Evening  
Time: 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- 14 January 2026** - Sixth Form Parent Forum  
from Time: 5:00PM- 6:00PM
- 15 January 2026** - Year 13 Parents Evening  
Time: 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- 22 January 2026** - Year 10 Parents Evening  
Time: 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- 29 January 2026** - Year 8 Parents Evening  
Time: 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- 05 February 2026** - Year 9 Parents Evening  
Time: 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- 13 February 2026** - End of Term 3



## A season of Giving

- **£428.61 was raised for SNAAP during our non-uniform day!**
- **Your donations to the Christmas Grotto allowed us to support 50 families this festive season.** 🎁

Thank you for your kindness and for making such a difference to so many.



## TERM 3 STARTS WITH WEEK A TIMETABLE



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**GOLD  
SCHOOL  
2020**

ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of the term, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very happy and restful festive break. I also want to thank you sincerely for your continued support throughout the term, particularly in ensuring your child's regular attendance at school and in supporting the homework that is sent home on a consistent basis. Your partnership with us makes a real and measurable difference to students' progress and wellbeing.

This has been a fantastic term for our school community. We have already taken part in nearly 50 trips since returning in September, offering students a wide range of enriching experiences beyond the classroom, with many more planned for the coming terms. Our end-of-year production at the King's Hall was another real highlight. The performance was exceptional, with over 100 students involved, making it a truly inclusive event and giving so many young people the chance to showcase their talents, commitment and creativity. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part, both on stage and behind the scenes.



I would also like to recognise the outstanding work led by Miss Dash in bringing the electron microscope into school. This has been a truly wonderful and explorative experience, not only for our own students but also for those from other schools who were invited to take part. It has been an inspiring example of high-quality, collaborative STEM learning in action. Alongside this, our STEM Robotics programme continues to go from strength to strength, with a range of exciting competitions coming up in the near future.

A special thank you must go to our Year 11 students for the maturity and commitment they have shown in their revision and preparation this term. As we approach the final stages of their time with us, I hope they continue to maintain this focus and determination. The same is true for our Year 13 students, who are working incredibly hard as they move towards the culmination of their courses and prepare for their next steps beyond school.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. On behalf of all staff, I wish you and your families a very safe, peaceful and enjoyable festive break and we look forward to welcoming students back in the new term refreshed and ready for the months ahead.

Mr A Holmes  
Headteacher



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

***A member of Swale Academies Trust***

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

**THIS WEEK SO FAR...**

**\*\* TRACK Excellence Raffle Winners Announced! \*\***



Each Wednesday, the school will run a 'TRACK Excellence' raffle for all students. To enter, students must have seven or more positive signatures over the two weeks. Students with negative signatures are still able to participate. This week's winner is

**Shekinah (Year 8)** and prize is lunch voucher for our restaurant Cuccina.



**THIS WEEK SO FAR...**

**\*\* Learning Highlights: This Week in the Classroom \*\***

It has been a busy and creative week across many of our departments. Here is a look at what our students have been achieving:

**English:**

- **Year 8:** A huge well done to Year 8 for their fantastic teamwork this week! They worked together in groups to design vibrant posters showcasing their favourite books. The effort across the year group was outstanding.
- **Year 7:** In creative writing, we would like to recognize Caladine, Rumball, Frankie, Lilly, Harrison, and Layton. They produced brilliant alternative endings for the book *Rooftoppers* (Roof in the Smoke), showing great imagination and literary skill.

**History:**

- Our **Year 7** historians have been busy designing and building Norman castles. We saw some truly fantastic engineering and design skills on display. A special "shout out" goes to Greta, whose castle model was amazing!



**Artsmark Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts Council England



**GOLD SCHOOL 2020**

**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

**Spanish:**

- **Year 7** students have been exploring culture and language together this week. Working in groups, they designed informative and colourful posters about various Spanish traditions, demonstrating both great research and collaborative skills.



**🎄 Festive Flavours in the Food Department**

The Food Preparation and Nutrition department has been filled with the wonderful aromas of cinnamon, chocolate, and ginger as we head toward the Christmas break! Our students have been busy perfecting their festive bakes:

- **KS3:** Our younger students have been getting into the holiday spirit, baking and decorating beautifully spiced **gingerbread biscuits**.
- **Year 10:** The kitchen was a hub of professional skill as Year 10 mastered the art of the **Yule Log** and crafted intricate **Cinnamon Star breads**.
- **Year 11:** Taking a well-earned break from their NEA (Non-Exam Assessment), Year 11 students turned their talents to a refreshing and technical **Lemon Meringue Pie**.



The standard of baking has been exceptional—well done to all our budding chefs!



**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

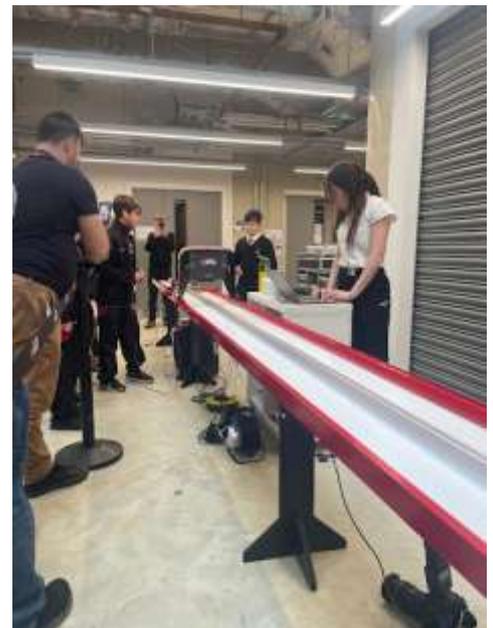
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

**\*\* TWS Racing: Success at the STEM Regional Finals! \*\***

This past Tuesday, three of our dedicated teams headed to Canterbury Christ Church University for the STEM Racing Regional Finals. The competition was intense, requiring students to deliver professional verbal presentations, showcase their engineering portfolios, and race their custom-built Formula One cars. Success relied on a perfect blend of aerodynamic design and lightning-fast reaction speeds. Despite competing against a wide range of schools, including Grammar schools and seasoned performance classes, our students truly held their own. We are thrilled to announce that **DOSR** and **Fast and Fishy** were nominated for four awards! **DOSR** won their heat, finishing 2nd in the Entry Level performance class and an impressive 10th out of 23 teams overall. They also secured the prestigious **Research and Development Award**.

Mrs. Newton is incredibly proud of the effort every student has put in since the start of the year. With a wealth of experience now under our belts, we are aiming for the "Development Class" next year—a step that could take us all the way to the Nationals!



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**GOLD  
SCHOOL  
2020**

**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

**\*\* Decoding Christmas in the STEM Academy \*\***

Our STEM Academy students have been diving into the "hidden language" of technology! They've been learning about **Binary Code**—the system of 0s and 1s that computers and apps use to communicate everything from simple numbers to complex videos.

To put their new skills to the test, students created Christmas cards featuring secret messages written entirely in binary.

**Can you solve this festive message?**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*\* Important reminder: Upcoming School Immunisations \*\***

**HPV Vaccine (February/March 2026)**

The Immunisation Team has also scheduled visits for the **HPV Vaccine** on the following dates:

- **Wednesday, February 25, 2026**
- **Wednesday, March 11, 2026** (Full-day visits)

The primary focus is **Year 8 students**. However, students in Years 9, 10 or 11 who have not yet received a dose of the HPV vaccine will also be included in these sessions if they are available.



**Artsmark Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts Council England



**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

## SIXTH FORM UPDATE

### \*\* Thank you! Sixth Form Applications Now Open! \*\*

We would like to extend a huge **thank you** to everyone who attended our fantastic **Sixth Form Open Evening**. Here are the key details you need to apply for 2026:

- **Prospectus:** Check out our brand-new prospectus. Download your copy here: [↓ Sixth Form Prospectus](#)
- **Applications:** All applications should be made through Kent Choices, where you can peruse our full 2026 course offer. Apply here: [📄 Kent Choices](#)

### Need Advice?

If you or your child would like to speak to Ms. Simons, Head of Sixth Form, regarding any aspect of the application process, please contact us at [tws\\_sixthform@swale.at](mailto:tws_sixthform@swale.at). We are excited to receive your applications!

### \*\* University Success & Sixth Form Applications! \*\*

Huge congratulations to all our Year 13 students who have attended university interviews this week! We are thrilled to see the offers rolling in, including places for:

- History at King's College London
- Primary Education at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU)
- Illustration and Animation at the University for the Creative Arts (UCA)

It is not too late to apply through UCAS! Please contact Ms. Simons or Mr. Lane for more information and support.

### ➔ Year 11: Apply to Sixth Form!

Interviews for our Sixth Form will begin in January! We urge all Year 11 students to submit their applications as soon as possible to secure an offer on their preferred courses.

If students have any questions regarding applications, Kent Choices for TWS Sixth Form, courses, or student life, please get in touch with Ms. Simons, Head of Sixth Form, at [tws\\_sixthform@swale.at](mailto:tws_sixthform@swale.at).



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



## NOTICE BOARD

### 100 FREE FAMILY TICKETS – THIS CHRISTMAS AT WHITSTABLE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB!



We're spreading some festive cheer! Whitstable Town Football Club are giving away 100 free family tickets to our local schools for our upcoming Christmas fixtures — once they're gone, they're gone!

To claim yours, simply head to our online Box Office, choose either: Saturday 20th December or Saturday 3rd January

At checkout, enter the code FreeTickets (case sensitive) and your tickets will be reduced to FREE.

Up to 4 tickets per family Limited to 100 total — first come, first served!

Book now via our Box Office:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/wtfc>

Join us at The Primcura Healthcare Stadium, The Belmont, this festive season — bring the family, enjoy the football, and be part of the Christmas atmosphere!



**Kent Family Hub**

## Half Term Programme

Canterbury  
December 20th, 2025 - January 2nd, 2026

**Our Activities**

- Wildwood Trips
- Roller Skating
- Table Top Gaming
- Family Swim
- New Years Eve Party
- Pantomime: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Contact us: [CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk](mailto:CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk)

Find us on Facebook or Instagram at Canterbury Family Hubs



### Canterbury Family Hubs

**Information:**  
Booking Activities:  
Families of children aged 4 to 16 years, who are in receipt of benefits related to free school meals are eligible for winter holidays, holiday activities and food bank programmes. The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in Kent focuses on children's physical health and wellbeing by providing healthy food, and exciting activities for children and young people during the school holidays. To register your interest, please email [canterburyhubs@gov.uk](mailto:canterburyhubs@gov.uk)

<p><b>20th &amp; 22nd December</b> <b>Wildwood Trip</b></p> <p>We have a number of tickets available for families to enjoy a day at Wildwood, with lunch provided for all young people attending. Time slot booking required for Saturday events. For 0-16 years (25 SEND), Parents/Carers in attendance. <b>Meet at: 10:00am</b> Home Bay, Canterbury, Home Bay, CT1 1JQ.</p> <p><b>22nd December</b> <b>Table Top Gaming</b></p> <p>Ready to roll the dice and show your wits? Come along for an afternoon of fun, strategy, and good company! Whether you're a seasoned gamer or just curious about something new, everyone is welcome. Bring your favourite game or join in on ours - it's a night to remember! <b>1:00pm - 5:00pm</b> The Long Barn, 8 Buttery Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2H</p> <p><b>31st December</b> <b>New Years Eve Party</b></p> <p>Come along for our New Year's Eve Family celebration. We'll be counting down to 12 noon with music, games and entertainment. Arrival at 5.11 last seen to all ages. <b>10:30am - 12:30pm</b> Home Bay Family Hubs, Memorial Park, Hipp Road, Home Bay, CT1 3JG.</p>	<p><b>20th December</b> <b>Roller Skating</b></p> <p>Get ready to glide, spin, and groove! Join us for an awesome afternoon of roller skating and fun! No experience? No problem! Skates will be available. Bring your energy, and have some fun! For 11-16 years (25 SEND), <b>1:00pm - 2:30pm</b> The Bay Sports Centre, Ashdown Road, Home Bay, CT1 1JQ.</p> <p><b>30th December</b> <b>Family Swim</b></p> <p>Free Family Swim sessions. Meet us at our longhead leisure centre to enjoy our 1 hour swimming session and healthy snack. (Age 0-16 years (25 SEND), parents/carers in attendance). <b>Meet at: 2:15pm</b> Angierhead Leisure Centre, Angierhead Road, Canterbury, CT2 7HS.</p> <p><b>2nd January</b> <b>Pantomime</b></p> <p>We have a number of tickets available for families to see Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Healthy snack bags will be available. Please note, this performance includes the use of props, smoke, pyrotechnics, streamers, and confetti to all scenes. For 0-16 years (25 SEND), <b>2:30pm - 5:00pm</b> The Old Swan Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury, CT1 3JG.</p>
--	---



ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE

A member of Swale Academies Trust

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



# The Whitstable School



Bellevue Road | Whitstable | Kent | CT5 1PX

T: 01227 931300

E: [tws\\_admin@swale.at](mailto:tws_admin@swale.at)

[www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk](http://www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr A Holmes BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

**Online Workshops**  
Theseworkshopsareaimed at supporting parents/carers of

**Body and Mind: Supporting the Wellbeing of Children Part 1**  
Wednesday 11th February 2026 17:30—19:00pm

**Body and Mind: Raising Awareness of Eating Disorders Part 2** Tuesday 31st March 2026 17:30—19:00pm

We have joined with Creative Education to develop and offer two workshops for parents around supporting your child's wellbeing and raising awareness of Eating Disorders. We will be offering 2 online workshops covering the following topics:

- Raising awareness about how we can support young people
- Sharing guidance on social media
- Providing an opportunity to talk about self-care
- Sharing strategies to help you talk about mental health to young people
- Raising awareness of eating disorders and disordered eating

You will get the most from the workshops if you are able to attend both, but you can join either session. If you would like to join, please ctrl + click the link below or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

Part 1 Link: [The Mind, The Body and You - Eating Disorder Prevention | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Part 2 Link: [The Mind, Body & You - Eating Disorder Prevention | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions, please speak with your school. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email: [EWandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk](mailto:EWandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk)

[www.neft.nhs.uk](http://www.neft.nhs.uk)



## Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in Secondary School



### Understanding the Amazing Teenage Brain

27/01/2026 18:00 – 20:00pm

[Understanding the Amazing Teenage Brain | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



### The Mind, Body and You – Eating Disorder Prevention 1

11/02/2026 17:30 – 19:00pm

[The Mind, The Body and You - Eating Disorder Prevention | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



### Less Stress Guide to Exams

04/03/2026 17:00 – 18:00pm

[Less Stress Guide to Exams | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



### Autism and Sleep

09/03/2026 12:30 – 13:30pm

[Autism and Sleep | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



### The Mind, Body and You – Eating Disorder Prevention 2

31/03/2026 17:30 – 19:00pm

[The Mind, Body & You - Eating Disorder Prevention | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



**Artsmark Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts Council England



**GOLD SCHOOL 2020**

**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



# The Whitstable School



Bellevue Road | Whitstable | Kent | CT5 1PX

T: 01227 931300

E: [tws\\_admin@swale.at](mailto:tws_admin@swale.at)

[www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk](http://www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr A Holmes BA (Hons), MA, NPQH



## Online Workshops

These workshops are aimed at supporting young people and parents/carers of young people in secondary school.

### Less Stress Guide to Exams

Wednesday 04th March 2026

17:00-18:00pm

Are you currently experiencing difficulties with exam stress? Would you like to learn more about what anxiety is and how to best to prepare for exams?

You are invited to a workshop **exam stress**. It will help you to understand what causes anxiety. We will also discuss techniques that you can use to overcome anxiety for exams and coursework.

If you would like to join, please ctrl+click link below or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

[LessStressGuideExams/Meeting-join/Microsoft Teams](#)

You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions, please speak with your school.

If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:

[EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk](mailto:EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk)

We look forward to meeting you!



[www.neft.nhs.uk](http://www.neft.nhs.uk)



## Online Workshops

These workshops are aimed at supporting young people and parents/carers of young people in secondary school.

### Understanding Your Amazing

Teenage Brain

27/01/2026 18:00-20:00pm

Parents/carers and young people are invited to a workshop **Understanding Your Teenage Brain**. It will help you to understand your amazing brains and the changes that come with adolescence. We will also discuss strategies that you can use to improve communication and understanding between you and to regulate emotions.

If you would like to join, please ctrl + click link below or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

[Understanding the Amazing Teenage Brain / Meeting-join / Microsoft Teams](#)

You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions, please speak with your school. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:

[EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk](mailto:EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk)

We look forward to meeting you!



[www.neft.nhs.uk](http://www.neft.nhs.uk)



Artsmark Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts Council England



GOLD SCHOOL 2020

ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE

A member of Swale Academies Trust

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732





**Christmas Tree Festival**  
JOIN US FOR PEACE & JOY

Free entrance but please give a donation to the Pilgrims Hospice Canterbury as you arrive or leave  
No tickets or prebooking - just come along!

Friday 19th, Saturday 20th, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025  
2pm to 6pm (last entrance 5.45pm)

ALL SAINTS WHITSTABLE Church Street Whitstable  
CT5 1PG

**ONE DAY CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP**




**K-POP DEMON HUNTERS**

22nd December  
Swalecliffe Primary School, Whitstable  
10am-4pm £35 Ages 5-16



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**GOLD SCHOOL 2020**

**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



**The  
Whitstable  
School**



Bellevue Road | Whitstable | Kent | CT5 1PX

T: 01227 931300

E: tws\_admin@swale.at

www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr A Holmes BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

For more updates and events, please visit our website and follow us on X and Facebook.

- <https://www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/TheWhitstableSchool>
- <https://x.com/TheWhitSchool>

Best Wishes  
The Whitstable School



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732