



West Malling Church of England Primary School and The McGinty SRP



NEWSLETTER 10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another warm week in school, but what a week it has been! Years 5 and 6 treated us to a musical extravaganza in their West Malling Showcase. They performed to the rest of the school on Tuesday afternoon, followed by two performances to parents on Wednesday afternoon and evening in a sweltering hall. The whole production was a phenomenal achievement, and the singing and choreography was on another level.

Moments like these are very special in the life of a school as every single child and adult is working together to produce something magical. Some children are natural performers, but for others, it takes a huge leap of faith to step outside their comfort zone and sing and dance in front of an audience. Everyone should feel incredibly proud of their achievement. Of course, things like this do not simply happen, and my gratitude goes out to Miss Walker, Mrs Mazey and all the adults that enabled the performance to take place.

Yesterday saw the children spend the morning in their new classes ahead of moving up in September. It is easy for us as adults to downplay the importance of this morning. Many children become anxious about what the next year might be like. None of us like change, and a new school year brings a new classroom, new teacher and teaching assistants and new routines. Hopefully spending the morning in their new class will help allay some of those worries and enable conversations over the summer holidays. Linked to this, we are holding 'Meet the Teacher' sessions for parents next Tuesday 14th July at 2:15 and 2:30. These are opportunities for you to come in, meet your child's new class teacher yourself and therefore be able to join the conversations with your children about next year.

When we return in September, we shall be seeing a little less of both Mr White and Miss Beadle. Mr White has been a part of the staff here since 2018 and contributed hugely in his roles as support for individual pupils, tutoring small groups and within the McGinty SRP. As a former detective constable, he will be increasing the amount of time he spends supporting the Air Safety training at Cranfield University, but I am hopeful that we shall continue to see him in school in a voluntary capacity. Miss Beadle will also be taking a temporary break from school, but we are hoping this will be short-term with her returning to her role in the McGinty SRP later next academic year.

I hope the children enjoy their blue raspberry ice poles!

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

w/c Monday 13th July

SCHOOL CLUBS NOW FINISHED

Monday 13th July

Final swimming session for Year 3

Optional parents' consultation appointments to discuss annual reports

Tuesday 14th July

Today's choice of lunch is: mild chicken curry & rice;
cowboy sausage & bean hotpot (V) or jacket potato

'Meet the Teacher' events – 2.15pm to 2.30pm and 2.30pm to 2.45pm

Wednesday 15th July

Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church, approx. 9.15am start

Thursday 16th July

Today's choice of lunch is: beefburger with potato wedges;
Quorn burger with potato wedges (V) or jacket potato.

Dessert is oaty cookie

Teddy Bear's picnic for new Chestnut children and Year 5, 12.15pm to 1pm

Year 6 Leavers' assembly, 2pm to 3pm. Parents to join us please!

Friday 17th July

Last day of term!

The **Return Walking Bus** will **NOT** be operating this afternoon

Tuesday 1st September

Term 1 begins – children return to school. **Please remember the new timings of the school day: the gate will open at 8.35am and children need to be ready to be registered at 8.45am. Our day will end at 3.15pm**

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	George W	For his fantastic reading
Year 1	Emilia	For her confidence and being a great role model
Year 2	Grace	For her mature attitude towards her learning
Year 3	Aiden	For progress in reading and kindness towards friends
	Aurora-Joan	For resilience over the last few weeks
Year 4	Matthew	For making good choices
	Marco	For working hard in his writing
Year 5	Stanley	For working well in all subjects this week
Year 6	On fun day out	---

School Meal Cost Increase

The cost of a school meal is increasing to £3.10 in September

Caterlink Lunch Debt – Years 3 to 6

Please ensure you add sufficient credit to your child's lunch account to cover the cost of any meals they may be ordering up to the end of term. Your child's account MUST NOT be in debt.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	%
Year 1	%
Year 2	%
Year 3	%
Year 4	%
Year 5	%
Year 6	%

Whole School Attendance

93.6%

Yearly attendance to date:

94.5%

The children in Year 6 have the highest attendance this week



Well done Year 6!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	95%
Year 1	91.2%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	88.5%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	97.1%

Well done Year 2 – you were the most punctual this week! 😊

Safeguarding

As a school we believe that safeguarding is not only about protecting children and young people from abuse and neglect, but also their families too. It is our intention, therefore, to support families by signposting them to universal services which may assist families when they are facing difficulties themselves. For reference, our Safeguarding Team is: Mr David Rye (DSL), Mrs Jo White (Deputy DSL), Mrs Gemma Hawken (Deputy DSL) & Mrs Sophie Ogden (Deputy DSL) and we are the people you should contact should you have any safeguarding concerns.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom. For more details, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.