



West Malling Church of England Primary School and The McGinty SRP



NEWSLETTER 3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you all for your support at Sports Day on Tuesday. The rain moved away, the sun shone, and the event was a true celebration of the inclusive environment that is so special here at West Malling. It is clear from the number of positive comments from parents how much they enjoyed being able to come and support for the afternoon – and huge congratulations to Bodiam, as the winning Castle Team, and to the individual winners of the Sportsmanship Award in each class.

Chestnut and Key Stage 1 had a wonderful time at Godstone Farm on Wednesday. All the staff were raving about the trip when they got back, and I have had many conversations with children, eager to share their experiences. It would seem that feeding the goats and visiting the playground were particular highlights! Staff at Godstone commented on how engaged the children were and loved their enthusiasm for asking questions. Thank you to all the staff that planned and went on the trip for enabling it to be such a success.

It is at this point in the school year when thoughts are very much looking ahead to the next academic year. In a previous newsletter I shared the news of Mrs Reeves' success in gaining a position as SENCO in another primary school, and once again I send huge congratulations on behalf of the whole school community. To minimise the change for the children in the McGinty Speech and Language SRP as much as possible, Miss Penighetti is moving from the main school to fill the vacancy. As a known face to the children, and having previously taught in the SRP, it is a move that will ensure the continued success of the SRP.

This is the only change to the teaching structure for next year, which will therefore be as follows:

Chestnut (Year R) – Mrs Penfold

Lime (Year 1) – Mrs Woodhouse

Cherry (Year 2) – Miss Brooks

Mulberry (Year 3) – Miss Davies

Oak (Year 4) – Mrs Hanes

Willow (Year 5) – Mrs Mazey

Ash (Year 6) – Miss Walker

Poppy (McGinty SRP) – Mrs Ogden

Daisy (McGinty SRP) – Mrs Ray / Miss Penighetti

Our official 'Moving Up' morning, when the children get to spend the whole morning in their new classrooms with their new teacher, will take place on Thursday 9th July. On Tuesday 14th July we shall be holding two 'Meet the Teacher' events from 2:15-2:30 and 2:30-2:45 where parents will be able to come and listen to a short presentation from their child's new class teacher and see the classroom. This is something we have done for several years now, and has been well-received by parents, enabling you to have conversations with your children about school over the summer holidays before returning in September.

I hope everyone has great fun in the sun at the Colour Run this afternoon!

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

w/c Monday 6th July

SCHOOL CLUBS NOW FINISHED

Monday 6th July

Year 3 swimming

Wednesday 8th July

Year 5/6 performance, 1.30pm and 6.30pm. More details to follow

Thursday 9th July

Change to published menu – see flyer sent with this newsletter

Moving Up morning (years R to 5)

Final transition session for new Chestnut children

Friday 10th July

Year 6 Activity Day

Annual reports home to parents

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!

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Whole class	For their enthusiasm on our school trip
Year 1	Primrose D	For her confidence and independent learning
Year 2	Isla R	For her inquisitive nature
Year 3	Cillian	For confidence in his writing
Year 4	Teddy	For stepping out of his comfort zone
Year 5	Lilly	For her enthusiasm on Sports Day
Year 6	Dontae George	For his enthusiasm for our play For overcoming his nerves

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	89.6%
Year 1	97.3%
Year 2	90%
Year 3	91.2%
Year 4	92.2%
Year 5	96.6%
Year 6	97.4%

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	94.7%
Year 1	97.2%
Year 2	94.7%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	85.7%
Year 5	98.7%
Year 6	95%

Well done Year 5 – 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.

Moving up and changing school is a big change for children and parents or caregivers. It is a new stage of growing independence and separation - and 'togetherness' may look different. Fears and worries are normal as well as excitement. The 'Moving Up' digital hub contains lots of useful advice and resources:

[Moving up - Togetherness](#)