



West Malling

CE Primary School & The McGinty SRP

Old Cricket Ground, Norman Road, West Malling, Kent ME19 6RL Headteacher Mr David Rye MSc PGCE NPQH

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Thursday 2nd April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of another term and now have the chance to pause and catch our breath for a couple of weeks. I always feel as though Easter is the first real chance for us all to have a proper break since September – there is always so much happening in the two weeks over Christmas that we seem to return to school in January just as tired as when we broke up! Whatever you have in store over the next couple of weeks, I hope that you are able to pause, unplug yourselves from the rigours of work, and enjoy some time with friends and family.

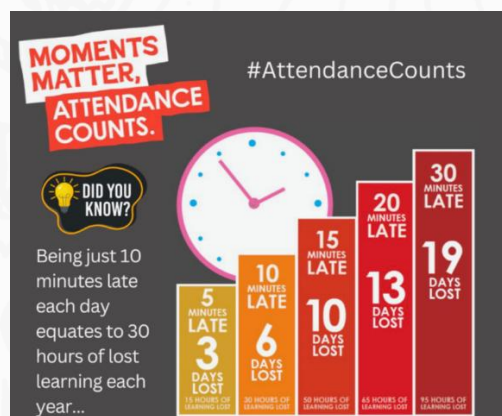
Worships as we approached the end of term have, of course, focused on the Easter story, and we enjoyed a lovely Easter Service in church yesterday morning. Congratulations once again to all the Learners of the Term and to Isaac, deserving winner of the Ethel Thorn Award for Compassion. The Easter fun has continued today with the annual Easter Egg hunt taking place (thank you Mrs Snell for all your organising and setting up) and drawing of the winning tickets in the Year 6 Easter hamper raffle.

You may have noticed a large number of kings, queens, princesses, dragons and even a castle blacksmith in school on Tuesday as Chestnut Class enjoyed a fantastic 'Castle Day' as the culmination of this term's learning. The children's knowledge of castle buildings and the activities that took place in a castle has grown hugely and I know how much fun they have had in their learning.

Please could I take this opportunity to remind all parents and children of the importance of road safety and traffic awareness in the immediate vicinity of the school. It is easy to become slightly more casual approaching the school gates, but we have recently had a number of incidents where children have darted across the road between the school gate and the cricket field without looking.

On a linked note, you may recall that three weeks ago Year 6 completed their Bikeability training, and cycling or scooting to school is an active way to start the day. Any bikes or scooters brought into school should be left safely in the bike shed to the right-hand side of the pedestrian pathway into school. Pedal bikes and scooters are the only methods of transport permitted on the school site. No powered bikes, trikes or scooters should be brought onto the school premises.

Finally, this graphic is an excellent representation of the impact arriving at school on time has on a child's learning. When we return for Term 5, please do make every effort to ensure children are in school before the register is taken at 8:55am each day.



With very best wishes for the Easter holiday.

Mr Rye