



West Malling Church of England Primary School and The McGinty Language SRP



NEWSLETTER 11th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the words of many a child on a car journey, “Are we nearly there yet?” There is one more week to go, but with so much packed in this term I think all of us are now gazing wistfully at the horizon!

This week opened with the phenomenally good Year 5/6 production of ‘Twist’. If you speak to any parent that was lucky enough to see either the afternoon or evening performance, they will back me up when I say that it was staggeringly good, and far more professional than a primary school production ought to be. There were two separate casts for the two performances, meaning that many children had learnt two roles – so two sets of lines, stage directions and dance routines! We strive to provide the children with as many opportunities as we can to enable them to flourish, and this was the perfect example. Thank you to those parents who took the time to email in to say how much they had enjoyed the performances, with my favourite comment being that it was a “joyous” evening.

Further opportunity was evident on Wednesday when Mr and Mrs White accompanied 8 pupils up to the Wimbledon Tennis Championships for the day. The children (and adults) had an absolutely incredible day, watching doubles on Number 2 court, sampling the famous strawberries and cream and even visiting the Wimbledon shop for some souvenirs! It will be a memory that stays with them all forever.

Yesterday after school saw the latest PTFA event, with Years R to 3 enjoying a Summer Party, followed by Years 4 to 6 having fun at the Youth Hub on the field. The events were very well attended and everyone had a brilliant time. Of course, the sunshine helped, and with so many activities and games, there was no time for anyone to get bored!

As I have said before, all of these activities and events can only take place with the organisation, support and time of members of staff. Enormous thanks to those dedicated adults who have given up their time to ensure that memories are created and there is opportunity for all.

Thursday morning provided all the children with the opportunity to spend time in their new classrooms with their new teacher. This is an extremely important event as it reassures children who might have understandable worries about how next year might be different, having developed a strong relationship with their current class teaching team. The morning was a great success with lots of excited chatter from children at break and lunchtime. I know staff will make a concerted effort in the last week of term to ‘drop in’ on their new classes to begin to strengthen those relationships ahead of the new school year.

I wish you all a good weekend and look forward to seeing many of you in church next Wednesday at 9:15am for the End of Year Leavers’ Service.

Mr Rye

WHAT’S ON?

w/c Monday 14th July

NO CLUBS THIS WEEK

Monday 14th July

Last swimming session for Year 3

Year 6 rail safety workshop delivered by Network Rail

Tuesday 15th July

‘Meet the Teacher’ sessions, 2.15pm-2.30pm and 2.30pm-2.45pm

Wednesday 16th July

Leavers’ service at St Mary’s Church, 9.15am (approx.) start.
All welcome to join us

Thursday 17th July

Year 4 trip to watch ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’ at The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

Teddy Bears’ Picnic, 12.15pm-1pm, new Chestnut children and (current) Year 5

Year 6 Leavers’ Assembly, 1.15pm to 1.45pm followed by Year 6 Leavers’ Celebration, 1.45pm to 3pm

Friday 18th July

Last day of Term 6

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! 🌞 🎉

Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September

Term 1 begins – INSET days – school CLOSED to children

Wednesday 3rd September

Children (Years 1 to 6) return to school

Monday 8th to Thursday 11th September

Children in Year R (Chestnut Class) in school until 12pm

Friday 12th to Tuesday 16th September

Children in Year R (Chestnut Class) in school until 1pm

Wednesday 17th September

Children in Year R (Chestnut Class) start full days

w/c Monday 16th September

Year 6 residential trip to PGL Grosvenor Hall

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Whole Class	For their excitement, enthusiasm and wonderful behaviour on our trip to the park
Year 1	Elsie-Mae	For her confidence and trying hard with her writing
Year 2	Olivia	For being amazing!
Year 3	Isla	For her amazing reading skills
Year 4	Eliza	For pushing herself out of her comfort zone
Year 5	Lexi	For amazing effort and recall of prior learning
Year 6	Whole Class	For their amazing performances in <i>Twist!</i>

Caterlink – Lunch Accounts (for parents who pay for their child's meals)

We are reminding an increasing number of parents to top-up the balance on their child's lunch account. Please ensure that accounts are always in credit. Caterlink operate a 'no debt' policy; if you do not have any credit please send your child in with a packed lunch.

Please note: the cost of a hot mid-day meal will increase to **£3.05** from 1st September.

To give feedback on the meal provision offered at our school please complete the Caterlink Parent/ Guardian Survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SXMHL8D>

Breakfast Club

Sessions for the next academic year are now available to book should you wish to get ahead!

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	84.4%
Year 1	92.4%
Year 2	89.7%
Year 3	94.2%
Year 4	92.4%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	100%

Whole School Attendance

92.7%

Yearly attendance to date:

94.2%

The children in Year 6 have been in school every day this week



Well done Year 6!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	98.9%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	96.2%
Year 4	96.3%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	98.7%

Well done Year 1 – you arrived on time every day 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.

The Nintendo Switch 2 was released last month and has a new communication feature that you should be aware of. There is also a free Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app that can be linked with your Nintendo Switch to monitor what your child is playing.

Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-2/GameChat/Nintendo-Switch-2-GameChat-2785625.html> <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Support/Nintendo-Switch-2/How-to-Set-Up-Adjust-or-Remove-Parental-Controls-on-Nintendo-Switch-2-2843839.html>