



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



NEWSLETTER 20th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful spell of warm and sunny weather we are experiencing now. Summer is certainly here and that makes schools exceptionally busy places. The highlight this week was undoubtedly Sports Day where the children all competed their hearts out. There was perseverance galore on display and the sportsmanship was wonderful to see. Of course, it is wonderful to race and end up with a gold, silver or bronze sticker and get to stand on the podium. However, the true essence of sport is in being the very best you can be but supporting all the other competitors and appreciating their efforts at the same time. It was this incredible sportsmanship that led to the final awards that were handed out, just before the trophy was awarded to the Dover Castle Captains as the overall winners.

Enormous congratulations must also go to all the spectators who came along for the afternoon. Thank you for all your support and encouragement from the sidelines which contributed to the success of the event. It was a wonderful atmosphere for the children to compete in.

In addition, this week has seen all classes have safety workshops from the Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Year 6 travel to Rochester Cathedral for the annual Church Schools' Festival and Year 1 walk down for a tour of the new Thrive Living residential development (where the big cranes are that are visible from school!) to tie in with their work on architecture and building design. Term 6 tends to be jam-packed and as I turn the page of my diary, I can see that next week will be no different!

I have written to parents and carers separate to this newsletter concerning the teaching staff structure for next year. I am aware that many children start to become anxious about the next year before the end of term, and that this can sometimes spoil their enjoyment of the end of the current year. I hope that by sharing this information now, it will help to alleviate some of these worries and enable the children to enjoy the many activities in the final month in their current class.

Very best wishes for the weekend.

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

Monday 23rd June

Year 3 swimming

Tuesday 24th June

Reserve Sports Day

Wednesday 25th June

Year 5 trip to Hemsley Conservation Centre

Thursday 26th June

Year 2 assembly at 9am - parents are invited to come along and share in the children's learning

New Chestnut Class transition afternoon, 1.15pm to 2.30pm (half of class)

Friday 27th June

Colour Run

Monday 30th June

Year 3 swimming

Tuesday 1st July

Lime Class trip to Eagle Heights

Wednesday 2nd July

Year 3 trip to the London Eye

Thursday 3rd July

New Chestnut Class transition afternoon, 1.15pm to 2.30pm (second half of class)

Monday 7th July

Year 3 swimming

Tuesday 8th July

Year 5/6 performances of 'Twist!', 1.30pm and 6.30pm

Thursday 10th July

Final transition session for new Chestnut Class children, 9.30am to 11.30am

Whole school 'moving up' morning

Friday 11th July

Year 6 activity day

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	George	For his perseverance with his reading and writing
Year 1	William	For challenging himself
Year 2	Elsie-Maie Kayden	For her perseverance at Sports Day For settling so well and his participation in Sports Day
Year 3	Fleur	For her creative writing
Year 4	Elicia	For showing perseverance and resilience
Year 5	George	For excellent effort
Year 6	-	-

Netball

Do you, or someone you know, have an interest in Netball and would be interested in helping Jo White to run the after school club next academic year? This might also be suitable for a current Year 11/12 secondary school student who is taking Sports at Sixth Form. Please contact Jo if you're able to help. Thank you.

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.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	96.7%
Year 1	92.4%
Year 2	95.5%
Year 3	93.7%
Year 4	92.1%
Year 5	88.5%
Year 6	88%

Whole School Attendance

92.1%

Yearly attendance to date:

94.3%

The children in Year R have the highest attendance again this week



Well done Year R!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	93.3%
Year 1	97.1%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	96.6%
Year 5	95.2%
Year 6	99.3%

Well done Year 6 – 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.

Balancing the various demands parents have to cope with is not easy and all parents can come under pressure or stress from time to time. The link below is to an NSPCC guide which shares practical advice and tips for positive parenting techniques that work well for children - from babies to teenagers.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/positive-parenting>