



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



NEWSLETTER 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

How lovely it has been this week to have the sun shining warmly and see everyone out enjoying themselves on the field at lunchtime. It is always a special time of year when all the children are able to be on the field together, with children from all year groups mixing together. I know that with their move to secondary school on the horizon, the Year 6 children are particularly enjoying being able to spend time outside with their Year R buddies.

Thank you to all those parents who managed to make the time to come into school on Monday and Tuesday this week to talk through their children's progress. I often draw back to the school's values when writing the weekly newsletter, and it is 'hope' that shines through during Parents' Evenings. As both parents and teachers we all hope for the children in our care to achieve their very best. However, this is not blind hope where we bury our heads in the sand and simply cross our fingers that everything will turn out alright. It is a hope that is accompanied by huge amounts of hard work, both at home and in school, and this is greatly enhanced when parents and school staff are able to work together in partnership.

This week has also seen two visits from some of our governors, finding out more about various aspects of our school's work. The main focus for the first visit at the start of the week was on the significant amount of work that has been done to refine and develop aspects of the school's approach to Special Educational Needs. While inclusion has always been a strength of the school, especially with the added resources of the Speech and Language SRP, the governors were excited to see and hear first-hand the continued progress that is being made in this area. Similarly, the Christian ethos of the school is a considerable strength, and it was this that was being considered during the second visit. Our vision and values are the bedrock of everything we do in school. While we aim to help children see that they are strong values to hold onto for life, they also shape the way we approach our curriculum, teaching and systems in school, and it was pleasing that governors were able to recognise this clearly during their visit.

I hope the good weather remains for the majority of the Bank Holiday weekend to enable everyone to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. Please remember that due to the Bank Holiday the school will be closed on Monday, re-opening on Tuesday 6th May.

Very best wishes for an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend.

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

Monday 5th May

Bank holiday – school closed

Thursday 8th May

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

Change to the published menu: VE Day 80th Celebration Lunch – please see flyer sent with this newsletter.

Main: fish & chips; vegetarian – veggie dippers & chips.

Dessert will be Victoria sponge

Friday 9th May

Change to the published menu: main – sausage & chips; vegetarian – Quorn sausage & chips; jacket potato

Dessert will be oaty cookie

Years R-3 Party, 3 – 4.30pm

Youth Hub, 5.30 – 7.30pm

See message sent home on 27th March for further details

Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May

Year 6 SATs week

Monday 12th May

Year 3 swimming

Monday 19th May

Year 3 swimming

Wednesday 21st May

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

Friday 9th May

Although VE Day takes place on the 8th May, we will be celebrating it the following day on **Friday 9th May**. The children are invited to wear their own red, white and blue clothes.

There will be no need for the children in Years R to 3 who have purchased a ticket for the after school party to bring a change of clothes.

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Tommy	For trying really hard with his writing
Year 1	Evan-Rhys	For his understanding in RE and use of mathematical language
Year 2	Evalyn	For her lovely writing
Year 3	Freddie	For his creative writing
Year 4	Adesire	For always being on task and giving comprehensive answers
Year 5	Arlo	For his positive attitude towards his learning
Year 6	Charlie	For his fantastic work in maths

Perform Drama Workshops

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform!

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a free trial session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of West Malling CE Primary School** if they sign up by Wednesday 14th May 2025. Parents should quote WESX140525 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120. You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try.

Town Malling Cricket Club

Town Malling Cricket Club are pleased to be offering All Stars (Ages 5-8) & Dynamos (Ages 8-11) for the 2025 season, which are 8 week programmes designed to give a first taste of cricket to young boys and girls, starting May 2nd.

[TMCC - All Stars & Dynamos 2025 - Sign Up Link](#)

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	88.4%
Year 1	98.6%
Year 2	97.9%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	93.2%
Year 6	95%

Whole School Attendance

94.8%

Yearly attendance to date:

94.2%

The children in Year 1 have the highest attendance this week



Well done Year 1!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	97.9%
Year 1	97.1%
Year 2	98.2%
Year 3	93.3%
Year 4	96.7%
Year 5	94.1%
Year 6	97.3%

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.

The London Grid For Learning (LGFL) have created a video training session for parents to help them understand more about Gen AI (generative artificial intelligence) and the latest online harms children may be exposed to through new and emerging technologies. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEsHwss2x8E>