



# West Malling Church of England Primary School and The McGinty Language Centre



## NEWSLETTER 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are at the end of Term 4! In church on Wednesday we listened to the children and Reverend Ollie take us through the story of Holy Week and the first Easter – the story which underpins the entire Christian faith. Of course, Holy Week itself is at the very end of the school holiday with the last Thursday being Maundy Thursday, the day of the Last Supper, followed by the sadness of Good Friday and then we have the excitement and hope of Easter Sunday. I hope you are all able to enjoy some special family time together this Easter, along with the hot cross buns and chocolate eggs!

On behalf of Mrs Hillsdon and Esther, I would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone for your fundraising to help Naning Oi Girls School in Kenya. The school was a wash of red, white, green and black (the colours of the Kenyan flag) and all the children engaged in a variety of activities linked to Kenya. There was African dance, children playing popular Kenyan games and lots of research into the country, its people and wildlife. The money raised will go towards purchasing and installing sinks in the school to provide the girls living there with improved washing facilities for themselves and their clothes. It is always humbling to see our school community come together to support causes such as this.

I am writing this newsletter as the children have just returned to their classrooms following our traditional end of term 'Big Read'. Every adult in school shares a book or two with a group of children made up from all the classes. The theme today was Easter/spring in combination with our school value of perseverance. Any activity that brings children from different classes together is always a special one.

Now, everyone is excitedly engaged in the Easter Egg hunt supported by the PTFA and co-ordinated and organised by Mrs Snell. I can tell how much everyone is currently enjoying themselves! Huge thanks to The PTFA for supplying the Easter treats, and particularly to Mrs Snell for her time and effort in preparing everything and setting it all up.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support over the two terms since Christmas, and wish everyone a very well-earned Easter break. I look forward to seeing you all again when the school gate opens for the start of Term 5 on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Mr Rye

### WHAT'S ON?

#### Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

National Offer Day – Primary Schools

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#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Term 5 begins – children return to school

#### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Parents' Consultations, 3.20pm to 6pm. Appointments available to book via Arbor

#### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April

First swimming session for Year 3

#### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Bank holiday – school closed

#### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May

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

#### Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May

Years R-3 Party, 3 – 4.30pm

Youth Hub, 5.30 – 7.30pm

See message sent home on 27<sup>th</sup> March for further details

#### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Year 3 swimming

### Achievers of the Term

| YEAR   | PUPIL                      |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Year R | Ralph                      |
| Year 1 | Elsie-Mae                  |
| Year 2 | Ada                        |
| Year 3 | Jacob                      |
| Year 4 | Lily                       |
| Year 5 | Isaac<br>Patrick<br>Robert |
| Year 6 | Boaz                       |

### Demelza Kent Easter Trail & Craft Fair Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April

The hospice gardens will be beautifully decorated for a whimsical Easter trail, where families can hunt for hidden eggs, unscramble a secret word, and win a prize! There will also be a craft tent, exciting stalls, delicious refreshments from local vendors, and a chance to hear Sittingbourne's 106.9 SFM broadcasting live. All funds raised will support Demelza's vital work in caring for children and families who need it most.

### 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](https://perform.org.uk/try) or calling 020 7255 9120. You can find out more about the classes at [perform.org.uk/try](https://perform.org.uk/try).

### Hollywood Bowl

Early chicks enjoy the discount!

This Easter, parents can enjoy 50% off standard games of bowling using code **BUNNY50** when you bowl before 11am. They are open from 9am every day of the Easter holidays.

It pays off to be an early chick this Easter holidays so you can enjoy this incredible early bird offer!

### School Trends – Uniform Supplier

School Trends are offering parents 15% discount until 21<sup>st</sup> April – use code EASTER15

### ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

#### THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

| CLASS  | Attendance |
|--------|------------|
| Year R | 96.8%      |
| Year 1 | 93.2%      |
| Year 2 | 96.1%      |
| Year 3 | 97%        |
| Year 4 | 93.3%      |
| Year 5 | 93.8%      |
| Year 6 | 84.7%      |

#### Whole School Attendance

**93.4%**

#### Yearly attendance to date:

**94.2%**

The children in Year 3 have the been in school the most this week.



Well done Year 3!



#### PUNCTUALITY PANDA

| CLASS  | % Arrived on time |
|--------|-------------------|
| Year R | 100%              |
| Year 1 | 98.2%             |
| Year 2 | 98.8%             |
| Year 3 | 97%               |
| Year 4 | 98%               |
| Year 5 | 97.1%             |
| Year 6 | 97.3%             |

Well done Year R – 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.

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Please take a few moments to read the guidance, supporting parents with helpful information and advice, which was sent with last week's newsletter.