



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



NEWSLETTER 7th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week this has been in school – the week has absolutely flown by!

Yesterday was obviously World Book Day and there were some incredible outfits being worn within the overall theme of dressing as 'a word'. There were different nouns, verbs and adjectives on display and it all added to the sense of fun during the day. All classes engaged in a variety of activities linked to books and reading, with one of the highlights being the poetry recitals in each class where children performed poems they had learnt by heart at home. The whole school came together on Friday morning to hear the class winners perform their poems in front of everyone to select the overall winner for the school. Congratulations to everyone who took part, and in particular to all the winners – Madeleine, Arthur, Olivia, Fleur, Dari, Sridhanya and Aleesha.

This was by no means the only event enhancing the taught curriculum this week:

- Year 6 had their annual visit from the magistrate to talk about citizenship and the role of laws and justice in England. This is always a fascinating afternoon where the children learn huge amounts about the way the legal system operates.
- Year 2 visited Kent Life for a Stone Age Day full of a multitude of experiences. They met a member of a Stone Age tribe, explored the different weapons used, ground grain and produced some cave art. This brought to life their history learning for this term and the children were all wonderfully behaved during the day.
- We entered the season of Lent by talking about Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) and then Reverend Ollie leading a worship focused around Ash Wednesday. At the end of this worship the children had the opportunity to be 'ashed' if they wished, as a sign of their commitment to try to follow the lessons taught by Jesus.
- Today is International Women's Day and a group of 8 girls are participating this afternoon in a fun-packed football festival full of different activities in recognition of the day.

Wider opportunities such as these are a key part of developing as a rounded individual. It is through exploring different interests and activities that we grow and learn, and my thanks go out to all the adults in school who have supported these activities across the week.

I hope the sunshine and warmer weather last for us all into the weekend.

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

Friday 7th March

Football Club is **CANCELLED** today

Monday 10th March

SEND Coffee Morning in the school hall, 9am to 10am.

Please see flyer sent with this newsletter for further details

Year 4 swimming

Thursday 13th March

Year 6 trip to the London Archives – **please ensure children arrive at school at 8.20am**

Monday 17th March

Year 4 swimming

Last Fun Fitness Club and Dance Club for Term 4

Wednesday 19th March

Last Choir Club for Term 4

Friday 21st March

Red Nose Day – the children are invited to wear their own brightly coloured clothes and to get involved in our lunchtime activities. Details of our Just Giving page are overleaf

Last KS1 Sports Club and Football Club for Term 4

Monday 24th March

INSET day – school closed

w/c Tuesday 25th March

Last week of clubs for Term 4 (no Choir, KS1 Sports or Football which all finished last week)

Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th March

PTFA Mother's Day Tea – please see flyer sent with this newsletter

w/c Monday 31st March

NO CLUBS RUNNING THIS WEEK

Monday 31st March

Last swimming sessions for Year 4

Tuesday 1st April

Year R Hearing and Vision screening

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Jenson	For good listening and communicating more with his friends
Year 1	Elsie-Mai	For her participation and brilliant maths learning
Year 2	Moses	For his engagement with his learning
Year 3	Henry	For his recall of information in our history lessons
Year 4	Benedict	For showing great focus in his learning
Year 5	Dontae	For improved focus
Year 6	Finley	For taking pride in his work

Class Photographs

Photographs are ready to view using the QR code on your proof card. If you have already scanned the QR code on the Proof and registered, you will receive an auto email notification.

If you have not done it yet, please don't panic, you can still view by scanning the QR code on your Proof and following the instructions.

The order cut-off for free delivery to school is Thursday 20th March.

REMINDER: there are children in school whose image **MUST NOT** be used online. If you decide to purchase a class photograph, please **DO NOT** post a copy of the image on any social media platform. Thank you for your support.

Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March

The children are invited to wear their own brightly coloured clothes into school for an online donation. There will also be some lunchtime activities for the children to enjoy.

Our Just Giving page for online donations can be found here:

<https://click.contact.justgiving.com/>

Netball Club (Years 3 to 6)

We are looking for 6 children to join Netball Club which runs from 3pm to 4pm on Tuesdays. If your child would like to join please speak to Jo White or the school office. P.E kit required!

Understanding Emotional Regulation – Friday 21st March

Please see flyer sent with this newsletter

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	97.9%
Year 1	94.1%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	94.6%
Year 4	95.3%
Year 5	95.9%
Year 6	95%

Whole School Attendance

95.8%

Yearly attendance to date:

94%

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



Well done Year R!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	95.8%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	98.2%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	96.7%
Year 5	95.3%
Year 6	99.3%

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.

There are many educational benefits for children when learning and exploring with water, but it is important we also consider any potential safety risks alongside this. Research published by the Royal Life Saving Society UK reports that children under the age of five are most at risk of drowning. The statistics tell us that one child a month drowns at home in England. A new campaign, Splash Safely at Your Pad, has been designed to help children and families enjoy water play safely at home.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/listing/category/splash-safety-at-your-pad>