



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



NEWSLETTER 15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been Anti-Bullying Week in school. The theme this year has been around 'Respect.' Year 6 led a fantastic worship on Tuesday and all classes have undertaken a variety of discussions and activities linked to this. Central to this is the concept that disagreements and differences of opinion happen all the time, but that we should all learn to disagree with each other respectfully. Disrespectful disagreement leads to conflict, and that is what we all want to avoid.

Today is the annual Children in Need Day, which always seems to be an apt end to Anti-Bullying Week. The focus today has been on thinking about those children less fortunate than ourselves – a perfect opportunity to put into practice all of our school values. The school has been a sea of spotty colour and crazy hair, with lots of fun and games taking place inside at lunchtime. Enormous thanks to Mrs White and the School Council for all their organisation, enabling us to raise some money and contribute towards the national fundraising total.

Hopefully you have all received the separate message informing you of the concession I have managed to negotiate with Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council in connection with Ryarsh Lane car park. I would urge as many parents as possible to take advantage of the fact that you can now park for free from 2:45pm onwards. Parking in Ryarsh Lane and walking up to school to collect your children should help us to significantly reduce the number of vehicles in the immediate vicinity of the school at the end of the day. Not only will this make driving and parking easier for parents and assist relations with local residents, but most importantly of all it will make the area safer for the children as they leave the school site.

A reminder that on Tuesday and Thursday next week we are hosting Open Mornings for those families whose children are due to start school in September 2025. The Open Mornings run from 9:30am until 11:00am with short talks from me and our Head Pupils and the opportunity to be shown round school by Year 6 tour guides. If you know of any families with children of the right age, do please mention the Open Mornings to them and encourage them to come along and see our school for themselves.

Best wishes for an enjoyable weekend – and a dry Sunday for the switching on of the West Malling Christmas lights!

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

Sunday 17th November

West Malling's Christmas Lights switch-on

Monday 18th November

Year 5 swimming

Tuesday 19th & Thursday 21st November

Open Mornings, 9.30am to 11am, for September 2024
Reception class admissions. Places available to book via the school office

Saturday 23rd November

PTFA Christmas Fayre, 11.30am to 2.30pm

Monday 25th November

Year 5 swimming

w/c 2nd December

LAST WEEK FOR SCHOOL CLUBS

Monday 2nd December

Year 5 swimming

Tuesday 3rd December

Year 4 assembly at 9am - parents are invited to come along and share in the children's learning

Thursday 5th December

Year R and 6 NCMP (height & weight)

w/c 9th December

NO CLUBS RUNNING THIS WEEK

Monday 9th December

Flu immunisation in school

Last swimming session for Year 5

Tuesday 10th December

Nativity performance to parents of children in Chestnut & Lime classes at 2pm

Wednesday 11th December

Nativity performance to parents of children in Cherry & Poppy (Year 2) classes at 2pm

Achievers of the Week...

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Elijah	For his blossoming confidence
Year 1	Roma	For her improved concentration & brilliant maths learning
Year 2	John-James	For his superb maths
Year 3	Jack	For his class contributions
Year 4	Harper	For pushing himself out of his comfort zone
Year 5	William	For good focus with his learning
Year 6	Joshua	For his hard work & concentration

Children in Need

There's still time to donate! As always many thanks for your support.

<http://www.justgiving.com/page/joanne-white-wmcep-1729504541304>

Christmas Jumpers

Do you have any unwanted, good quality children's Christmas jumpers at home? If you do, would you consider donating them to our PTFA? The PTFA are hoping to be able to sell them during the week commencing 9th December - in time for Christmas jumper day on Wednesday 18th December (also Christmas lunch day). Donations should be handed in to the school office. Many thanks in anticipation of your support!

Nativity Performances

We are limiting the number of "tickets" **per family** to 2. There will be **NO** exceptions made to this so we would appreciate your support in not approaching staff to ask for additional family members to attend.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	95.3%
Year 1	90.5%
Year 2	94.7%
Year 3	100%
Year 4	99.3%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	93.4%

Whole School Attendance

95.8%

Yearly attendance to date:

95.1%

The children in Year 3 have been in school every day this week.



Well done Year 3!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	97.8%
Year 1	98.2%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	92.8%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	95.2%
Year 6	97.3%

Well done Year 1 – 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.

Internet Matters have produced new ABC checklists for parents, focusing on 3 key areas to guide them through the basics of keeping their children safe online: activate parental controls, balance screen time and check and chat. The checklists are broken down by age to provide parents with relevant tools and advice to help develop good digital habits early and support older children as they explore their independence online.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/abc-online-safety-checklist/#ABC-age-checklist>