



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



NEWSLETTER 18th October 2024

What have we been up to this week?

Chestnut Class

We started our new story 'Where the Wild things are'. The children have enjoyed finding out about Max and his wild adventures, as well as joining in with some 'Wild Rumpus' drum music. Great roaring and wild dancing Chestnut Class!

Lime Class

We have been finding out about space and writing all the new facts they have learnt. In computing, we used the netbooks to type the letters in our names using the keyboard. Some of us learnt how to use the 'Caps Lock' key to create a capital letter at the beginning.

Cherry Class

We have been scientists this week exploring the rainforest, desert, Arctic and ocean habitats and have discussed the adaptations animals have to allow them to live in their habitats.

Poppy Class

We have enjoyed exploring the value of coins by setting up a mini shop! The children have also been researching unusual facts about spiders to create an information text.

Mulberry Class

We have enjoyed writing lonely hearts adverts for Cinderella using four sentence types: commands, questions, statements and exclamation. We have also been learning how to add and subtract using the column method which they have all been using very successfully!

Oak Class

We have been learning about the Roman's. We took our learning outside to reenact Hannibal's journey to Rome and his battle against the Romans. This really helped the children to remember this aspect of Roman history.

Willow Class

Our CPR teddies had a nice, chilled morning in the reading corner (see class web page) before becoming patients for the afternoon. Please note that no teddies were injured during our practice session!

Ash Class

The children have been working on a piece of persuasive writing in English. We watched videos of holiday promotions and considered how persuasion was used. The children have now all produced a fantastic piece of writing that will be displayed in the corridor.

Daisy Class

The children have begun writing a brochure for a very interesting pet shop, filled with imperfect pets to suit every taste. In RE, we have been tasting apples and honey as part of our learning about Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year).

Jo White – Families & Community Manager

On Wednesday the children in KS2 were able to access virtual training from Kent and Surrey Air Ambulance staff on Restart a Heart. A very interactive and fun session to share a useful and life saving skill.

Happy weekend everyone!

WHAT'S ON?

Monday 21st October

Auriga Astronomy Workshops for Years 3 and 5

Year 5 swimming

Wednesday 23rd October

End of Term service, 9.15am at St Mary's Church. Parents are welcome to join us, however, this service is to celebrate our Achievers of the Term and children will not be taking part in class performances

Choir Club will **NOT** be on today. Club will resume on Wednesday 6th November

Thursday 24th October

Sibling & individual portraits being taken

Tennis Club is **NOT** running today. Club will resume on Thursday 7th November

Friday 25th October

Last Day of Term 1

Football Club is cancelled. Mrs Rolfe has extended an invitation to children who usually attend to join her KS1 Sports Club if they would like to. KS1 Sports ends at 3.45pm.

Monday 4th November

Term 2 begins – children return to school

Year 5 swimming

Achievers of the Week...

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Keira	For her kindness
Year 1	Wiliam	For challenging himself
Year 2	Ada	For persevering with her learning
Year 3	Ava-Mae	For fantastic effort in maths
Year 4	Stanley	For amazing progress in reading & writing
Year 5	Isaac	For being an all round star!
Year 6	Tommy C	For his persausive writing

Help Needed!

Are you available to volunteer at the West Malling Christmas Light Switch On event on Sunday 17th November? We will have a tombola stall at the event and need volunteers to help run the stall. If you can spare any time on the day, no matter how little you can spare we would be really grateful if you could please join the group chat. Thank you for your support.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/IKaQHf5uDqMGLgaN6oA6iN>

Packed Lunches – A Reminder

A quick reminder that if you provide your child with grapes to eat at school they must be cut in half, lengthwise, to minimise the risk of choking. Children should also have a drink in addition to their water bottle as they do not take these into the hall at lunchtime.

Please note that packed lunches should **not** contain fizzy drinks or bars of chocolate. Thank you for your support.

Data Collection Sheets

Polite reminder – please return your signed Data Collection Sheet as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	91.6%
Year 1	92.3%
Year 2	95.2%
Year 3	92.9%
Year 4	96.5%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	97.3%

Whole School Attendance

94.7%

Yearly attendance to date:

95%

The children in Year 6 have the highest attendance this week.



Well done Year 6!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	100%
Year 1	99.1%
Year 2	99.4%
Year 3	99.2%
Year 4	99.2%
Year 5	99.4%
Year 6	99.3%

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.

Following our successful fundraising for Young Minds I would like to share with you their website [YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#). It is a site for pupils, parents and professionals and has lots of helpful messages, links and articles to support us all.