Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 20th November 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has given us moments to pause and consider our theme this term, RESPECT. In assembly on Monday, we talked about bullying. We discussed what bullying is, the different types of bullying and the impact it can have on people. It was interesting to see how many of the children found it difficult to distinguish between an argument with friends and bullying so this is something many of the teachers continued to work on with the children in their classes.

Writing Moderation

In time for parents evening and to help us understand your child's performance in writing, we held a writing moderation with governors on Wednesday. It was impressive to see the range of writing that is in children's books. We had the privilege of being able to see how our EYFS children have started to write simple words and track writing progression through the school up to Year 6 who are really considering their impact on the reader. We also went out to classrooms this week to consider the children's writing experiences and to find out what motivates them to write. We found out lots and are keen to continue refining and developing our curriculum so the children LOVE to write.

Gardening Help - Saturday 11am -1pm.

If you or other family members are at a loose end this weekend, come and get stuck in this weekend. On Saturday, we are clearing the courtyard at the centre of the school, ready for a planting project. We ask you to bring a spade or garden fork as well as some gloves. We cannot accommodate children this time as we will be using the heavier gardening tools to help us clear. We have added a registration form to our social media channels for you to sign up.

PTFA funding

Sometimes, it is difficult to know and understand where your money goes when it is collected by the PTFA. So we thought it would be good to share an update.

- The PTFA have recently help to part-fund (£700) furniture for our creative arts suite. This is being redeveloped into a more useable space and having the correct furniture will make a big difference.
- The PTFA have funded (£1200) the school to improve the Forest School area and to provide resources for the sessions ready for Forest school sessions to begin.

PTFA funding has a real impact on the school and as well as some of the larger items which have an impact on all children, we are thankful for the small contributions too.

Annual Policing Survey

Kent's Annual Policing Survey is an opportunity to share your views and experiences and help ensure local voices are heard. The survey is anonymous and takes around five minutes to complete.

Complete the Annual Policing Survey 2026



Have a lovely weekend.

Neil Brinicombe - Headteacher

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Celebration Assembly

We are pleased to invite parent/carers to attend our Celebration Assembly.

Date: Friday, 27th November
Time: 8:50am
Where: School Hall

We look forward to seeing you there.

Star Awards



w/e 20th November
Hedgehogs – Sophia
Rabbits – Amelia
Otters – Isaac
Squirrels – All of Squirrels
Badgers – Harry
Woodpeckers – Toby
Owls – Paisley

Christmas Events



You must respond to the online form if you would like your child to have a Christmas Dinner. Responses are also required for extra ticket requests for the Nativity Play. The response deadline is **Wednesday, 25th November.**



Whole School Attendance

16/11/26 - 20/11/26	01/09/26 - 20/11/26
95.6%	96.4%



New Lunch Menu: Week 1

w/c Monday, 23rd November 2026

£2.75 per day

Primary School Menu - Whole School Meals

to pay for your meals online, please go to:

www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk/pay

The Week Ahead

Week commencing 23rd November 2026

Tuesday, 24th November

- **Manwood's Primary Maths Competition –** selected pupils

Wednesday, 25th November

- **Deadline for response for all Christmas events** (see separate forms on parentmail)
- **Deadline to respond to My Mum 2027 –** Hedgehogs, Rabbits and Otters classes

Friday, 27th November

- **'Celebration Assembly' –** parent/carers invited to attend. Please come to the school office at 8:45am
- **PTFA Mufti Day –** children to wear their own clothes in exchange for a children's tombola prize. See PTFA page below for information.
- **2:15pm – Residential Trip Meeting** for parent/carers of Owls Class in the school hall
- **Deadline to buy disco tickets –** see parentmail payments
- **Deadline to respond to the PSHE Consultation form via parentmail**

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Reception Class 2027

Applications are now open for Reception Class September 2026. If you have a child born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 you can apply online for a place through the Kent County Council website:-

Primary school places - Kent County Council



Applications close on **15th January 2027.**

We invite families to book an appointment to come and have a look around our school at a time to suit. Please spread the word to anyone you know with a child of the right age.



Email: stmacptfa@gmail.com

PTFA NEWS





Community Noticeboard



St Margaret's Church
High Street, St Margaret's at Cliffe
CT15 6AU

Christmas Tree
&
Nativity Crib Festival

Thursday 26 November 11.00 – 5.00
Friday 27 November 11.00 – 5.00
Saturday 28 November 11.00 – 5.00
Sunday 29 November 12.00 – 5.00



Created by clubs & organisations in the locality.
All donations received from this event will be shared between Pilgrims Hospice, St Margaret's Church Flower & Brass Guild and St Margaret's Church.



Community Noticeboard





