



## Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### Message from the Headteacher

What a bustling week we've had at our school. It's been a joy to see our pupils thriving and engaging in their learning environments. I've had the pleasure of visiting all our classes this week, observing the teaching and learning taking place. I'm very pleased to report that our children were thoroughly engaged and working with enthusiasm. Their teachers were clearly very happy with them.

I'd like to share some exciting news with you all. We've received a wonderful donation of new computer screens from the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project to replace some of the smaller old screens being used in our classrooms. This generous gift will undoubtedly enhance our technological resources and provide our pupils with improved learning experiences. We're incredibly grateful for this support and the opportunities it will bring to our school. Thank you to the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project and to Mr and Mrs Spice for making that happen.



One of the highlights of my week was watching our children play during lunchtime. I was particularly impressed by a group of boys from Woodpeckers who created an incredibly complex game that required great skill and perseverance - it reminded me a bit of hacky sack. Their creativity and teamwork were brilliant and I thought to myself that they were demonstrating our school values right there – where is an Ofsted inspector when you need one! It's moments like these that remind us of the importance of playtime in developing social skills and problem-solving abilities.

Speaking of playtime, we have a special request for our school community. Some of our children have expressed interest in having Lego and/or Playmobil available as a calm activity option during lunchtime play as an alternative to the running around games. If you have any of these 'small world' activities that you'd be willing to donate, we'd be incredibly grateful. These activities can provide a wonderful opportunity for quiet, focused play and creativity.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to all of those parents and grandparents who have been in to volunteer to help out with hearing readers - supporting our children's literacy is invaluable as is the offer of help. Class teachers will be nabbing you very soon to book in times that work for you and them. We're still on the lookout for more volunteers, especially for our older pupils. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining our team of volunteer readers, please do get in touch. Your time and effort can make a significant difference in a child's learning journey.

While on the subject of fantastic volunteers, a round of applause is due for the PTFA team who organised last week's quiz. It was a roaring success, raising an impressive sum of over £800 for our school with a packed hall of competitive teams eager to take the title. Events like these not only boost our children's access to resources but also strengthen our school community. I must also add that the staff team acquitted itself admirably. Phew! Well done and thank you to all involved!

I continue to be immensely proud of our school community. The way our pupils, staff, and families come together to support one another and contribute to our school's vibrant atmosphere is truly remarkable. Your ongoing support and engagement are what make St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe such a special place to learn and grow.

Thank you for your continued support, and here's to another week of learning, growth, and community spirit.

**Craig Ward – Interim Headteacher**



# Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**'Celebration Assembly'**

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

**Date:** Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September  
**Time:** 2:45pm  
**Where:** School Hall

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Reception Class 2025

We are already starting to think about our next new Reception Class. Do you have a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021? If so they will be eligible to start school in September 2025.

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.



## Harvest

Please send harvest gifts to school on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September. We will be very grateful to receive any donations of items from the list below. We would ask that you do not include glass jars.

### DOVER FOODBANK MOST needed ITEMS HARVEST 2024

- MASH POTATO
- CEREAL
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED TOMATOES
- JAM
- SHOWERGEL
- COFFEE
- DEODORANT
- SHAMPOO
- CONDITIONER
- SIZE 5 NAPPIES
- SIZE 6 NAPPIES
- SIZE 7 NAPPIES

**PLEASE NOTE**  
 We have plenty of beans & pulses

INFO@DOVER.FOODBANK.ORG.UK  
 UNIT 7, CHARLTON CENTRE, HIGH ST, DOVER  
 CHARITY NO. 1140727

## Whole School Attendance

16/09/24 - 20/09/24  
**95.9%**

2024/2025 academic year to date  
**97.6%**



## Star Awards

w/e 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

- Hedgehogs** – Immy
- Rabbits** – Ella
- Squirrels** – Eden
- Badgers** – Nicholas
- Woodpeckers** – Logan
- Owls** – Isobelle & Lottie



## PTFA School Uniform

Our PTFA has a stock of second hand school uniform available.

If you require some good quality, low cost items please contact them through their email [stmacptfa@gmail.com](mailto:stmacptfa@gmail.com) and they will arrange for the uniform to be left at the school office for you to collect.

If you have any items you are willing to donate to their stock please also contact them via email or bring these into the school office.



## Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### The Week Ahead!

**Week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

**NO CLUBS**

**Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

- Badgers Class Forest School sessions this week

**Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September**

- Woodpeckers Class Residential Trip – full payment deadline

**Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September**

- Owls Class trip – see separate letter for information
- Deadline to pay and return form for extra-curricular clubs

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September**

- Harvest Festival
- 'Celebration Assembly' – parent/carers invited to attend. Please come to the school office at 2:45pm
- Woodpeckers Class – deadline to respond to dietary & medical form

### Lunch Menu: Week 1

w/c Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September  
2024

£2.45 per day

[Menu-September-October.pdf](https://www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk/Menu-September-October.pdf)  
([wholeschoolmeals.co.uk](https://www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk/))

To pay for your meals online,  
please go to:

<https://www.parentpayshop.co.uk/schools/wsm>

### Cool Milk

You may be aware that our school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised cost. Please see the letter attached with this newsletter for more information.



### Extra-curricular Clubs

Extra-curricular club letters have been sent home today regarding places allocated and payment information. Please return the reply slip by **Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September** at the latest. Please be reminded that it is a condition of attendance that all children – including Year 6 – are collected from clubs by an adult (aged 18+). Thank you for your support with this matter.

**Extracurricular  
Activities**



# DAY BOARDING AS A DUKIE

## What is Day Boarding?

Day boarding offers a flexible arrangement allowing students the chance to experience boarding school life, staying a minimum of five nights a year. Students arrive for morning registration and depart from 16:15, depending on their commitments. Students receive lunch and can stay for dinner prior to completing their supervised prep (homework). All for just over £4,000 per term.



**BOOK NOW**  
**DAY BOARDING LAUNCH EVENT**  
**OCTOBER 15**



## WHERE EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

- Non-selective entry for Years 7-10.
- Small classes – average below 22 at GCSE and 12 at A Level.
- Incredible progress at GCSE, students progress over half a grade above national average.
- 85% A\* to C at A Level with 95% of our students moving on to university, 40% to Oxbridge and Russell Group.
- Laptop supplied to all students free of charge.

## MEETS OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Extensive co-curricular programme offering over 60 weekly clubs, regular productions including our annual musical, music ensembles, & a high performing sports programme delivered by specialist coaches all at no additional cost.
- Free individual music lessons for all Year 7 students.
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Accredited Centre, offering bronze to gold.
- Academic and Sport scholarships available

For more information and to book your place at the Day Boarding Launch Event, please visit:

[www.doyrms.com](http://www.doyrms.com)



# Folkestone Model Railway Club MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, CT20 2DZ  
Sat 5th & Sun 6th October 2024, 10am-5pm



Supported by:  
**BACHMANN**  
Europe plc  
Quality since 1833  
**accurascale**

ADULT (16+): £8  
CHILD(5-15): £3 FAMILY: £21