



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 11th October 2024

Message from the Headteacher

I'd like to start this week by shining a spotlight on our wonderful Woodpeckers class. They have just returned from an exhilarating residential trip to Bewl Water, and I must say, the tales of their adventures have left us all rather envious! Our intrepid pupils threw themselves into a whirlwind of activities, from sailing and kayaking to paddle boarding and archery. It's been heartening to hear how they embraced each challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

What's particularly struck me about their experience is the exceptional teamwork on display. Whether they were steadying a kayak or taking aim with a bow and arrow, our Woodpeckers demonstrated the power of collaboration and mutual support. These are precisely the skills and attitudes we aim to nurture here at St. Margaret's, and it's wonderful to see them flourishing beyond our school gates.

Of course, no residential trip would be complete without mentioning the food! I'm not just told the fare was top-notch, I was there to sample it, with special praise reserved for a particularly delicious banoffee pie (my favourite!). It seems our pupils returned not only with new skills and memories but with satisfied taste buds too!

Closer to home, I'm thrilled to share some exciting news about our playground. Thanks to the generosity of our PTFA, we've been able to introduce a range of new playground equipment. It's been an absolute joy to watch our pupils explore these new additions. What's particularly impressed me is how well our children have embraced these new play opportunities. They've shown remarkable consideration for one another, sharing the equipment and engaging in cooperative play. Moments like these reinforce what a special community we have here at St. Margaret's. To our PTFA, I extend my sincere thanks. Your tireless efforts and generous donations continue to enrich our pupils' school experience in countless ways. The smiles and laughter echoing across the playground are a testament to the positive impact you're making.



Thank you everyone for another week and I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Craig Ward –Headteacher

'Celebration Assembly'

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

Date: Friday, 18th October

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.





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Whole School Attendance

07/10/24 - 11/10/24

96.7%

2024/2025 academic year
to date

97.4%



Star Awards

w/e 11th October 2024

Hedgehogs – Tia

Rabbits – All of Rabbits Class

Squirrels – Ivy

Badgers – William

Owls – William



Lost Property

We have had an Apple AirTag handed into the school office as lost property. If this belongs to you please come to the office, with your phone, to collect it.

Thank you.



PTFA Pre-Loved School Uniform Shop

Do your children outgrow or lose their uniform faster than you can say 'school run'?

PTFA to the rescue!

You will be pleased to hear that the PTFA's Pre-Loved Uniform Shop is up and running. All items are in as new condition, and are FREE of charge (although we will of course accept your money if you'd like to offer a donation!). The uniforms are washed and ready for collection - it's like a hand-me-down, but fancier!

Please feel free to call us on 07904 123 554, or email us on stmacptfa@gmail.com to arrange collection.



Forest School Sessions

w/c Monday, 14th October 2024

Hedgehogs Class

Things to remember:

- Wellington boots/old trainers
- Water resistant/water proof
- Trousers/tights

The Week Ahead!

Week commencing 14th October 2024

Monday, 14th October

- Hedgehogs Class Forest School sessions this week

Tuesday, 15th October

- Rabbits Class trip – see separate letter for details

Thursday, 17th October

- Deadline to respond to parentmail to sign up to Class Dojo

Friday, 18th October

- 'Celebration Assembly' – parent/carers invited to attend. Please come to the school office at 2:45pm

Lunch Menu: Week 1

w/c Monday, 14th October 2024

£2.45 per day

[Menu-September-October.pdf](#)
(wholeschoolmeals.co.uk)

To pay for your meals online,
please go to:

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

Community Noticeboard

The Edward Showler Foundation

If you are able to, please support Tom Showler (husband of Mrs Showler – TA in Hedgehogs Class) in his fundraising event in memory of his brother Edward Showler. Please find the link to his just giving page below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/3kin3months>



Christmas Craft Fair



Christmas Craft Fair
 Saturday 26 October
 11am - 3pm

- Unwrap the magic of local treasures, perfect for your Secret Santa shenanigans or to delight your favorite people!
- Our fabulous collection has something for everyone – kids, adults, pets, and even your home's cozy corners!
- Don't forget to soak in the holiday spirit with a scrumptious mince pie and a steaming cup of cheer!

Join us at St Margaret's Village Hall,
 Reach Close, St Margaret's, Dover, CT15 6AP

St Margaret's Lawn Tennis Club

Wine & Wisdom Evening



Wine and Wisdom evening with raffle

Date: Saturday 2nd November 2024
Time: 7pm for 7.30pm start
Venue: St. Margaret's Village Hall CT15 6AP
Cost: £40 per table (maximum of 8 per team)

Bring your own food and drink

To reserve a table please contact Peter Blake:
blakeprw@gmail.com



Fully Funded School Support Course



STUDY SMART Free Online Courses | **aspire Education** | **ncfe.** | **cache** | **Education & Skills Funding Agency**

Fully Funded School Support Course

www.studysmartuk.online

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

CACHE Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
 CACHE Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
 CACHE Certificate in the Principles of SEN

Six Week Course
 Mon - Fri
 1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
 2nd session 12:30 - 2:30pm
 3rd session 4 - 4:30pm
 (optional session for reflection and support if needed)

Dover District Children's Centres

Free, fun and informal course for parents/carers of children any age

Autism Awareness

Would you like to understand and look at the various principles of autism and the different aspects that can be present?

Learners will discuss:

- The basic principles of autism and the different aspects
- Different expert theories and understanding of the spectrum
- Behaviour management, support and coping strategies
- The diagnosis process and how to go about it

At Buckland Family Hub
St Nicholas Church, The Lincets, Dover, CT16 2BN

To book please call 05000 414941 or email doverfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Wednesdays 6th November - 27th November 2024, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Time to Shine

A term time group for children aged 4-7 years with an autism diagnosis, or displaying traits and behaviours.

Wednesdays
Join us between 3.30 and 3.45pm, until 5.00pm at Blossom Children's Centre
Dover's Primary School, Owen Square, Walmer, CT14 7TL

This is a drop off group for children only and will offer guided input around healthy friendships, managing emotions and developing communication and social skills, all while having fun and playing in a safe and secure environment.

A healthy snack, quiet space and our sensory room is also available throughout the session.

Please call 05000 414941 or email sd500@kent.gov.uk and someone will call you back to discuss and book your child's place

STEPPING STONES

Stepping Stone is an 8-week programme for children aged 4-7 years and focuses on building confidence and boosting self-esteem. There is a safe and nurturing environment providing the opportunity for children to meet with their peers and engage in a variety of group based activities.

Please call us as the nearer before to request a place. Confirmation will be made following a phone conversation with one of the session leads.

8-week programme (term time only)
Tuesdays (17th September - 18th November) (excluding 29th October and 5th November)
3:15pm - 4:45pm

At Buckland Family Hub
St Nicholas Church, The Lincets, Dover, CT16 2BN

For more information and to book your place please call 05000 414941 or email doverfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Understanding your Child's feelings and Behaviour Information Sessions

A bookable session providing a safe, supportive space for parents / carers of children aged 0-11 to chat with one of our Family Hub Practitioners and learn new techniques, ideas and strategies to better understand and manage their child's feelings and behaviour.

Children are welcome to come along with you.

Book a 1-1 session with one of our Family Hub Practitioners on the numbers below.

<p>Deal Family Hub</p> <p>Park Avenue, Deal, CT14 7TL</p> <p>05000420008</p>	<p>Buckland Family Hub</p> <p>St Nicholas Church, The Lincets, Dover CT16 2BN</p> <p>05000 414941</p>
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Please call us to speak to a Family Hub Practitioner and book a session.
For more information please call us on the numbers above, or email doverfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Talking Walk ins

Aylesham & Sandwich Corridor

Concerned about your pre-school child's speech, language or communication skills?

Talking Walk ins are play-based drop-in sessions where you can speak to a speech and language therapist or other staff.

Just turn up – no need to book!

They are only for residents living in Aylesham and Sandwich Corridor with preschool-aged children. The service runs in other parts of Kent.

Family Hub Outreach	Drop-in
<p>St Peter's Church, Garden Road, Aylesham, Sandwich, CT15 2LQ</p>	<p>Sessions run on the 1st Friday of the month, 10^{am} to 12:30pm</p> <p>Address: 1st August 2024 1st September 1st October 1st November 1st December</p> <p>They 0500 414941</p>

Talking Walk ins provide you with advice or ideas to try at home. We may request you to either support or refer you to a follow-up with the speech and language therapy service.

They are in school holidays, but not on Bank Holidays or between Christmas and New Year. Check the Dover Family Hub Facebook page for updates.