



## Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

### Message from the Headteacher

Well – what a year it’s been! I can hardly believe my first year as Headteacher here is already coming to an end. It’s flown by, and that’s all down to the amazing people I’ve had around me – staff, children, parents, carers, and everyone in between. I couldn’t want for a better team and school community. Thank you all for making me feel so welcome and for the support you’ve shown me throughout the year. It really does mean a lot. And a huge thank you too for all the lovely, thoughtful and generous gifts I’ve received this week – all very humbling.

There’s so much to celebrate as we wrap up the year, but I’ve got to start by giving a huge shout-out to our brilliant Year 6s. You’ve worked your socks off this year. We’re so proud of everything you’ve achieved over your time here, not just in the classroom but in the way you’ve grown into such fantastic young people. Your end-of-year performance was the cherry on top – absolutely hilarious and full of heart. You smashed it!

As you head off to your new schools in September, we know you’re more than ready for the next step. We’ll miss you, but we know you’re going to do amazing things. I wasn’t telling porkies in yesterday’s assembly; I genuinely will miss you all. Don’t be strangers – we love it when past pupils pop back to say hello!

We’re also saying a temporary goodbye to Mrs Helal as she heads off on maternity leave. We’re all really excited for her and can’t wait to hear baby news very soon. While she’s off, we’re really pleased to be welcoming Mrs Stephens to the team – we know she’s going to fit right in and bring lots of energy and ideas.

Across the school, there’s been loads to celebrate this year. We introduced a brand-new curriculum that’s already making learning even more exciting and meaningful for the children – and we’re only just getting started! We also had a very successful Ofsted visit, and it was great to see the hard work of our staff and pupils recognised and the whole school community throw their support behind the school – the lead inspector couldn’t get over how many parents took the time to respond to the parent survey, apparently it was unusually high!

A special well done to our Reception and Year 1 children too – the phonics and Early Years results this year have been fantastic. It’s brilliant to see our youngest learners getting such a strong start to their time at school. Well done all.

So, as we head into the summer holidays, I just want to say a big thank you again to everyone for making this such a brilliant first year for me. I feel incredibly lucky to be part of this school and I’m excited for coming next for us all. Have a well-deserved break, enjoy the sunshine (hopefully!) and I’ll see you all in September, ready for another amazing year.

Take care and have a great summer!

**Craig Ward – Headteacher**



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## Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthday in August.

Autumn	Squirrels
Ruby	Woodpeckers
Immy	Hedgehogs
Alfred	Rabbits
Tommy	Badgers
Dolcee	Squirrels
Wilfred	Squirrels
Grayson	Squirrels
Edward	Woodpeckers
Thomas	Rabbits
Madison	Badgers
Holly	Woodpeckers
Leah	Woodpeckers
Imogen	Owls
Dexter	Rabbits
Noah	Hedgehogs



## Summer Reading Challenge

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is designed for children between the ages of 4 and 11. It is completely free! The aim of the Challenge is to encourage children to read any six books of their choice from their library during the summer holidays.

Children receive special rewards each time they finish a book and there is a certificate for everyone who completes the Challenge. The website also has lots of games and interactive sections that the children can enjoy.

We are hoping to have as many children as possible take part in the Challenge to give us a chance at retaining the trophy for the Dover and Deal district. We will be presenting medals and certificates in assembly in September.



## Star Awards

w/e 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

- Hedgehogs** – All of Hedgehogs & Cecilia
- Rabbits** – All of Rabbits, Addison & Monty
- Squirrels** – Amsavi & Isla
- Badgers** – Izzabella & Cassie
- Woodpeckers** – Ahmad & Leah
- Owls** – Jack & All of Owls



## Whole School Attendance

14/07/25 - 18/07/25

**98.2%**

03/09/24 – 18/07/25

**96.2%**



## PTFA Pre-Loved School Uniform

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](mailto:stmacptfa@gmail.com) to arrange collection.



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### School Meals Price Increase

All children in Years R, 1 and 2 will continue to be entitled to a free cooked school lunch every day and these are highly recommended.

Children in our current Year 2 who have benefited from the free cooked lunch will, from September when they join Year 3, pay for their cooked school lunches with children in Years, 4, 5 & 6 unless they are entitled to means tested Free School Meals. If you need help to apply for Means Tested Free School Meals please contact the school office.

The cost of a school dinner in September will be £2.75. **Please note** that payment online direct to Whole School Meals is the preferred method for payment. To pay online use the following link <https://www.parentpayshop.co.uk/schools/wsm/>

**Remember – the beginning of the summer holiday is the time for children to have ears pierced if they so desire so that they will heal in time to be removed for school PE.**



### Before and After School Childcare Services

These will resume from Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Please ensure you book these using the Parentmail system. You will be able to book your child's place up to 12 weeks in advance, and pay for them at the time of booking. Please see the information that has already been sent out with regards to making these bookings.

Bookings are now open for the start of term 1.

### Enjoy the summer holidays!



**Children return to school**

**on**

**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**

### Term dates 2025/2026

TERM 1 2025	1 September 2025 - 17 October 2025
TERM 2 2025	27 October 2025 - 19 December 2025
TERM 3 2026	5 January 2026 – 13 February 2026
TERM 4 2026	23 February 2026 – 2 April 2026
TERM 5 2026	20 April 2026 - 22 May 2026
TERM 6 2026	1 June 2026 - 21 July 2026

Our five staff training days are currently scheduled to be:-

1st September 2025  
2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025  
27<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

## Community Noticeboard



**THE WESTEND EXPERIENCE Club**

**£35 PER DAY**  
Thursday £25\*

**FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL YR 2-7!**

**MONDAY 28TH – THURSDAY 31ST JULY**  
10AM-3PM

**FOOTSTEPS DANCE SCHOOL**  
ST GEORGES PASSAGE, DEAL

Workshops delivered by performers that have been in the Musicals themselves!



**WE WILL ROCK YOU** | **WICKED** | **STARLIGHT EXPRESS**  
MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY

**TO BOOK YOUR SPACES**  
VISIT [WWW.DANCEFITWITHEMILY.CO.UK](http://WWW.DANCEFITWITHEMILY.CO.UK) OR EMAIL [dancefitwithemily@gmail.com](mailto:dancefitwithemily@gmail.com)  
📞 Emily Powell 📧 [emily\\_powell.25](mailto:emily_powell.25)

DBS CHECKED. FULLY INSURED. PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH (NO NUTS PLEASE)

**MONDAY – WE WILL ROCK YOU**  
CANDY WHITE, ASSISTED BY EMILY POWELL

A worldwide smash hit musical featuring more than 20 hit Queen songs. It follows the journey of the Bohemians as they try to save rock 'n' roll in an ever-changing world. A toe tapping, fist pumping audience favourite!

Candy's theatre credits include: We Will Rock You, Wicked, Best of Musicals Tour, Mother Goose, Dick

**TUESDAY – WICKED**  
EMILY POWELL

Wicked the smash hit musical tells the incredible story of the witches of Oz. It is one of the most successful musicals of all time.

Spend the day exploring the emerald city with Candy and Emily, who performed in the show together from 2009-2011.

Emily's theatre credits include: Wicked - Stuttgart, Wicked - Oberhausen, P&O Cruises, Spirit of the Dance, Skouspel - South Africa

**WEDNESDAY – STARLIGHT EXPRESS**  
GEMMA WILKINSON, ASSISTED BY EMILY POWELL

The fastest show on earth. A train set magically comes to life and the engines begin to race to become the fastest in the world. With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber it will have you hooked.

Gemma's theatre credits include: Mamma Mia, Wicked, Hello Dolly, Kinky Boots, Juliet, Starlight Express, Grease, Evita, Fame, It's a wonderful Life, Broncho Billy & more.

**THURSDAY – FUN AND PERFORMANCE DAY**

**STRICTLY ONLY FOR CHILDREN THAT HAVE ATTENDED ONE OF THE PREVIOUS SHOW DAYS.**

Join us for a day of Fun, Games and Rehearsals, including a small performance to parents at the end of the day to show case what the children have been up to all week.

Parents to arrive at 2.30pm to watch or 3pm for pick up.  
Set to be the BEST end to the week of dancing and singing our hearts out!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Dover (St. Margaret's) Scout Group



**BEAVERS**

6 – 8 Years

Fridays (term time)

18:00 – 19:15



**Scouts**

10 ½ - 14 Years

Fridays (term time)

19:30 – 21:00



**cubs**

8 – 10 ½ Years

Tuesdays (term time)

18:30 – 20:00

**Volunteer:**

Help make a positive impact on the lives of young people.

If you can only occasionally help, that's OK. Whether you'd like to be an activity planner, tea-maker or craft creator, we appreciate any time you can spare.

[www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer)

Contact us: [info5thdoverscouts@btinternet.com](mailto:info5thdoverscouts@btinternet.com)

01304 852429 (Scout hut - during meeting times) 07837 927441 (Jahn: Group Lead Volunteer)

[www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

## DOVER FOODBANK MOST needed ITEMS

JULY 2025

- CEREAL
- UHT MILK
- CUPPA SOUP
- TINNED FISH
- FRUIT JUICE (UHT)
- JAM AND SPREADS
- TINNED FRUIT
- CUSTARD
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- INSTANT MASH
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- SHAMPOO
- LAUNDRY PRODUCTS
- TIN OPENERS

PLEASE NOTE

We have plenty of pasta & pulses

INFO@DOVER.FOODBANK.ORG.UK  
UNIT 7, CHARLTON CENTRE, HIGH ST, DOVER  
CHARITY NO. 1212901

Community Noticeboard

**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS & FITNESS SESSIONS FOR 7-9 YEAR OLDS**

**WEEKLY FRIDAY SESSIONS 16:00-17:00**

"RELAXED, FUN AND ENJOYABLE"





**DELIVERED BY MICKY T'S WELLBEING & FITNESS**  
 Qualified Mental Health 1st Aid Practitioner  
 Qualified Fitness Instructor & Personal Trainer

This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of a growing community programme centred around mental health awareness and fitness. Providing our younger generations with the tools to face challenges and thrive.

**Location: Dover District Leisure Centre**  
**Fridays 16:00 – 17:00**

**First session FREE**

- Individual fitness activities
- Team fitness activities
- Mental Health awareness

**TO BOOK NOW**  [micky.t@outlook.com](mailto:micky.t@outlook.com)  Message me on Facebook at Micky T's Wellbeing & Fitness 

**BETTESHANGER COUNTRY PARK**  
 LIVE • LEARN • PLAY

**MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL**  
 WITH SANDWICH MEDIEVAL CENTRE

**6th & 7th September**

Come & enjoy a day of medieval merrymaking

**WHAT'S ON...**

WEAVING • CALLIGRAPHY • BLACKSMITHING  
 LIVE THEATRE • LIVE MUSIC • BATTLE ARCHERY  
 WAND MAKING • TRADITIONAL ARCHERY  
 AXE THROWING • TREBUCHET RANGE • KNIGHT SCHOOL  
 PLUS MUCH MORE

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK VISIT**  
[WWW.BETTESHANGER-PARK.CO.UK](http://WWW.BETTESHANGER-PARK.CO.UK)

**RSPCA ISLE OF THANET**

**FAMILY FUN DAY & DOG SHOW!**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup> 2025 11AM-4PM**

**LOCATION:**  
 RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM  
 821 MANSTON ROAD  
 RAMSGATE CT12 5DF

FUN DOG SHOW ✂ HAVE A GO AGILITY ✂ DOG SCURRY  
 CRAFT STALLS ✂ FOOD ✂ GAMES ✂ FAIRGROUND RIDES  
 BAKE SALE ✂ PRE-LOVED CLOTHING SALE ✂ & MORE!

ENTRY IS £2 ADULTS, £1 CHILDREN  
 EXTRA FEES FOR DOG SHOW & OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL APPLY

**DISCOUNTED ENTRY INTO THE RAF MUSEUM ON THE SAME DAY! (PRICE OF FUN DAY ENTRY FEE WILL BE DISCOUNTED FROM MUSEUM ENTRY FEE)**

THE EVENT WILL BE MAINLY CASH ONLY. FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR ALL UPDATES!

Paul Gosting Presents

**SHREK THE MUSICAL**

Based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig

Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire  
 Music by Jeanine Tesori

Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

**26 – 30 August 2025**  
**Hazlitt Theatre Maidstone**

[www.hazlitttheatre.com](http://www.hazlitttheatre.com)  
**01622 758611**  
 The Hazlitt Theatre, Earl Street, Maidstone, ME14 1PL

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
 All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI  
[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

Community Noticeboard

**BERNADETTE RUSSELL'S**

for age 6 & above

**The Wishing Tree**

A magical storytelling show from deep in the forest for children and their families

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August | 11am - 12pm

The Pines Garden, St Margarets Bay, CT15 6DZ

Adults: £7  
Children/Concessions: £5

The Bay Trust,  
Registered charity no. 1026765

**&**

**Present**

An Interactive Reading of

**SUPER SOIL**

With Roly Poly

**SOIL LIFE**

With Roly Poly

Written by Emma Pilgrim

**&**

Dr Emma Pilgrim

**At The Bay Trust, Kent**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Booking essential as spaces limited

<https://super-soil.eventbrite.co.uk>