



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 9th January 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back everyone, and a very happy New Year to you all! I hope you enjoyed a restful Christmas break and had time to recharge with family and friends.

It has been wonderful to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and positivity. We have gone straight back into it, with lots of learning already happening across the school, new projects started and classrooms are busy, focused and full of curiosity.

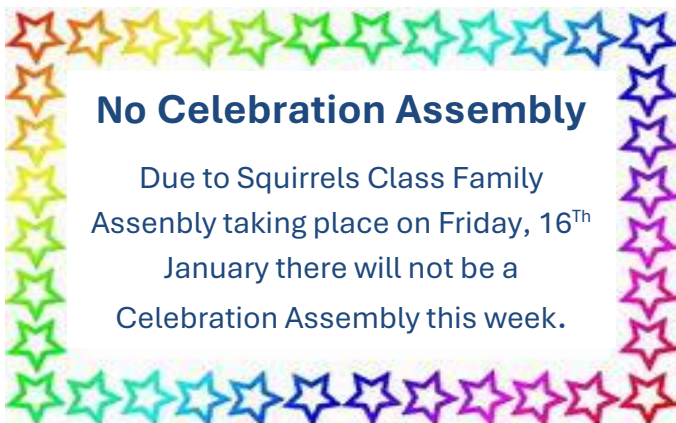
I also want to acknowledge the truly atrocious weather we've been experiencing – and the lack of proper snow! Despite the wind, rain and cold, the children (and staff!) have shown great resilience and determination in getting on with the day – even today's momentary flurry didn't put us off for too long. Well done to everyone for keeping going and maintaining such a positive attitude.

This week I'm also excited to introduce a new feature to our school routine: Times Table of the Week. Each week, we will focus on one times table across the school, and all staff will be asking children quick questions whenever they see them - in the corridor, on the playground, walking to assembly, or at any moment during the school day. Questions could be anything from the times table, including division facts, to really help reinforce understanding and build rapid recall of these essential skills that we all use in everyday life.

I will be sharing the Times Table of the Week in this newsletter so that you can join in at home too. A little regular practice makes a huge difference and working together we can help the children grow in confidence and fluency. This week it has been the 2 times table, with next week moving onto the 3 times table.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It's great to be back and looking ahead to a busy and successful term.

Craig Ward –Headteacher



House points w/e 9th January

BAY	CLIFFE	LIGHTHOUSE	PINES
1466	1560	2133	1716



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Star Awards

w/e 9th January 2026



Hedgehogs – Rose
Rabbits – Adalyn
Squirrels – Dylan
Badgers – Jack
Woodpeckers – India-Rose
Owls – Dudley

Reception Class 2026

Applications are now open for Reception Class September 2026. If you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 you can apply online for a place through the Kent County Council website:-

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places

Applications close on **15th January 2026**.

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.

Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthday in January.

Aurelia	Rabbits
Adam	Badgers
Isabelle	Woodpeckers
Madeleine	Squirrels
Eleanor	Rabbits
Rosalind	Hedgehogs
Matilda	Hedgehogs
Albert	Woodpeckers



Whole School Attendance

05/01/26 – 09/01/26
96.5 %

01/09/25 – 09/01/26
96.5%



The Week Ahead

Week commencing 12th January 2026

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS START THIS WEEK

Thursday, 15th January

- **Deadline to apply for Reception Class places September 2026**
- **School Census Day** – all children in Years R, 1 & 2 to please have a school lunch to secure their Infant Free School Meals funding for the year

Friday, 16th January

- **Squirrels Class Family Assembly** – 9am in the school hall
- **No 'Celebration Assembly' this week**

Lunch Menu: Week 2

w/c Monday, 12th January 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.](http://www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk/pay)



THE PTFA

AGM

27 JANUARY
2026

9AM

COME AND LEAD THE PTFA

The positions of Chair and Secretary for the PTFA are available.

We're now looking for volunteers interested in taking on either position has begun.

If you'd like to find out more, or have an informal chat, email us or grab us- no commitment, just an opportunity to ask questions and see if it is a good fit.

Come along to the AGM in January where both positions will be formally elected.

Thank you for all your support,

The PTFA

EMAIL US stmacptfa@gmail.com

PTFA Pre-Loved School Uniform

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.

Currently our stocks are full and therefore we are unable to take any further donations at this time.