



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 13th February 2026

Message from the Headteacher

What a fantastic half term it has been. The weeks have absolutely flown by, and there has been so much wonderful learning and excitement happening across the school.

One of our highlights this week was welcoming the team from the Kent Fire and Rescue Service. They delivered some really engaging and practical sessions about keeping safe, both at home and out and about. The children were completely absorbed - we had some brilliant questions and thoughtful discussions. It's always powerful when learning feels so real and relevant, and these sessions certainly made a lasting impression.

Meanwhile, creativity has been in full swing in our brand-new Creative Arts Suite. It has been such a joy to see the space buzzing with imagination and focus. Our children have been exploring landscape painting, experimenting with colour and perspective, and getting wonderfully hands-on with clay modelling. There's something very special about watching children lose themselves in creative work and the results have been fantastic. We are so proud of what they are producing already.

Our Year 6 pupils are beginning to look ahead to their next chapter, and excitement is definitely building. This week they received their fire red leavers' hoodies and the smiles said it all! They may wear them on Mondays and Fridays, and I suspect we'll be seeing a lot of them. It's a lovely milestone moment and a reminder of how much they've grown, not just in height, but in confidence, maturity and resilience too.

Which links nicely to our whole-school value this term - Resilience. We've talked a lot about embracing challenges, pushing through when learning feels tricky, and understanding that mistakes aren't something to fear; they're how we grow. It's been lovely hearing children encourage one another and show real perseverance in their work.

Speaking of determination, we have three very excited children who have been working tirelessly to prepare for their upcoming charity sale. This has been entirely driven by their own ideas, energy and hard work, from planning to creating and organising. Their enthusiasm has been infectious. If you're able to support their sale, it would mean so much to them and would be a wonderful way to celebrate their initiative and kindness.

Next term, we'll be focusing on Resourcefulness. We'll be thinking about creativity, problem-solving and developing strong critical thinking skills - particularly around staying safe online. These are such important life skills, and we're looking forward to exploring them together.

For now, though, it's time for a well-earned rest. I wish you all a very happy, relaxing half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 23rd February, ready for another busy and exciting term ahead.

Craig Ward – Headteacher

Celebration Assembly

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

Date: Friday, 27th February 2026

Time: 2:45pm

Where: School Hall

We look forward to seeing you there.

Term 4 Focus School Value

Our focus school value this term:

Resourcefulness

Whole School Attendance

09/02/26 – 13/02/26

01/09/25 – 13/02/26

95.1%



96.4%



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Star Awards

w/e 13th February 2026

Hedgehogs – Alfred

Rabbits – Edie

Squirrels – Oliver

Badgers – Rafael

Woodpeckers – Albie

Owls – Jack



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 email us on stmacptfa@gmail.com to arrange collection.

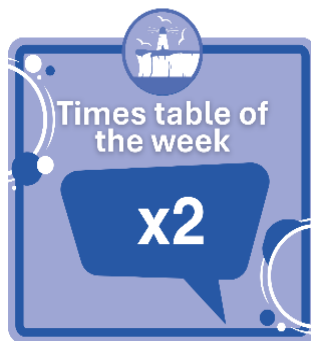
Currently our stocks are full and therefore we are unable to take any further donations at this time.

School's Out!

February Half Term

We wish you all a good half term holiday and look forward to seeing you back at school on

**Monday, 23rd
February**



THE PTFA

PASSING THE PTFA BATON

A THANK YOU, A GOODBYE AND A HELLO

First of all, thank you- it has been a real pleasure to be part of such a great and generous school community. Thank you to everyone who has helped us volunteered their time, baked, carried tables or simply cheered us on, this would not have been possible without you. Thank you to Mr Ward for trusting us to run with our ideas and for always being so supportive.

Following the AGM, we are now handing over the baton to some new committee members to continue the great work for our school.

Please join us in welcoming:

Sally Wiltsher (Chair)
Emma Pearson (Secretary)
Dave Wiltsher (Treasurer)

Thank you again and see you at the next event!

The PTFA

EMAIL US stmacptfa@gmail.com

New Lunch Menu



Whole School Meals have issued their new menu starting when the children return to school following the half term break. A copy of this has been emailed out with this newsletter to parent/carers. We return to school on Week 1 of the new menu.

The Week Ahead

Week commencing 23rd February 2026

CLUBS START AGAIN THIS WEEK

Monday, 23rd February

- **Start of term 4** - children return to school

Friday, 27th February

- **Year 6 Residential Trip** – payment instalment due
- **'Celebration Assembly'** – parent/carers invited to attend. Please come to the school office at 2:45pm

New Lunch Menu:

Week 1

w/c Monday, 23rd February 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

Community Noticeboard



Feb Half Term holiday club
Multisport

Mon 16th
Tue 17th
Wed 18th

£20 a day
10-3pm

Tridax business park
Whitfield

Ages 5-12



Contact Sportfrenzydoover@gmail.com



FOSTER FOR KENT

LOCAL AUTHORITY
Fostering SOUTH EAST

READY TO START YOUR FOSTERING JOURNEY?

Visit [kentfostering.co.uk](https://www.kentfostering.co.uk)

03000 420 002

Kent fostering Kent County Council

Kent Fostering and Supported Homes are looking for new carers and hosts to join our outstanding fostering community and help care for some of Kent's most vulnerable children and young people.

As part of our team, carers and hosts receive excellent support, high-quality training, and the opportunity to make a lasting, positive difference in a child's life.

To learn more, visit our website <https://www.kentfostering.co.uk/>

It's never too late to give a child a second chance to shine and become the person they're meant to be.

To speak to one of our advisors please call us on **03000 420 002** or fill in our online enquiry form [here](#).

Community Noticeboard



BARN DANCE
Live band with a caller

Friday 20th March
7-10:30pm
£15 per person

St. Margarets Village Hall
American Supper - Bring your own food and drink

Tickets can be purchased from
St. Margaret's Nursery,
Village Shop and Post Office

In aid of St. Margarets Nursery
Registered Charity Number 1194058



[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

CRICKET COACHING

Do you have a child in Year 5 or 6 looking to get into playing cricket?

Come and join our cricket sessions
£25 for 5 weeks
Payable before the first session
Bank details: Sort Code 52-10-19
Account Number 10697004

Starts Sunday 22nd February
U11s : 6pm - 7pm

REGISTER NOW

To register e-mail incredhulks@hotmail.com 

Duke of Yorks School
CT15 5EQ