



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 13th March 2026

Message from the Headteacher

It has been an exceptionally busy and exciting week in school as we celebrated Science Week, and what a fantastic week it has been. We began by talking with the children about challenging stereotypes of people in science - discussing how scientists can come from all backgrounds and how curiosity, creativity and perseverance are what really matter. The children had some great discussions and it was lovely to see them thinking about the many different careers and possibilities that science can lead to.

Across the school, classes have been fully immersed in a range of investigations and practical activities. There has been a real sense of curiosity and discovery in classrooms and around the school. Some children have been studying the fascinating structure of birds' nests and considering why they are designed the way they are, while others have been exploring the classic scientific question of which way up buttered bread lands when it falls. In my experience, it is always butter side down! The children were excellent at making predictions, testing their ideas and reflecting on what their results might mean.

However, I do feel the need to address one particular investigation. Despite the conclusions reached by the Badgers, Woodpeckers and Owls during their enquiries, I would like to state for the record that the mysterious disappearance of the laptop had absolutely nothing to do with me... I have quite clearly been framed! I'm not sure the evidence gathering was entirely impartial! I'm sure you found out more about this at this afternoon's Science Exhibition in the hall.

Yesterday's Science Investigation Day was a real highlight and a wonderful way to round off the week. The school was full of excitement, questions and scientific thinking as the children worked together to test ideas and share their discoveries. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm for science and such thoughtful discussion about the results of their experiments. A huge thank you goes to all the staff who helped organise and run the activities, and especially to Miss Moloney for coordinating such a brilliant and engaging week.

We were also treated to a fantastic Badgers Class assembly this morning. It was a real pleasure to see the children sharing their learning with such confidence and pride. One parent was overheard commenting that "the Badgers Brass Band have come on a long way," and I couldn't agree more. The children have become much more confident with their trumpet or cornet and, perhaps even more importantly, they are really beginning to listen to one another so that they perform together as a band. That sense of teamwork was very clear to see. Well done to all of Badgers for presenting so eloquently and for giving us such an enjoyable assembly and sharing their learning so far this year.

This week also saw a very successful film night, and it was lovely to see so many children coming together to enjoy the evening. Events like this are always a wonderful opportunity for the children to spend time with their friends in a relaxed setting, and there was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the evening. Thank you to everyone who helped organise and support the event.

It has been a week full of learning, creativity and community spirit, and it has been a pleasure to see the children so engaged in everything they have been doing. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Craig Ward – Headteacher

Star Awards

w/e 13th March 2026



Due to the science event taking place today and there not being a celebration assembly, Star Awards will be given out next week and names will appear in next week's newsletter.

Whole School Attendance

09/03/26 - 13/03/26

97%

01/09/25 - 13/03/26

96.4%





Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 13th March 2026

Celebration Assembly

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

Date: Friday, 20th March 2026

Time: 2:45pm

Where: School Hall

We look forward to seeing you there.

Our focus school value this term:

Resourcefulness

Times table of the week

x6

st Margaret's ptfa

Multiday dates for your diary

27th March - Adult tombola prizes

1st May - Children tombola prizes

The children can wear their own clothes to school in exchange for a tombola prize for our summer fair

SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 20th June
12pm to 3pm

ST MARGARETS AT CLIFFE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE

MORE INFORMATION
TO FOLLOW

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE A STALL OR TO
VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME PLEASE MESSAGE
STMCPPTFA@GMAIL.COM

The Week Ahead

Week commencing 16th March 2026

Monday, 16th March

- Response deadline for Spring Concert tickets requests
- Response & payment deadline for Squirrels Class trip

Thursday, 19th March

- 2:45pm Phonics Screening Check Year 1 Parent Information Meeting in the school hall

Friday, 20th March

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

Lunch Menu: Week 1

w/c Monday, 16th March 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)

Community Noticeboard

The Isle of Thanet Sunrise Rotary Club, Monkton Nature Reserve, Thanet Earth and 'Get Wild' present...

THE YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS COMPETITION 2026:

'Happiness in Nature'

The aim of this competition is to create a project that allows wildlife and people to survive and thrive together.

Your project could be about the impact of new housing estates; interaction with agricultural land; caring for our waterways and coasts, or pollution, waste and litter. Suggestions include: nature art creations; poetry inspired by nature; a bug hotel/butterfly station/frog shelter; design and build eco-friendly toys/games, an article of clothing made using natural materials; arrange a litter pick.

We encourage creativity and original ideas!

AGE GROUPS: Junior: Up to and including 10 years old
Intermediate: 11 to 13 years old
Senior: 14 to 17 years old
Based on age as of 31st August 2025

CATEGORIES: Individual entry
Group entries (maximum of four participants)
Can be from any group/community organisation including schools, colleges, home educated, RotaKids, Scouts, Guides etc.

DEADLINE: Thursday 26th March
Our winners (one from each age group) will be submitted to the National Final!

TO APPLY: Scan the QR code to find more information and the Entry Form. Please send all completed Entry Forms to iotsrotaryclub@gmail.com with your project and an explanation of how your project links to the theme 'Happiness in Nature'. Groups must have one entry form per person. Entrants must include their age on the entry form.



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

DOVER FOODBANK
MOST needed ITEMS

MARCH 2026

- CUPPA SOUPS
- UHT MILK
- FRUIT JUICE (UHT)
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- JAM AND SPREADS
- TINNED FRUIT
- CUSTARD
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- PASTA SAUCES
- TINNED BEANS
- PASTA N SAUCE
- NOODLES
- CLEANING PRODUCTS

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

Easter
Football Fun camps
A truly unique inflatable Football experience

Book Now!
www.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to announce that our Easter Football Fun Camps are returning this April, and we would love to welcome your children for days filled with football, games, and fun.

We are also delighted to be an official HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) provider, offering funded spaces for eligible children.

Sandwich Leisure Centre

Tuesday 7th April to Friday 10th April

08:45 – 3:30

Ages 5–12

Book here:

<https://booking.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk/event/4504>

Goodwin Academy, Deal

Monday 13th to Thursday 16th April

08:45 – 3:30

Ages 5–12

Book here:

<https://booking.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk/event/4505>

Children who are eligible for HAF funding can attend our camps free of charge and will receive a hot meal each day. To book a HAF place, parents must use their Holiday Activities voucher.

Our camps are designed to be inclusive, energetic, and full of football fun, including our popular inflatable football games that children absolutely love.