



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 27th March 2026

Message from the Headteacher

What another fantastic week we've had at school full of energy, enthusiasm and wonderful moments to celebrate as we reach the penultimate week of this term.

Today we were treated to an amazing concert from Rocksteady, showcasing the tremendous hard work and dedication of the children who are learning instruments. From pounding drums to confident guitar riffs and beautiful keyboard pieces, it was clear that hours of practice have paid off. What was even more magical than the music itself was seeing the children truly listen to each other as a band; watching carefully, responding to one another and creating something together. It was a brilliant example of teamwork in action and a reminder that music is not just about playing notes, but about cooperation, patience and shared success. We are very proud of every performer who took part.

Thank you to everyone who joined in with our MUFTI Day this week. There were bright colours, fun outfits and lots of smiles across the school as the children enjoyed expressing themselves. Events like this bring a real sense of fun and community to the week, and we are very grateful for your support. Like me, some people have wondered where the term comes from. Mufti is an old piece of British slang meaning ordinary or civilian clothes, especially worn by someone who usually wears a uniform. In the 19th century British Army officers began jokingly using the term to describe the comfortable clothes they wore when off duty. Over time, this expression made its way into everyday British English and eventually into school life, where a "mufti day" came to mean a day when children can wear their own clothes instead of school uniform - often as part of a fun event or fundraiser. So now we know! We would also like to say a huge thank you for the generous donations already received for the Summer Fair tombola. Your kindness and contributions will help make a really exciting stall at the fair for all of our families. If you have not yet had a chance to send something in, there is still time, and every prize makes a difference.

You may have noticed something exciting taking shape in the playground with the construction of our brand-new log cabin. This special space is being created for the children to use during lunch times and will offer a rotating menu of quieter activities such as board games, crafts and puzzles. It will provide a calm, welcoming environment where children can relax, explore interests and spend time with friends in a different way. The children have been fascinated by the progress and have been carefully supervising the carpenters as they work, showing great interest and excitement about what this new space will offer.

Rabbits class had a brilliant visit this week from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution as part of their work on coastlines. The children asked thoughtful questions and learnt a great deal about the life-saving work carried out by the RNLI, as well as important messages about water safety. It was an engaging and memorable experience that really brought their learning to life.

Squirrels class also represented the school beautifully on their visit to the local mining museum, which linked closely to their "Rocks, Relics and Rumbles" project. The children demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the trip and returned full of enthusiasm and new knowledge from what they had seen and learnt. Well done, Squirrels - you did us proud.

As we head into the final week of term, thank you as always for your continued support. Wishing you all a restful weekend and looking forward to one more wonderful week together before the holidays.

Craig Ward – Headteacher



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Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please note that all extra-curricular after school clubs have now finished for the term and all children need to be collected at 3.15pm every day.

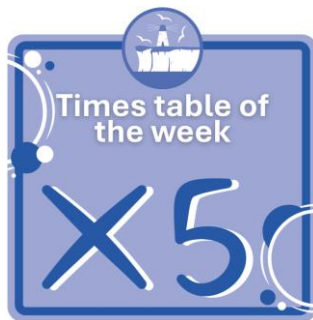
Whole School Attendance

23/03/26 - 27/03/26

96.7%

01/09/25 - 27/03/26

96.4%



Star Awards



27th March 2026

Due to the Rocksteady Music School concert taking place today and there not being a celebration assembly next week, Star Awards will be given out next term.

Our focus school value this term:

Resourcefulness

The Week Ahead

Week commencing 30th March 2026

Extra-Curricular Clubs have finished for this term.

Monday, 30th March

- Owls Class Residential Trip – payment instalment due
- Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings from 3:30pm (by appointment)

Wednesday, 1st April

- 2:30pm Spring Concert (by ticket only)
- Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings from 3:30pm (by appointment)

Thursday, 2nd April

- 2:30pm Spring Concert (by ticket only)
- Last day of term – school finishes at 3:15pm

Lunch Menu:

Week 3

w/c Monday, 30th 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)



PTFA NEWS

Hello From Your New PTFA Committee

We are your new PTFA committee,

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

Sally & Dave have children in Owls & Squirrels Classes and Emma has children in Owls & Badgers Classes.

We would like to thank Erika Elms & Rachel Rix for their fantastic work over the last few years.

Our PTFA exists to

- ❖ Strengthen the school community - building connections between families, teachers and friends of the school
- ❖ Raise funds to support school events - organise activities, fairs and celebrations that bring everyone together
- ❖ Give parents a voice - offering an open forum to share ideas, feedback and talents that can benefit the school

We are looking for parents and carers who can

- ❖ Volunteer at events (even just for an hour)
- ❖ Share skills such as design, baking, admin, social media or event planning
- ❖ Join meetings to help shape what we do next
- ❖ Spread the word to encourage other families to get involved

If you would like to get involved or just to find out more, please contact us at stmactfta@gmail.com or feel free to speak to one of use directly.



Community Noticeboard



Little Dragons



Easter Craft Morning



Saturday 28th March
10am to 12noon



Who is it for?

- **Youngsters**, generally older nursery and primary school age, and their parents and carers – we mark the start of Holy Week and the events leading up to Easter, and have fun making Easter crafts.
- **Anyone** can drop in for coffee during the morning – you are all welcome!



When do Little Dragons next meet after Easter?

- Saturday 2nd May, 10am to 11am in St Margaret's.

For more information:

outreach@stmargaretsbenefice.org.uk

DOVER FOODBANK MOST needed ITEMS

APRIL 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

OPEN COCKPIT WEEKEND 2026

11TH & 12TH APRIL | 10AM TO 4PM |

RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM CT12 5DF



Fire Engine Rides



BOOK HERE



Tank Rides



Climb in the Cockpits



CHARITY NUMBER: 1179982



Museum Entry

info@rafmanston.co.uk

www.rafmanston.co.uk

Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including, but not limited to, weather conditions, mechanical breakdowns and shortage of volunteers and/or exhibitors.

Community Noticeboard

5th Dover (St. Margaret's) Scout Group Easter Trail and Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 4TH APRIL 3km walking route **SATURDAY 4TH APRIL**
 Prize for finishing Entry by ~donation

Walk start time 10:00-12:00, Coffee Morning
 10:00 – 13:00 at 5th Dover Scout Hut, St
 Geroge's Place, St Margarets at Cliffe

EASTER CRICKET CAMP

AT NORTHBOURNE PARK

NORTHBOURNE PARK
SCHOOL

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DEAL VICTORIA & BARN'S CLOSE CRICKET CLUB

SUITABLE FOR AGES 6-14
ALL ABILITIES ACCOMMODATED FOR
(SOFTBALL & HARBALL)

14TH - 16TH APRIL

10am - 3pm

Hosted at Northbourne Park School, Bettleshanger, Deal, Kent, CT14 0NW

£25 per day
or
£65 for all 3 days

Sign up or for more information,
please contact Chris Searles
07725866305 or chrissearle@hotmail.com

Players to bring their own packed lunch and water bottle

EASTER 2026 AT THE RESERVE

HOW TO BOOK
www.monkton-reserve.org/events/
 Visit our museum, café, gift, and book shops.

MORE INFO:
education@monkton-reserve.org

PRICE PER CHILD
 Members: £8
 Non-Members: £5
 (incl. entrance to the reserve)
 Wild Classroom
 Members: £9.00
 Non-Members: £15.00

WHERE
 Monkton Nature Reserve
 Canterbury Road
 Ramsgate CT12 4LH

WWW.MONKTON-RESERVE.ORG
 THANET COUNTRYSIDE TRUST
 (CHARITY NO: 1211099)

BUTTERFLY KITES (AND FLUTTERING SIGHTS) Colour in a butterfly template, copying spring butterflies (or design your own). Add a stick and string. Try running with your kite to make it fly. Which butterflies can be seen in April? Spot them on the reserve.

BOTANY BUTTON BOOKS Mini, flower-filled, button books to make and keep. Fun filled notebooks for secrets and treasures. Spring flower hunt.

FALLING BLOSSOM Make a pretty, pale pink blossom, garland using egg box flowers. Hunt for blossom around the reserve.

BIG BUG HUNT Bug pot in hand and ID chart at the ready. It's time to search for some of the reserve's smallest residents. All that wiggles, creeps, scuttles, crawls and flutters can be closely observed and identified.

NESTING BALLS FOR BIRDS Give the birds a helping hand this spring with these garden nesting balls. Use twigs (or chicken wire) shaped into a ball or cone, and fill them with nest friendly materials for birds.

PARSLEY AND POTS Plant parsley in an ice-cream cone, ready to plant on outside. Make a hanging, beaded plant pot using egg box cones. Fill it with tiny plants grown on the reserve.

STORY ZONE IN THE DOME (FREE): Drop into the Dome on Tuesday afternoons during the Easter break, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Sink into comfy cushions and soft rugs. Three short children's stories will be read by our volunteers at 2.30pm, 3.00pm and 3.30pm. Get stuck into our children's books in the Dome. No need to book, but please be prompt for the timed story telling. In support of *The National Year of Reading 2026*.

WILD CLASSROOM: Campfire cooking at its best. Experience this tasty, fire-fuelled lunch; a spring vegetable risotto, cooked together, outdoors.

| APRIL 11.00AM | 11.30AM | 1.00PM | 2.30PM |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| Parsley & Pots | Botany Books | Story Zone | |
| 7th Kites | Wild C'room | Nesting Balls | |
| 9th: Falling Blossom | | Big Bug Hunt | |
| 14th Botany Books | | Parsley & Pots | Story Zone |
| 16th: Nesting Balls | | Falling Blossom | |
| 17th: Big Bug Hunt | | Kites | |