

"Love each other as Jesus has loved us. He has given nothing less than his life for us." St Teresa of Calcutta

Newsletter 23rd October 2026

Headteacher's Update

And just like that we have come to the end of Term One. A term where we have welcomed new families in Ladybirds and across the school. A term where we've welcomed new staff. A term with trips to Parliament, West Malling and Maidstone Museum. A term where we have celebrated mass with our new priest Father Noel. A term we celebrated the harvest and made a huge donation to the Pilsdon Community. A term with tournaments played and medals and trophies won. A term with Wellbeing Wednesday focusing on our own wellbeing and mental health. A term with new School Council members and House Captains being voted in. A term with applications to become RE Ambassadors and Anti-bullying Ambassadors and most importantly a term where we opened the More Park Catholic Preschool.

It has been wonderful having our Bumblebee Class with us this term and seeing our youngest children become such a special part of the More Park Family. Their smiles, enthusiasm and busy little personalities have brought so much joy to our school, and it has been lovely to see the older children looking out for them too. Having our Preschool on site has strengthened that wonderful sense of **belonging and community** that is so important to us at More Park. We feel very blessed to have our Bumblebees buzzing around the school each day!

The busy term has ended with a busy week too! This week alone we have had children across the school represent us at the Cross Country Competition all doing so well and even bringing some medals home with them! We have also had another open day this week where our Year Six children proudly showed prospective parents and children around our school. We have also had the School Council organising their first fundraising event of the year, raising money for the Ronald McDonald House Charity. It was wonderful yesterday to see a sea of red and yellow in front of me for our Celebration Assembly. I'd like to thank you all for your generosity as we have so far raised a total of £238.50 for the charity. If you'd still like to contribute to this fantastic cause, you can do so via Parentpay.

Tonight, we have had our Monster's Ball. The children all seem to have had a great evening, although I didn't recognise half of them as I signed them out this evening, with their masks, wigs and coloured hair. Thankfully all the parents looked 'normal', so I could work out who was hiding under the costumes! A huge thank you to all the Friends of More Park (FOMP) members for putting this event together. Without the help and support of parents, we wouldn't have the funds for many of the things we

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have in the school. The Learning Hub was their last big fundraiser and that has made such a huge difference for children across the school. We are currently hoping to raise funds to replace the trim trail in the playground. If you'd like to get involved in the FOMP, please do let me know and I'll put you in touch with the right people. If anyone from Bumblebee Class would like to become a class rep, again, just let me know. We'd love to have you on board.

As I've already mentioned, we opened our Preschool in September. In doing so, we lost our school library to create the Year Three classroom. The library is currently set up in the hall, but the majority of our books are still in boxes. After half term, we shall be working with some library experts to create our new school library. This will be located in the current Fireflies Club area. We don't have much funding for this and so I'm reaching out to our parents and extend More Park Family, to find out if there is anyone that could lend a hand. We are looking for carpenters or kitchen fitters who could volunteer their time to remove the kitchen area in the Fireflies Club and relocate it in another location in the school. We are also looking for a plumber who might be able to volunteer their time to remove the sinks in that area. If you do have those skills it would be great to hear from you.

We also lost our Prayer Garden when we created the Preschool, so I'm also looking for some volunteer gardeners to remove some shrubbery and relocate it. In clearing the space we'll then be able to rehome our Prayer Garden. If this is something you could help with, please do get in touch.

Today, we have said goodbye to Miss Webb. Miss Webb has been with us for over two years now. She has worked as a Teaching Assistant for the majority of this time, but more recently she has been one of the friendly faces in the office. We are sad to see her leave, but we wish her all the very best in her new school.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very happy half term. Don't forget the clocks fall back on Sunday morning at 2am. I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2nd November ready for Term Two and all things Christmas! Please see the Dates for Your Diary section for some of the things happening next term.

Winter uniforms can be worn.

Mrs Seal

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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

What have we been learning 19th - 23rd October



By Year 6 journalists: Annie & Mercy

Preschool

Bumblebees

This week the Bumblebees have been learning about teeth, how to brush and when to brush them. They also spent time exploring and finding different objects in forest school. Finally, they have been working to develop their fine motor skills by playing with dough.

EYFS

Ladybirds

This week, Ladybirds have been looking at shapes, space and measure in maths. In RE they have looked at what Baptism means and what happens when a child is Baptised. The children also had fun baking bread rolls as an enhancement for learning on The Little Red Hen story.

Key Stage 1

Caterpillars

This week, Caterpillars have been learning addition in maths and adding more than one number together. In English they have been imitating the Little Red Riding Hood story. The Caterpillars also had their RE end of Topic Celebration this week.

Dragonflies

This week, Dragonflies have been learning addition using column method in maths. In English they have spent time learning about the gun powder plot. In RE they have been learning about Noah's Ark. They also had their End of RE Topic Celebration this week.

Key Stage 2

Kingfishers

This week, Kingfishers have been examining different soil types using magnifying glass in science. They have completed making their scratch animations in ICT. They also had their End of RE Topic Celebration.

Ravens

This week, Ravens have been learning place value and the value of each digit in a number. In English they have been poems about a storm using metaphors and similes. In RE they have been learning about the Covenant between Abraham and Sarah. They also had their End of RE Topic Celebration.

Owls

This week, Owls have been learning about cube numbers and multiplying by tens, hundreds and thousands. In English they have finished publishing their suspense story. In RE they have been learning about virtues and how to use them to have a good and happy life. They also did their End of RE Topic Celebration.

Eagles

This week, Eagles have been comparing fractions in maths. In English they have been writing a biography about an inspirational person of their choice for Black History Month. In RE they have been learning about Baptism and have had the End of RE Topic Celebration.

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Catholic Life

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is asked a tricky question about whether people should pay taxes to Caesar. Jesus asks whose image is on the coin and then reminds them to "give back to God what belongs to God."



For our children, this Gospel gives us a lovely reminder that we belong to God. Just as the coin carried Caesar's image, each one of us is made in God's image. We belong to God, and our lives are a gift from Him. We can show that we belong to God through the way we love, care for others, forgive, share, make peace and use our gifts to help those around us.

This week, as a family, how can you give back to God what belongs to Him?

Perhaps by being kind to someone who is lonely, helping at home, caring for God's creation, making peace after an argument or simply remembering to thank God for all that we have

Awe and Wonder

How do you say the "Hail Mary"?

**Hail Mary,
full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb: JESUS.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners
now and at the hour of our death. Amen**



(YOUCAT for Kids)

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Year 4 Assembly



A huge well done to our wonderful Year 4 children who shared their learning with us in their class assembly today. We were so proud of the confidence they showed as they spoke clearly and projected their voices to an audience, with many children learning and performing some very long pieces of text as part of their oracy development.

They shared their fascinating learning about the Ancient Egyptians, brought their *Talk for Writing* work on *How to Train Your Dragon* to life, and showcased their DT dragon eyes, which they had designed and created themselves.

They also shared their RE learning about Joseph, his dreams and his brothers, demonstrating the breadth of their learning across the curriculum.

They finished their assembly with a fantastic rendition of "Stay With Me" by Sam Smith, on the ukulele.

It was wonderful to see the children speaking and performing with such confidence, enthusiasm and pride. **Well done Ravens!**



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The Eco Ambassadors had a very busy session this week organising two events for next term, both linked to our Fast Fashion topic. We are delighted to bring back two very successful events from last year:

- Upcycling Workshop
- Fashion Swap Shop (more information on this next term)

Once again, we are asking for your help!

Our upcycling workshop will involve upcycling an item of clothing to show how people can give new life to old items! This could include turning an old pair of jeans into some shorts, turning an old top into a crop top, embellishing a dress or jacket with some patches or sequins or completely repurposing an item of clothing into something else.

We are asking for donations of haberdashery items to help us with this project; ribbons, buttons, patches, bows, sequin ribbons, fabric pens, fabric trimmings and any old fabrics you have lying around that we could cut up and reuse!

There will be a labelled box left outside the office area for the purpose of collecting your donations. Please kindly leave your donations in this box. The upcycling session will take place during our Eco Club session on Wednesday 11th November so members of Eco Club will be reminded to bring in an old item of clothing for this session.

On behalf of all the Eco Ambassadors, thank you so much in advance for all your support with this project – we can't wait to show how fashion can be made more sustainable!



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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool Thomas More's Church



St Thomas More's Parish website
Please follow the link below to check it out:

[St Thomas More's Parish](#)
Family Mass – Sundays at 10am

Children's Liturgy



Next children's liturgy will be on **Sunday 8th November**, at the 10am-mass.

All are welcome to join us. Children's Liturgy is for children aged 2 ½ to 11 years old.

Youth Club



Next Youth Club will be held on **Friday 30th October**. They meet in the church from 7.15-9pm. Youth Club is open to all children in Year Six and above.

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion classes will continue on Monday 16th November, in the church hall, from 5.30-6.30pm



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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

Cross Country



On Tuesday 20th October, our pupils took part in the cross-country event at Mote Park, showing fantastic determination, teamwork and school spirit!

We are incredibly proud of our runners and their brilliant results. The LKS2 girls came 2nd and the LKS2 boys came 3rd. The KS1 girls achieved 1st and 2nd place, while the KS1 boys took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place!

A special mention goes to Travis, George, Constantine and Lexi, who found the course challenging but showed true More Park spirit by keeping going and never giving up.

Well done to all our runners! You represented More Park brilliantly, and we are so proud of you all!

Monster's Ball

A huge thank you to the Friends of More Park (FOMP) for organising a fantastic Monster's Ball today! The children had a wonderful time dancing, enjoying the disco and showing off their wonderfully spooky costumes. It was also particularly lovely that the FOMP were able to organise a special Monster's Ball party for our Bumblebees, ensuring that our youngest children could join in the fun too. There were plenty of smiles, dancing and spooky celebrations all around!



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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool Celebration Assembly



Special Class Recognition

Congratulations to pupils who received special recognition in assembly this week for all their efforts class.

Kindness Award

Presented by Anti Bullying Ambassadors

Reception: JJ, Florence
Year 1: Brody, Aoibheann
Year 2: Rupert, David
Year 3: Whole Class
Year 4: Hettie, Evie
Year 5: Frankie, Louie
Year 6: Victoria, Max

Evie (4)
Noah (2)
Polly (3)
Erin (5)
Beatrix (3)

Lunchtime Award

Congratulations to pupils who received special recognition in assembly this week for all their efforts in class.

Reception: Arabella
Year 1: Evie
Year 2: Andrew
Year 3: George
Year 4: Millar
Year 5: Louie
Year 6: Tyler

Birthdays

This week we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to all the children and staff who have a birthday! We all hope that you had or have a lovely birthday!

Arabella
Seren
Ada
Marcie
Hugo
Antoni
Mrs Collins
Mrs De La Hoyde

House Points



St George – 367 points



St David – 219 points



St Patrick – 271 points



St Andrew – 163 points

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Let's Celebrate

Would you like your child to be featured in the school newsletter and their achievements shared with the school? Then please send a photo to the office secretary@more-park.kent.sch.uk outlining what they have achieved, by Wednesday lunchtime.

Ladybird	Meadow passed her stage 1 swimming this week.
Caterpillar	Aoibheann her 25m swimming badge.
Dragonfly	Isla received her Bronze award in Rainbows after completing seven badges.
	Olivia won star of the week this week at Gymnastics.
Kingfisher	Millie performed her first show in a dance theatre with her dance school.
Ravens	This week Conor achieved his bronze swimming award.
	Layla swam 16 lengths this week and achieved her bronze swimming award.
Owls	This week Frankie achieved parents play of the match in football.
	Louie won man of the match two weeks in a row for his football team.
	Max completed this seasons first tournament winning four games out of five and drawing one.
	Alex received his Bluepeter badge for his Irish dancing.



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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

Attendance And Punctuality



Attendance & Punctuality

	Attendance	Punctuality (lates)
Ladybird	96.3%	8
Caterpillar	97.4%	4
Dragonfly	95.7%	9
Kingfisher	98.6%	5
Ravens	95.3%	3
Owls	97.8%	4
Eagles	97.8%	1
Preschool 2-3	95.8%	0
Preschool 3-4	93.1%	0

When should my child still come to school?

Attendance guidance for common minor illnesses and concerns



Mild cold or cough

✓ Yes

Children with a mild cold or cough should attend school. Encourage good hand hygiene and provide tissues if needed.



Sore throat

✓ Yes

Most sore throats do not require time off school. Ensure your child drinks plenty of fluids.



Anxiety or worries about school

✓ Yes

It is common for children to feel anxious at times. Attending school usually helps, and we encourage families to speak to us so we can provide support.



Conjunctivitis

✓ Yes

Children can usually attend school. Encourage regular hand washing and avoid rubbing the eyes.



Head lice

✓ Yes

Children do not need to stay at home. Hair should be treated with an appropriate treatment.



If you are ever unsure, please contact the school office for advice.



ATTEND AND ACHIEVE

School isn't just a place to be – it's where you learn most, grow in confidence, build friendships and create your future.

Thrive under 5



Students who have fewer than 5 days off per year, statistically thrive within education.



BETTER PROGRESS
Excellent attendance leads to stronger learning and higher achievement.



CONFIDENCE GROWS
Being in school regularly builds confidence and resilience.



STRONGER CONNECTIONS
Attend, belong, and build positive relationships.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES
Good attendance opens doors to more choices and brighter futures.



Every lesson counts.
Every day shapes your future.
Thrive under 5. Be here. Succeed.

With God's Love, we can be our best.

[Click Here](#) for GO Henry Card

IMPACT!
OPPORTUNITIES THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**MORE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

LEARN
PLAY
BELONG
ACHIEVE!

**GOLF
IMPACT & INSPIRE
WORKSHOP DAY**

Yesterday, the children at
More Park Primary School took part
in our Golf Impact & Inspire Day!

The children had a fantastic time being
introduced to golf in a fun, safe and supportive
environment. It was the perfect opportunity for
them to try something new, build confidence,
and develop new skills.

We used adaptable length clubs so that
children of all ages could take part, giving
everyone the chance to swing, chip and putt!

It was brilliant to see so much enthusiasm
and some great golf skills on show!

**NEW SKILLS
MORE CONFIDENCE
BIG SMILES!**

**JOIN OUR WEEKLY
GOLF CLUB!**

TUESDAYS
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Years 1 - 6
All abilities welcome!

More Park Primary School

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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

Office Communication



Please remember to use our secretary email address to inform us of any pickup changes or absences for your children. The email address is morepark.secretary@more-park-westmallings.kcsp.org.uk

New dates added are highlighted each week

Date	Activity
Monday 2 nd November	Term Two Begins
Wednesday 4 th November	School Photos Individual and Siblings including Bumblebees
Wednesday 4 th November	Book Fair Arrives
Thursday 5 th November	Aqua Splash Competition
Friday 6 th November	Year Two Class Assembly – All welcome 9.15am
Tuesday 10 th November	Last Book Fair session after school
Wednesday 12 th November	Open Afternoon for 2027 school entry
Friday 13 th November	Ladybird's Class Assembly – All welcome 9.15am
w/b 16 th November	Antibullying Week
Monday 16 th November	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 17 th November	KS1 Football Tournament
Thursday 19 th November	Author Visit
Friday 20 th November	Year Five Class Assembly – All welcome 9.15am
Friday 20 th November	KS1 Hockey Tournament
Monday 23 rd November	CAFOD Advent Assembly
Tuesday 24 th November	LKS2 Girls and Boys Football Tournaments
Wednesday 25 th November	Open Morning for 2027 school entry
Friday 27 th November	Year One Class Assembly – All welcome 9.15am

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Friday 27th November	Pupil Progress Reports out to Parents
Tuesday 1st December	Reception and Year Six Height and Weights
Wednesday 2nd December	Parents Evening – Virtual and Face to Face
Thursday 3rd December	Parents Evening – Virtual and Face to Face
Sunday 6th December	School Choir Christmas Performance with West Malling Community Choir
Monday 7th December	Snow White Pantomime
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch
Friday 11th December	Christmas Fair
Wednesday 16th December	9.30 KS1 Nativity – All welcome 11am Bumblebees Nativity – All welcome 2pm KS2 Carol Concert – All welcome
Friday 18th December	End of Term – 1.30 Finish

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