



Headteacher Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026

I am delighted with how well our children have settled back into school life. Walking around the school, it has been lovely to see children happy, engaged in their learning and already demonstrating such positive attitudes in their new classes.

I hope those of you who attended our **'Meet the Teacher'** events found them informative and useful. These events are an important opportunity to begin the year with a strong partnership between home and school, ensuring that we are all working together to support our children to thrive.

This year, we are looking forward to welcoming you into school more regularly. We really value the partnership we have with our families and want to create more opportunities for you to be involved in school life, share in your children's learning and celebrate their achievements with us.

By continuing to work closely together, we can ensure the very best experiences and outcomes for all of our children.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us to get the new school year off to such a positive start. We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to sharing it with you.

Mrs Jury-Sofi

Dates for the Diary

Please find below the dates for events taking place throughout each term of the school year. I hope you find this useful when planning ahead.

Further dates and events will be added throughout the year as more events are finalised, so please continue to check for updates.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Wednesday 23rd September - Year R Parent Phonics Workshop (2.30pm) Friday 25th September - Macmillan Coffee Afternoon (2.45pm) Tuesday 29th September - Sycamore Class Trip Wednesday 30th September - Spruce Class Trip Thursday 1st October - Year R Open Afternoon (2.30pm 3.00pm) Tuesday 13th October - Year R Maths Workshop (2.30pm) Thursday 15th October - Year 2 walk around local area Thursday 20th October - Year 3 Joint Class Assembly (2.30pm) Wednesday 21st October - National Child Measurement Programme (Year R and 6) Wednesday 21st October - Pupil of the Term (Invitation only) Friday 23rd October - INSET DAY (School Closed) Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Half term	Monday 2nd November - INSET Day (School Closed) Friday 6th November - Flu Vaccinations (Year R-6) Friday 6th November - Spooky Disco Thursday 12th November - Year 3 Trip to Kent Life Monday 16th November - Wednesday 18th November - Year 5 Residential Tuesday 8th December - Pantomime at school (Cinderella) Thursday 10th December - Year R Nativity (9.15am) Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day Monday 14th December - Year 2 Nativity (1.30pm) Tuesday 15th December - Year R Nativity (9.15am) Wednesday 16th December - Year 2 Nativity (1.30pm) Thursday 17th December - Year 1 Christmas Concert (2.30pm) Friday 18th December - Last day of Term 2.	Monday 4th January - INSET DAY (School Closed) Friday 22nd January - Young Voice Choir to the O2 Thursday 11th February - Year 1 trip to the church Friday 12th February - Last day of Term 3 Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February - Half Term
Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Thursday 18th March - Year 3 trip to Canterbury Tuesday 23rd March - Year 1 trip to Maidstone Museum Thursday 25th March - last day of Term 4	Monday 12th April - Term 5 starts Monday 10th May - Thursday 13th May - Year 6 SATS Monday 24th May - Friday 28th May - Year 6 Residential Friday 28th May - Last day of Term 5 Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June - Half Term	Monday 7th June - INSET DAY (School Closed) Tuesday 8th June - Bikeability (Year 6) Wednesday 9th June - Bikeability (Year 6) Thursday 10th June - Bikeability (Year 6) Thursday 10th June - Bikeability (Year 6) Wednesday 21st July - Last day of Term 6



Forest School

Our Year 3 children have been having a wonderful time exploring our Forest School area with Mark. More year groups will get to have a turn later in the year and Mark will also be offering an After School Club in Terms 5 and 6.







Attendance Matters

At West Borough Primary School, excellent attendance is everyone's responsibility. We know that regular, punctual attendance lays the foundation for strong academic outcomes, confident learners, and positive wellbeing. Every day in school matters. Each lesson builds on the last, and children who attend consistently are more likely to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

We work closely with our families, the Local Authority and education partners to promote outstanding attendance across our school community. Our aim is to remove barriers to attendance, so that every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's attendance, don't hesitate to talk to us.

We are all in this together to raise attendance and to raise attainment.

As a school we are working very hard to make sure children do not have gaps in their understanding particularly in reading, writing and maths.

Holidays and Leave of Absence

We are working closely with the local authority to reduce absences in our school. **Leave of absence or holidays in term time WILL NOT be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances in line with the regulations issued by the Department for Education.**

If parents/guardians decide to take their child out of school during term time they are at risk of a fixed penalty notice being issued, prosecution(criminal record) or loss of your child's school place.

Although we strive for good attendance for all children, we understand that children can be unwell. When there is an unexpected or unplanned absence, it is your responsibility to report your child's absence.

If your child is ill, please report via Arbor. Alternatively this can be done by telephoning the school and leaving a message (01622 726391). This helps us to carry out our safeguarding obligations, as the school must know the whereabouts of every child.

The school's office opens at 8.30 am. All absences MUST be reported by 9.30am or they will be recorded as unauthorised.

Punctuality

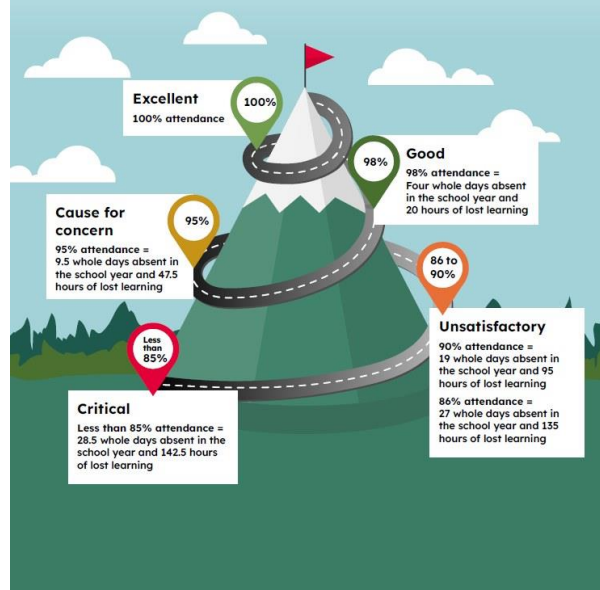
When pupils arrive late to school, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson. This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Arriving 5 minutes late each day adds up to missing 3 entire days of school by the end of the year. Please support your child to develop lifelong habits of good attendance and punctuality to allow them to achieve their full potential.

Medical Appointments

Please avoid making dental/medical appointments during the school day. If an appointment is absolutely necessary please take your appointment letter to the school office as evidence for this absence.

Please read our Attendance Policy here

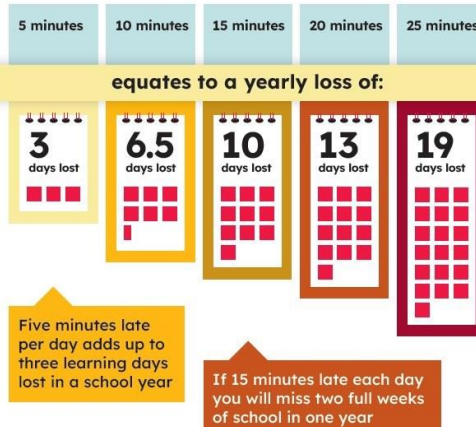
Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?



HERO 

Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day



Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time

For mental health support for young people
visit: www.youngminds.org.uk

What to do Advice on childhood illnesses



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required



Some restrictions for school attendance



Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Asthma flare up	Worsening of usual symptoms	➡➡	Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
Chicken pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	➡➡	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Tearry, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	➡➡	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
German measles/ Rubella	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards	●	GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
Glandular fever	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before	➡➡	GP	*
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache; small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	➡➡	GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	➡➡	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness	●	GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash	●	GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	➡➡	Pharmacy	
Scabies	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	➡➡	GP	Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash	●	GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	➡➡	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis/Strep throat	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day	➡➡	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow. Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'	●	GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
Covid				Visit www.nhs.uk for latest guidance

*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.
This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Working in partnership with



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON



Friday 25th September 2.45pm – 3.15pm | KS2 Hall

We are delighted to be taking part in the **Macmillan Coffee Afternoon** and would love our families to join us for cake, refreshments and fundraising for **Macmillan Cancer Support**.



CAN YOU DONATE A CAKE?

We would be very grateful for donations of **homemade or shop-bought cakes**.



Please bring donations into school on the morning of: **Thursday 24th September** or **Friday 25th September**



Homemade cakes must not contain nuts and must include a full list of ingredients.



JOIN US FROM 2.45PM

Children should be collected directly from their classrooms at 2.45pm.

Once you have collected your child, please make your way to the **KS2 Hall** to enjoy the Coffee Afternoon together.



Please note The school gates will be **unmanned during this time**, as members of SLT will be supporting the event in the hall.



UNABLE TO ATTEND? Don't worry. Children whose parents/carers are unable to attend will **remain safely in their classrooms with their class teachers**, where they will still have the opportunity to enjoy a cake and support this worthwhile cause.



Let's come together as a school community to enjoy some treats and raise as much money as we can for Macmillan Cancer Support!

Thank you, as always, for your support and generosity.

Parking Around School

Please be courteous and considerate when parking on the roads surrounding the school. We frequently receive emails from local residents regarding vehicles being parked across driveways or in a way that prevents them from accessing their properties.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to **park responsibly, avoid blocking driveways and show consideration for our neighbours and their properties.**

Please also ensure that children **use the pavement and do not walk across residents' driveways or gardens** when travelling to and from school.

Thank you for helping us to maintain a positive relationship with our local community.



alamy

Image ID: D10KDY/
www.alamy.com

Scooters and Bikes Before & After School

Safety Reminder

Please can I ask you to remind your children that **bikes and scooters must not be ridden anywhere on the school premises before or after school.**

Unfortunately, I have had to speak to a number of children, particularly in Years 5 and 6 who have been riding them whilst waiting for the gates to open. This is a busy time, with many families and younger children around, and riding bikes or scooters presents an unnecessary safety risk.

All children should dismount and walk their bikes or scooters whilst on school premises.



Allergies

Thank you to those of you who have already completed the allergy form that was sent home.

If your child has an allergy or medical condition that we should be aware of, please complete the form using the link below. This information is essential to help us keep your child safe and ensure that appropriate support is in place at school.

[Individual Healthcare Plan - Allergies – Fill in form](#)

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Jury-Sofi