



***Psalm 119:105 "God's word
is a lamp to guide our feet
and a light for our path".***

Madresfield Mail

Autumn Term 2026 Newsletter 4

Dear Parents/Carers and members of the local community,

This is our last newsletter before half term. I honestly cannot believe we have reached this point already. The school year is flying by! The children (and staff) have worked incredibly hard this term. It has been a long half term, with lots of new routines to learn, new staff to get to know, and the challenge of returning to school after six weeks away. They have settled in brilliantly and should all be very proud of themselves. Well done, everyone!

Harvest Festival

A reminder that our Harvest Festival will take place next Friday at 9.30am in church. We would love for you to join us if you are able to. As part of our celebrations, we will also be collecting food donations. Any contributions can be sent into school during next week and will be gratefully received.

Looking Ahead to Christmas

I know it seems early, but I am going to mention the "C" word... Christmas!

Next half term is always a busy one, with lots of exciting events taking place. Please keep an eye on the dates at the bottom of the newsletter and on ClassDojo so that you do not miss anything. One event we will once again be supporting is the **Christmas Shoebox Appeal**. As we have done in previous years, we will be collecting donations of shoeboxes and small gift items. Once these have been donated, groups of children will work together to fill, decorate and wrap the shoeboxes before they are collected by Reverend Gary. If you are able to support this cause, please send any donations into school during the first week back after half term. The children will then spend time on the Friday preparing the boxes. Thank you, as always, for your generosity and support.

Birthday Celebrations

Does your child have a birthday that falls on a school day? If so, they are welcome to wear their own clothes to school on their birthday if they would like to. Of course, this is completely optional, and children are equally welcome to wear their school uniform. This idea came directly from pupil voice, and we are delighted to be able to introduce it (it will hopefully reduce non - attendance on birthdays too!)

Strengthening Our House System

Another exciting development, which has come from both pupil voice and our school focus on community, is the further development of our house system.

We often talk about being part of the Madresfield family, and we want to strengthen that sense of belonging even further. While our house teams always shine during Sports Day, we felt there was an opportunity to celebrate them more consistently throughout the year. We began introducing more house-based activities last year and have planned even more opportunities for this year.

Our first house event will take place next week and will focus on wellbeing, mental health and recognising our own strengths through a range of activities. The biggest change, however, is the introduction of **House Points**. Following discussions with pupils, some children felt that Dojo points were sometimes awarded for a variety of reasons, which occasionally made them difficult to compare fairly. Together, we explored how we could make our rewards system clearer.

IGNITE ILLUMINATE INSPIRE



***Psalm 119:105 "God's word
is a lamp to guide our feet
and a light for our path".***

Going forward:

House Points will be awarded for academic achievement and effort in learning.

Dojo Points will continue to be awarded for demonstrating our school values and following our school rules.

The children were very positive about this new approach. House Points will be collected throughout the week, and totals will be announced during our Celebration Assembly each Friday.

At the end of each half term, the house with the highest number of points will earn an extra playtime reward. We hope this clearer system will help pupils feel that rewards are fair, meaningful and consistent, while also encouraging teamwork, house pride and a stronger sense of community across the school.

Toys

We have noticed an increase in children bringing toys into school recently. A gentle reminder that toys should not be brought into school unless requested as part of a specific activity or event or agreed as a transition item. We understand that children are often excited to share special items with their friends; however, bringing toys into school can lead to distractions, upset if items are lost or damaged, and disagreements over sharing. Thank you for your support with this.

Goodbye and Hello

After two and a half years as our Midday supervisor Mrs Staples has left us today to pursue her own Yoga business. She has been such a superstar juggling her position with us and her various other job roles. We are very proud of her and are very pleased that we will still get to see her frequently!

We also have a new member of staff starting on Monday - Miss Miranda who will be working mainly in Kestrels classroom but as you know our TA's work with all our children throughout the school. Current staff already employed will be working in the lunch hall.

Visitors

We are expecting visitors' next term. I sent a letter out about Ofsted and their new grading last academic year. If you need a refresh or would like to find out more, please look on our school website. Click on Key Information, Inspection Reports and the bottom of that page the link "Ofsted Inspection Framework Parent Letter" that will take you to the letter that I wrote.

Parents Evening

It is parents evening next week - if you have not yet booked an appointment- please do so on Arbor! We do need to speak to you all-if you are unable to attend on the days given, please contact the class teachers directly so that you can arrange a mutually convenient time for a phone call.

Many thanks for your continued support. I hope that you all have a lovely half term when it arrives!

Mrs Hibell

Headteacher



Monday 19th October – Kestrels Parents Consultations - 3 – 5.30pm – Book on Arbor

Tuesday 20th October – All Classes Parents Consultations - 3 – 5.30pm – Book on Arbor

Tuesday 20th October – SENCO Parents Consultations - 3 – 5.30pm – Book on Arbor

Wednesday 21st October – Owls, Robin and Buzzard Classes Parents Consultations - 3 – 5.30pm – Book on Arbor

Wednesday 21st October – Family Support Worker Parents Consultations - 3 – 5.30pm – Book on Arbor

Thursday 22nd October – PTFA Cake Sale

Friday 23rd October – Harvest Festival – all are welcome to join us in St Mary's Church across the road from the school at 9.30am. Donations for the Foodbank welcome.

Friday 23rd October – Flu vaccinations - further communication regarding consent will come from Vaccinations UK directly

Friday 23rd October – End of term parent booklook – 2.45pm

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October – Half Term

Monday 2nd November – Back to School

Monday 2nd November – donations to the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal welcome

Friday 6th November – Non Uniform Day for PTFA Raffle prizes – more information to follow

Friday 6th November – PTFA Neon Disco – more information to follow

Tuesday 10th November – Y5 Food & Nutrition Workshop at Dyson Perrins

Friday 13th November – Children In Need – more information to follow

After School Clubs

There are still spaces available on clubs running after half term including Singing (Y2-6) and Wellness (Y3-6). If you would like your child to join these clubs please send a message to the office.

Next term we are also welcoming Jamcoding for an after school club – please book via Arbor.

Parental Consent – Adrenaline Auto Injector

There is a new parental consent requiring action on Arbor. It is requesting consent for school to administer an Adrenaline Auto Injector (AAI) in the event of a medical emergency i.e. anaphylaxis - a life threatening severe allergic reaction.

If you have any queries about this please talk to your class teacher.

HOMEMADE CAKE STALL



ALL CAKES
£1

CASH ONLY

 **THURS 22ND OCTOBER**
 **FROM 3PM**
 **THE FRONT ENTRANCE**



CHILDREN'S EVENTS

24TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER

TheHive
Children's
Events

Lego Club:

Every Saturday, 10:00 - 11:30am (free & drop-in, ages 4+)



Rat-a-tat Tales:

Every Saturday & Sunday, 11am & 3pm (free & drop-in, ages 1 - 5 years old)



Scrap booking with the Sandys:

Monday 26th October, 10am -12pm (free & drop-in, for families and children of all ages.)



West African Story Time:

Monday 26th October, 11am-1:30pm (free & drop-in, ages 2 - 8 years old)



Bounce & Rhyme:

Every Tuesday, 10am & 2pm (free & drop-in, ages under 5 years old)

Every Friday, 11am (free & drop-in, ages under 5 years old)



Gruffalo Granny Story Time & Craft :

Tuesday 27th October, 11am and 3pm (free & drop-in, all ages welcome)



Papermaking Workshop:

Wednesday 28th, 11am-12:30pm, & 2pm-3:30pm (free & bookable, ages 6 - 11 years old)



Wacky Wednesday

Every Wednesday, 1:30 - 3:00pm (free & drop-in, ages 0 - 5 years)



Illustrated Letters Workshop:

Thursday 29th October, 10:30-11:30am and 2-3pm (Tickets are £1.50, bookable, ages 7 - 12 years old)



Family Film:

Friday 30th October, 10-12pm (free & drop-in, all ages welcome)



Baby Bounce & Rhyme:

Every Friday, 1pm (free & drop-in, ages 0 - 1 years old)



Stay & Play Dad's Group:

Last Saturday of every month, 10:30am - 12pm (free & drop-in, all ages)



The Illustrated Book Group:

Sunday 1st November, 2 - 3pm (free & drop-in, ages 8 - 12 years old)



TheHive

a partnership between

