

3rd May 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

Elm class parents and carers enjoyed a 'meet the teacher' session with Mrs Quinn on Monday - further details can be found on the class web page.

On Tuesday, I had the privilege of walking Willow class (who were impeccably behaved) to the local shop to buy eggs, butter and flour so that they could make a tasty crumble for their grown up visitors on Wednesday. Everyone enjoyed the session and commented on the tasty delights.

Also on Tuesday, Local Board members came into school to speak with children about their learning and discuss safety both in and around school and on the internet. As usual, board members reported on the wonderful manners and engagement of the children.

Today, staff have been busy preparing the church with the Art work created by some of the children for the Craft Fayre taking place this Monday. We will share some photos of this next week.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely long, and hopefully, sunny weekend!

Sarah King

Head of School

## Online Safety

### Ofcom Report into Children's Online Landscape

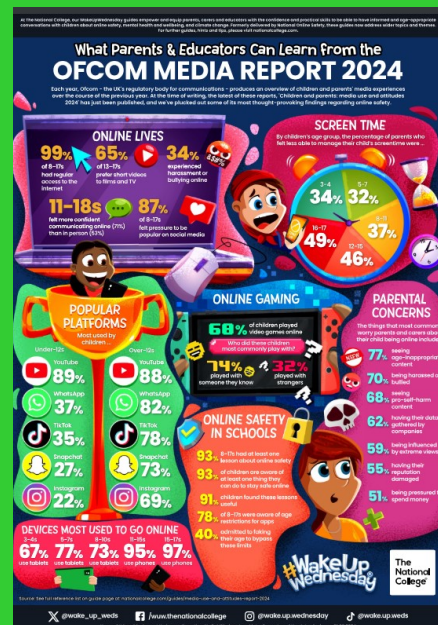
Recent research from Ofcom has revealed the current online landscape of children and young people using technology. The data focusses around how children communicate online, how they use online spaces for entertainment, and how they are currently educated around staying safe online, with interesting insights into parental involvement as well.

#### Some key points from the report

- To a year ago, a higher proportion of young people aged 5-7 now engage in messaging, voice chat, and video calls, as well as live-streamed content.
- Social media platforms have also seen an increase in engagement with the data demonstrating a significant uptick in social media among 5-7 year olds, with platforms like WhatsApp, TikTok, Instagram and Discord showing notable growth.
- 30% of parents are more likely to allow their child to create profiles on platforms before they reach the minimum age requirement as well as a third of parents highlighting that their child uses social media independently.
- A third of children aged 8-17 had seen something harmful online, but only 20% of parents reported that their child has told them about it.
- Online gaming has emerged as a prominent activity for children aged 5-7, with 41% saying they participate with shooter games highlighted as a popular genre to engage with. This clearly raises questions and considerations about age-appropriate content and how young people engage with content that may not be suitable for their age group.

Read the report by visiting [A window into young children's online worlds - Ofcom](#)

Or read a brief article about it from SWGfL by visiting [Ofcom Data Reveals 1 in 3 Children Aged 5-7 Use Social Media Unsupervised \(swgfl.org.uk\)](#)



### Friends Of Mendlesham School Association

## Sweetie Bingo Night

Come and enjoy a family evening of bingo.

Bring along your own snacks and drinks.

Prizes include sweets and chocolates for a line and a full house.



Grab the family and your dabbers/pens.

£2 a book or 6 books for £10.  
Cash flyer £1 each for cash prize.  
All proceeds go to Mendlesham School.



11th May  
School Hall

Doors open  
5:30pm - 8:30pm  
Eyes down 6:00pm

Refreshments available at break

## Mendlesham Heritage Fair

Mon 6th May  
Mendlesham Church/yards  
12.00 - 5.00



Reconnecting the Community with its unique Tudor Heritage

part of the *Armoury Facelift Project*

- Re-enactors recreating Tudor rural life
- Parish Militia training with Muskets, Bows, Bills + Halberd
- Expert Talks about Armour + Longbows + Replica Armour to try on
- New Armoury Booklet + Children's Storybook + Activity Book
- Short film about the Armoury
- Heritage Crafts Demonstrations including:
  - Beekeeping
  - Heraldic Calligraphy
  - Spinning & Weaving
  - Stone Carving
  - Tudor Food demonstration
  - Tudor Music on Recorders + Crumhorns
  - Children's Games + Trail + Quizzes
  - Art + Craft Exhibition by Mendlesham School pupils
  - Beer tent, Food, Teas + more...
- Blacksmith
- Pottery
- Stained Glass
- Traditional Oak Carpentry
- Wattle & Daub

Entry £10 u16s Free

cash preferred please

stmarysmendlesham.org.uk



### The Armoury

is the small upper floor of Mendlesham Church's north porch – and the only one in any English parish church still holding its parish collection of arms and armour. It has been there for about 450 years, since a law during the reign of Queen Mary, daughter of Henry VIII, compelled parishes to provide arms, armour and trained men to defend the country against invasion, such as the Spanish Armada in Elizabeth I's reign.

Though in 2020 Covid restrictions forced St Mary's PCC to close the armoury to the public, the Armoury Facelift Project holds exciting plans for better conservation, interpretation & display of our heritage so it can be treasured by future generations.

### The Heritage Fair

Come to this amazing event and watch the Parish Militia training with bills, bows and muskets as they would have done over 400 years ago, discuss Tudor village life with those who bring it to life, hear and talk to two international armour and longbow experts, try on some replica armour and see a wide range of highly talented craftspeople demonstrating crafts still practised from Tudor times. Enjoy some food and drink to the accompaniment of gentle Tudor sounds and enjoy the art and craft contributions by local schoolchildren.

### ALL PROFITS TOWARDS THE ARMOURY PROJECT

Although we can't open the armoury on this day, you can see a superb short film about it.

Parking available in Mendlesham Playing Fields. Please be aware:

- many surfaces are not wheelchair accessible &
- if you are considering bringing a dog, that there will be some occasional loud bangs from musket firing & the Parish Council does not permit dogs on the Playing Fields.

### Super Stars

Willow— Logan, Storm  
Elm— Noah  
Oak— Isla, Abi, Noah,  
Imogen P  
Hazel— Alfie  
Chestnut— George  
Holly— Felix  
Cherry— Daniel

**Well Done Everyone**

### Golden Certificates

Willow— Theo, William  
Elm — Blake  
Oak — Maggie, Abi  
Hazel— James, Bracken  
Chestnut— Marley  
Holly— Gracie  
Cherry— Lexi

**Well Done Everyone**

### Key Dates: 23/24

**6th May—Bank Holiday Monday**

**13th to 17th May—KS2 SATs Week**

**27th May—Half Term**

**10th June—Our Animal World (Willow Class)**

**14th June—Year 4 Jubilant Festival (info to follow)**

**17th June—Year 6 Crucial Crew (info to follow)**

**20th June—Oak Class WCET Festival (Info to follow)**

**21st June—Class Photos**

**25th June—Sports Day**

**26th-28th June—Hazel & Chestnut Classes Residential**

### Attendance This Week

As we know, good attendance at school supports pupils' attainment and well-being.

Willow - 88.67%  
Elm - 91.67%  
Oak - 95.06%  
Hazel—90.51%  
Chestnut - 97.86%  
Holly - 98.57%  
Cherry - 86.96%



### Breakfast and After School Clubs

Please could we give a gentle reminder to only book on days that you need these clubs.

Places are limited to 20 and if a place is booked that is not required this could mean that somebody who definitely needs a space will not be able to book.

## Dinner Menu Week Commencing 6th May

### Monday

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza  
Jacket Potato (Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo)  
Pasta  
Selection of Salad/Vegetables

School Packed Lunch Baguette  
Ham, Cheese or Tuna Mayo  
Fruit Selection/Veg Sticks Salad  
Side Changes Daily

Bake of the Day  
Selection of Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt

### Tuesday

Macaroni Cheese  
Fresh Bread  
Selection of Salad/Vegetables

Jacket Potato (Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo)  
School Packed Lunch Baguette  
Ham, Cheese or Tuna Mayo  
Fruit Selection/Veg Sticks Salad  
Side Changes Daily

Bake of the Day  
Selection of Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt

### Wednesday

Roast Dinner  
Vegan Sausage  
Roast Potatoes/Stuffing/Yorkshire Pudding  
Vegetables  
Gravy

Jacket Potato (Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo)  
School Packed Lunch Baguette  
Ham, Cheese or Tuna Mayo  
Fruit Selection/Veg Sticks Salad  
Side Changes Daily

Bake of the Day  
Selection of Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt

### Thursday

Hot Dog  
Jacket Potato (Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo)  
Seasoned Diced Potatoes  
Selection of Salad/Vegetables

School Packed Lunch Baguette  
Ham, Cheese or Tuna Mayo  
Fruit Selection/Veg Sticks Salad  
Side Changes Daily

Bake of the Day  
Selection of Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt

### Friday

Battered Fish  
Vegan Nuggets  
Chips  
Beans/Sweetcorn

Jacket Potato (Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo)  
School Packed Lunch Baguette  
Ham, Cheese or Tuna Mayo  
Fruit Selection/Veg Sticks Salad  
Side Changes Daily

Bake of the Day  
Selection of Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt