More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

"Baptism gives strength and it gives light" Pope Francis

Newsletter 2nd October 2026

Headteacher's Update

Safeguarding is incredibly important to us at More Park because we believe that every child needs to feel safe, happy and cared for in order to learn, grow and thrive. This week, as part of our ongoing safeguarding culture, Miss Cole and I led a special safeguarding assembly for the children. We talked about what safeguarding means, explored the different areas of safeguarding and, most importantly, reminded the children about the trusted adults they can speak to if they are worried, upset or feel that something is not right. We want every child to know that their voice matters, they will be listened to and there will always be someone here to help them.



Miss Cole, Mrs Boden and myself are all the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) in the school. It is our job to make sure that any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing are listened to, taken seriously and followed up appropriately, while working closely with staff, families and other professionals when needed. We also reminded the children of the Listening Ear box. Here the children can put their name into the box, along with the name of the adult they wish to speak to, and Miss Cole will follow up on these after lunch.

Our Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy can be found all around the school:

More Park Catholic Primary School- Child-Friendly Safeguarding Policy

Here at More Park Catholic Primary School, the most important responsibility of all of the staff is safeguarding, which is all about keeping you, our children, safe.



What is Safeguarding?

- Protecting you from harm and abuse.
- Making sure nothing stops you from being healthy or developing properly.
- Ensuring you grow up with safe, effective care.
- Taking action to enable you to have the best outcomes.

Always tell an adult if someone is:

- Deliberately hurting you in a **physical** way. This means hitting, kicking, shaking, throwing, burning or hurting your body in any other way.
- Saying hurtful, humiliating, distressing or uncomfortable things that affect you in an **emotional** way.
- **Neglecting** you. This includes not feeding you, not looking after you properly and not protecting you from harm.
- Touching you in, or asking to see your private parts*or making you touch someone else in their private parts. Showing, doing, saying or making you listen to anything **sexual**.
- **Bullying** you or cyberbullying you.
- Showing you something **online** that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Making you feel unsafe, hurt or uncomfortable in any other way.

Who can you tell?

ChildLine 0800 1111

You can talk to **ANY** adult that you trust. In school, this might be your teacher or teaching assistant, the office staff, lunchtime staff or any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads.





Our Designated Safeguarding leads (DSL's), are Mrs Seal, Mrs Boden_ and Miss Cole. This means that they are the people who oversee safeguarding within the school.

You could also fill out a "Listening Ear" slip to speak to Miss Cole or another adult of your choice.

It doesn't matter who you tell, the important thing is to tell someone.

What will we do?

We will listen to you and deal with matters in school if we are able to. If we need to take any next steps we will explain these to you. Mrs Seal and the other DSL's will decide the best way to act. This might be helping you in school, speaking to your parents or getting support from other agencies.

We will do everything we can to keep you safe.

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This week have also had our first major football tournament as the boys in Upper Key Stage Two played at the Gallagher Stadium this week. The girl's tournament will be in a few weeks' time and we are looking for a new squad of girls to play! It doesn't matter if they've had lots of experience at playing football or none at all, Mr Greenwood is really keen to inspire the next generation of girls. If this is something your daughter might be interested in doing, please contact Mr Greenwood paul.greenwood@more-park-westmalling.kcsp.org.uk or ask your daughter to pop into Year 4 to see him.



As you're aware our Harvest Mass should have been today, but unfortunately Father Noel was not available. As he was keen to do it, we have moved it to Tuesday 6th October at 9.15am. Everyone is welcome. Harvest gifts can still be brought into school and we shall be taking them to the Pilsdon Community next week. This is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to God for the many blessings we receive and to remember those in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. By sharing what we have with others, we live out the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Preferential Option for the Poor, showing love for our neighbour and putting our faith into action.

New date for your diary: As next Saturday, 10th October, is World Mental Health Day, Friday 9th October will be Feel Good Friday. This means that children can wear whatever they like to school that makes them feel good. The afternoon will be spent in class taking part in different wellbeing activities too. No donations necessary, this is just a wellbeing day.

Also Friday 16th October the Friends of More Park will be holding their Annual General Meeting. Everyone is invited to this, including Bumblebee parents. It will be held at 2.30 in the school hall.

Mrs Seal

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More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

What have we been learning 28th – 2nd October

By Year 6 journalists: Annie & Mercy

Preschool

Bumblebees

This week, Bumblebees have been looking at the Harvest, collecting autumn resources and using them to develop their motor skills using tweezers. They have also been exploring their book "Little Red Hen". They have also made bread this week.

EYFS

Ladybirds

This week, Ladybirds have been looking at numbers up to 5. They have also looked at their different feelings and what can make people happy. In RE they have been continuing their learning about God's Creation.

Key Stage 1

Caterpillars

This week, Caterpillars have been adding numbers up to 10 in Maths. In English they have been reading about the Little Red Riding Hood, and in RE they have been learning about Jesus and God.

Dragonflies

This week Dragonflies have been learning to count in 3's in Maths. In English they have been reading about Beegu and finishing their class book. In RE they have been reading the story of Noah's Ark.

Key Stage 2

Kingfishers

This week, the Kingfishers have been learning about adding numbers to 1000. In English they have been learning about the Wooly Mammouth and in RE they have been learning about the creation story.

Ravens

This week the Ravens, have been learning how to round up numbers to 10's, 100's, 1000's. In English they have been publishing "How to Train your Dragon" instructions. In RE they have been doing Abraham and Sarah's story.

Owls

This week the Owls, have been solving multi step word problems using addition and subtraction. In English they have been planning their scary stories using suspense. In RE they have been studying the great commandments and how it relates to CST principles.

Eagles

This week, the Eagles have been learning how to divide three digit numbers by two digit numbers. In English they have been writing informal letters. In RE they have been learning about the Fall in relation to Adam and Eve.

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Catholic Life

October – The Month of Mary

October is a very special month in the Catholic Church as we honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

It is traditionally known as the Month of the Rosary, giving us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on Mary's life, her deep faith and her loving obedience to God.

Mary said "yes" to God and trusted Him, even when she did not fully understand what lay ahead.



During October, we will encourage our children to learn more about Mary and to follow her example by showing kindness, compassion, humility and love towards others.

We will also spend time in prayer, particularly through the Rosary, asking Mary to pray for us and for our families and communities. May Mary guide us closer to her Son, Jesus, and help us to live out our faith each day.

Awe and Wonder

How can I talk to God?

When your heart is with God,
it doesn't matter whether you talk
or you are silent.
God hears you
when you talk to him
through a prayer
you know by heart.
And when he hears when
you simply tell him in your own words
what's going on in your heart.



You can worship and praise God for making the stars
and also for sweet kittens.
And you may tell him your most secret wishes,
which you wouldn't tell anyone else. (YOUCAT for Kids)

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Student representatives



Catholic Social Teaching is rooted in scripture and helps guide us on how to live out our faith in the world. One such principle is Subsidiarity, "everyone should have a say", represented by Sid the Sheep.

With this in mind, at More Park we recognise that all pupils should have a say and therefore children have the opportunity to be voted in by their peers, or volunteer for a particular role.

This week we presented both the School Council members and the House Captains with their badges.

School Council and House Representatives are voted in by their peers. These students have been chosen for their ability to show their leadership skills, enthusiasm, and dedication to the role. They all act as the voice for their peers, participating in school events, helping to organise activities, and mentoring other members.





More Park Catholic Primary and Preschool

Eco Club

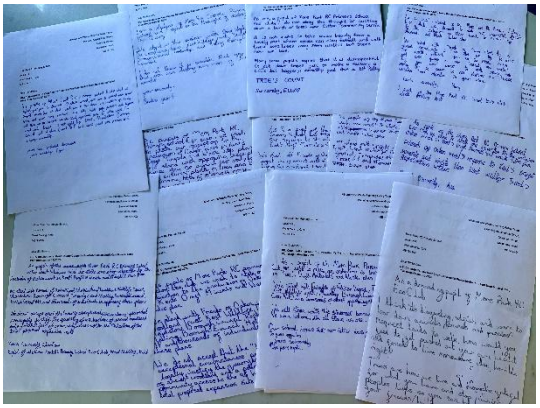


This week the Eco Ambassadors decided to voice their objections to council proposals that place 100 acres (40 hectares) of Oaken Wood – an irreplaceable, ancient woodland – under threat, after Kent County Council voted to support a quarry expansion that would destroy the forest. Together, we wrote a letter and then the Ambassadors each wrote their own version of the letter, which have now all been sent to the Planning Applications Group at KCC, in time for the closing date for applications on Monday 5th October.



The Eco Ambassadors really welcomed the opportunity to voice their opinions and we learned how important it is to have your say about matters that affect our local environment. We will definitely be writing more letters in the future and getting involved in more local campaigns!

There was just enough time to check on our tomatoes (there are so many of them now!) and perform our eco monitoring walks around the school to put up new 'energy saving' reminders and to make sure classrooms are all shut down properly at the end of the day.



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St 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 4th October**, 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 2nd October**. They meet in the school hall from 7.15-9pm. Youth Club is open to all children in Year Six and above.

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Celebration Assembly

Special Class Recognition

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

Reception:	Lenny, Daphne
Year 1:	Charlotte, Lilia
Year 2:	George, Meadow
Year 3:	Maisey, Samuele
Year 4:	Koda, Layla
Year 5:	Harry G, Ada
Year 6:	Lexi, Valerie

Lunchtime Award

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

Reception:	JJ
Year 1:	Christelle
Year 2:	Rory
Year 3:	Beatrix
Year 4:	Reagan
Year 5:	Stephanie
Year 6:	Christina

Kindness Award

Presented by Anti Bullying Ambassadors

Victoria (6)
Amelie (3)
Louie (5)
Pippa (R)

Swimming Award

Erin, 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!

Louie T
Hudson
Sonny L
Rosa B
Zach

House Points


St George – 285 points


St David – 281 points


St Patrick - 266 points


St Andrew – 197 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.

Bumblebees	Well done to Sammy who achieved Baller of the Week at Babyballers!
Ravens	Well done to Ava who completing her first Feis dancing for Neylon Taylor School of Irish Dance.
	Well done to Frank who has completed in the Spartan Race with his kickboxing team!
Owls	Well done to Jasper who got Man of the Match at football!
	Well done Phoebe who received a blue peter music badge!
	Well done Sienna who received player of the match for her fantastic saves in goal!
	Well done Jacob on his best achievement to date who came 6th out of 74 children, in just under 32 minutes.











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Attendance And Punctuality

Attendance & Punctuality

	Attendance	Punctuality (lates)
Ladybird	98.3%	3
Caterpillar	99.5%	3
Dragonfly	96.6%	2
Kingfisher	97.8%	3
Ravens	97.7%	2
Owls	94.4%	4
Eagles	97.0%	1
Preschool 2-3	93.3%	0
Preschool 3-4	96.5%	0





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Wellbeing

[Click Here](#) for GO Henry Card





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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-westmalling.kcsp.org.uk

New dates added are highlighted each week

Date	Activity
October	Black History Month
w/b 5th October and 12th October	Bumblebee New Starter Meetings
Monday 5th October	Bumblebees Hot Lunch option begins
Tuesday 6th October	Harvest Mass – please drop harvest gifts to the office or via your child's class teacher
Wednesday 7th October	Year 3 Mass – 10am
Friday 9th October	FEEL GOOD FRIDAY Own Clothes Day (No Donations required)
Friday 9th October	Year 6 Class Assembly – 9.15 All Welcome
Friday 9th October	Year 6 Residential Meeting 3.15pm
Monday 12th October	Drama Workshop – Years R, 1, 2 and 3
Monday 12th October	Girls' Football Tournament
Tuesday 13th October	9.30 Open Morning for Reception 2027 Intake
Tuesday 13th October	KS2 Hockey Tournament
Wednesday 14th October	African Drumming and Dance Workshops
Wednesday 14th October	Year 2 Mass – 10am
Friday 16th October	Year 3 Class Assembly – 9.15 All welcome
Friday 16th October	Friends of More Park AGM – 2.30 All welcome
Monday 19th October	1.30 Open Afternoon for Reception 2027 Intake
Tuesday 20th October	Cross Country Competition

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Tuesday 20th October	**2.45 Year One End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Wednesday 21st October	**Year 1 Mass – 10am**
Wednesday 21st October	**2.45 Year 3 End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Wednesday 21st October	**3pm Year 4 End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Thursday 22nd October	**2.45 Year 2 End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Thursday 22nd October	**3pm Year 6 End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Friday 23rd October	**2.45 Ladybird's End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Friday 23rd October	**3pm Year 5 End of RE Topic Celebration – All Welcome**
Friday 23rd October	**Last day of Term**
Friday 23rd October	**Monster's Ball** **2-2.30 Bumblebees** **4-5.15 Ladybirds, Caterpillars and Dragonflies** **5.30-7pm Kingfishers, Ravens, Owls and Eagles**
Monday 2nd November	**Term Two Begins**
Wednesday 16th December	**9.30 KS1 Nativity – All welcome** **11am Bumblebees Nativity – All welcome** **2pm KS2 Carol Concert – All welcome**

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